

A LEGACY OF *LATINO* COMMUNITY MISTRUST

Abuses involving Latinos have created historic fear and trauma that is passed across communities

- Disinfection of Mexicans on the U.S.–Mexican border between 1890 and 1930
 - U.S. Public Health Service implemented a formal “medical exclusion” policy that involved a full-scale medical surveillance system. In short, Mexicans underwent “intrusive, humiliating, and harmful baths and physical examinations at the hands of the US PHS starting in 1916”
- Administering in 1968 of placebos to Latinas in San Antonio who thought they were receiving oral contraceptives
 - a 1968 oral contraceptive study sponsored by Planned Parenthood of San Antonio and the South Central Texas and Southwest Foundation for Research and Education, 70 poverty-stricken Mexican American women had consented to participate with the understanding that they would receive a full dosage of the contraceptive. However, without informed consent, the researchers gave half of the women the oral contraceptives and the other half a placebo. When the results of this study were released a few years later, it generated a tremendous controversy among Mexican Americans (Planned Parenthood of San Antonio, 1989).
- Provision of “experimental” measles vaccine to Latino and African American babies and children in Los Angeles in 1990-
 - Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Kaiser Pharmaceuticals of Southern California injected 1,500 six-month-old Black and Hispanic babies in Los Angeles with an “experimental” measles vaccine that had never been licensed for use in the United States (Cimons, 1996).

REFERENCE-Cacari Stone, L. & Avila, M. (2012) Rethinking Research Ethics for Latinos: The Policy Paradox of Health Reform and the Role of Social Justice. *Ethics and Behavior*;22 (6), pgs 445-460.