

Jonny Ortiz

Entrevistadora: Josselyn Muñoz

¿Sientes que te conectas con la gran comunidad hispana en Jacksonville?

I really only related, the most part was to Puerto Ricans because that is what I knew, about my own people. I didn't know too much about the other Spanish cultures so when I came here I wanted to learn about the different cultures and I got more involved in the Latin community. I learned that most Latinos that come here, and I'm proud of this, vienen aquí verdaderamente buscando mejorarse. Para ayudar a los niños, para ayudar a la familia, muchos vienen aquí. We all have our bad seeds, pero hay muchos que sí, que vienen aquí, y que hacen las cosas mal, van a la cárcel, o van a la prisión o lo que sea pero la mayoría, si te das cuenta de las noticias, you don't hear too much on Latinos getting into big trouble because we're not here for that. Ya nosotros, la mayoría de la gente, hemos visto todo eso y sabemos que si traemos eso con nosotros vamos a tener mala fama. Lo mejor es trabajar, que los hijos de nosotros hagan mejor que nosotros, and try to keep the old-fashioned heritage of keeping the family together.

¿Cuáles son algunas palabras de consejo que le daría a los jóvenes que crecen en Jacksonville?

We came here to Jacksonville not to just hide out I think we should come here and invest in our children you know and let our children know that, "I brought you here for opportunities, for you to push". Yo creo, que hay muchos niños que están entendiendo eso, lo están haciendo. Hay muchos parientes que vienen aquí y están tratando de cambiar los hábitos malos que tenían en Nueva York, o lo que sea. Vienen aquí con esa idea de tener un hogar en paz y organizado. Y si la gente trata, si los Latinos tratan, se puede lograr.

Interviewer: Josselyn Muñoz

Do you feel that you connect with the greater Hispanic community in Jacksonville?

I really only related, the most part was to Puerto Ricans because that is what I knew, about my own people. I didn't know too much about the other Spanish cultures so when I came here I wanted to learn about the different cultures and I got more involved in the Latin community. I learned that most Latinos that come here, and I'm proud of this, really do come here to truly better themselves. To help their children, their family, many come here. We all have our bad seeds and some come here and do the wrong thing; they go to jail, or prison, or what have you, but the majority if you pay attention to the news, you don't hear too that many Latinos get into big trouble because we're not here for that. We know what that is. The majority of us have seen that, so we know that if we bring that, we'll have a bad reputation. So better to work, that our children do better than us, and that we try to keep the old-fashioned heritage of keeping the family together.

What are some words of advice for the youth growing up here in Jacksonville?

We didn't come to Jacksonville to hide out. I think we should come here and invest in our children and let our children know that, "I brought you here for opportunities, for you to push." I think there are a lot of children that are understanding that, that are doing it. There are family members that come here and are trying to change their habits from New York, or wherever. They come here with that idea of having a peaceful and organized home, and if people try, if Latinos try, they can achieve this.

