



CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS AND FOCUSING ON STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH

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WHAT IS CRITICAL EDUCATION RESEARCH?

EXAMPLES

**HOW DO WE GET
THERE?**

WHAT IS CRITICAL EDUCATION RESEARCH?

- Acknowledging and challenging traditional norms, practices, and structures within education research
 - Why aren't underrepresented students attending university? →
 - What structural factors and barriers are hindering underrepresented students' postsecondary attendance??
- Ultimate goal it to provide an evidence base for policy that will lead to equitable educational outcomes

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RESEARCH WITH LATINX UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

(CORRAL & LUEDKE, 2023)

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- Latinx undocumented students face steep challenges in accessing higher education in the U.S.
- Previous research focusing on undocumented students have examined linear continuation decisions, not considering the myriad pathways students take into and through college and/or university
- We examined the postsecondary pathways of Latina/o/e undocumented students focusing on their initial and subsequent college choice and what state and institutional factors influence pathway decisions.
- We relied on critical race theory and testimonios
- To summarize,
 - Most students in our study attended more than one institution
 - The way institutional actors interpreted policies pertaining to the population shaped their decision-making

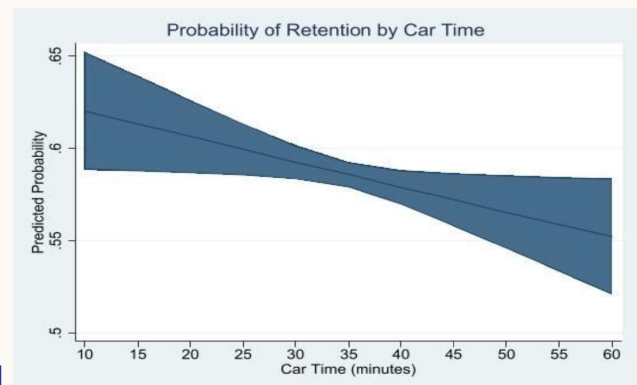


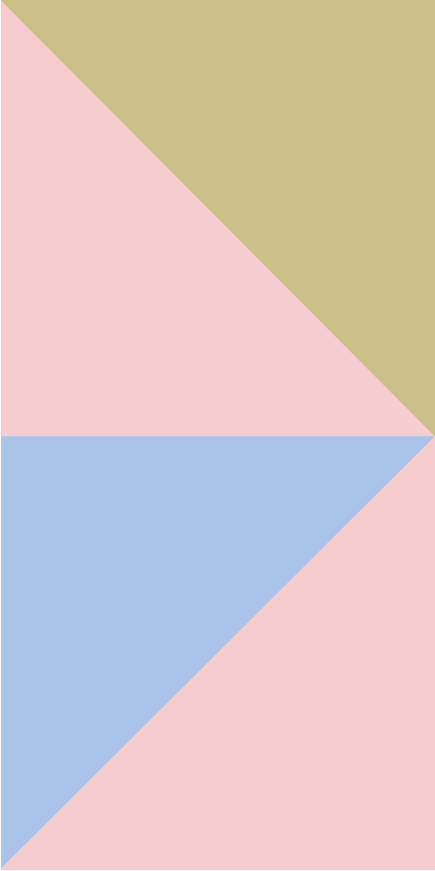
COMMUTING BARRIERS AFFECTING COLLEGE RETENTION

(CORRAL & RAHIM, IN PROGRESS)

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- While community colleges provide access to higher education, retention rates are a cause for concern
- What is missing from this discussion is how commuting practices shape retention
- We examine the estimated local commuting times and distances by different modes of transportation of students attending a college in Toronto
- Use data from StatsCan and merge on it to distance and commuting data we generated using the *georoute* command in Stata
- Preliminary findings suggest longer commutes are associated with greater chances of student departure





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- What kinds of questions are you asking?
- What is the unit of analysis?
- Do the data exist? If not, what work do we need to do to generate it?
- Is the outcome to provide evidence to produce equitable outcomes?
- Let's brainstorm 😊



THANK YOU

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