Pride in Being Hispanic

By

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For Gonzalo Sánchez-Cervera Serrano, who is just beginning his splendid youth, but will soon start walking the path to young adulthood and becoming the pride of all those who love him.

In the Americas, people of Hispanic descent clearly feel a strong sense of inferiority to those of Anglo-Saxon descent. This complex is particularly notable in North America. But is this harmful feeling justified? Is Anglo society really superior to Hispanic society?

If you keep reading, you will see that there is no reason whatsoever for this complex, which should really be the other way around. You will soon understand that it has only been brought about by the Anglosphere's powerful manipulation of history.

But first, let me begin with this assertion. At some point in the next fifty years, the president of the United States will be a man or woman of Hispanic origin, and Spanish will become one of that country's unofficial national languages, together with English. I say "unofficial" because the United States has no official national language, except in a few states, although English is its *de facto* national language.

No, I'm not playing psychic here. There are good reasons for saying this, and my predicted date may even be too far in the future. This will come about due to their demographics and the resulting economics, which will make this prediction come true for reasons that I will explain below.

Firstly, as we all know, political positions in the United States (as in many other countries) are appointed based on the votes cast by its citizens, and the largest minority in that country is currently its Hispanic population, ahead of the Asian and African American populations.

Secondly, we must also consider the future effects of the fact that Hispanic citizens tend to have more children than their Anglo-American counterparts, meaning that their political power increases every day, in line with their numbers. Therefore, sooner or later, we will see a presidential candidate who will promise to expand the use of the Spanish language in North America in order to win the votes of a group that currently feels neglected: the United States' Hispanic electorate.

Let's think about this a bit more. Everyone knows that in today's global geopolitical climate, China is competing with the United States to become the next superpower, and in future India will be doing the same. These countries have one excellent advantage that could help them to achieve this. Specifically, they are much larger than the United States in terms of population. While the population of the United States is about 320 million people, China and India have populations of about 1.4 and 1.1 billion, respectively. This is much more important than you might think, because when the middle classes become the majorities in these two Asian countries, the vast number of consumers will cause their domestic consumption to skyrocket, and

their gross domestic product (GDP) with it.

On the other hand, we know that China is similar in size to the United States, while India is the smallest of the three. This means that the United States is very underpopulated compared to the other two, which blocks and limits its potential for future growth compared to the two Asian powers.

The economic potential of a country is highly dependent on the number of people who live there, using the same currency and rules. That is, there is a strong correlation between population size and the potential for growth of a reasonably well-developed economy. It is impossible for a country with a small population to become a major power. The United States has by far the smallest population of these three. Therefore, if it wants to have a robust economy in future and to remain strong and influential, it will need active and large-scale emigration to bring its population closer to that of the other two major powers.

Of course, the United States has not had to worry about this until now, because any countries that could have overshadowed it were in ruins due to political upheaval and social underdevelopment. The United States was the country with the biggest middle class in the world. But now, those two large Asian countries have changed and developed, and their middle classes are growing at great speed, suggesting that they will exceed North America's economic potential within a few decades, leading them to global preeminence.

However, there is one big problem preventing the United States from making up its demographic deficit with a population that speaks its language. People of Anglo-Saxon origin are not in a position to contribute to US emigration, nor will they be in this century. Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are almost uninhabited, the United Kingdom has an elderly and decadent population that cares more about living on subsidies than supporting society, and there are no other major English-speaking countries to turn to for this migration that have a similar culture to the United States, which is essential to avoid the great social upheaval that would result from emigration predominantly from Asia or Africa, for example. This is not a question of racism. It is a question of the cultural similarities that would allow emigrants to integrate into the society that needs them within a reasonable time frame and with as little trauma as possible.

The only options available to the United States for these purposes are Hispanic America and Brazil, since most of the inhabitants of these geographic regions have the same European and Christian cultural background as the US population, even though they speak different languages. These basic common characteristics arise from the western culture that is shared throughout the Americas.

However, in the immediate future, the United States will clearly need the Hispanic world much more than the Hispanic world will need it, if it wants to remain a superpower.

