

EL JOVEN NOBLE RITES OF PASSAGE JERRY TELLO

El Joven Noble (The Noble Young Man) is a Chicano/Latino Rites of Passage Process based on the indigenous, culturally-rooted concept of El Hombre Noble (The Noble Man) and the value of developing and maintaining one's sense of "Palabra" (credible word and life purpose). The specific goal of The El Joven Noble is the CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT of young males while targeting the reduction and prevention of unwanted or unplanned pregnancies, substance abuse, community violence and to increase the ability of young males to act in a responsible and respectful way in reference to their relationships.

El Joven Noble is divided into four stages of development, Conocimiento (Acknowledgement), Entendimiento (Understanding), Integración (Integration), and Movimiento (Movement) – and is designed to include the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects of each as a basis for direction. Each stage uses a mixture of activities and teaching experiences relating to a young man's self, family, and community.

Curriculum Research:

The following are the protective factors that this program is intended to enhance:

- ✓ Community Domain - community rewards for pro-social involvement
- ✓ Family Domain – family opportunities and rewards for pro-social involvement
- ✓ School Domain – school opportunities and rewards for pro-social involvement
- ✓ Peer & Individual Domain – Character development, social skills and the belief in the moral order

The curriculum is deeply rooted in the traditions and customs of the Chicano/Latino culture and reinforces the positive aspects of family, culture, and community. Attention is given to the participant's level of acculturation and family make-up. The curriculum provides each adolescent with information and guidance related to a multitude of life skills issues including reproductive health, substance abuse, gangs, relationship violence, community rights and responsibilities and leadership development. The program has been used across the country in over 20 states and recognized as an evidenced based practice and funded by federal, state and local sources in programs with great success