

JIM C'S QUIZ OF THE WEEK

MONDAY - 9/17/2007

In September 1968, Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, which was expanded in 1988 to a month-long celebration (Sept. 15 – Oct. 15).

HOW DID THE TERM “*HISPANIC*” ORIGINATE?

***Online Etymology:* "Pertaining to Spain" (especially ancient Spain) 1584, from Latin *Hispanicus*, from *Hispania* "Iberian Peninsula," from *Hispanus* "Spaniard." Specific application to Spanish-speaking parts of the New World is 1889. American English it is especially applied since 1972 to Spanish-speaking persons of Latin American descent living in U.S.**

An alternate term, *Latino*, was coined in 1974. In Spanish *Latino* means "Latin," but the term is probably a shortening of the Spanish word *latinoamericano* - referring more exclusively to persons or communities of Latin American origin.

For some, *Latino* is a term of ethnic pride, while *Hispanic* is an Anglo establishment (government issued) label that borders on the offensive. According to this view, *Hispanic* lacks the authenticity and cultural resonance of *Latino*, with its Spanish sound and its ability to show the feminine form *Latina* when used of women.

C W: Hispanic (FL & TX) / Latino (CA) = Spanish-speaking person

M of Z: Hispanic/Latino influence is now a major bargaining chip