Let me be more specific. To survive as a major power, the United States will soon have to consider leading a broad program of emigration from the Hispanic south, which will need to be carefully organized to prevent unwanted side effects such as the formation of ghettos. Furthermore, this program will be the starting point of and create the appropriate mentality for a new political process in the 22nd century, building momentum for the creation of the United States of the Americas, including Brazil, but its capital city will not be Washington, as this union cannot be seen in terms of "winners and losers". This will only be attainable by respecting the cultural nuances and histories of all the countries that exist today, all within the framework of a constitution agreed on by consensus. This is the only way to prevent America from losing its global influence and to prevent all of the world's power from being concentrated in Asia.

At this point, one of the first questions we must answer is: would a society shared by Hispanic and Anglo-American people be compatible in future?

To begin with, one of the biggest obstacles to achieving this unionist aim is the subtle, destructive attack on Hispanic culture and identity that the Anglo-American world has been systematically carrying out for years, just as it previously did to the indigenous peoples of North America.

This attack is intended to erase the Hispanic cultural identity and, ultimately, to make Spanish speakers feel ashamed of themselves. In fact, so much damage has already been done to this cultural identity that many Hispanic children are even growing up with negative perceptions of themselves.

One key element of this strategy is erasing the historical cultural identity of a group of people by inventing names that dissolve and destroy their cultural roots. The Anglosphere started doing this to Hispanic people a few decades ago, when they created and popularized the term "Latin" to identify them. As you will soon see, this term is not only historically inaccurate but also has a strong racist and exclusionary nuance, and there are a thousand reasons why Hispanic people should reject this name. Let me explain why.

Who does the word "Latin" refer to in the first place? The Latins, together with the Sabines and the Etruscans, were one of the tribes of Rome more than three thousand years ago. Over the centuries, Rome occupied most of Europe, as well as East Asia and North Africa. This lasted for several hundred years, and so people of Latin origin ended up living in many different geographic regions, including the current countries of Spain, France, Italy, Romania,

Moldavia, San Marino, and even the central and southern parts of the United Kingdom (its capital city London was founded by the Romans with the name Londinium), as well as many other countries and settlements.

Now, it is interesting to note that Spanish speakers in the Americas were originally from Spain, reaching the Americas more than a thousand years after the disappearance of Rome, by which point even the Spanish population had absorbed other cultures such as the Visigoths, Goths, and even Muslims. That is, their Latin roots had been heavily diluted over time, and in 1492, Spanish society had become a cultural melting pot. In turn, when they reached the Americas, many of these people mixed with the natives, who did not have a single drop of Latin blood. Therefore, it is difficult to apply the term "Latin" to Spanish speakers. This word was coined by the Anglosphere to cover up the true heritage of Hispanic people in America, which is basically Spanish and native. Thus, using an inappropriate word as a derogatory term creates confusion and cultural insecurity about their origins.

It would be more accurate to use "Latin" to refer to people of Italian and French origin, who underwent less cultural fusion than the Hispanic people and now live in large numbers in the United States and Canada. But as we know, it is not used to refer to those people. It would also be reasonable to use it for Romanians and Moldavians, for example, but this is not done either. So, we must ask why it is only used for Hispanic people, when there are far fewer historical reasons to do so than for the nationalities I just mentioned. The answer to this is very simple: because North Americans are not interested in confronting those other cultures, while they are interested in confronting Spanish speakers, due to their large and growing influence throughout the Americas.

However, we must recognize that it is not only Americans who use this derogatory term to refer to Spanish speakers; it is also used by certain Hispanic "intellectuals" and particularly by many of our politicians and media outlets, turning them into accomplices to this attempt at cultural annihilation, as well as demonstrating their ignorance.

In summary, our true and highly respectable cultural identity is "Hispanic". If we are talking about the whole of South America, we have to include Brazil, in which case the appropriate word would be "Ibero-American", referring to people with origins in the Iberian Peninsula, which consists of Spain and Portugal. Accepting the term "Latin" would only mean accepting our inferiority to those North Americans who created the term in order to dilute and cover up our heritage. As I mentioned earlier, they also used this tactic very successfully to destroy Native American culture, by using ambiguous and inaccurate terms to make them forget who they are.

But these are not the only tactics used by Anglo society. They are usually accompanied by other complementary but equally effective tactics that denigrate the people they intend to destroy. One of these other tactics is creating a distorted image of an entire population, which is then reproduced in books, movies, and the media and becomes "the truth". In the case of Native Americans, they created and promoted the image of them as drunk, savage, and cunning, thus avoiding any guilty conscience when it came to their physical destruction. The now-universal image of Spanish speakers associates them with drug trafficking, ignorance, and a tasteless appearance, with the same aim of destroying their cultural virtues and self-esteem.

