**Barriers to the Access of Natural Disaster Risk Information by Undocumented Immigrants**

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Different Ethnical groups react and play a different role in disaster preparedness, response and relief. There is not much information on the role that undocumented immigrants play when a disaster arise. After a disaster occurs, there is a movement of undocumented workers to rebuild the affected area. They are attracted either by work opportunities or inexpensive housing. High risk areas such as flood plains, steep slopes, and coastal areas should be discouraged for human habitation. However we often find that high risk areas are populated by minorities. This research will ask what barriers exist to the access of risk and vulnerability information by illegal immigrants when they decide to settle. The area where this study will be conducted is along the Texas coast.

Although undocumented immigrants are not count on the census data, and most of the states and federal disaster relief agencies, do not have a count of undocumented victims on affected areas, Mexican and Latin American consulates have been offering medical help to undocumented immigrants during disasters.

The research method that I will use will be compilation of survey data, and data from Latin American and Mexican consulates. Surveys will be conducted on multicultural coastal communities. Using GIS analysis I will define the high risk areas along the coast, with the highest concentration of minority communities, and identify the principal economic activities that will attract undocumented immigrants to these areas. Based on that base data, I will conduct interviews about access to risk information, and limitations for disaster evacuation