

2017

## Pues Yo Digo

Yanel Lázaro Cardozo  
*Humboldt State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/courageouscuentos>

 Part of the [Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education Commons](#), [Chicana/o Studies Commons](#), [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Community-Based Learning Commons](#), [Creative Writing Commons](#), [Curriculum and Instruction Commons](#), [Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Commons](#), [Educational Sociology Commons](#), [Ethnic Studies Commons](#), [Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), [Gender and Sexuality Commons](#), [History Commons](#), [Inequality and Stratification Commons](#), [Latin American Languages and Societies Commons](#), [Latina/o Studies Commons](#), [Modern Literature Commons](#), [Politics and Social Change Commons](#), [Race and Ethnicity Commons](#), [Reading and Language Commons](#), and the [Theory, Knowledge and Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Lázaro Cardozo, Yanel (2017) "Pues Yo Digo," *CouRaGeouS Cuentos: A Journal of Counternarratives*: Vol. 2 , Article 32.  
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/courageouscuentos/vol2/iss1/32>



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License](#)

© 2016 Department of Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies (CRGS) at Humboldt State University.

This Counternarratives and Reflections is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in CouRaGeouS Cuentos: A Journal of Counternarratives by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. For more information, please contact [kyle.morgan@humboldt.edu](mailto:kyle.morgan@humboldt.edu).

# Pues Yo Digo

---

Yanel Lázaro Cardozo

They say that my parents only came here to not pay taxes.

They say that they only came here to steal jobs.

*He* says that the only kind of people Mexico sends over here are violent and rapists.

They say that we only eat beans and tortillas and that we have too many tías, tíos, primas, and primos.

I say that most undocumented immigrants pay more in federal income taxes than Donald Trump

I say that that my parents came here to start over and give themselves and their children a life that they couldn't have if they were still in Mexico

And, what jobs are we stealing?

The jobs no one wants.

I say that Mexico sends some of the most hardworking people.

People who work early and late night shifts, only for them to say, "Qué necesitas?"

And yes, we do have many tias, tios, primas and primos but we never have to worry about spending holidays alone.

And, hell yes! We do eat beans and tortillas, with a lot of salsa and extra cheese too.

## REFLECTION

Throughout the semester I really enjoyed the freewrites we had in class. I remember writing about my day in a journal when I was growing up, but I stopped after a while because “I got busy” or I simply forgot. To be honest, it has been years since I’ve actually been able to write down my thoughts on paper and not just write for a grade or make sure that the format was correct, which is why I really enjoyed writing in the first place. What also made it enjoyable was getting different topics to write about during each freewrite. Sometimes the topics were something I didn’t really think about much but I did have a lot to write about.

Another aspect that I enjoyed about the freewrites was being able to hear what others in my class had to say because I feel that it’s really important to see how other people view things differently. Not only that, listening to each other’s freewrites gave me the insight that although most of my classmates grew up in a Latino community or home, we all grew up differently while also sharing similar experiences.

Lastly, I would really like to thank my professor for giving not only me but also my classmates the chance to do these freewrites in class. I really value everyone’s story that was able to share or that I was able to read because I feel that everyone’s voice and our stories are important. Being able to do these freewrites really gave me an insight on what a writer looks like and it’s not only someone on the front cover of a book but it’s maybe the person sitting next to us who decided to write down their thoughts on a piece of paper and share them with the world.