Now, let's remember who the Hispanic people are and where we came from.

We are people who share the same language, history, and culture, with different nuances that have appeared over time in each geographic region depending on its particular circumstances, and most of us live in the Americas or Europe. But Cervantes, for example, author of the immortal novel *Don Quixote*, is part of the cultural heritage of the entire Hispanic world equally (like Shakespeare for the English-speaking world), regardless of which continent we live on.

We were born under the Roman Empire in the Iberian Peninsula, which was then called Hispania, and we played a very important role in the creation of what we now call western civilization. Hispanic society gave western civilization some of its most important figures in a vast range of fields, such as the extraordinary emperors Adrian, Trajan, and Theodosius and the great intellectuals Seneca, Lucan, and Martial. Like Cervantes, these ancestors are shared by all Hispanic people. Of course, at that time the Nordic people of Europe – the future Anglo-Saxons – were just a few barbarian tribes that were constantly fighting each other. And it was not much later that they, too, under the influence of Rome, became a part of what we now call western civilization, the cultural link that Hispanic and Anglo societies both share today, with their own nuances.

Just what is this western civilization that we share?

The main characteristics of this civilization were defined by Rome, which was the first human society to set the boundary separating civilization from barbarism using a series of ethical principles, one of which, established for the first time in human history, was giving *human life* its own inherent value and making it something worth protecting. Another key contribution to western civilization was the law, the greatest social achievement in all of human history. Rome created and developed modern law, establishing its equality between men and women, between social classes, and between the

government and the governed.

After that, they made sure that people's lives were governed by the law and established the protection of citizens as the State's main obligation. Of course, these principles have not always been applied perfectly, and there have been steps forward and steps back over time. For example, consider the catastrophic Middle Ages, when almost all of this progress disappeared, only beginning a slow recovery centuries later with the Renaissance. However, we inherited these ideas and their first implementations from Rome. That was the first society to make citizens the focus of attention for the public authorities. All Roman decrees were signed with the Latin initials SPQR, meaning "For the Roman Senate and People".

The last major characteristic that was incorporated into our western culture, giving it its final form, appeared in the third century when Emperor Constantine and then Emperor Theodosius made Christianity the official religion of the Roman State, which had always previously been secular. Little by little, both Hispanic and Anglo societies absorbed the general principles of that civilization and shared its basic characteristics, which have become our common hallmarks and cultural foundations, although the different historical development of each society has led to the appearance of distinguishing features.

In any case, our ancestors in Roman Hispania played a key role in the creation of western culture.

So why do we have that inferiority complex, putting us almost on the defensive against the Anglosphere? Let's see if there are any reasons for it.

Firstly, it is clear that North America is currently doing better economically than the Hispanic countries. This is obvious and clearly has an influence on our collective complex, but we must understand that there are two main reasons for it. The first is historical. When Spain discovered America (discovered it, colonized it, or promoted the meeting of cultures, however you want to describe it), it brought over the old social structures that were present in Europe at the time, which were still almost medieval.

English emigration happened later, so the social and political structures that it brought to America were more modern, due to the gradual progress of the Renaissance. This was also affected by the fact that, unlike with Spain, their emigration was not originally a project of the English monarchy, but essentially whole families emigrating to the New World to flee religious persecution (which was common in England, as in the rest of Europe), the tyranny of the aristocracy and abusive taxes, and to seek a better life.

The second reason was that North America, despite the blood and fire of

civil war, was able to unite into a single country, which the Hispanic world has never done. This has led to significant differences in economic success between different countries, based on the different sizes of their domestic markets.

But apart from these facts that partially explain our present circumstances, we must accept that every country on Earth has reasons to be proud of its past, as well as reasons to be ashamed. And when narrating their histories, some try to hide the things they are ashamed of or shout their own myths out loud, even if they aren't true. Today, the Anglosphere has the most powerful channels of communication in the world, its television and cinema, which it uses to impose its "truths", forcing the rest of us to accept them as our own by repeating them over and over again.

In this regard, we must acknowledge that we Hispanic people have the dangerous custom, not found in the Anglosphere, of continuously destroying our own past. If there is a change in the political system or even just a change of political party in one of our countries, the new arrivals immediately rewrite history, delegitimizing their forebears in order to legitimize themselves and stay in power for as long as possible. This is very bad for human societies, which end up forgetting who they are by continually erasing their own origins and historical references, like trees with no roots, making them very unstable. Anglo society handles this much better than we do, accepting its history with the understanding that each phase made a positive contribution, and hiding or manipulating the things it did wrong.

