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International health and Hispanic culture

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INTERNATIONAL HEALTH & HISPANIC CULTURE



SANTIAGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Domestic Violence: Domestic Violence has long been a common problem in Latin America. The cultural undertone of why it is so prevalent can be traced back historically. The purpose of this study is to identify the most relevant factors determining a high prevalence of domestic violence in the Dominican Republic. In addition, this study seeks to identify successful interventions that may contribute with reducing the burden of domestic violence as a public health concern. **Aliyah Anjarwalla**

Chronic Diseases: Because infectious diseases can be such a rapidly spreading problem, they have been at the forefront of the medical community's attention in the Dominican Republic. This study will attempt to describe the Dominican Republic's public health system strategies for the promotion, prevention, and control of chronic illnesses. These objectives will be met by conducting a literature review on relevant research and in-depth interviews with public health program coordinators. **Deepti Athavale**

Hepatitis A: This project describes Hepatitis A as a public health problem in the Dominican Republic. The study will identify most relevant risk factors including the lack of vaccination against Hepatitis A in the country. Through in-person, structured interviews with vaccination program coordinators, vaccination workers, and healthcare providers, we will learn about the impact of this disease as well as challenges and barriers that the community face to access the Hepatitis A vaccine. **Thomas Cotton**

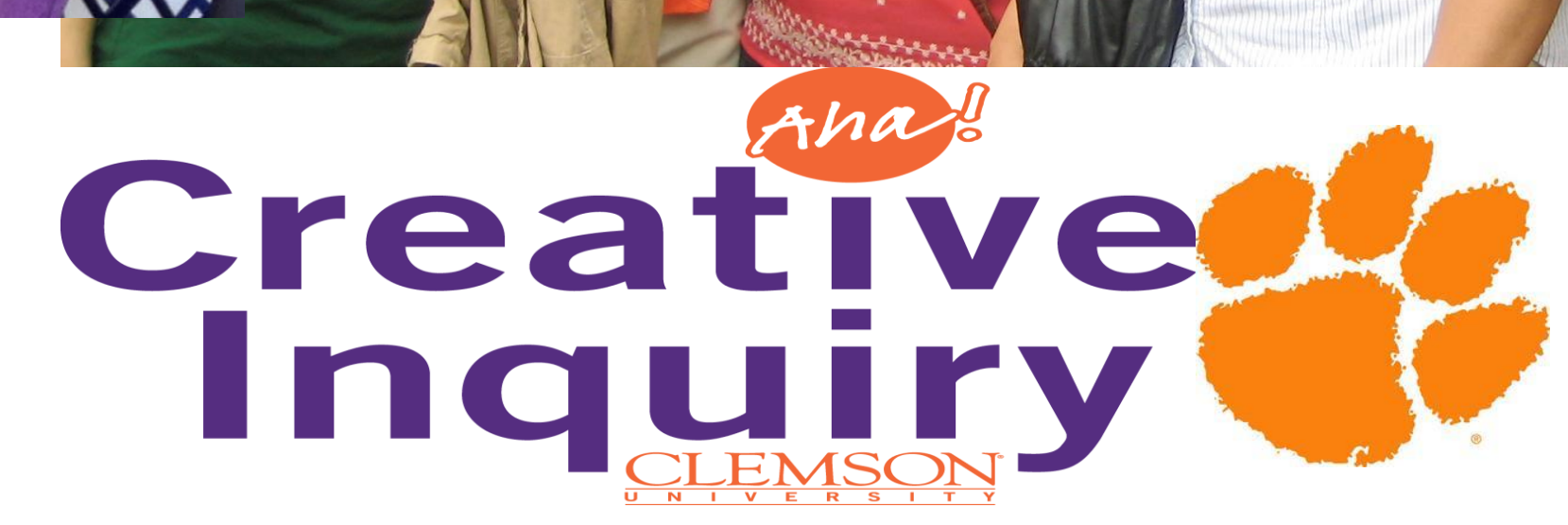
Physical Therapy: This project focuses on the following objectives: To describe the prevalence of people with disabilities in the Dominican Republic; to identify barriers that prevent disabled people from accessing rehabilitation services; to investigate perceptions of disabled individuals about barriers and challenges faced to access service; to explore providers' knowledge about barriers faced by their clients to access services; and to propose alternative solutions to address such barriers. **Breci Davis**

Child Obesity: Childhood obesity in America is a novel issue that is on the rise. In order to halt the progression of this chronic epidemic in smaller developing countries such as the Dominican Republic, this study aims to determine the risk factors that lead to obesity in children at a young age. People will be asked to fill out a questionnaire regarding certain habits that their child exhibits and how involved the parent are in determining behaviors that the child performs. **Michelle Fuentes**

Medical Equipment: This study will focus on the use of donated and used medical equipment in the public healthcare system in the Dominican Republic. I plan to explore the advantages and disadvantages of equipment being donated from other countries and the maintenance of this equipment. This project will also explore the laws and regulations on handling and use of donated equipment, and the public healthcare system in general. I will contrast that to regulations in other countries. **Hannah Haire**

HIV/AIDS: This study explores the characteristics and effectiveness of the National Program for the Reduction of Vertical Transmission of HIV/AIDS. The program actions include testing pregnant women, offering counseling, and providing newborns with alternative feeding methods. Through in-depth interviews with key informants and program official reports, the study seeks to identify barriers hindering the program's success and what opportunities there are to improve the program. **Ashley Jamison**

Drug Abuse: Abusing drugs can cause mental illnesses, long-lasting effects on your physical health, physical injuries, violence, internal damage, pregnancy and STD's, addiction, alterations to mental and emotional well-being, and depression. The purpose of this study is to learn more about how severe drug abuse can be, what makes drugs seem appealing, and what helps reduce drug use in the context of the Dominican Republic, with the aim to help educate the public about this issue. **Katherine Orellana**



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