

Immigrants in Spain: identity changes and integration strategy.

Spain has become an immigration country with more of four millions of immigrant people living in our territory. The importance of this phenomenon has stimulate many research since 1980 about their behaviour since they arrived to Spain, their labour and social achievements and their cultural beliefs. The authoress has reviewed the vast literature based in qualitative research focused in three groups: North African, east European and Latin Americans. We have two main subjects of interest, a) strategy and ways of integration/adaptation in Spanish society, b) process of change and reconstruction of cultural identity.

We have found two interesting theoretical discussions. The first is about the concepts of *trajectory* (a previous and rational plan controlled by the individuals) and the *path* (constant reactions to real present circumstances). Which is the model more appropriated to explain the immigrants life?

The second closely related with the previous one is about the concept of integration or assimilation, a key concept in the discussion of multicultural society. For some authors the relationship between immigrants and Spanish can be defined like an *egalitarian* relationship and the immigrant integration like superficial because it is only an *adaptation* in order to get their vital aims.

In this paper we aim to answer some questions:

- 1) What changes we can observe today in the Spanish immigrants identity?
- 2) What are the main differences inter and intra the groups considered, in other words, are there diversity and inequality in the immigrant community?