

MARLAINE M. MONROIG

Biographical sketch

I am a proud first generation Latina from Puerto Rico. As a first generation in my family in the U.S. and first in my family to go to college, I never thought a PhD was possible for someone "like me". Due to poverty and lack of opportunities, at the age of sixteen I made the hard decision to move to the United States, on my own. The journey has not been easy but it has been worth it. It has taught me the importance of hard work. My experiences have instilled in me the confidence to believe in myself and a passion to make a difference through counseling and research. A girl from my background is not "supposed" to be here, but I've made it. I have been raised by many villages and now, I feel a responsibility to take advantage of the resources before me and pay it forward.