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LOS PELIGROS DE UNA HISTORIA SIMPLE: REFLEXIÓN SOBRE LA DIVERSIDAD EN LA
ADQUISICIÓN DE CONOCIMIENTOS

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THE DANGERS OF A SINGLE STORY: REFLECTION ON DIVERSITY WHEN ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE

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In 2009 a TED talk presented a narrative of “The danger of a single story” by Chimamanda Adichie (TEDGlobal, 2009). In this presentation, Chimamanda Adichie eloquently discussed how incomplete a person’s single narrative is from its reductionist and one-dimensional perspective. In her personal journey, Adichie illustrated that single stories can originate in an individual’s family or experiences. In other words, a single story narrative could prevent us from being open to different experiences and diverse worldviews, which may result in a limited and restricted understanding of the reality surrounding us. Thus, as we enter in this new online era of the Interamerican Journal of Psychology (IJP), I will like to revisit my earlier invitation to our contributors; that is, to persist in the eternal and dynamical process of bringing new knowledge to the readership of IJP which illustrates the complexities of a more complete story of the human narrative and experience. In the 2013 IJP editorial, I encouraged us to question the ways professionals in psychology measure and define quality and invited us to revisit the standard of quality from more than one perspective (Torres Rivera, 2013). It is imperative that authors, readership, and the Interamerican community as a whole understand that IJP is a journal that serves “Las Americas” with an audience representative of the diversity of Las Americas including different languages, cultures, political views, socio-economic status, and educational levels ranging from individuals with bachelors degrees to doctoral degrees in psychology.

The beauty of the Society for Interamerican Psychology, and the Interamerican Journal of Psychology, is our ability to be diverse in our approaches to knowledge, research, practice, and understanding of people’s strengths. Thus, it is not enough that people in position of privilege and power recognize that privilege, but to embrace differences in our manner of thinking, acting, and understanding of the worldviews of others. As a scientific journal, IJP needs to continue to strive to find the tools that advance society regardless of how it looks, sounds, or delivery method. Collectively, we need to continue to strive to practice beyond the “single story” (Adichie, 2009).

References

- TEDGlobal (2009). The danger of a single story [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story
- Torres Rivera, E. (2013). Is quality a culturally-based or universal construct? *Interamerican Journal of Psychology*, 47 (1), 1-8.

Note:

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