I will give you a few examples of this, all of which are historically irrefutable, to show how easy it is to manipulate history, undermine your rivals, and extol your own virtues, if you have enough resources.

First, let's talk about how the Hispanic people really behaved when they colonized the Americas, and how the Anglo people behaved when they did the same thing.

To begin with, let's agree that the history of humanity is the history of communities that grow and, by growing, come into contact with each other. These encounters are not usually friendly. When they happen, the community with the highest level of development usually ends up absorbing the less developed one, and this inevitably involves episodes of violence and cruelty. There are no exceptions. This is the history of humanity, and this is also what happened when Europeans conquered or colonized the Americas (whichever term you prefer).

Let's look at Hispanic colonization first.

One good illustration of this is the written testimony of one of the priests

who traveled from Spain to America at the time to preach Christianity to the natives, Friar Bernardino de Sahagún. He was a Franciscan missionary, and he wrote several works in Nahuatl and Spanish that are now considered to be some of the most valuable documents for reconstructing the history of ancient Mexico.

In his "General History of the Things of New Spain", he wrote the following about the indigenous people: "The people are dying out in great haste, not so much because of their mistreatment, but because of the plagues that God is sending to them. In 1520, when the Spanish were driven out of Mexico by war, there was a plague of smallpox where almost infinite numbers of people died. After the Spanish had won this New Spain, in 1545, there was a vast and widespread plague in which most of the people there died. Then, in August 1576, a large and widespread plague began, which has been going on for three months, and many people have died, and every day more people die and are dying."

According to specialist historians and our current medical understanding, the cause of this enormous health crisis was as follows: although the original populations of the Americas had migrated there from Asia, these migrations took place tens of thousands of years earlier and there had been no more exchanges since then, so the pathogens involuntarily brought in by the Spanish people were new and fatal to the indigenous people. Bernardino continues on this subject: "Many people died in the wars and others due to the excesses of slavery to which they were subjected, but there is no doubt that the main cause of death was disease."

Ultimately, Hispanic colonization, like all colonization, involved episodes of unfortunate violence, but most of the deaths among the native population were caused by viral diseases against which they had no immunity. This was clearly not part of a genocidal strategy, as the people carrying these viruses were not aware of them. In fact, like anything we do not understand, these epidemics were attributed to divine causes.

In any case, many of the people now living in the various Hispanic American countries are descendants of those who arrived from Spain, for better or worse, but it would be very good for them to understand their history without so many dark distorted tales coming from the Anglosphere and sometimes from their own world.

So, continuing with the history of the Americas, it is important to understand that the indigenous people also had a lot to be ashamed of, in addition to their positive aspects. They were certainly not just tribes living together happily that ended up being perverted by the Europeans, as some indigenous advocates want to suggest. For example, the Mexica people were

savage practitioners of cannibalism. This was not a mere anecdote with ritual and religious significance, as some people attempt to justify it. This is a falsification of history. The proven truth is that they hunted and kidnapped people from other native tribes, locked them up in some sort of pen to feed them, and then ate them, with the kings like Moctezuma keeping the parts considered to be most delicious, after sacrificing them slowly and tearing out their still-beating hearts.

The other tribes actually hated the Mexica so much that they decided to join up with the Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés against them. Don't forget that there were only five hundred Spanish men there, and it would have been impossible for such a small number of soldiers to conquer so much territory without the collaboration, complacency, and support of thousands of native people. What happened there was more like a rebellion of the weaker local tribes against the power that was enslaving and killing them, the Mexica.

Over time, the final outcome was that these tribes embraced Hispanic culture to a great extent, including its religion and language. From then on, hispanicity began to spread, with all its defects as well as its virtues, including the absence of racism (unlike Anglo society in North America), which enabled better integration between the indigenous people and those who came from Europe.

Now let's look at Anglo-American colonization.

As you will see below, North Americans have built their current successful society on the near total extermination of the people they found there. Yet despite this, while lying to themselves, they presume to teach moral lessons to other societies. The Anglosphere in general, and North Americans in particular, are extremely ignorant of their own history because what they learn has been so heavily manipulated that, as they say in the movies, "any similarity to actual events is purely coincidental."

