

August 15, 1971

TO ALL THE CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS OF THE BOOK LA CHICANA:
A PORTRAIT OF THE MEXICAN AMERICAN WOMAN

From: Julie Ruiz
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About the Book

I am pleased to announce to you that the work on our anthology, La Chicana has begun and we can seriously look forward to a publication date of early 1972.

This letter will outline the proposed content of the book as well as list those who are contributing authors by general category.

Interest in a book on the Chicana grew out of recognition that although the Chicana has been recently involved in all phases of the movimiento and historically has been the foundation of the family and has played a major role in all movements, there is little written about her. This is one of the most neglected and least understood areas of all.

We are therefore, involved in a new unexplored subject - literature-wise. The objectives of the book can be:

1. to call attention to the contemporary Chicana and the diversification of her role and life style. Thus, challenging and correcting the present stereotype.
2. to have Chicanas present the Chicana's viewpoint. This also brings to light the many bright, articulate and knowledgeable women we have across the nation. Also, it encourages others to speak out in their own way in their own communities as well as nationally.
3. to put Chicanas on the map. This might be one of the quickest ways to "catch up" with the gap that exists in giving recognition to the existence of the Chicana. Additionally it will highlight the accomplishments and contributions to society as well as make known how the Chicana views major issues.

About the Contributors

So many women have been interested in the idea for such a book it has been encouraging to have this kind of support. Thanks to all those who have helped to suggest contributors and ideas and those who have accepted.

The following Chicanas have indicated they will be contributors in this book. At this time the categories are general in order that you may specify your own idea line, content and title.

Chicano Studies and the Chicana. This section might show the woman's role within the department or the problems related to the male expectations, or the Chicana struggle with the system and the university, or others.

Marcella Trujillo, Director, Mexican American Studies, Colorado University, Denver, Colorado.

Evangelina Bustanante Hubbard, Assistant Professor, Centro De Estudios Chicanos, San Diego, California.

Chicanas in Print and the Media. This section can include the image both public and private of the Chicana, the paucity of literature on the Chicana documented by comparative examples, the whole area of socialization of children through stories and educational material which is largely masculine, the portrayal of women in negative forms, or the life of a Chicana in a competitive field like media and others.

Christine Marin, Director, Chicano Studies Library Project, Arizona State University.

Marta Cotera, Librarian, Jacinto Trevino College, Mercedes, Texas.

Irma Lourdes Garcia, Curriculum Writer, Austin, Texas

Francisca Flores, Editor, Regeneracion, Los Angeles.

Chicanas in Washington, D.C. In this area the role of Chicanas in Washington can be presented, the working woman image, the Chicana away from the Chicana environment.

Ester LaPlant, Womens Bureau, Department of Labor.

Cecelia Preciado, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Lupe Angiano, Womens Action Program, HEW.

The National Conferencia of Chicanas, Houston. This section could be a report on the composite findings of the conference workshops, or a review of the cross-section of Chicana participants and their attitudes perhaps citing quotations or resolutions.

Elma Barrera, Magnolia Park Branch, YWCA, Houston, Texas.

Stella Borraso, Family Service Center, Houston, Texas.

Chicanas in the Community. This section might present the Chicana in volunteer roles, community leadership, as mothers, heads of households, on Boards of Directors in decision-making positions and others.

Annie Sotelo, Casa Grande, Arizona.

Nina Cordero, Chairman, Board of Directors, Father Rahm Clinic, El Paso, Texas.

Theresa Flores Williams, San Fiego, California.
Julia Soto, Community Economic Opportunity Office, Tucson,
Arizona.

Chicanas and the Arts. Included in this section would be selected poetry and prose in addition to the personal statements regarding this profession and its effect on the Chicana.
Sylvia Gonzales, Poet, Writer, Tucson, Arizona.
Irene Gimeno, Artist, Arvada, Colorado.

Politics, Government and Law - Do Chicanas Belong. This area might highlight the everyday life of women in politics, the role of wife, mother and working woman, getting elected or appointed to offices, is there a future for Chicanas in this profession - what are the obstacles.
Betty Benavides, Member of the State Legislature, Denver, Colorado.
Bea Morales, Councilwoman, South Tucson, Arizona.
Jane Gonzales, Councilwoman, Muskegon-Oceana, Michigan.
Graciela Olivares, Director, Food for All, Phoenix, Arizona.

The Chicana Student. There are many issues in this area including activism in student politics, who does the work in committees and organizations, the social role on campus, academic expectations or sexism and the classroom, higher education and its effects on the Chicana and her family, choices for Chicanas - education/occupations.
Linda Legerette, Felicitas Nunez, Undergraduate students, San Diego State College, California
Grace Frei, Graduate Student, Arizona State University
Irma Aguilar, Undergraduate student, University of Texas, El Paso.

The Movimiento and the Role of the Chicana.
Grace Burruel, Nelba Chavez, Tucson, Arizona.
Delores Huerta, United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, Delano, California.
Esther Martinez, Valley Migrant League, Woodburn, Oregon.

Chicana Perspectives. There are many options related to a variety of issues. These might include marriage and motherhood, the psychology of the Chicana, sex and the Chicana, class and ethnic differences, the Chicana of the future and others.
Gracia Molina De Pich, University of California at San Diego, Third World College.
Rosina Beerra, Doctoral student, Brandeis University, Washington, D.C.
Mary J. Arredondo, Microbiologist, Houston, Texas.
Julie Ruiz, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Social Service Administration, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

About Resources

There are two books which you may want to refer to as they present the writings of other women:

- 1) MORGAN, ROBIN, SISTERHOOD IS POWERFUL. An anthology of writings from the "Womens" Liberation Movement. (Vintage Paperback \$2.45)
- 2) CADE, TONI, THE BLACK WOMAN, An Anthology (Signet Paperback 95¢)

Regarding the Chicana, there is an article by Enriqueta Longauer y Vasquez in the book Sisterhood is Powerful, p. 379. Other articles on Chicanas have appeared in the Chicano Press Association newspapers "El Grito Del Norte", Espanola, New Mexico; "El Papel Chicano", Houston, Texas; and "Las Hijas de Cuauhtemoc", Los Angeles, California.

TIMETABLE

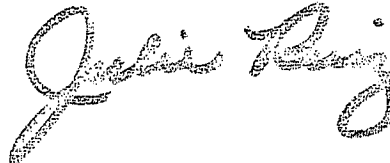
In order to get the book finished for publication in early 1972, we will need to finish the chapters by November 15, 1971. This will allow time for organizing, editing and final preparation of the material.

I am asking for the following:

- 1) Please let me know by September 15 what you have decided to write about including the title and a short outline of the major ideas.
- 2) The completed profile sheet.
- 3) Don't hesitate to pass along any ideas you may have regarding the tentative plan for the book.

I'll keep you informed of our progress.

Adelante Por La Chicana,



Enclosures: Women's Action Program FACT SHEET on Woman.
Ruiz, Julie. BIBLIOGRAPHY. Socio-cultural-
Psychocultural Perspectives of human Behavior.
PROFILE SHEET