





Breaking the Silence: Results and Impact of the IVAWS COSTA RICA

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY

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- › 1990, Congress passed the Real Equality Law
 - › 1990, Creation of the Women's Delegation
 - › 1995, Congress ratified "The Belém do Pará Convention"
 - › 1995, Congress passed the Law Against Sexual Harrassment
 - › 1996, Congress passed the Law Against Domestic Violence
 - › 1997, approval of a national policy to deal with family violence
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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY

- › 1997, Creation of the National System to Prevent and Confront Family Violence
- › 2000, Submission to Congress of the Bill to Criminalize Violence Against Women
- › 2001, Congress ratified CEDAW's Facultative Protocol
- › 2001, Congress passed the Responsible Paternity Law
- › 2007, Congress passed the Law to criminalize violence against women



Some data on violence against women

Comparison Chart 2005

| | Total |
|---|-------|
| Calls to the hotlines: | 65148 |
| Petitions for protection measures (restraining orders): | 43929 |
| Persons receiving services at the Women's Delegation: | 5406 |
| Penal cases for sexual violence: | 1885 |
| Penal cases for domestic violence: | 1362 |

Some data on violence against women

Costa Rica: Femicides. 1998-2003


| | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| No. | 21 | 31 | 31 | 17 | 26 | 25 |
| Rate/ 100.000 w | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.2 |

67% of women murdered in the country have been killed by a partner, expartner, boyfriend, relative or an "interested man"

- Only 8% of the men are murdered for reasons associated with domestic or sexual violence

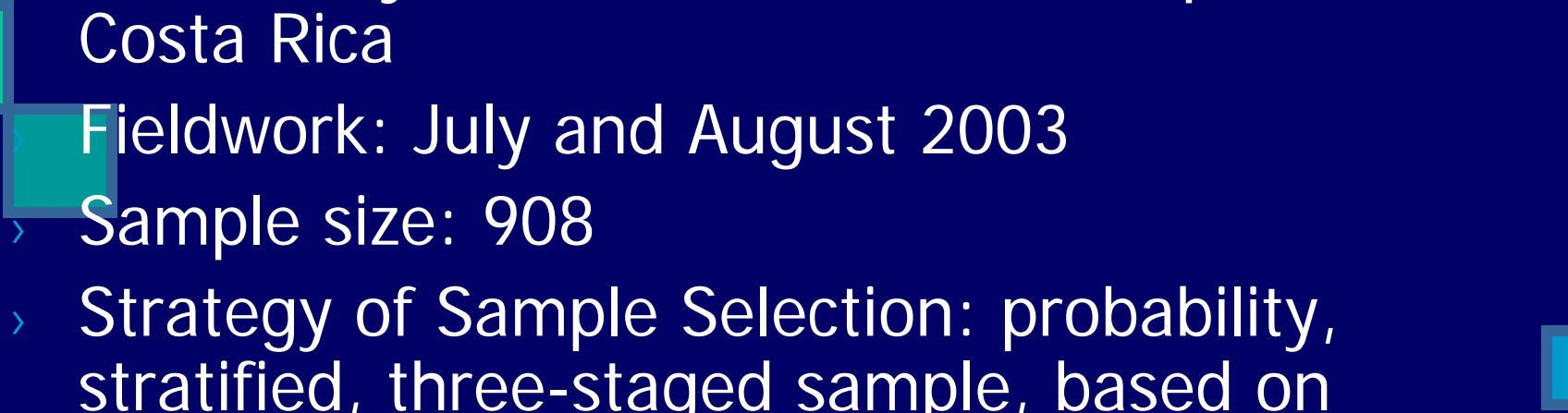


Some data on violence against women

- › If women's deaths caused by domestic or sexual violence were eradicated, women's homicide rate would decline at least 58%
 - › If men's deaths caused by domestic and sexual violence were eradicated, men's homicide rates would only decline 10%
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IVAWS Methodology

- › The survey was carried out in the 7 provinces of Costa Rica
 - › Fieldwork: July and August 2003
 - › Sample size: 908
 - › Strategy of Sample Selection: probability, stratified, three-staged sample, based on national census segments (sample was designed by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos)
 - › Sample was stratified by geographical region and socio-economic level
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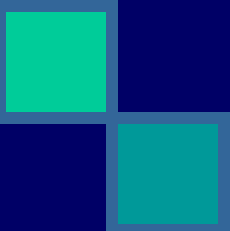



