

TO ALL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES:

We, the undersigned, call upon the next Mexican government to make the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women, and specifically the waves of murders and mutilation of women in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, and elsewhere in Mexico, a national priority.

Therefore, we urge you to publicly commit to take these concrete steps to prevent and punish violence against women in Mexico while in office.

WE EXPECT ALL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES TO PUBLICLY ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE:

If elected as President of the United States of Mexico, I solemnly pledge:

1. To make the prevention, punishment and eradication of murders and mutilation of women in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, and elsewhere in Mexico a national priority;
2. To set up and ensure full cooperation with an independent interdisciplinary team of experts to investigate the murders of women in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, and in the rest of Mexico, with the aim of contributing to efforts by state and federal prosecutors to bring the perpetrators of those crimes to justice;
3. To create a national toll-free number to allow for the reporting of gender-based and sexual violence to an independent monitoring force, and to allow for anonymous reporting for such crimes;
4. To step up violence prevention programmes and policies, including early warning mechanisms and the reinforcement of security in dangerous or isolated areas;
5. To coordinate and amplify efforts at the federal, State and Municipal levels to improve such basic services as lighting in marginal areas and zones that have been associated with security risk; security with respect to transportation; the paving of roads in marginal areas—and to allocate the funds necessary to provide such services;
6. To ensure that state and federal offices of the Attorney General guarantee free legal support in providing access to justice and to all legal guarantees of protection for the victims of violence and the relatives of murdered and abducted women and girls;
7. To insist that all public officials act with due diligence to take all appropriate steps within their mandate to contribute to the prevention, punishment, and eradication of the murder and mutilation of women and girls in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, and elsewhere in Mexico;
8. Promote mechanisms to investigate and sanction public officials who violate their duty to prevent and denounce cases of violence against women.

These steps mirror only a fraction of the recommendations emitted to the Mexican state by international human rights monitoring bodies on what Mexico must do to fulfill its international human rights obligations. Recently both the Federal and State governments have taken some important steps to address violence against women in Chihuahua. However the fulfillment of this pledge is necessary to reinforce and expand upon the actions taken. On June 30, 2006, we will let the Mexican public know who accepted this pledge.

Signed this day June 27, 2006

Academia Mexicana de Derechos Humanos A.C., México
Afluentes S.C., México
Alianza Cívica A.C., México
Almacén de Recursos, A.C., Baja California Norte
Amigos de las Mujeres de Juárez, EE.UU.
Asociación de Trabajadores Sociales A.C., Chihuahua
Ave de México A.C., México
Casa Amiga A.C., Chihuahua
Casa YMCA A.C., Chihuahua
Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir A.C., México
Centro de Comunicación Social, A.C., México
Centro de Derechos Humanos de las Mujeres, México
Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Francisco de Victoria O.P. A.C., México
Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez, México
Centro de Derechos Humanos Victoria Diez, A.C., Guanajuato
Centro de Estudios Ecueménicos, México
Centro de Estudios Sociales y Culturales Antonio de Montesinos A.C., México
Centro de Información en Sexualidad, México
Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Humanos Laborales A.C. (Ceprodelh A.C.), Yucatán
Centro Las Libres de Información en Salud Sexual A.C., Guanajuato
CLADEM-México, México
Coalition against Violence toward Women and Families on the Border, EE.UU.
Colectivo de Atención para la Salud Integral de la Familia A.C., México
Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de Derechos Humanos A.C., México
Comunicación, Intercambio y Desarrollo Humano en América Latina A.C. (CIDHAL), Morelos
Donne in Nero di Padova, Italia
ELIGE, Red de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, México
Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia, A.C., México
Equipo Pueblo A.C., México
Fundación Mexicana para la Planificación Familiar A.C., México
Fundación Salma Hayek, EE.UU.
Grupo Compañeros A.C., México
Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida A.C., México

Grupo Ocho de Marzo de Chihuahua A.C., Chihuahua
Hermanas Siervas de los Pobres, Delegación Santa María de Guadalupe, México
Hombres por la Equidad, Centro de Intervención con Hombres e Investigación sobre Género y Masculinidades A.C., México
Human Rights Watch, EE.UU.
Iniciativa Global para la Equidad, la Justicia y la Ecología, México
Instituto de Liderazgo Simone de Beauvoir A.C., México
IPAS México, México
Justicia para Nuestras Hijas, A.C., Chihuahua
Latin America Working Group (LAWG), EE.UU.
Liga Mexicana por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos en México A.C., México
Marcha Mundial de las Mujeres en México, México
Movimiento Ciudadano por la Democracia A.C., México
Mujeres para el Diálogo, México
Mujeres Unidas: Olympia de Gouges, A.C., Baja California Norte
Núcleo de Estudios Técnicos Analíticos, México
Nuestra Voz, EE.UU.
Nuestras Hijas de Regreso a Casa, Chihuahua
Red Democracia y Sexualidad A.C., México
Red Mujer Siglo XXI, México
Red Nacional Católica de Jóvenes por el Derechos a Decidir, México
Red Nacional Contra la Violencia hacia las Mujeres y los Hombres Jóvenes, México
Red Nacional Género y Economía, México
Red por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos en México, México
Salud Integral para la Mujer A.C., México
Salud Misericordia y Vida para los Enfermos de SIDA A.C., México
Semillas, Sociedad Mexicana Pro Derechos de la Mujer, A.C., México
Servicios Humanitarios en Salud Sexual y Reproductiva, A.C., Yucatán
Sociedad Internacional de Valores del Arte Mexicano A.C. (SIVAM), México
Unidad de Atención Sicológica, Sexológica y Educativa para el Crecimiento Personal A.C. (UNASSE A.C.), Yucatán
V-Day, EE.UU.
Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), EE.UU.
Women in Black International Committee for Justice in Juárez and Chihuahua, EE.UU.
Women in Black, Lancaster Pennsylvania, EE.UU.
Women in Black-Santa Fe, EE.UU.