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## Seeking the American Dream

Anaelys Trochez

*Southern Adventist University*, [trocheza@southern.edu](mailto:trocheza@southern.edu)

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# INVESTIGATING DIVERSITY

Exploring Race, Gender, and Unity in the Adventist Church



**JANUARY 27, 2019 BY ANAELYS TROCHEZ**

## Anaelys Trochez – Seeking the American Dream

Hello, my name is Anaelys Trochez, and I am a second generation Seventh-day Adventist. I was born and raised in the beautiful sunshine state and city known as Miami, Florida. As a child, I grew up in a multicultural environment – different forms of life and cultures surrounding my life, especially at church. I belonged to a small Hispanic congregation, which was my first exposure to different cultures. My childhood church showed me their many impressive backgrounds.

For instance, my mother was born in Cuba but migrated to the United States as a one-year-old, and my father moved to the United States from Honduras as a grown adult.

I heard the many stories of the different homes my fellow church members left behind like Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. I always ponder why would someone abandon their home country and searched for a new one.

I found that although the journey from which we all come from maybe be different, the reason remains the same. Like my parents, the church members sought a new way of living and the American dream.

Although many had to leave their families behind, they created new ones within the church community. Ultimately, the freedom to worship drives us to share in fellowship.

As a mass communication major, I want to be able to tell the story of our church that unites us as a whole.

Although we are all different, we have a Creator who loves us the same.

## **TEAM PROFILES**