

## **Identity in the Second Generation and Generation 1.5** **(Participatory Theatre Workshop, organized by the** **Teatro Americano-USA)**

Saturday, 12th of May



### **Subjects Touched Upon in the Presentation:**

- The culture and identity of migrants and the children of migrants.
- The importance of communication between children and parents.
- The stress experienced by migrant parents.

### **Principal Points of Agreement and Recurring Themes:**

- Many children of migrants experience both the sentiment of bi-nationality and feeling “neither here nor there”/ “I’m not American nor Mexican, but Latino nor Latin American”.
- The importance of migrants teaching their children about the culture and history of their ancestral country.
- The difficulties experienced by migrants and their children from growing up in different countries. There can be cultural differences in areas as varied as the diet, cultural celebrations and, most crucially, the barrier of language, which limit family communication.
- The role of children of migrants in the recovery of values, customs, traditions and establishment of networks of responsibility (of teaching these values etc.) between family relatives.

### **Points of Disagreement:**

- Some children of migrants do feel “Mexican”, however many do not identify as Mexican nor as American – but rather Latino or Latin American.
- Migrant parents in the audience and workshops had different forms of “being parents”—some were more present in the lives of their children than others. Some played more of a role teaching cultural values and traditions than others

### **Measures Proposed:**

Avoid the internalization of negative experiences of assimilation or situations of discrimination.