

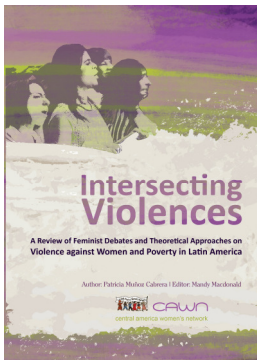
Electronic Bulletin - Autumn 2010

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1. CAWN events

- **Launch event: 21st October 2010**
2pm-5pm followed by drinks reception

'Intersecting Violences: A Review of Feminist Theories and Debates on Violence against Women and Poverty in Latin America.'



This research report aims to provide a greater understanding of *why* women are abused and discriminated against in Latin America: the structural causes of their subjugated status, the relationship between cultural, sexual, racial and economic structures, and the pervasiveness of both VAW and women's poverty.

Chair: Baroness Miller, Vice-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Central America and of the APPG on Latin America.

Speakers: Yakin Ertürk, former UN Special Rapporteur on VAW & **Patricia Muñoz Cabrera**, author of the research and chair of Women in Development Europe (WIDE).

Discussant: Maxine Molyneux, Director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London.

Venue: Congress Centre, 23-28 Great Russell Street, London WC1 B3LS.

This event is free, but please reserve your place by emailing to info@cawn.org.

- **Successful launch in Honduras**



On the 30th July, the Spanish version of our research was launched in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Speakers Patricia Muñoz Cabrera and Katherine Ronderos addressed an audience of over 50 people including

academics, practitioners and policy makers, all of whom welcomed the report and its potential for future work on violence against women and poverty in Latin America.

2. CAWN news

- **Field visit to Honduras**

CAWN staff member, Katherine Ronderos, spent two weeks in Honduras in July, monitoring the project on violence against women (VAW) with

our partner organisation CEMH. Katherine found that the women's groups supported by the project have successfully continued their work over the last year, empowering women to speak out against domestic violence and providing income generation workshops and public awareness activities.



However, Katherine also brought back news that although matters seem more stable over a year after the coup, there remains a strong undercurrent of violence and fear, with leaders of the resistance still being threatened, disappeared and murdered, albeit more discreetly.

• **Successful capacity building seminar held with CAWN & LAWRS**

On Saturday 18th September, 20 members of CAWN and LAWRS (the Latin American Women's Rights Service) met to discuss how best to identify and respond to the practical and strategic needs of Latin American women, both in the UK and in Latin America. The day was considered a success by both organisations and was a fantastic opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences.

3. CAWN campaigns

• **Violence Against Women update**

As the fourth year of the project on VAW in Honduras drew to a close in July, CAWN and CEMH took the opportunity to reflect on the successes of the project thus far and the areas to focus on in our final year. Our achievements include:

- over 100 women received training to be facilitators for 'self-help groups'

- over 500 women have received information and support from these self-help groups.
- over 280 female survivors of violence have received legal advice and support to initiate and continue legal proceedings
- over 200 men have received training enabling them to work with other men to champion non-violent masculinities

Our aims for the final year of our project include:

- increasing income generation workshops
- continuing work with indigenous women
- providing training on food sovereignty



4. CAWN publications

CAWN publications are available to download from our website. For a hard copy, please email info@cawn.org with your full contact details. Please feel free to distribute our publications amongst your contacts, networks and beneficiaries.

- **'Intersecting Violences. A review of feminist theories and debates on violence against women and poverty in Latin America'**. (To be released on 21st October 2010*)

In commissioning this research, CAWN recognises the importance of bringing new approaches to work challenging VAW, while at the same time utilising existing expertise acquired through research on intersectionality both within the Central American region and in Europe.

The report considers the benefits of taking an intersectional approach to the complex and interrelated web of factors contributing to poverty

and VAW in Latin America, taking into account the multiple oppressing structures of economic neo-liberalism and political and patriarchal power, and the effects of these on women who have 'multiple subordinated identities'.

**Hard copies of this report will be distributed at the launch on 21st October and electronic copies in English and Spanish will be available to download free of charge from www.cawn.org shortly thereafter.*

5. Central America updates

British Embassy in Guatemala to launch shock-campaign against domestic violence

Source: Foreign and Commonwealth Office (20th September)

The campaign 'Rompe el Ciclo' (Break the Cycle) will be launched at the Mexican Embassy in Guatemala on the 30th September. The UK Embassy will be working alongside the Guatemalan Presidency, civil society and the private sector to highlight the fact that children who grow up in violent homes come to see violence as normal and are thus more likely to become violent themselves. The campaign aims to shock but also to inspire individuals to move society and change attitudes towards domestic violence.

