Black English: Its History And Usage In The United States

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Throughout the course of United States history there have been many efforts geared towards making English the official language of the country. Some of these plans have even suggested recognizing one or two other languages based on their prevalence, or the number of speakers. These efforts, at least at the federal level, have never quite been successful. The most prominent non-English language in the United States, Spanish is spoken as a first language by approximately 38 million American residents. Like English, it was inherited from the Spanish colonization and is given special status in some US states and territories, including New Mexico and Puerto Rico.