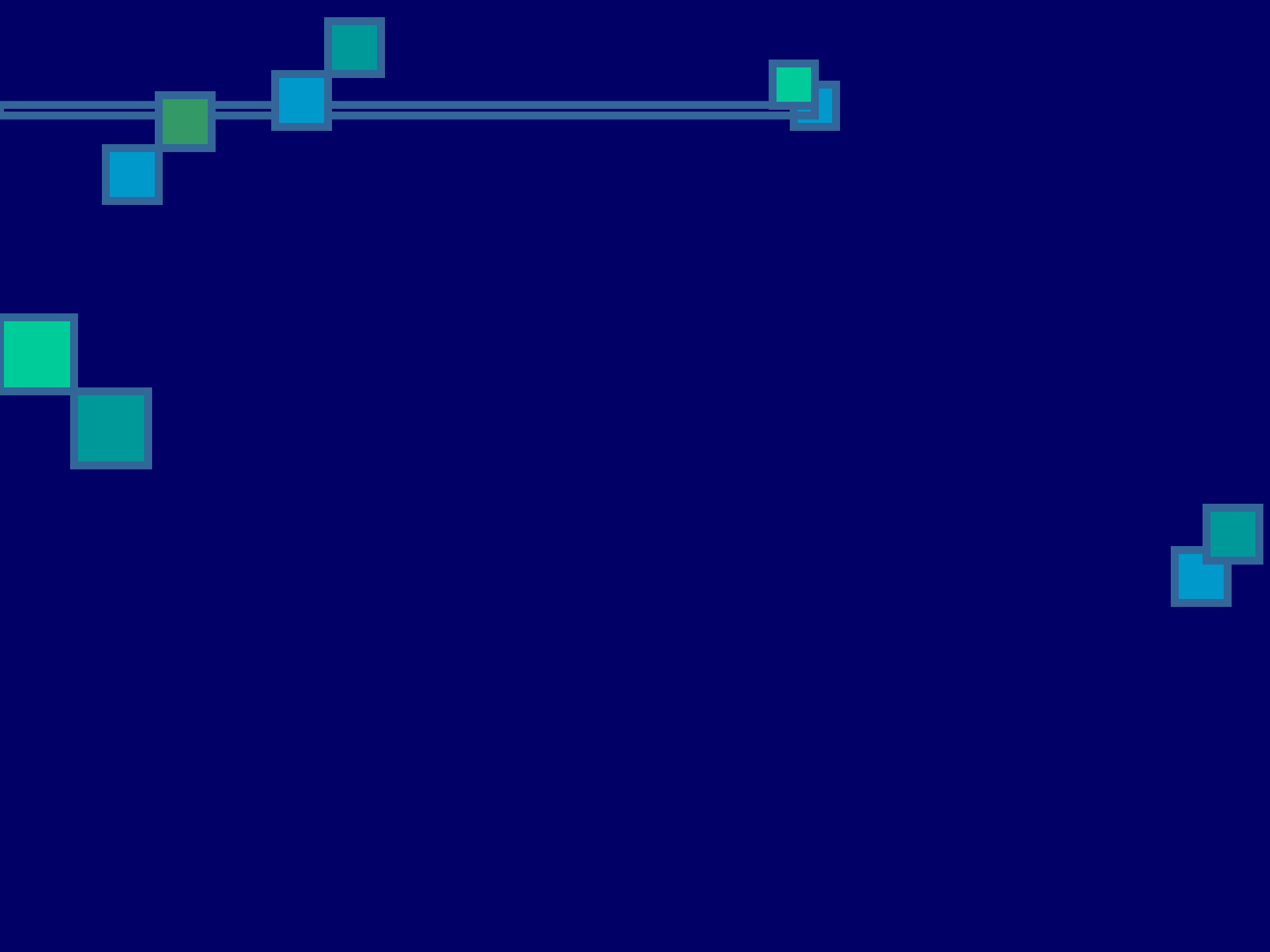
Methodology

- › Distribution of segments by areas: urban 51.1%, rural 48.9%
 - › Confidence level: 95%
 - › Method of interviewing: face-to face
 - › Response rate relative to eligible contacts: 58%
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Partnership

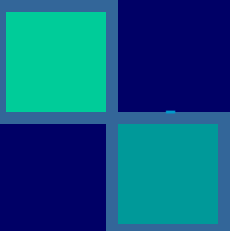
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- › Universidad de Costa Rica
 - › University of Western Ontario,
Canada
 - › Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres
 - › Instituto Nacional de Estadística y
Censos
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Overall Violence

