

## Jesus Escobedo transcript

- Speaker 1: [00:00](#) So today is November sixth and we are conducting an interview in the library for the purposes of my thesis research, which is titled the Latino South Race and Racialization. So we'll go ahead and jump right in. Are you 18 years or older? Can you state and spell your first and last name for the record?
- Speaker 2: Jesus Escobedo
- Speaker 1: When were you born?
- Speaker 2: November 12, 1997. Got a birthday coming up.
- Speaker 1: Um, where are you from and where did you grow up?
- Speaker 2: I am from Mexico originally the state of Texas and I grew up in the little town of La Quemada Villanueva.
- Speaker 1: [01:00](#) And um, what other places have you also lived in other than Oxford since coming to America? You moved from there to here to Oxford?
- Speaker 2: Yes, in 2001.
- Speaker 1: Okay. And why did you move from Zacatecas to here?
- Speaker 2: Because my dad, he came to the United States working with the visa and he kept coming back and forth to get us all eligible as residents to come to United States legally. And ever since that against me, he just wanted a better life for us.
- Speaker 1: And is race an important part of your identity? Why or why not?
- Speaker 2: I would say yes because it identifies who I am and also where I come from.
- Speaker 1: Um, and how has your experience been at the university and living in Oxford?
- Speaker 2: At the university. It's been great. Nothing, nothing bad or nothing wrong in Oxford, I've never, I haven't had any bad experiences with me being Hispanic or anything like that.

Speaker 1: So you would say your experiences at the university and living in Oxford and both have been pretty good?

Speaker 2: Yes.

Speaker 1: Okay. And um, what is your major and your classification and maybe some notable involvement that you have on campus?

Speaker 2: My major is marketing and my minor is digital media studies. My classification is junior and involvements on campus is I'm the marketing director for rebel radio and I recently applied for to become a orientation leader for the summer of 2019.

Speaker 1: Okay. And um, what are the most important aspects of your life right now and why?

Speaker 2: Looking for the future? See what's ahead of me, what? See what I can do with it.

Speaker 1: [03:09](#) Okay. And um, the US Census Bureau considers race and ethnicity as two different concepts. What is your ethnicity?

Speaker 2: [03:23](#) Would it be Hispanic or Mexican? You told me. You explained this to me last time you said Hispanic is any person from Latin America that speak Spanish? Am I correct in the Mexican is someone who is from Mexico. Right.

Speaker 1: When people ask you, what's your ethnicity? What do you normally say?

Speaker 2: [04:10](#) I used to say both. I'm Hispanic because I'm someone from Latin America speaks Spanish and I'm Mexican because I'm from Mexico.

Speaker 1: [04:18](#) And um, what is your parents' nationality and do you identify with their nationality?

Speaker 2: My Parent's nationality is also Hispanic and Mexican. And to identify with my print? Yes.

Speaker 1: And um, how do you identify racially and why do you identify this way?

- Speaker 2: [04:39](#) See, this is a hard question because when it's on the little voting things, I'm Hispanic. When I get in trouble in high school, it always say white, black. I'm Asian. I think in other there was another, there was never caramel, so I guess I would be considered white.
- Speaker 1: [05:02](#) Okay. Um, and um, do you identify as Hispanic or Latino?
- Speaker 2: Hispanic.
- Speaker 1: And why is that? Why do you prefer the term Hispanic over Latina?
- Speaker 1: [05:20](#) Hispanic? Because it sounds it's more common, more common. If a Caucasian person ask you, Oh, you're Hispanic, you would, you barely hear, oh, he's Latino. You a more common word. Used to describe someone from Latin America would be Hispanic.
- Speaker 2: [05:43](#) Okay. And a study showed that the Latino population is growing in the US. How do you think this will affect the way race or race relations is viewed in this country?
- Speaker 1: [05:55](#) Big Way because more kids, more families that are Hispanic are coming in and with growing populations the future is going to be decided majority because the Hispanic Latino population is growing and that it's going to be a big effect on voting and population size, school sizes synthesizes. So it's going to be a big deal.
- Speaker 2: [06:20](#) And um, how do you mind saying your Latino culture while being a student at the university?
- Speaker 1: [06:25](#) Are we speaking Spanish? Being bilinguals pig into my friends in both, in both languages, even though they can't understand Spanish, but always sticking to always describing what I like to do, what I like to eat, what are, what are my, what's my culture about stuff like that. Just describing who I am and what I come from.
- Speaker 2: [06:48](#) And um, what are some challenges you faced at the university and an Oxford as a Latino do?
- Speaker 1: [06:54](#) Um, that's a good question. I would say other students putting, putting me on a lower level than them because I'm

