Topic: Mexican American Student Organizations

- In the 1960s the Mexican-American student organizations emerged as part of the Chicano student movement. Working students tried to expand education opportunities for Mexican Americans through recruitment and retention programs.
- By the fall of 1967, several groups had been organized on campuses in California, Texas, and Arizona. In 1968 students began to make their demands heard through aggressive tactics, beginning with the Third World Liberation Front strike at San Francisco State College.
- In 1968 the United Mexican American high school students walked out of their classes in protest of racist school policies and teachers. They also expanded their political involvement beyond their college campuses.
- The students decided to merge their organizations and wanted a name that would express their educational concerns as well as their newly formed identities as
Chicanos. The students finally went under the name Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan.

Ed. Waldo E. Martin, Jr. and Patricia Sullivan states that in the 1960s Mexican American students formed the Chicano Movement. The strength is that they wanted to expand their education when the board wouldn’t let them. They began their demands for better education in 1968 and although their minds and hearts were in the right place they also did it in aggressive tactics. They walked out of class didn’t show up for school and went on strike. They expanded their political movement beyond college campuses. They went under the name Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan.