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**The Role of Culture on Psychological Intimate Partner Violence Victimization among  
Latinx Males**

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Honors Thesis

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**Author Note**

Saúl A. Padilla is now attending the clinical psychology graduate program at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

There is no known conflict of interest to disclose.

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### **Abstract**

In this study, I investigated the individual and additive effects of both acculturation and enculturation on experiencing psychological intimate partner violence (IPV) victimization within low-income Latinx males. I hypothesized that there would be a significant positive association between acculturation and psychological IPV victimization, a significant negative association between enculturation and psychological IPV victimization, and a significant negative association between the additive effects of acculturation and enculturation on psychological IPV victimization. To accomplish these aims, this study conducted a secondary analysis of the Future of Families and Child Wellbeing study (FFCWS) data, which assessed low-income mothers and fathers that had just had a child. A total of 722 Latinx fathers were included in a direct binomial logistic regression, in which psychological IPV victimization was the outcome with two additional predictors: acculturation (i.e., interview language) and enculturation (i.e., attachment to ethnic identity). Acculturation was associated with an increase in the likelihood of experiencing psychological IPV victimization, whereas enculturation was not associated with experiencing psychological IPV victimization. These findings point to a potential the severity of acculturation as it relates to experiencing psychological IPV victimization within low-income Latinx males. The implications of Latinx male enculturation and acculturation are discussed.

*Keywords:* acculturation, enculturation, Latinx males, psychological intimate partner violence, low income.

## **The Role of Culture on Psychological Intimate Partner Violence Victimization among Latinx Males**

Intimate relationships are one of the most central components to individual life satisfaction (Hamid et al., 2015). However, relationships are difficult to maintain and outside stressors (i.e., income) could lead to low relationship satisfaction among adults (Bradbury & Karney, 2019). Low functioning intimate relationships could lead to many negatives, one of the most harmful being intimate partner violence (IPV). IPV refers to physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, or psychological aggression by a dating partner or spouse (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2021). IPV is the most common form of interpersonal violence experienced by Latinx populations, with a range of 4% to 80% across samples, according to a recent review (Gonzalez et al., 2020). IPV has been associated with serious negative psychological effects such as depression, anxiety, and hostility among this population (Sabina & Cuevas, 2013). IPV among adults and adolescents is highly prevalent (CDC, 2021) and there needs to be more research that examines the relationship between certain contextual stressors and IPV, especially within the Latinx community.

### **IPV and Latinx Males**

Most research on IPV and its effects focuses on women, with less research on the victimization experiences of men (Chen & White, 2004). This bias extends to the Latinx community as well, as there has been little research on IPV victimization's effect on Latinx males (Sabina et al., 2014). The Dating Violence among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA) study conducted by Sabina and Cuevas (2013), in which they surveyed 1,525 Latinx teens in the United States, found that Latinx boys were significantly more likely to be victimized than girls overall and across each form of dating violence victimization (i.e., physical, sexual,

psychological). A study conducted by Gomez (2011), found similar results in Latinx young men, in which they found that Latinx young men were also significantly more likely to be victimized than young women overall and across each form of dating violence victimization. Consistent with these findings, a recent study conducted by Luft et al. (2022), found that among adolescents in the Dominican Republic, males were significantly more likely than females to report physical abuse victimization and less likely to report perpetrating physical abuse. However, the literature in this area is not consistent. As reported by Williams and Rueda (2018), 11.5 percent of Latinx high school girls and 8.0 percent of Latinx high school boys reported teenage dating violence (TDV) over the course of a year. A greater likelihood of underreporting by males and overreporting by females when asked for perpetrator rates could be driving these discrepant results (Wincentak et al., 2017). However, studies have supported that Latinx males are particularly vulnerable to psychological victimization (Gomez, 2011; Sabina & Cuevas, 2013).

