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A Note on Terminology

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A Note on Terminology

Language has rules. It is also a fluid and evolving reality. We are especially aware of this at JHLT as we examine Latinoax religious, theological, social, and cultural realities. Our original name, the *Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology*, already reflected the contested and evolving nature of the terminology we use to name ourselves and our scholarly field.

Since our founding a quarter of a century ago, our language about culture and identity has continued to evolve, as has our language about gender. We rarely, if ever, use the term “Hispanic”—with the exception of the title of JHLT and, of course, in the case of titles of and quotations from published works. We no longer use the masculine form “Latino” as a generic and have changed the descriptor in the journal’s title.

Our current editorial policy is to leave individual authors the freedom to use their preferred term—Latinoa, Latin@, Latin@', Latinx, Latine, Latinoax, etc. We also leave them an option to use one of these terms exclusively or to vary the terminology within a given essay. Their decisions reflect their considered perspectives on identity.

You will note that some authors have followed suit in their usage of other identifiers such as Chicax, etc.

The terms Latinoa, Latin@, Latin@', Latine, Latinx, Latinoax, etc., do not refer to Latin Americans. When referring to the population of the Americas (outside of the United States and Canada), we use “Latin Americans” or their specific national or ethnic identifier.

-- The Editor