

## Re: Question about Spanish

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- *From:* Harlan Messinger <[hmessinger.removethis@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:hmessinger.removethis@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 08 Mar 2006 13:42:20 -0500
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Felix Rawlings wrote:

On Wed, 08 Mar 2006 09:53:23 +0000, Felix Rawlings wrote:

On Tue, 07 Mar 2006 22:41:58 +0000, Peter T. Daniels wrote:

foggytown wrote:

Dear Group,

I am doing some research for a short story and perhaps I can find some assistance in here. Question: are there countries once colonized by Spain where the daily spoken language is now a form of Spanish which has so degraded that it would not be understood by Spaniards or other (former) colonies?

Please don't say "degraded." It suggests that the language is somehow inferior or inadequate. Whatever the social circumstances of its speakers, the language is fully as expressive as that spoken by any Castilian.

Two things: One, must you be so thoroughly politically correct all the time? And two, where is the data to support your assertion in the last sentence? Or is this a case of PC dogma first, scientific evidence afterwards?

## Re: Question about Spanish

It's interesting to notice that replies so far have just focused on chastising me, for daring to wonder if the original poster was motivated by political correctness,

Well, gee, now I dare to wonder if you're being motivated by the Forces of Darkness conspiring to wreak havoc on a defenseless universe. Does that make sense?

Peter's motivation, as he stated explicitly, is that your characterization of other languages as "degraded" is misguided. People aren't motivated by political correctness. Political correctness is an assessment of one person's words by others. The only issue here is why, when someone corrects you, you're intent on finding political correctness when the correction was justified.

> and have confirmed that his opinion is correct,

again without producing any solid, scientific data to support it.

Solid evidence to support what? That languages don't "degrade"? You're the one using the term "degraded". If you're going to use such a term, you must have an idea what metric you're using to assess the degree of degradedness of any given language. So why don't you tell us what that metric is and try to convince us that it's of interest?

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