For more information see www.blogs.fco.gov.uk

• 211 women murdered in Ciudad Juarez in 2010 thus far are 'not femicides'

Source: La Jornada en Linea (16th September)

Despite the high numbers of murders of women in Ciudad Juarez this year, 31 of which took place in the first half of September alone, Patricia González Rodríguez, the Attorney General for State Justice, claims that this does not signify an increase in femicides but rather indicates the increasing problems with drugs related gangs in the area. Indeed, out of the 211 murders of women, only 11 have been classed as femicide and thus investigated by the Fiscal Office of Homicides against Women. This shocking number of deaths in the last 9 months is almost half the number of murders of women that took place in the same area during the 10 years between 1993 and 2003.

For the full article, go to: www.jornada.com

• Statement released from the International Indigenous Women's Forum on the MDG's

Source: AWID (8th September)

This statement, entitled 'No More Promises - A Call to Action' calls on leaders to take specific steps during the MDG Review Summit in September to address the vast inequalities and social exclusion faced by indigenous peoples and women in particular. It urges the inclusion in the Summit outcome document of a number of paragraphs recognising the additional gender based disadvantages and discrimination faced by indigenous women and the importance of promoting full participation of indigenous peoples and particularly women in MDG related policies and programmes.

To read the declaration go to: www.awid.org

• Landmark adoption ruling for same sex couples in Mexico

Source: Human Rights Watch (16th August)

Only one week after a decision in favour of the right to same sex marriage, Mexico's Supreme Court voted to guarantee adoption for same-sex couples. Human Rights Watch hailed this decision as upholding the 'core principle of equality for LGBT people in all aspects of their lives'. To read the full article, go to: www.hrw.org

6. other publications

• No Olvidamos ni Aceptamos: Femicidio en Centroamerica 2000-2006. (We Don't Forget or Accept: Femicide in Central America 2000 - 2006) CEFEMINA, 2010

This investigation aims to discover whether the recent exponential increase in murders of women in Central America is part of a more generalised rise in violence, or more specifically an increase in femicides. In undertaking detailed field research on femicides in Central America it attempts to understand the role of additional factors such as class, poverty, social and economic exclusion, finding that homicides of women in this time have increased at a significantly greater rate than homicides of men and calling for State action to stop impunity, effectively protect women and put an end to toleration of violence against women and femicide.

To read this report in full (in Spanish only), go to:
www.horizons.ca

7. upcoming events and conferences

- **March: Million Women Rise -Manchester.**
10th October, 2.30pm - Castlefield Arena

March in Manchester to end violence against women and children.

For more information see:
www.millionwomenrise.com

- **March: Reclaim the Night -Birmingham.**
16th October. Victoria Square

Join the Birmingham Feminists as they march through the streets of the city centre to reclaim them for women. For more information, see bhamfems.wordpress.com

- **Conference: Feminism in London.**
*23rd October. Friends Meeting House,
173-177 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ.*

This one day conference is open to women and pro-feminist men and will feature many of the feminist activist groups that are campaigning in and around London. There will be talks, workshops and the chance to network. For more information and to register go to www.feminisminlondon.org.uk

- **Postcard Art Auction.** *Monday 4th October.
The Aubin Gallery, 64 - 66 Redchurch Street,
London E2 7DP*

Curated by Sarah Maple and in association with the Aubin Gallery, this is a one-night only exhibition and auction of original postcard sized-artworks on the theme of "Feminism". The postcards have been designed by artists, activists, comedians, writers and feminists of all stripes. For more information and for tickets go to: www.ldnfeministnetwork.uk.com

- **AVA Conference: Whose movement is it anyway? Survivors' role in ending violence against women and girls.**
*5th November. CBI Conference Centre,
103 New Oxford Street, London, WC1A 1DU*

Showcasing over a dozen inspiring examples of survivor led initiatives, this conference by Against Violence & Abuse aims to challenge the stigma and shame of being a victim and demonstrate the creative and innovative ways that women respond to and resist violence against women and girls.

For more information as well as prices and how to book, please visit www.avaproject.org.uk

- **Charged: Six new plays about women, crime and justice.**
*10th November – 27th November.
Soho Theatre, 21 Dean Street,
London W1D 3NE*

Premiering plays by six of Britain's best female playwrights, Clean Break takes over the Soho Theatre building with a season of new plays about women, crime and justice. Audiences journey into Soho Theatre's different spaces, discovering the untold stories of women and the criminal justice system. Girl gangs and life on the edge, older women trapped in the system, deaths in custody, child trafficking, addiction and power struggles are some of the themes uncovered through this series of plays.

For more information or to book tickets, go to:
www.sohotheatre.com

- **UK Run for Congo Women.**
*10K run - Saturday 13th November 2010,
Greenwich Park, London.*

The conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo has particularly affected women and girls, who are systematically raped as a combat strategy to terrorise and humiliate. Women for Women International works with women survivors in the Congo to offer skills training, trauma counselling, microcredit loans. 100% of funds raised in this event go directly to WfWI's programmes in the Congo. For more information go to:
www.womenforwomen.org