One of the most common plots in the western film genre is the tale of families of honest, hard-working villagers and the rich bad guy surrounded by violent thugs who is trying to steal their land and property. If you think about it, this is exactly what happened between the North Americans and the Native Americans. It's just that the Native Americans were the honest villagers, and the North Americans were the violent thugs, as you will now see. However, Hollywood never based its scripts on this true story.

For this topic, I will use the data and facts presented by the renowned American sociologist James William Loewen as evidence. In 1995 in the United States, he published a book that soon became a bestseller, eloquently titled "Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your High School History Textbook Got Wrong".

Loewen showed that Americans had been disconnected from their country's history because their textbooks were designed not to teach, but to indoctrinate.

He also showed, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that the subject that was most lied about was Native Americans. The textbooks kept presenting them as something exotic, describing them with outdated and racist expressions and covering up their genocide. "In reality," said Loewen, "we cannot compare this to the treatment suffered by indigenous people in Spanish America. In fact, while only 1% of the United States' population and 4% of the Canadian population is indigenous or "mixed", this figure is 96% in Honduras, 92% in Ecuador, 88% in Bolivia, 85% in Mexico and Peru and 82% in Nicaragua and Guatemala. In other words, if we have to tear down statues, they don't necessarily have to be statues of Columbus and the Spanish. Moreover, if North America had been in the hands of the Spanish Empire, the percentage of indigenous people there today would be comparable to that in the referenced countries."

This enormous difference in outcomes came about because the Spanish, despite all the outrageous claims made against them, developed legal protection for indigenous Americans from the outset and sought to put them on an equal footing with Spain. The Spanish Crown insisted that the native people be treated humanely, prohibiting their enslavement, among other measures, although this rule was not always followed. In fact, education and evangelism, modernization of production, communication, and town planning were almost as well developed there as they were in Spain at the time. The ultimate proof of this is that later independence movements were led by Criollos (local-born people of European descent), who were already enjoying an affluent lifestyle. This would have been impossible in the United States, where there were almost no local-born or native people left alive to organize a rebellion.

Another great illustration of these issues is the study published in 1996 by Gregory H. Stanton, chair of the International Campaign to End Genocide. In this study, he presented the US Department of State with a description of the various stages of genocide perpetrated by Anglo-Americans against indigenous people in North America.

First, he explains, the native people were classified based on their ethnicity, race, or religion. Second, biological symbolization: "redskins" or, when there were no visible signs, distinguishing them by their dress or with a symbol. The third stage was legal discrimination: the native people were not citizens like the North Americans, so they had no rights.

Next, dehumanization was used to destroy the moral psychological barrier.

That is, they ensured that killing and discriminating against native people would not go against the religious convictions of North Americans, as if they were animals. This was simple in the North American case, as they achieved it by likening the native people to animals through their nature-related names, like Sitting Bull. The next step was organized human killing, which was carried out by the military forces known as the "bluecoats". After this, they provoked a confrontation with them, a war, followed by a "final solution" in of apartheid, in this case referring to reservations". Tribes were thrown off their property, expropriated by force, and confined to areas where they were mistreated, killed, or left to starve. Finally, this history was covered up. In this way, facts can disappear from reality and from our memories forever, as very few witnesses still remain.

Native revolts were punished with massacres. Western movies distort this reality completely. At the battles of Sand Creek and Wounded Knee, for example, mortar shells were used to kill women, children, and the elderly. But it did not stop there. To cut off their food supply, between 1872 and 1873, General Philip Sheridan ordered the killing of buffalo: over three and a half million were killed. In California, a true genocide and slavery of native people was organized. The 1850 Act for the Government and Protection of Indians permitted the enslavement of Native Americans and the sale of their children. As they were not considered to be people, murders and massacres boomed, some of which were carried out by militiamen paid with public funds. Within 50 years, the indigenous population of California went from 150,000 to 15,000, and not because of disease. In 1879, the American government followed the principle of "kill the Indian and save the man". They took children from their families and put them into public schools to teach them different values and another culture. Their religions and languages were banned, with severe punishments for those who broke this rule, and in the best case, they worked as servants. And as all historians know, Lieutenant Colonel Custer, supposed hero and the subject of many movies, was no more than a senseless killer of women and children who died in a foolish act of war while trying and failing to achieve personal glory.

