

Lupe Anguiano

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Linda:

Please note corrections to Timeline for film events. I originated from California - area where I now live - Oxnard, CA.

1. From March to September, 1971 - The US Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare (HEW), Women's Action Program was initiated by Elliott Richardson, Secretary of HEW - during the time the "Equal Rights Amendment" was being ratified by many States. Sixteen women from different HEW departments, were asked and assigned by Secretary to staff the Women's Action Program. Purpose was to recommend improvements needed, to improve program services to American Women.
2. **At that time I was working in the Office for Civil Rights - US Dept. of HEW in Washington, D C. I was assigned (asked and gladly accepted) to the Women's Action Program from the Office of Civil Rights; where I was working under Stan Pottinger - reviewing education programs.**
3. **I selected to conduct research on AFDC Welfare.** The research analysis I conducted lead me to discover - the inadequacies of "Income Maintenance" system and why women single parents continually complained about being trapped in a cycle of Poverty. I recommended changing the policy to an employment and education policy - with support services (such as job training, Child Care, etc.). This research was a **stand alone project I researched, analyzed and provided recommendations.**
4. I also developed a proposal, **requesting funds**, to bring Mexican-American Women from throughout the US to Washington, D C - for the purpose of providing input in the Women's Action Program report - in the areas of Education, Health, Social Services, etc. Funds were approved. I then sought Latina women primarily from Universities involved in research. The women invited to this input conference were: Dr. Cecilia Cota-Robles Suarez from UCLA Education; Theresa Shapiro, Vice Provost from Washington State University; Dr. Vera Martinez (later selected as chancellor of University of CA at Riverside); Deluvina Hernandez, Sociologist from UCLA; Pauline Jacobo Attorney from Lubbock, Texas; Julie Ruiz, from St. Mary's University (I believe - not sure) in San Antonio and I believe - Gracia Molina de Pick from San Diego State - I need to verify this with Gracia. The report from these meetings were not included in the Women's Action Program. The report contained research needed in the area of Education, Health, Social Security etc. It was widely shared. I am still looking for a copy of this report.
5. During my service in HEW in 1971, I was invited and served as a founding member of the National Women's Political Caucus - along with Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug, Shirley Chisholm, Liz Carpenter, Betty Freidan etc. I recommended development of ethic caucus, which was easily approved. I served as the first Chair of the Chicana Caucus. I don't remember who chaired the first Black Women's Caucus.
6. I left Washington, D C - accepting the position as Southwest Regional Director for the Office for Spanish Speaking (SWROSS) for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops - headed by 23 Bishops. The office was in San Antonio, Texas (this was my first Texas experience).
7. I took a big cut in pay; but accepted the position on condition that Welfare Reform be one of my office program priorities. I agreed to do all the Church related programs. I wanted to use the research knowledge I acquired while working in the Women's Action Program. I wanted to field test and develop a Model program - that would eventually become an Employment and Education - AFDC Welfare Reform Program. Loads of History followed.
8. During this time I helped develop the conference in the Midwest - utilizing my counter part - Regional office for the Spanish Speaking.

Linda, this is becoming too long. So much to say. If you have other questions, please ask. I am delighted we are doing this. I will try to share thoughts on Raza Unida in Mexico. Do you have names of the RUP delegates to the Mexico UN Conference? Thanks for your hard work.

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