- › The incidence of violence was found to vary based on certain socio-demographic characteristics:



- Women on the reproductive age (25-49) reported higher levels of sexual and physical violence (62% and above)

- Women with higher educational levels reported higher levels of violence (secondary education 64,4% and university education 63,1%)

- Women who are direct income recipients reported higher levels of violence (61.1%)

- Women belonging to evangelical and pentecostal religious denominations reported higher levels of violence (68.1%)

- 69,9% of the women who had experienced violence during childhood also experienced violence as adults



Women who reported the incident by perpetrator
according to achievements in the process

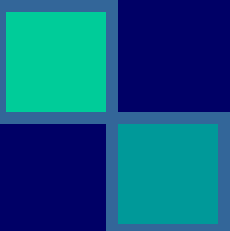
2003

(valores absolutos)


| | Total | Reported | Charges were brought against him | Charges lead to a conviction |
|------------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Abused by partners | 300 | 49 | 5 | 2 |
| Abused by non-partners | 348 | 36 | 12 | 6 |



IVAWS Usages and Impact

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- › Extensive media coverage
 - Main newspapers, radio and tv
 - Press release by the Ministry of Health

“Ministerio de Salud Promueve Acciones Integrales para Enfrentar Problemática de violencia Intrafamiliar en el País”
(Ministry of Health promotes comprehensive actions to face family violence in the country)



- › Editorial in the Journal *Acta Médica* signed by the Minister of Health (2007) (Official journal National Board of Medicine)

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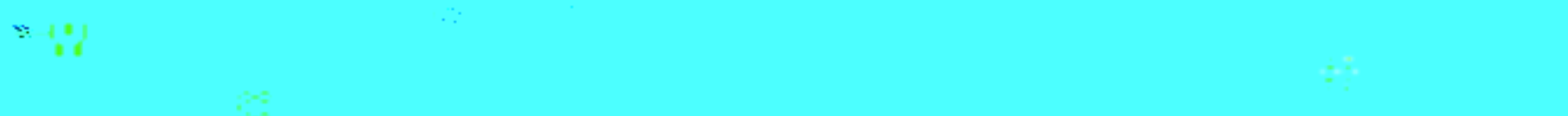
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navinuales

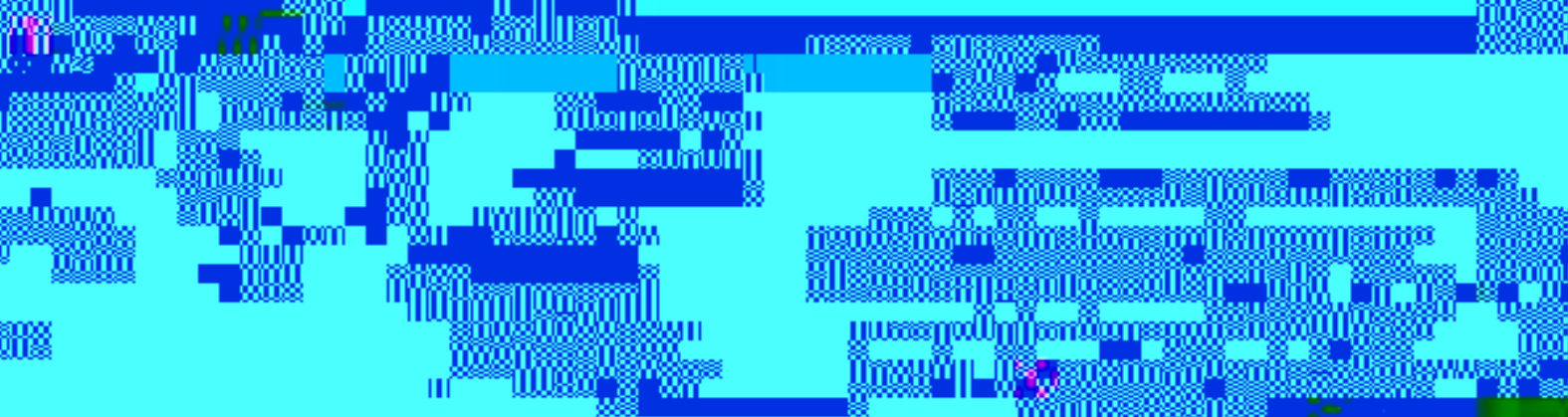
la navidad de todos

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