### **Psychological Victimization**

Psychological dating violence is a type of dating violence that includes aggressive behaviors such as verbal aggression, controlling behaviors, threats, and humiliation (Ofiaz et al., 2022). Sabina and Cuevas (2013) found that among all victimization types (i.e., physical, sexual, psychological), psychological dating victimization was the only one significantly associated with depression and hostility symptoms for Latinx adolescent males. A study conducted by Gomez (2011), found that for Latinx adult males, experiencing psychological IPV victimization in adolescence led to a greater chance of victimization in their adulthood, as opposed to any other type of dating victimization (i.e., sexual, physical). These findings indicate that there may be a unique impact that psychological dating victimization has on the mental health of Latinx males compared to other dating victimizations such as physical aggression, and it is important to

evaluate why psychological abuse has such a strong impact on Latinx males. However, psychological aggression is a type of dating violence that generally goes unrecognized in dating violence research across all ethnicities (Oflaz et al., 2022) including the Latinx community, and the implications of psychological aggression on Latinx males are largely unknown. Although multiple studies have shown that Latinx males are reporting more IPV victimization than Latinx females, they seek help at a rate that is 1/7th of females (Sabina et al., 2014). These findings highlight the vulnerability of Latinx males and there needs to be a more comprehensive understanding about the association between certain external stressors (i.e., income), and individual cultural variables (i.e., acculturation and enculturation) and psychological victimization, to evaluate its implications on Latinx adolescents and young men.

### **Stressor of Low Income and IPV**

A stressor is described as any aspect of the environment that makes demands on people, such as losing a job or having a child (Bradbury & Karney, 2019). Stressors can have a negative impact on close relationships, including intimate relationships (Trail & Karney, 2012). A major external stressor that influences intimate relationships is low income. Low income can increase stress and conflict within families, which could lead to declines in psychological and physical health for individuals (Maisel & Karney, 2012). Perhaps the biggest consequence that stems from the stressor of low income within intimate relationships is IPV. Research has supported that greater degrees of disadvantage may increase a couples' stress (Ross & Mirowsky, 2009), which could subsequently raise the risk of violence within a relationship (Wright & Benson, 2011). This applies to Latinx couples, as low income has been shown to increase IPV among Latinx couples (Frias & Angel, 2005). Specific to Latinx males, research has shown that there is an association between men living in low-income neighborhoods and IPV victimization (Cunradi,

2009). These findings suggest the future research that is needed to evaluate the association between low-income Latinx males and experiencing psychological IPV victimization.

### **Cultural Factors Effect on Mental Wellbeing**

Some individual-level cultural factors that can have a negative impact on intimate relationships and psychological well-being are acculturation and enculturation (Alvarez et al., 2020; Hashemi et al., 2019; Yoon et al., 2013). Acculturation is defined as a bilinear (i.e., independent cultural socialization to mainstream and ethnic cultures) and multidimensional (i.e., spanning various domains such as behaviors, cultural identity, knowledge, and values) cultural socialization process that interacts with various social contexts (e.g., home, school, work, and community; Yoon et al., 2013). Enculturation is the extent to which a person identifies with their heritage culture (Kim et al., 2001). There is research that supports the idea that enculturation, similar to acculturation, has played an important role in shaping one's mental wellbeing (Yoon et al., 2013).

### **Acculturation and Increase in IPV**

Research indicates that acculturation to American society is a major risk factor for IPV in this demographic, as seen by the fact that recent Latinx immigrants report less exposure to IPV than Latinx immigrants who have lived in the US for longer (Alvarez et al., 2020; Mancera et al., 2017). One major reason for as to why Latinx immigrant males are faced with increased vulnerability to IPV, is due to specific stressors that stem from acculturation, including changing of certain cultural characteristics such as traditional gender norms (Cummings et al., 2013), as well as social environmental factors including prejudice and poverty (González-Guarda et al., 2011). For example, Alvarez (2020) found a moderate significant positive association between self-reported acculturation and IPV victimization, suggesting that the risk of being a victim of

IPV victimization rises as Latinx males integrate into American society. Furthermore, a recent study conducted by Cao et al. (2023) found a significant positive effect in Latinx men experiencing IPV victimization due to acculturation, compared to Latinx immigrant females in which there was no significant positive effect.

