



Attitudes of Gratitude and Hope Among Latino Adolescents in U.S. Farm Work: A Thematic Analysis Approach

Fiorella L. Carlos Chavez, PhD., Sophia G. Bell, & Jordynn A. Hundley



INTRODUCTION

- The U.S. the agricultural workforce is predominantly Latino (84%), adult men (68%) from Mexico (69%) (Hernandez & Gabbard, 2019).
- Migrant farmworker youth come to the U.S. for work (Zenteno, Giorguli, & Gutierrez, 2013).
- Despite challenges these youth face, families may instill a sense of gratitude and hope.
- Gratitude highlights reciprocity between the benefactor and the beneficiary (Tudge et al., 2015) and may add to the cycle of giving/helping among Latino migrant farmworker youth from a young age.

FRAMEWORK AND AIMS

We used Kağıtçıbaşı (2007)'s cultural values as a framework and hope theory (Snyder et al., 2003)

(a) To explore the ways in which Latino migrant farmworker youth express gratitude and hope through a qualitative method.

(b) To understand why gratitude and hope are salient virtues and perceived capabilities among migrant youth's well-being.

METHOD

- In-depth interviews were conducted in Spanish (45-60 minutes) in the Southeast.
- N = 10 from Mexico, H-2A visa, aged 18 to 20
- N = 10 Guatemalan minors, aged 15 to 17
- Each participant received a \$10 incentive.
- Certificate of Confidentiality from NIH.



ANALYSIS & PRELIMINARY RESULTS

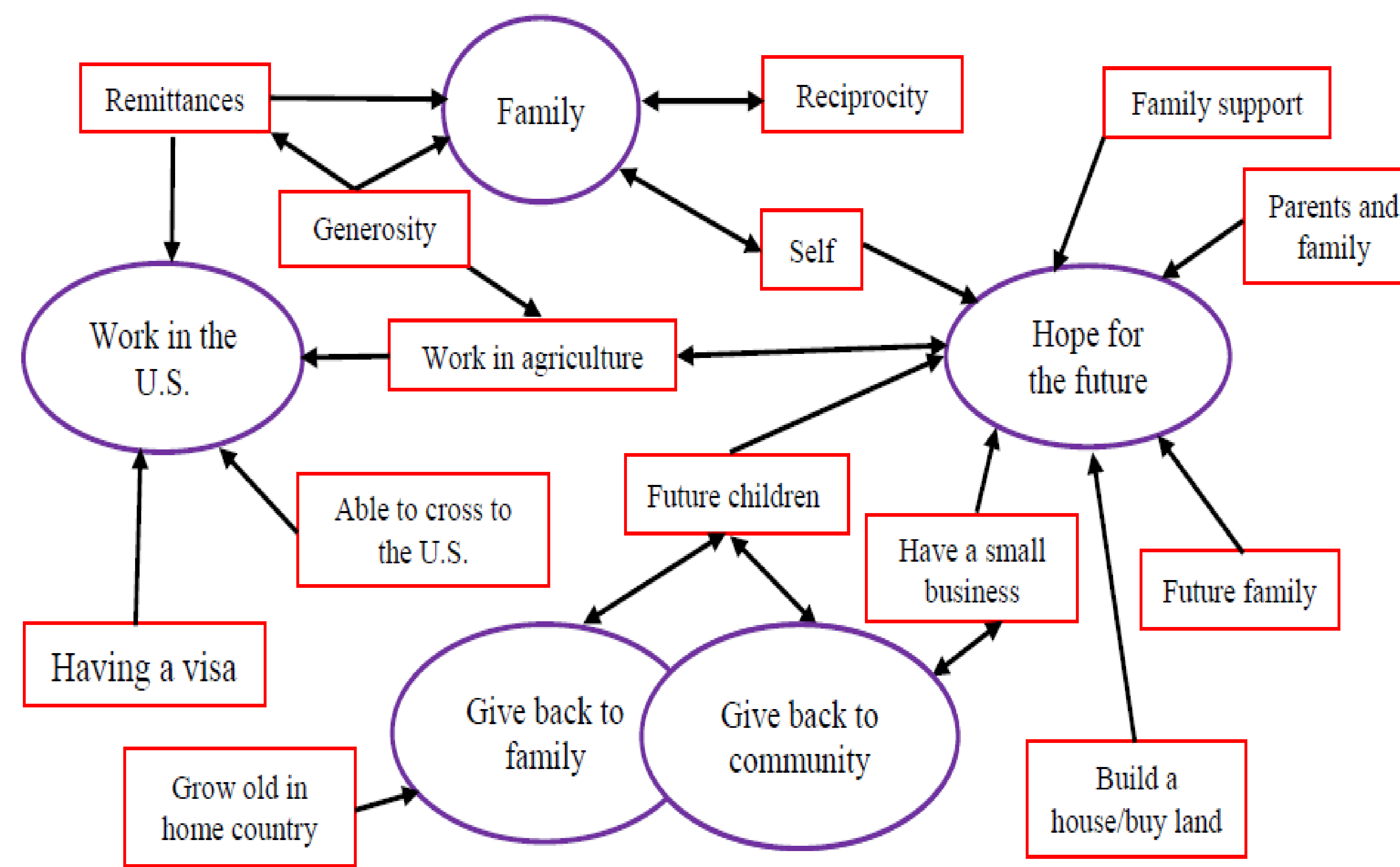


Figure 1
Preliminary Coding for Gratitude and Hope in Latino Migrant Farmworker Youth