This is all true. And Anglo society hides all this with movies, by manipulating the history books, with the collaboration of the media and by using biased (if not always completely false) criticisms of Hispanic colonization as a distraction, even though Hispanic colonization never involved this kind of behavior. I must confess that I would be ashamed to be part of the Anglosphere world, which is not noble enough to recognize its own savage deeds, or at least the value of asking forgiveness for them from the few indigenous people who are still alive, but instead tries to hide them and give hypocritical lectures on morality.

Yes, I am proud to be Hispanic. We make mistakes, but we have never done anything remotely as barbarous as the Anglos, as you can see from the demographic data given above. As I said, South and Central America have very large indigenous populations, while these have practically been eliminated in the north, including the United States and the "civilized" Canada.

The people of the Anglosphere carry racism inside them. It is a characteristic that is linked to them more than any other population on Earth. They created the Ku Klux Klan, a phenomenon unique to their culture. Even President Wilson of the Democratic Party, in the mid-20th century, long after the abolition of slavery, was an ardent supporter of that infamous movement. And later, under a similar philosophy, President Roosevelt locked up tens of thousands of Japanese, German, and Italian families, all of whom were fully-fledged American citizens, in concentration camps without the slightest legal protection, for the whole of the Second World War.

But this isn't mentioned in their history books, movies, or media either, despite having affected more than 120,000 people.

No, I don't think the Anglos can lecture us Hispanic people about ethics or civility. We have never done anything like that. They are the ones who should be ashamed if they knew their history properly.

Nor have the Hispanic people been ruled by serial killers like Henry VIII, among others. The Anglosphere has, and despite this, when they talk about the history of this murderous king, they treat him like a sympathetic and somewhat eccentric character, forgetting that he executed tens of thousands of people for political and religious reasons (not just a few of his wives); the most cautious historians estimate a minimum of fifty thousand victims.

The number of victims of the Spanish Inquisition is laughable compared to the executions of Henry VIII, but despite this, it has been criticized much more strongly than the English king. This number has been estimated at between five and ten thousand, depending on the source, over the three hundred years in which this institution existed. And all of us without exception have condemned that movement, starting with the Spanish people themselves, as a demonstration of the religious intolerance that had clearly taken over not just Spain, but the whole of Europe (like what is currently happening in the Arab world).

Let's look at a few more notable historical events that have been covered up by Anglo society.

Few people of Hispanic or Anglo descent are unaware of the grim episode of the "Invincible" Spanish Armada, which cost the lives of 11,000 men. But

very few people know, as it has been very skillfully hidden by English historians, that in 1589 (one year after the disaster of Philip II's Spanish Armada) England organized a fleet even larger than the Spanish one, which was destroyed in the Spanish and Portuguese ports. This is known as the "Counter-Armada", and it was a much bigger disaster for English interests than the former was for Spain. However, England successfully hid this embarrassing failure for centuries. More than 20,000 English people died for that failure, but they used propaganda so effectively that the "truth" that has remained and permeated popular culture is that the Spanish Armada led to the fall of the Spanish Empire, even though nothing could be further from the truth. This effective manipulation has also meant that, even today, few have heard of the English Counter-Armada and its destruction.

Another example of the subtle manipulation of history is the debate over the discovery of America itself. Some people say that no such discovery even took place, because if that land was already inhabited, then it had already been discovered. But this assessment is incorrect. In effect, thousands of years before 1492, people had arrived there from various locations, particularly Asia, but none had ever returned. They settled there and were isolated from the rest of the world.

"Discovery" means reaching a place that is unknown to most people and integrating it with the other countries. This was achieved by the Spanish and their descendants, the current Hispanic Americans. But see how subtly the truth is manipulated. In order to avoid recognizing any contribution by Hispanic society, the Anglosphere points to Columbus, an employee of the Spanish Crown, as the discoverer of America and even celebrates Columbus Day. In reality, this project was led entirely by the Spanish Crown, and he worked for them, they funded him, and they gave him the material resources and almost all of the crew for his first and subsequent expeditions. Columbus was acting on behalf of Spain and not on his own. Thus, it was undoubtedly the Hispanic people who discovered America and incorporated it into the world, making it known to other countries, no matter how hard this is for English and North American people to accept.

