

Le voci degli italiani (Voices of Italians): The Linguistic Assimilation of Postwar Italian Immigrants in Argentina and Australia
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Following the economic devastation after World War II, many Italians became disillusioned by the lack of job opportunities in Italy and began to leave for Australia, Argentina, and the U.S., among other countries. Much research has been done into the experience of Italian immigrants in the U.S., with several historical accounts regarding this wave of immigration, but there are few specific anthropological efforts to explore the linguistic assimilation of these immigrants who were forced to learn Spanish and English to integrate into the societies of Argentina and Australia, respectively. Regarding this lack of concentrated research, I designed this summer research project to investigate the experiences of immigrants and their descendants as they assimilated to the languages and cultures of these new nations. I examined how the immig