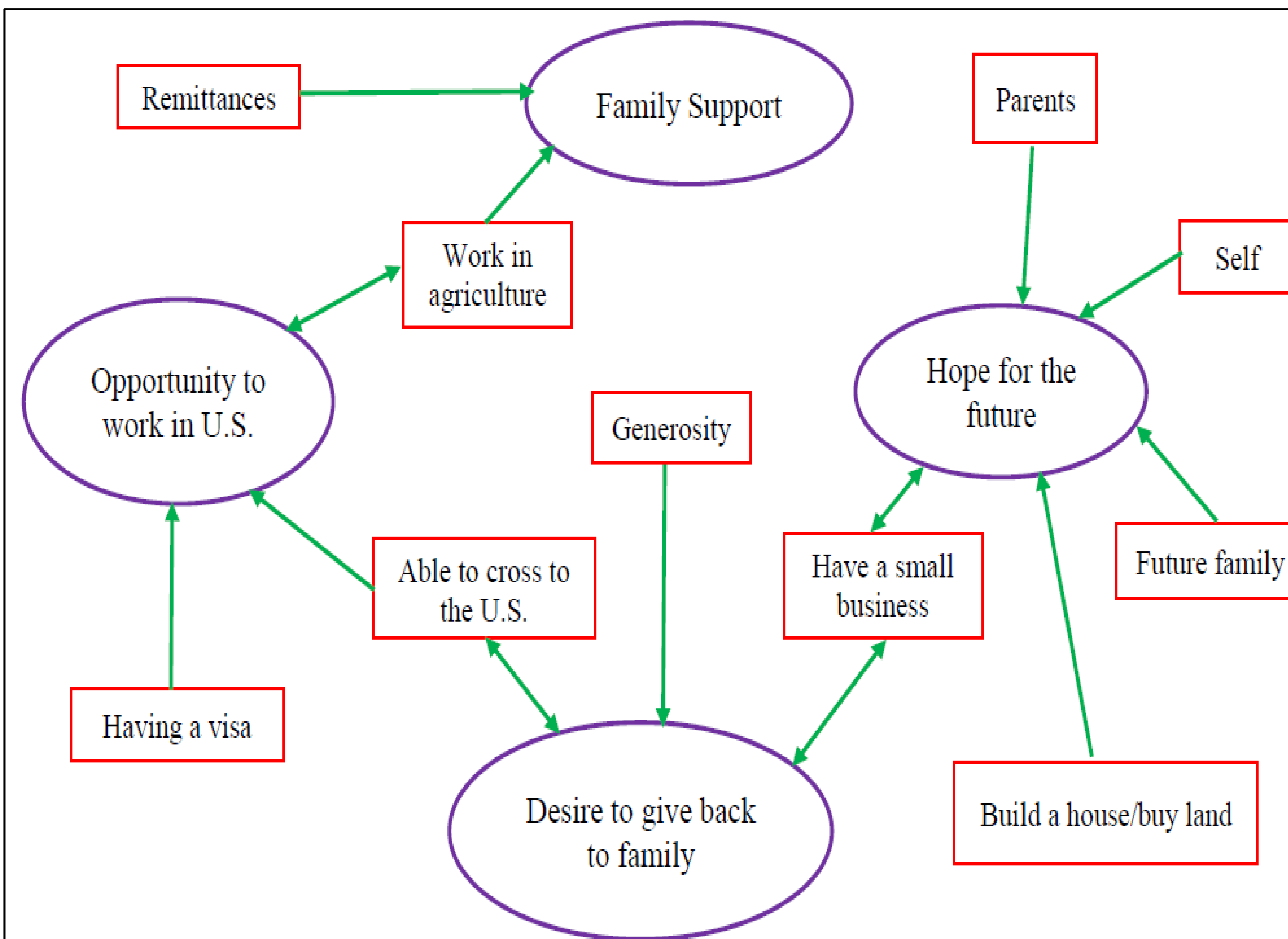


Figure 2
Preliminary Themes for Gratitude and Hope in Latino Migrant Farmworker Youth

- Data was entered into a database (NVivo 11 Pro; Phillips & Lu, 2018).
- Two native Spanish-speaking research personnel separately reviewed each transcripts and engaged in initial coding.
- We used deductive and inductive analysis (Guest et al., 2012).
- The data was separated into units of information for the creation of a descriptive statement (Sparker, 2005).

Preliminary Findings

- Migrant youth show a reciprocal attitude toward their parents (e.g., parents took care of them when they were little, now migrant youth want to be able to take care of their parents). **Four preliminary themes were found.**

CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Family reciprocity can be seen as an *expression of love and care-giving*.
- As non-WEIRD youth (Henrich, Heine, & Norenzayan, 2010), international migration for work may be part of a normative initiation path to become an adult.
- Sample came from Georgia and Florida which may limit the generalizability and transferability of the findings to other regions in the U.S.
- Future studies need to include female migrant farmworker youth.
- Include future measurement development to better represent gratitude, resilience, and hope based on Latino/a migrant farmworker youth's context.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to all Migrant Farmworker Youth who participated in this research.
Funding Source: Kappa Omicron Nu (KON) National Honor Society for the Human Sciences. Florida State University.
Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) College of Human Environmental Sciences, HDFS. University of Missouri – Columbia.
 Student Recipient: Sophia Bell
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Fiorella L. Carlos Chavez [P.I] carloschavezf@missouri.edu **CarlosChavezPhD**

