Child and Adult Heritage Spanish in the Netherlands
van Osch, B.A.; García González, Elisabet; Hulk, A.C.J.; Aalberse, S.P.; Sleeman, A.P.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
**Child and Adult Heritage Spanish in the Netherlands: The Development of Subject Position**

Brechje van Osch, Elisabet García González, Suzanne Aalberse, Aafke Hulk & Petra Sleeman
University of Amsterdam

---

**Heritage speakers**
Speakers of a minority language, acquired during childhood in a naturalistic setting in the home context.

**Subject position in Spanish**
Spanish has flexible word order:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Un chico</th>
<th>llegó</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A boy</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject position with intransitives in Spanish is constrained by unaccusativity, focus, definiteness, animacy, verbal aspect, adverbial phrases, and subject heaviness (Vergnaud, 2005; Lloret, 2008). As such, VS preferences are observed in subject position.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monolinguals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research Questions**
1. Will Dutch HS of Spanish show less overgeneralization of preverbal subjects (but deviate from monolinguals?)
2. When do bilingual children deviate from monolinguals?

**The present study**

**A) Adult Participants**
24 heritage speakers
- Born in the Netherlands, or arrived before 5 years of age
- Mixed families
- No Caribbean dialects

**B) Child Participants**
30 heritage speakers
- 9 and 13 years old
- Born in the Netherlands, or arrived before 5 years of age
- Mixed families
- No Caribbean dialects

**References**