If you think about it for a moment, you will see that this manipulation is as ridiculous as crediting the first moon landing to the German engineer Wernher von Braun, who was obsessed with space flight from a young age. He spent years trying to get the American public authorities to start a space program, without success. But when the Soviet Union launched the first Sputnik into space in the middle of the Cold War, the United States had to turn to him to avoid being left behind, as their own engineers failed and their rockets exploded on the launch pads, one after another, making them look like fools. It was this German engineer and his team of German technicians who planned

and designed the Apollo rockets that took mankind to the moon. Of course, this engineer was a Nazi official in the SS and created the V-2 missiles that killed so many civilians. It would be reasonable to expect North Americans to be ashamed of this, but they barely mention him in their media, history books, or movies.

They have also managed to hide the fact that Britain is the only country in the world that has officially been involved in drug trafficking, like a common "narco". This took place in China in the 19th century, when Britain traded the opium it produced itself in India. The scale of this narcotics trade was so large that the government of China, alarmed by the detrimental effects on its population, tried to ban it. To defend its "business", the British Crown declared war immediately and triggered the conflict known as the Opium War, winning with its navy and continuing its profitable drug trade.

At the end of the 19th century, there was another episode that is not well-known to many people, because it is not usually mentioned in the media or books. At that time, the Philippines and the United States were at war, after the Spanish left the Philippines after holding it for three hundred years. Of course, the Americans did not go there to decolonize the archipelago; they went to occupy it, because of its strategic value in the Pacific Ocean. More than one million Filipinos died in that war due to conflict, torture, and executions by North Americans. That is, North Americans killed more than 10% of the population, which had been about nine million people across all of the islands in 1899. This situation came to be considered as a genocide.

As I have said, there are not many reasons for Anglo pride, even though they hide their historical skeletons behind their movies, media, and history books, which almost always portray them as selfless heroes and valiant men.

Nor should they be proud of the bombing of Dresden, Germany in 1945 where, from the safety of the air, British and American people massacred tens of thousands of civilians in that city, while the Germans had no air force whatsoever left to oppose them and the war was well and truly over, meaning that this was completely unnecessary in terms of military value. Guernica was a minor event in comparison to this, but Picasso never painted a picture of Dresden.

If you know the truth about history, you will see that being part of the Hispanic world is something to be proud of, as we have never carried out such sinister, illegitimate, and premeditated acts.

It is also clear that a better understanding of history makes it all the more illogical for Hispanic people to have had such an unjustifiably low opinion of ourselves for so long. However, other historical reasons can shed some light on this matter.

After Spain discovered America, it became the first world power. Its European enemies, particularly England, France, and the Netherlands, with ambitions of taking over as much of its newly discovered territory as possible, decided to depict Spain's actions in the New World in an exaggeratedly negative light in order to undermine and replace it. One very useful tool for this was a new invention of the time, which made it considerably easier for Anglo propaganda to spread: Gutenberg's printing press. Unfortunately, things have not changed much since then. Now, in the 21st century, the power of Hollywood's cinema and television industry as an exporter of ideas and "historical truths" is still working as propaganda in the same way, but even more powerfully than the old printed books.

Ultimately, western historiography has been dominated by the Anglosphere for a long time, particularly by the British and North Americans, who have owned the most powerful channels of communication. This has meant that history is hugely distorted at their will, and it has even led us Hispanic people to accept their stories as the truth. Meanwhile, in contrast, their barbarous acts are kept hidden or downplayed for most people.

As I have said, we Hispanic people have made our own mistakes and committed violent acts, as others always remind us, but these were generally individual acts rather than cold-blooded institutional strategies. The errors of the Anglosphere came about as the result of perfectly planned and premeditated strategies from its public authorities, giving them a different ethical value, as they could be considered state crimes.

We Hispanic people have a thousand reasons to be proud of our heritage, as it was our ancestors who discovered America and integrated it into the rest of the world, and we used religion to introduce values that eliminated certain barbaric customs among the more powerful native tribes.

Besides this, our common Hispanic culture is not only equal to Anglo culture but is clearly superior to it in many aspects. Hispanic culture, alongside Greek and Roman culture, is the most important culture in western history.

The most important painters of the 20th century were Picasso and Dali, both Spanish. I don't have enough space to mention all the important figures from the world of literature, but here are just a few as a reminder: Octavio Paz, Juan Rulfo, Garcia Márquez, Pablo Neruda, Vargas Llosa, Juan Carlos Onetti, Julio Cortázar, Isabel Allende, Borges, Jose Martí, Roberto Bolaño, Miguel de Cervantes, Garcia Lorca, Bécquer, Quevedo, Unamuno, Lopez de Vega, Perez Galdós, Vicente Alexandre, Cela... The list is endless, and all of them speak our language. No other culture has such a great quantity and quality of literature.

