



## Double Intercultural Dialogue

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### What is it?

The word 'dialogue' in the concept Double Intercultural Dialogue (DICD) refers to contact, coexistence and the finding of common ground among people. Single intercultural dialogue might be among different Hispanic groups. Despite having multiple different backgrounds (ethnicity, nationality, social class, etc.), discovering even one shared identity means that group members develop a pan-cultural identity bringing them together, thus achieving a first level of intercultural dialogue with one another. However, the resulting pan-cultural group may then have to establish a second level of intercultural dialogue with outsiders, either a mainstream or a minority community, thus leading to double intercultural dialogue. This would be the case for Hispanic, Asian or African immigrants to the US, who are often seen as monolithic groups, whereas they in fact have to establish, should they so wish, a first level of intercultural dialogue among all group members sharing that first identity, and then build a second level of bridges with either mainstream society or another minority community.

### Who uses the concept?

DICD has been used so far in an article by this author to describe the two levels of intercultural dialogue established, first, among members of different national backgrounds in the Hispanic community and, then, between this community and mainstream non-Hispanic society as reflected in Spanish newspapers in New York. But it has broad potential application for both scholars and practitioners.

### Fit with intercultural dialogue?

DICD points out that intercultural dialogue has multiple steps. The first is to find common ground with others who share at least one identity. Those group members would then presumably spend time exploring the ways in which they are in fact similar, versus not. If and when they become a cohesive group, seeing itself as a community, then they begin finding common ground with others who do not share that identity (say, ethnicity) but do share another (such as social class or nationality).

### What work remains?

DICD is new, and thus much work remains. The most important effort is to see how the concept works among members of different ethnic, social, cultural, religious, etc. communities. Later research can then explore the ways in which different groups interact with those initially defined as Other, across a variety of contexts.

### Resources

- Coperías-Aguilar, M.J. (2015). Double intercultural dialogue in the Hispanic press in the United States: The case of New York newspapers. *Language & Intercultural Communication*, 15(3), 376-390.
- Gómez-Mompart, J.L. (2008). Diversidad Latina y comunicación panhispana en la prensa en español de Nueva York al inicio del siglo XXI [Latino diversity and pan-Hispanic communication in the New York press in Spanish at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century]. *Doxa Comunicación*, 6, 15-51.