### **Enculturation and Protectiveness on IPV**

Enculturation has been linked to being a protective factor for experiencing IPV among Latinx couples (Gonzalez-Guarda et al., 2011). However, most research only looks at how enculturation serves as a protective factor for Latinx women to not experience IPV from their Latinx partner, but there is limited research on the protective factors for Latinx men. Gender roles in the Latinx community plays a strong role in one's ethnic identity. In Latin culture, the dominant male stereotype known as "machismo" refers to traits like masculinity, boldness, and responsibility in his role as the family's decision-maker. Caballerismo, the beneficial aspects of machismo such as safeguarding and supporting the family and showing respect towards one's partner and family, can prevent men from experiencing violence (Gonzalez-Guarda et al., 2010). This finding supports that caballerismo is a potential protective factor for Latinx males experiencing IPV victimization. Another significant cultural value for the Latinx community is familism, which is defined as when a family's values are held in higher esteem than the values of the individual family members (Campos et al., 2014; Sabina et al., 2021). Familism is another aspect of enculturation within the Latinx community that may serve as a protective factor for Latinx males experiencing IPV victimization, as a study conducted by Sabina et al. (2021) found that familism was the most consistent factor protecting against victimization of Latinx youth. Additional studies have found that familism is related to diminished likelihood of IPV among Latinx males living in high-risk neighborhoods (Coohey, 2001; Howard et al., 2005; Walker et



al., 2007). However, there is limited research on the victimization experiences of Latinx men as it pertains to enculturation as a whole. For example, it is unclear if Latinx men who lose their strong ethnic positive attributes of machismo (i.e., protecting the family) are at a higher risk of experiencing psychological IPV victimization. There needs to be more research that assesses enculturation in Latinx males as it relates to them experiencing psychological IPV victimization.

### **Bicultural Competence and IPV**

An individual's combined level of acculturation and enculturation is what makes up their "bicultural competence," which ultimately determines the degree to which people are capable of navigating different cultures (LaFromboise et al., 1993). Relationship outcomes may be negatively impacted if one or both partners exhibit low bicultural competence (i.e., low levels of either heritage or dominant cultural orientation), in part because they lack the skills necessary to successfully complete tasks associated with either heritage or dominant cultural orientation. For instance, newly immigrated couples could see their relationship satisfaction drop right away (Kanat-Maymon et al., 2016). As it pertains to Latinx males, it is important to evaluate the individual and additive effects of acculturation and enculturation, in order to analyze their association with experiencing relationship strain that includes psychological IPV. It is imperative to highlight bicultural competence, as examining acculturation and enculturation individually does not provide a complete picture of an individual's cultural competence. Understanding Latinx males' level of bicultural competence is especially important when analyzing its association with experiencing relationship strain that includes psychological IPV victimization, as it can aid in identifying the crucial areas in which they require assistance in order to navigate intercultural conflicts and uphold healthy relationships free of psychological IPV victimization.

### **Gaps in Literature**

There are some studies with mixed findings on the association between acculturation and experiencing IPV victimization among Latinx males. A study conducted by Cunradi (2009) in which they looked at acculturation-related factors in both Latinx immigrants and nonimmigrants (i.e., nativity, interview language preference) and its association with IPV, found that acculturation-related factors were not associated with IPV perpetration or victimization for Latinx men, but rather low income was the significant predictor associated with IPV perpetration and victimization. This finding offers implications for the imperative need to evaluate low-income Latinx males in addition to the individual-and additive effects (i.e., bicultural competence) of acculturation and enculturation, in relation to psychological IPV. Additionally, there is a scarce amount of research on enculturation and experiencing IPV among Latinx males, due to the fact that the multifaceted process of acculturation is most of the times reduced to a single perspective that only considers acculturation to the US and ignores factors Latinx enculturation (Cao et al., 2023). This is a limitation that must be addressed in order to advance our understanding of the relationship between acculturation and enculturation and psychological IPV among low-income Latinx males.

