



Living in a globalised world

Promoting integration

Narrator:

Los Angeles, California. A student march organised by the movement of Aslan Chicano's, known as MEChA.

They promote the interests of the Latino community in the States on a large number of issues.

Gustavo Licon is a leading Mechista who wants to preserve his culture.

Gustavo Licon, MEChA Leader:

Our Mexican's integrating into society here. But only to the extent of the society is accepting us. It's hard to integrate into a society that tells you that you can't be an equal citizen based on your own culture. You have to change your culture. Where is it in the definition of democracy, where does it say that first you have to give up your culture, or first you have to give up your way of life?

Narrator:

MEChA is a growing movement. There are already 300 branches spreading throughout the United States, all questioning notions of belonging and citizenship.

Vicky Lin, MEChA Activist:

Who's to say like who is a United States citizen and who is not. Because you know technically if you want to go back generations, nobody is really from the United States, except for indigenous people.

Gustavo Licon:

We're not about brown supremacy. We're not about brown sensorism. We're about equality. We're just trying to raise a level of our community to everyone else. Asking for the right to vote. Asking for the right to a job. Asking for the right to go into a store without being harassed or not being harassed by the Police just because we're demanding our rights.