

Erica Vogel

Center for Latin American Studies Stanford Libraries Travel Access Grant

Final Report

In July 2017 I had the pleasure of visiting the Stanford Library with a Library Access Grant from the Center for Latin American Studies. The faculty, librarians and staff from the CLAS helped me to explore the library's impressive archives, special holdings, and online database related to my interests in the anthropology of both Latin America and East Asia. This personalized help and access allowed me to enhance two central projects related to my research and teaching.

My first objective was to gather primary sources for courses on the Anthropology of Latin America and globalization that I teach at Saddleback Community College in Mission Viejo, California. I found numerous rich materials in the Special Collections including an archive of posters about HIV prevention and awareness from Latin America. One poster in particular stood out to me as being ideal for teaching students about topics such as gender, sexuality and understandings of health in Mexico. Created to commemorate World AIDS Day in 2004, it features a man who stands with his wife on one arm and his boyfriend on the other. The figures are dressed as if they could be from the Golden Age of Mexican cinema and are surrounded by captions such as: "AIDS? But I am not Gay" and had the title: "Machismo puts women and men at risk. You can change it!" I will create an assignment for my anthropology students to analyze this poster and its context using readings such as Matthew Gutmann's "Seed of the Nation: Men's Sex and Potency in Mexico." I had the fortune of being able to discuss the poster's context and origins with the librarian Adan Griego, who was also the curator of the collection. In addition to this collection, I also found excellent posters from San Francisco-based protests of the US's involvement in El Salvador and Nicaragua as well as an extensive collection of zines and comic books made by both professional and amateur Latino artists. I plan to incorporate these posters and items in my lectures and assignments.

My second objective was to conduct research for the book manuscript I am currently completing tentatively titled *Cosmopolitan Conversions; Peruvian Migration to South Korea*. With a focus on religious, labor and migration experiences, my ethnography examines how Peruvians—a small and yet resilient group of "temporary" laborers in Korea—live unauthorized lives and refashion their identities as they are permanently in transit in global labor and religious circuits. The grant from CLAS allowed me access to Stanford's vast online databases, which was vital to helping me strengthen my manuscript.

Receiving this grant was a wonderful experience, and has inspired me to include more primary sources in my courses. It has also enhanced my own writing projects and allowed me to find materials that my own library does not hold. By far though, my favorite part of the grant was the chance to visit the campus and talk about my work with the wonderful people in the Center for Latin American Studies.

Image Citation:

Call number M1281 AIDS Education—Prevention Brochures and Posters, ca 1990-2004. Map Folder 1. "El Machismo Pone en Riesgo a Mujeres y Hombres" [Machismo Puts Women and Men at Risk]. 2004. DF.