### **Purpose of Study and Hypotheses**

The purpose of this study is to explore the individual and additive effects of both acculturation and enculturation (i.e., bicultural competence) on experiencing psychological IPV within low-income Latinx males. To accomplish the study aims, Latinx fathers will be assessed. Assessing this topic would lead to more awareness on the factors that increase the risk of psychological IPV within Latinx males and serve to inform-based interventions to prevent psychological IPV among Latinx males. This study will also serve to promote mental health that

addresses these variables, which will better support this understudied population. This research objective led to the formation of three main hypotheses, which are:

**Hypothesis 1:** The level of acculturation of Latinx fathers will be positively associated with a risk of experiencing psychological IPV victimization, indicating that the more acculturated a Latinx father is, the greater the likelihood of experiencing psychological IPV victimization.

**Hypothesis 2:** The level of enculturation of Latinx fathers will be negatively associated with the risk of experiencing psychological IPV victimization, suggesting that the more enculturated a Latinx father is, the lower the likelihood of experiencing psychological IPV victimization.

**Hypothesis 3:** There will be a negative association between the additive effects of acculturation and enculturation (i.e., bicultural competence) on psychological IPV victimization, such as Latinx fathers who exhibit high levels of both acculturation and enculturation will be less likely to experience psychological IPV victimization.

## Method

### Participants

Participant data were obtained from an ongoing long term research project investigation called the Future of Families and Child Wellbeing study (FFCWS). The purpose of this study was to analyze and understand the experiences of children and their families in the US, especially those who reside in economically underprivileged areas (Reichman et al., 2001). The FFCWS tracks a new group of primarily unmarried parents and their children. At the first timepoint they were able to recruit 4,898 new mothers and fathers to participate in the study and take a baseline questionnaire. This paper will be looking at Latinx fathers who participated in the first wave of data collection between 1998 and 2000. The original sample of Latinx fathers that took the FFCWS baseline questionnaire was ( $n=1,062$ ), for the purposes of this study, this

number was narrowed down to ( $n=722$ ) when taken into account the sampling criteria, which consisted of those who put down a valid response for the major variables assessed (i.e., acculturation, enculturation and psychological IPV victimization) and those that were either in a steady or on-and-off relationship with the baby's mother. The average age of fathers was 25.90 years old, and the range of ages for the fathers was wide, spanning from 15 to 52 years old (see Table 1).

### **Measures**

***Acculturation.*** Acculturation among Latinx fathers will be measured by one item on the FFWCS Baseline Father Questionnaire: interview language (English or Spanish). This is coded as 0=Spanish and 1=English in the analysis.

***Enculturation.*** Enculturation among Latinx fathers will be measured by one item on the FFWCS Baseline Father Questionnaire: "I feel an attachment towards my own racial/ethnic group." This item was assessed on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 1 "strongly disagree" to 4 "strongly agree."

***Psychological Victimization.*** Psychological victimization among Latinx fathers will be measured by one item on the FFWCS Baseline Father Questionnaire: "How often does mother insult or criticize you or your ideas?" This item is assessed on a 3-point Likert scale from 1 "often", 2 "sometimes", 3 "never." In the analysis, the psychological IPV victimization item is dichotomized to 0=never been victimized, and 1=sometimes or often been victimized.

### **Analytical Strategy**

The analysis contained a two-step process: first the data underwent a cleaning, screening, and assumptions checking (e.g., including normality, absence of multicollinearity, etc.; see Tabachonick & Fidell, 2007). Secondly, a direct binomial logistic regression analysis was run

which allowed for the examination of both the unique and additive effects of acculturation and enculturation on psychological IPV victimization. This second step was two-fold: first step of the binomial logistic regression analysis involved examining the individual effects of acculturation and enculturation on psychological IPV victimization (i.e., hypothesis 1 and 2) and the second step of the analysis involved assessing the additive effect of acculturation and enculturation (i.e., bicultural competence) on psychological IPV victimization. The examination of this additive effect is important, as the effect of both acculturation and enculturation on psychological IPV victimization among Latinx fathers is understudied and assessing for the bicultural competence would allow for a more nuanced understanding of this relationship between acculturation and enculturation and experiencing psychological IPV victimization among low-income Latinx males.

