

## A Lesson in the Social Welfare System in Mexico: Limited Resources for Unlimited Needs

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**Abstract :** Beginning with a historical foundation of Mexico, this marks the start of a close examination of this major Latin American country by providing the context needed to understand the reasons for Mexico's strengths and struggles today, specific to their response to the issue of gender violence. Responding to the challenge of combating gender violence and inequality, Mexico has created social programs and initiatives in hopes of addressing these issues and modernizing their gender norms, which currently disempower and dehumanize women, while simultaneously denying women the necessary tools needed to fight back or bring balance to the gender scales. Nevertheless, women in Mexico have made their voices heard with the most salient image of that of the mothers protesting while holding the photos of their young daughters who lost their lives. This case study on gender issues in Mexico works to acknowledge the diverse forces that contribute to the issue of gender violence, and to make a statement that this is a crisis that requires a more dynamic response within Mexico's social welfare policies, and should not be allowed to continue to progress as a normative phenomenon. As the advocacy groups and protesters cry out, "Ni una menos! (Not one less), meaning we will not lose one more woman and making the statement that all women's lives matter.

**Keywords :** gender issues, Mexico, poverty, social welfare

**Conference Title :** ICSW 2017 : International Conference on Social Work

**Conference Location :** Paris, France

**Conference Dates :** May 18-19, 2017