

## Abstract 16

### **The influence of the English language on Spanish speakers**

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This study will be mainly focusing on three sub topics: first how English has influenced the Hispanic community in the United States, secondly how English has influenced the English- Spanish bilinguals and thirdly how English terms have influenced the Spanish language which is also known as “Anglicisms”. The background for this study is mainly based on the passion towards learning popular foreign languages. This passion towards learning languages and to examine their co relationship mainly initiated the study on “The influence of the English language on Spanish speakers”. The study was done using the qualitative research method because this is primarily exploratory research. Individual interviews, participation and observations were the main techniques used to carry out the research project. The interviews were recorded on a CD in order to observe the participants more closely. The focus group was native Spanish speakers who are either undergraduates or graduates who have come to Sri Lanka for an internship. The research gap focuses on how the influence of the English language has affected the attitudes of Spanish speakers. The findings were that although the English language has affected the Latinos on a larger scale their attitude towards the English language is fixed; English will not replace their mother tongue and they will try their best to protect their language and culture.

**Keywords:** Hispanic Community, Anglicism, Bilingualism, Influence of English, Spanish Language