### **Results**

This analysis was found to meet all of the assumptions of a direct binomial logistic regression and included no outliers. Table 1 describes the descriptive statistics for each major variable in this study (i.e., age, acculturation, enculturation, psychological IPV victimization and relationship status). A vast majority of the participants chose to take the survey in English, compared to taking it in Spanish (Table 1). In other words, this suggests that 70% of the Latinx fathers were acculturated and 30% of the Latinx fathers were not. Most of the Latinx fathers were enculturated with 76% of the participants answering “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with their attachment to their ethnic identity (Table 1). The vast majority of the participants at the time of the survey were in a steady relationship with their baby’s mother (see Table 1). Regarding Latinx fathers experiencing psychological IPV, 68% were never victimized and 32% were victimized (see Table 1).

A direct binomial logistic regression analysis was performed on psychological IPV as outcome with two additional predictors: acculturation (i.e., interview language) and enculturation (i.e., attachment to ethnic identity). The analysis was performed using SPSS 27. After undergoing the aforementioned selection criteria, 722 Latinx fathers were available for the analysis. A test of the full model with both predictors against a constant-only model was statistically significant,  $\chi^2(2, N=722) = 10.50, p = .005$ . Table 2 shows regression coefficients, Wald statistics, standard errors, odds ratios, and 95% confidence intervals for odds ratios of both of the predictor variables. According to the Wald criterion, only acculturation was associated with an increase in experiencing psychological IPV victimization (see row one of Table 2). Enculturation was not associated with experiencing psychological IPV victimization (see row 2 of Table 2). This suggests that the predictor variables of acculturation and enculturation as a whole were statistically significant in predicting the outcome variable of psychological IPV victimization in Latinx fathers, but the variable of acculturation accounted for essentially all of the association.

### **Discussion**

This study found a significant positive association between acculturation and experiencing psychological IPV victimization within Latinx fathers, such that those with high levels of acculturation were at a significantly higher risk of experiencing psychological IPV victimization compared to the fathers who were not. Thus, the first hypothesis of this study was supported. However, the second hypothesis of this study was not supported, as this study did not find a significant association between enculturation and psychological IPV victimization, suggesting that there is no significant association between ethnic identity being a protective factor against experiencing psychological IPV victimization. Regarding the third hypothesis, the

entire model is significant, however, acculturation accounted for essentially all of the association, thus concluding that this finding is not entirely supportive of the third hypothesis.

The finding that acculturation plays a significant positive role in experiencing psychological IPV victimization is consistent with various findings suggesting that there is a significant association between acculturation and experiencing IPV victimization among Latinx males. This result was not surprising as adapting to the United States brings on a multitude of stressors such as adapting to a new culture, changes in typical gender roles and expectations, as well as social environmental factors such as exposure to experiencing discrimination and poverty (Cummings et al., 2013; González-Guarda et al., 2011). Previous research has also shown the link between low income and experiencing IPV victimization among Latinx males (Cunradi, 2009); being that this population were low-income Latinx males, it is possible that the stressor of low income from becoming more acculturated to the United States, contributed to the significant positive association between acculturation and experiencing psychological IPV victimization among this population.

The lack of significant association between enculturation and psychological IPV victimization could be attributed to a couple of factors. Firstly, the association of enculturation within Latinx males and experiencing psychological IPV victimization, or IPV victimization in general, is one that is understudied in the literature (Cao et al., 2023), therefore the measure that was used in this study for enculturation may not fully have captured the construct. It is possible that a more comprehensive measure of enculturation, which includes a wider range of cultural experiences and behaviors specific to Latinx males, might have yielded different results. Secondly, enculturation alone may not be strong enough to protect against the negative effects of acculturation on psychological IPV. Being that as Latinx males acculturate to the United States

they encounter a myriad of stressors, it may be that the protective effects of enculturation against psychological IPV victimization are only effective in combination with other factors, such as high familism.

