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From the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo to Hopwood: The Educational Plight and Struggle of Mexican Americans in the Southwest

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The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which brought an end to the Mexican American War of 1846–1848, marked its sesquicentennial on February 2, 1998. The signing of the Treaty and the U.S. annexation, by conquest, of the current Southwest signaled the beginning of decades of persistent, pervasive prejudice and discrimination against people of Mexican origin who reside in the United States. In this article, Guadalupe San Miguel and Richard Valencia provide a sweep through 150 years of Mexican American schooling in the Southwest. They focus on the educational "plight" (e.g., forced school segregation, curricular tracking), as well as the "struggle" (e.g., litigation) mounted by the Mexican American people in their quest for educational equality. The authors cover four major historical eras: 1) the origins of schooling for Mexican children in the "American" Southwest, 1848–1890s; 2) the expansion of Mexican American education, 1890–1930; 3) the changing character of public education, 1930–1960; and 4) the contemporary period. In their discussion they identify a number of major themes that characterize the education of Mexican Americans in the Southwest from the time of the Treaty up to the *Hopwood* decision in Texas—the landmark case that gutted affirmative action in higher education. These include the exclusion and removal of the Mexican-origin community and its cultural heritage from the schools; the formation of the template (segregated, inferior schooling) for Mexican American education; the quest for educational equality; the continuing academic gap between Mexican American and Anglo or White students; and the impact of nativism on educational opportunity, as reflected most recently in the regressive and oppressive voter-initiated propositions in California and in the legal decisions in Texas. As such, Mexican Americans face an educational crisis of an unprecedented magnitude in the history of racial/ethnic minority education.

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The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed at Villa de Guadalupe Hidalgo, which is a northern neighborhood of Mexico City. Who negotiated the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo? The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was negotiated by Nicholas Trist (1800 - 1894) for the United States with a special commission representing the collapsed government of Mexico led by Don Bernardo Couto, Don Miguel de Atristain, and Don Luis Gonzaga Cuevas. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Background History for kids: President Polk and Nicholas Trist During the Mexican American War Nicholas Trist had been sent by President Jame The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed on February 2, 1848, ended the Mexican War, recognized the annexation of Texas to the United States (consummated nearly three years before), and ceded to the United States Upper California (the modern state of California) and nearly all of the present American Southwest between California and Texas. The negotiation of the treaty presented many knotty problems, mostly caused by the Mexicans' sense of honor and their stubborn refusal to admit defeat. After Gen. As Americans came to desire more Mexican territory south of the Gila River for a railroad route, a new treaty, the Gadsden Purchase, was negotiated in 1853 to make the desired changes. See also BOUNDARIES. Bibliography. From the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo to Hopwood: The educational plight and struggle of Mexican Americans in the Southwest. Harvard Educational Review, 68(3), 353412. Scott, D. (2011). Analysis and Evaluation of Mexican American Studies Student AIMS & Graduation Outcome DataRetrieved from http://saveethnicstudies.org/assets/docs/proven_results/Save_Ethnic_Studies_Data_Analysis_and_Evaluation.pdf. Valenzuela, A. (1999). Subtractive schooling: Issues of caring in education of US-Mexican youth. Albany: State University of New York Press. 123. The Educational Plight and Struggle of Mexican Americans in the Southwest. Guadalupe San Miguel, Jr., Richard R. Valencia. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which brought an end to the Mexican American War of 1846-1848, marked its sesquicentennial on February 2, 1998. The signing of the Treaty and the U.S. annexation, by conquest, of the current Southwest signaled the beginning of decades of persistent, pervasive prejudice and discrimination against people of Mexican origin who reside in the United States. In this article, Guadalupe San Miguel and Richard Valencia provide a sweep through 150 ye