Speaker 3: [07:11](#) a minority and

Speaker 1: [07:12](#) when it comes to group projects, they stick to their friends and they don't think about diversity. I guess that would be one challenge I have faced because they don't choose minorities. They stick to their close group.

Speaker 2: [07:27](#) And um, has anyone ever asked you about your race and ethnicity and how do you typically respond to these types of questions?

Speaker 3: [07:37](#) No. Choir? No.

Speaker 2: [07:41](#) No, no one ever asked you any questions about what your race is or where you're from or anything?

Speaker 1: [07:46](#) Oh yeah, we do. And I just say, Oh, I'm from this. I'm from second biggest vehicle. It's six hours from the border. I was bored there, came here, and they know states have chosen one. Usually. That's how it goes.

Speaker 2: [07:59](#) Okay. And have you ever experienced any assumptions about your character because of your perceived writes? Can you elaborate on that? I had to say, has anyone ever said anything to you or about you because of the way that you look?

Speaker 1: [08:18](#) If I remember correctly? Yes. Some people in the past have confused me for being Chinese. Got Her. No, because somebody is Quintin ins or small eyes. But yes, I have been confused about my race.

Speaker 2: [08:37](#) And do you speak Spanish? If yes, how did you learn?

Speaker 1: [08:40](#) I do speak Spanish and I learned from my parents and being surrounded by Hispanic parents and family members because bay, I was born until 1997 and four s and all the way to 2001 I lived in Mexico. So I grew up learning and hearing Spanish until 2001 when I came to United States I began picking up the English language.

Speaker 2: [09:03](#) Um, and how important is the ability to speak Spanish to the Latino culture?

Speaker 1: [09:07](#) Very important because it's a communication factor that's between you and the person you're talking to. It's a communication aspect.

Speaker 2: [09:17](#) And um, how does the university and the community cater to the Latino population?

Speaker 1: [09:26](#) There's not much

Speaker 3: [09:28](#) big

Speaker 1: [09:31](#) for, is it going to the Latino component because there's not a lot of Latinos students. I spreading students here. So I'll add, say there's not a lot

Speaker 3: [09:42](#) of um,

Speaker 1: [09:45](#) recruiting coming to us from the university

Speaker 2: [09:51](#) and um, how does the university and the community like omit or forget about the Latino population?

Speaker 1: [09:59](#) Um, this, the recently Hispanic heritage month was like one month ago, almost one month ago and then it ended one month ago on their social media or anything like that. I did not see anything about Hispanic heritage month or anything like that. So, and has been the marketing director for robbery at radio. I did, I played an hour, a Latin Hispanic music two days out of the week, so to celebrate my people in where I come from, but other than that. And I did see some groups on university campus put up flyers celebrating Hispanic heritage month, but the university as whole.

Speaker 2: [10:41](#) No. Okay. And how do you view race in the US and the south and here in Oxford?

Speaker 1: [10:49](#) How do I view race?

Speaker 3: [10:52](#) Hmm.

Speaker 1: [10:56](#) To me, I don't, I don't judge a person's personality or will from their color view, everybody as equal. And then the United States, it's a big problem. They say snap now since uh, you know, who took office in 2016, but it's becoming a bigger issue now in the south. It's always been a big issue. And Oxford ever since coming here in 2001 and growing

here ever since. I've never seen any racial disputes or anything like that.

Speaker 2: [11:41](#) Okay. And um, how do you perceive the Latino population affecting the idea of race

Speaker 1: [11:47](#) south? It's definitely a big issue since the south is very big on confederacy and all that stuff and it definitely affects it because I'm, it's going to increase minority, minority Tsm, that we're going to increase the minority population and that's gonna be a big factor, but what I had and um, that's really it. Um, do you have any other points or topics that you'd like to discuss? Thank you for having me. Thank you.