The limited research on Latinx enculturation and IPV victimization in Latinx males, along with the lack of measuring bicultural competence, explains why the full model's significance is solely attributed to the strong positive association between acculturation and psychological IPV victimization. It is important to note that bicultural competence can negatively impact relationship outcomes, particularly if one or both partners exhibit low levels of either heritage or dominant cultural orientation. For example, Caetano et al. (2000) found that couples with at least one partner with a medium level of acculturation were more than three times as likely to report male-to-female physical violence (MFPV) compared to low-acculturated couples, while high-acculturated couples were not at increased risk for MFPV. Additionally, compared to low-acculturated couples, medium-acculturated couples were nearly 11 times more likely to report female-to-male physical violence (FMPV), and high-acculturated couples were at a more than fivefold risk. These findings support acculturation's effect on IPV victimization, but also highlights the importance of studying the role bicultural competence has on Latinx men experiencing IPV victimization. Therefore, when analyzing the association between bicultural competence and psychological IPV victimization, it is imperative to take a holistic approach that looks at both acculturation and enculturation.

### **Limitations**

This study was not without its limitations. One limitation is that the analysis did not include what could have been another dimension of enculturation, in which the baseline questionnaire item asked participants whether they “engage in cultural practices.” This is a



limitation because a unidimensional item was used to assess a complex and multidimensional construct. Including this item in addition to the enculturation variable examined, may have provided us with a more comprehensive approach to capturing the construct. Furthermore, the FFCWS baseline survey was heavily self-reported, which may be subject to bias or inaccuracy. A couple of biases to note are recall bias and social desirability bias. Regarding recall bias, being that the baseline survey was self-reported, participants may not remember certain details accurately. Regarding social-desirability bias, as it pertains to the FFCWS survey, participants may underreport negative behaviors or experiences, such as IPV victimization, to avoid being stigmatized or judged by researchers or society. As it pertains to this study, recall bias could lead to errors in the data and undermine the validity of the study findings, while social-desirability bias can lead to the underestimation of the prevalence or severity of negative behaviors or experiences, which can have significant implications for the conclusions drawn from the data.

### **Strengths**

Overall, despite its limitations, this study provides many important strengths. Firstly, the study provided us important insights into psychological IPV victimization among low-income Latinx males, who have received little research attention. This is a very essential contribution to IPV literature, given that psychological IPV is often understudied among Latinx males, and low-income Latinx males are at increased risk for IPV victimization. Therefore, this study's results can inform interventions and prevention strategies that target the unique experiences of this population. Additionally, this study shed light on the relation of the individual effects and the combined effects (i.e., bicultural competence) of acculturation and enculturation on psychological IPV. This is of importance because examining the bicultural competence in addition to the individual effects of acculturation and enculturation, provides us with a more

nuanced understanding of the relationship between cultural adaptation and psychological IPV victimization among low-income Latinx males. Additional strengths of this study include a large sample size, which indicated that it was vastly representative of the population of interest. This is of importance because it enhances the study's generalizability and increases the reliability of its findings. With a representative sample of the population of interest, the study's results can be applied to a broader range of low-income Latinx males. Finally, this secondary analysis also included a clear and direct methodology. This is of importance because the transparency of the methodology allows for easy replication by other researchers, increasing the study's reliability and validity of its findings. This is imperative for advancing IPV research among Latinx males, and builds a stronger evidence base to inform effective interventions and prevention strategies.

### **Future Directions**

The results of this study hold various theoretical and practical implications for future research. Firstly, future research should aim to further evaluate the role enculturation has to play within Latinx males and psychological IPV among low-income households. As stated earlier, enculturation has been understudied in IPV literature (Cao et al., 2023), and assessing Latinx male enculturation in relation to experiencing psychological IPV will give us more of a specific understanding of which specific parts of enculturation protect against psychological IPV in this population. Secondly, future research should continue to investigate the role of bicultural competence in low-income Latinx males experiencing psychological IPV in greater detail. Newer measures of enculturation could be included, that are more in line with Latinx males' cultural values, in order to achieve a more comprehensive assessment.