Hispanic music and rhythms are now heard in every city on Earth, and

major players in the most popular sports come from our culture; everyone has heard of the great Hispanic global legends of tennis, soccer, baseball, etc. The field of science and the intellect is also full of Hispanic names. I must also mention our gastronomy, which is undoubtedly the most varied on Earth. It is far superior to French, Italian, Chinese, or Japanese cuisine, which do not have the great diversity and quality of Spanish, Mexican, Argentine, Colombian, or Chilean cuisine, to name just a few. Of course, the Anglosphere is not even in the running, given the limitations of its culinary arts.

However, we should acknowledge that there are other areas where Anglo society is superior to Hispanic society. One of these is the quality of its politicians, journalists, and teachers at both the school and college level, who tend to be above the level of the average citizen and successfully aim to promote pride in belonging to their culture, even if this is done by lying to themselves about their own history and the histories of other cultures.

In contrast, the politicians, journalists, and teachers of the Hispanic world, with a few honorable exceptions, are a parasitic and incestuous breed, below the level of the average citizen, whose only aim is to maintain their own status but who are so ignorant that they cannot understand their own history or culture, believing what the Anglosphere says about them and becoming accomplices to its lies.

"What a noble vassal, if he had a worthy lord!". This may be the most famous verse of the medieval *Poem of the Cid*. But curiously, many centuries later, it still applies to the Hispanic world.

In fact, here we can identify another of the causes of the Hispanic sense of inferiority to Anglo society. Among the other reasons mentioned above, it results from the fact that most of our politicians, journalists, and teachers, due to their alarming level of ignorance, are unable to express the importance of being Hispanic or explain with pride that Hispanic culture is one of the most influential cultures in all of human history, based on the contributions it has made and is still making today.

This ignorance, among other things, has also led certain politicians from Hispanic countries to urge Spain to ask forgiveness for colonizing America, forgetting that they and their own ancestors were the ones responsible for that. Their ignorance also prevents them from understanding that, in that case, every population on Earth would have to go around asking each other for forgiveness, including the indigenous tribes that hunted and ate other people, as every group has historical reasons for both shame and pride.

In any case, if the Hispanic people have to apologize, based on what really happened in the Americas, then it would not be enough for the Anglo people to do the same thing to make amends, given the magnitude of their actions.

However, they do have one practical advantage over us that makes it easier for them to spread their propaganda, in addition to their control of cinema and the major media outlets: they barely left any indigenous people alive to protest. In contrast, the indigenous populations of the Hispanic countries are very large, even forming the majority in some countries, and so their voices can be heard clearly even today.

Everything I have said about the level of ignorance among politicians, journalists, and teachers in many Hispanic countries is extremely important, as it also helps to explain why these countries are failing to thrive economically. In general, in Hispanic societies, the governors are almost always better off than the governed, as it says in the "Poem of the Cid".

In conclusion, despite all the disadvantages and discrepancies between North and South America, both societies need to understand each other, and they need to start doing so as soon as possible. However, this movement will only be possible through mutual respect and by abandoning our negative attitudes toward each other. Ultimately, starting to rewrite North American history with a higher level of accuracy will be an essential action and a priority that is needed to achieve this aim.

Thomas Jefferson, founding father and third president of the United States, said: "American history is written in Spanish". This fact, which has been weakened over time by the manipulation of the Anglosphere, must be brought back to its full strength, because the future will not allow anything else. America must think about sharing the vast resources of this continent by uniting its countries into a federation, as everyone will benefit from this, particularly in the north, unless they want to see themselves become a second-class power – something they are not used to.

Americans still have time to learn from the errors of their European cousins and to unite. As the European powers have not been able to bury their differences based on outdated nationalisms, they are being pushed aside into global irrelevance, while their citizens take refuge in the melancholic and decadent brilliance of the past.

In conclusion, there is no future for the Americas if they do not start to think and act in unison, a principle that also applies to Europe. Both continents could fall victim to the same fate that met the ancient Greeks, who were lost in internal disputes between their many divided peoples and failed to notice a great power emerging in the east, Rome, which ended up swallowing them all.

Víctor Saltero September 2021

