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Mentoring Relationships as Social Capital in the Career Advancement of Women of Color

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Abstract : This study examined the underrepresentation of women of color in school leadership roles. Using social capital as the theoretical framework, this study explored the role of mentoring relationships in the career advancement and promotion of Latina school leaders. This study showed that informal mentoring relationships are essential to the promotion of women of color. Most of the mentoring relationships were established through close work with their immediate supervisors. This study suggests having informal mentors facilitated Latina women's aspirations to become school leaders and counteract the pattern of underrepresentation of Latinas in such roles.

Keywords: women of color, school leadership, social capital, mentoring

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