In regard to practical implications, the results of this study have important implications for interventions aimed at reducing psychological IPV among Latinx males living in low-income

households. Firstly, interventions should address the negative stressors of acculturation, in which could then enforce interventions to focus on safety and prevention of psychological IPV. These interventions could include culturally tailored mental health services that address the specific stressors experienced by Latinx males acculturating to the US, such as discrimination, poverty, and changes in gender roles. Secondly, interventions aimed at reducing psychological IPV among this population may benefit from a focus on enculturation. While this study found no significant association between enculturation and psychological IPV, future research may reveal protective factors related to enculturation that can be brought into light in interventions. There has been research that states that Latinx males seek help 1/7<sup>th</sup> of the time than Latinx females (Sabina et al., 2014). Part of this could be because disclosing victimization could be viewed as damaging to the principles of machismo, which emphasizes masculinity, and thus may have an effect on self-esteem. In accordance with this, interventions that incorporate culturally specific factors related to enculturation may help low-income Latinx males in achieving a more engaging psychological IPV prevention effort. Lastly, the findings of this study suggest the need for interventions that promote bicultural competence among low-income Latinx males. This will allow this population to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate intercultural conflicts and maintain healthy relationships free of psychological IPV.

### **Conclusion**

Overall, this study provides important insights into psychological IPV, a type of partner violence that has received limited attention, among a historically underrepresented population. Specifically, the study sheds light on the individual and combined effects of acculturation and enculturation, which makes up an individual's bicultural competence, in understanding the experiences of psychological IPV in this population. The findings of the study suggest that

acculturation plays a significant positive role in experiencing psychological IPV victimization among low-income Latinx males, while there is no significant association between enculturation and experiencing psychological IPV victimization among this population. However, the total model is significant, but only because of acculturations significant positive association to experiencing psychological IPV victimization. This study points to the need for future research to better understand the relationship between enculturation and experiencing psychological IPV victimization, as well as the importance of addressing bicultural competence. Overall, this study contributes to the vast lack of literature on psychological IPV victimization among low-income Latinx males, while addressing acculturation and enculturation, and serves as a solid foundation for future research in this field as we navigate to find better ways to help Latinx males that have experienced IPV victimization.

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**Table 1***Characteristics of Latinx Fathers at Baseline*

	<i>n</i>	%	<i>M</i>	Median	<i>SD</i>	Range	Minimum	Maximum
Age	722	100	25.90	25.00	6.15	37	15	52
Interview Language	722	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spanish (1)	216	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
English (0)	506	70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enculturation	722	100	3.02	3.00	0.83	3	1	4
Strongly Disagree	29	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disagree	153	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Agree	316	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strongly Agree	224	31	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relationship Status	722	100	1.08	1.00	0.27	1	1	2
Steady	665	92	—	—	—	—	—	—
On-and-Of	57	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Psychological IPV	722	100	0.32	.00	0.47	1	.00	1.00
Never (0)	491	68	—	—	—	—	—	—
Often or Sometimes (1)	231	32	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Note.* The dashes are in place for the statistics that were not obtained. The numbers in parenthesis are what the items are coded as in the analysis.

**Table 2***Logistic Regression Analysis of Acculturation and Enculturation on Psychological IPV**Victimization*

Variables in the Equation	<i>B</i>	<i>SE</i>	Wald	<i>df</i>	Sig.	Exp (B)	95% CI
Acculturation	.59	.19	9.74	1	.002	1.80	[1.24, 2.60]
Enculturation	.11	.10	1.33	1	.250	1.12	[.92, 1.36]
Constant	-1.52	.36	17.60	1	<.001	.22	

*Note.* This table shows the regression coefficients, Wald statistics, standard errors, odds ratios, and 95% confidence intervals for odds ratios of both of the predictor variables (i.e., acculturation, enculturation).