

***Domestic violence in the State of Nuevo León, México: its changes and persistence***

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***Abstract:***

*Domestic violence in Mexico (46.7%) and in Nuevo Leon (37.1%) has a very high incidence. The main purpose of this paper is to expose its socio demographic characteristics in Nuevo Leon. For this purpose, statistics of domestic violence in Nuevo Leon will help to present, in a general way, the socio demographic profile of women facing this issue. Furthermore, an analysis about the reproduction of this problem will be exposed. This is based on the “Symbolic Violence Theory” developed by Bourdieu.*

*In the case of the Monterrey Metropolitan Area, studies shows that women reported lack of institutional and judicial support like one of the main obstacles to stop the problem of domestic violence. Besides the lack of institutional support women face fears of how to keep family unity and to sustain economically and emotionally their children.*

*In conclusion, since the 1990s, Mexico and, in this case, Nuevo Leon had produced laws that guarantee gender equity. In the same case, the literature shows that couple relationships had developed to more equal patterns. However, it is very important to analyze not only the internal factors but also the external mechanisms in the changes and constants of domestic violence, such as Church, the School System, Government and Family.*

***Key words:*** *domestic violence, symbolic violence, changes and persistence.*

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