

# "SE VA A CAER PORQUE LO VAMOS A TUMBAR": PROCESOS INSTITUCIONALES Y NO INSTITUCIONALES DE PREVENCIÓN, ATENCIÓN, DENUNCIA Y SANCIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA BASADA EN GÉNERO EN ENTORNOS UNIVERSITARIOS EN COLOMBIA

"IT'S GOING TO FALL BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO KNOCK IT DOWN":

INSTITUTIONAL AND NON-INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES FOR THE PREVENTION, CARE, REPORTING, AND PUNISHMENT OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTS IN COLOMBIA

## GOALS

Due to the high prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) on university campuses in Colombia and a prominent history of ineffective existing policies, this research proposal aims to disrupt the silence on sexual violence by promoting intersectionality and inclusivity and by seeking to understand the disproportionate impacts that race, class, and gender cause students to experience in university environments.



## METHODS AND IMPACT

Using four universities in Bogotá, Colombia as their sample population, the research team will conduct a thorough qualitative analysis to better understand GBV and to systematically improve existing protocols at the university and state level. Participants will mainly be women, members of the LGBTQ+ population, and gender non-conformists, as these groups are particularly vulnerable to GBV. With the four steps below, the researchers will generate a critical and working knowledge of GBV at the university level and make informed recommendations to transform the institutional and non-institutional processes of GBV.

This will include improving the mechanisms of Prevention, Care, Reporting, and Punishment to ensure intersectionality and inclusivity. This project will also focus on sending recommendations to the Ministry of Education, pushing for legislative initiatives on GBV, requiring the collection of disaggregated data according to gender and sexuality, and other transformative GBV recommendations.

**01** Identify prevalent forms of GBV in each university campus through ethnographic research and thorough review of past research

**03** Build the memory of intervention policies through interviews, focus groups, social mapping, and memory workshops

**02** Analyze the design and implementation of existing protocols in each university through interviews and focus group discussions

**04** Define and analyze the functions and tensions between institutional and noninstitutional justice

## RESEARCH TEAM

Coordinating this project is Espacialidades Feministas, a diverse and interdisciplinary group of women and LGBTQ academics, professionals, and activists, who have an extensive history of developing safe spaces and intervention programs to ensure a safer, more inclusive learning environment that is free of GBV on college campuses.

Their past work resonates deeply with the goals of this current research proposal, as they plan to use their years of experience, coupled with the acquired data from feminist university groups, to generate a critical, relevant, and working proposition to prevent GBV and to investigate the processes of Prevention, Care, Reporting, and Punishment (Spanish acronym: PADS).



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# DIAGNÓSTICO Y MEJORAMIENTO DE LAS ACCIONES EMPRENDIDAS POR LA UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA BENITO JUÁREZ DE OAXACA (UABJO) PARA PROMOVER LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LAS ESTUDIANTES EN LA PREVENCIÓN Y ERRADICACIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA HACIA LAS MUJERES

A STUDY OF THE ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE BENITO JUÁREZ AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF OAXACA IN ORDER TO IMPROVE AND PROMOTE STUDENTS' INITIATIVES TO PREVENT AND ERADICATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

## RESEARCH TEAM

**PI:** Dr. Fabiola Bailón Vásquez is a UABJO professor and feminist historian who specializes in women's history, including the history of domestic work, prostitution and other forms of violence against women in Mexico. She helped prepare the UABJO's current "Protocol for the prevention and eradication of discrimination, violence against women and sexual harassment."

**Co-researcher:** Dr. Charlyne Curiel is a UABJO professor and social anthropologist from Tijuana, MX, who is interested in the femicide epidemic in Mexico and violence and discrimination against women in the university setting and teaches courses on feminist and gender anthropology to undergraduate and graduate students.

**Co-researcher:** Dr. Holly Worthen is a UABJO professor and feminist geographer who specializes in gender and development, focusing specifically on the gendered construction of indigeneity through processes such as migration and state initiatives to promote women's rights.



## GOALS

This project has two main goals:

1. To analyze the creation and implementation of policies designed to prevent and address gender-based violence (GBV) at the UABJO in order to evaluate their limitations and impact upon students.
2. To explore the way that students have been generating their own strategies to confront GBV and strengthen their capacity to engage with prevention measures.

## METHODS AND IMPACT

UABJO researchers propose three stages to carry out the assessment of the university's current policies on violence against women and explore how students engage with them:

- 01** Identify and evaluate the current measures UABJO has been developing since 2017 to address, prevent or eradicate GBV. Includes reviewing and reconstructing the context of UABJO measures generated in the last five years through the revision of documents and case studies, as well as interviews with key university authorities.
- 02** Conduct interviews and focus groups with UABJO students to discern the strategies they have used to confront GBV on campus and identify recommendations regarding GBV prevention measures at the university.

- 03** In collaboration with a local women's rights organization, train a group of 35 students in practices to generate and implement other GBV prevention measures with the university community.

This research project will provide a clear picture of any problems with current and previous UABJO policies addressing GBV on campus, and will create recommendations on how to start addressing them. The UABJO students trained through the program will be well equipped with tools to implement the GBV prevention methods and strategies, and their actions will benefit the entire UABJO community.

UABJO



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# ERADICATING CAMPUS-BASED VIOLENCE IN POST-SOVIET KYRGYZSTAN: INCLUSIVE RESEARCH, POLICY AND ACTION

## GOALS

Historically, Kyrgyzstan has largely been under-researched, allowing decades of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to arise without proper intervention or prevention services and institutional responses. Stemming from this lack of scholarly, professional, and institutional intervention on the increasing rates of SGBV on college campuses, this research proposal aims to generate a contextualized, inclusive, and empirically-based understanding of SGBV in university settings. In turn, this will allow the researchers to make informed, corrective decisions on the existing institutional policies regarding sexual violence. This will be the first comprehensive study to systematically review campus-based SGBV, explore university preparedness, and investigate the institutional frameworks governing these policies in Kyrgyzstan.

## METHODS AND IMPACT

This project will integrate qualitative, quantitative, and textual analysis methods to produce a critical and accurate assessment of existing SGBV policies. This will include using stratified sampling to construct a sample of approximately 1,000 students from the American University of Central Asia (AUCA). Each strata will be defined by gender, age, class year, major, international/local status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, rural/urban background and more.

The project includes five main research methods:

**01** A campus-wide survey to estimate the prevalence of SGBV in AUCA and to investigate students' perspectives on and awareness of university resources for survivors

**02** 8 focus group discussions to build student narratives about SGBV in AUCA and to identify shared and individual experiences

**03** 20 individual in-depth interviews with selected faculty members to identify how they deal with SGBV and to understand potential trainings programs

**04** 10–20 individual semi-structured interviews with key university actors whose work directly encompasses how SGBV is addressed at the university

**05** Analysis of institutional documents to understand AUCA's policy framework and to identify potential inconsistencies and inefficiencies in their services

The researchers seek to contribute to the eradication of campus sexual violence by enhancing the AUCA's knowledge and capacity to provide effective care for those affected by SGBV. The researchers will develop, promote, and introduce policy modifications, anti-SGBV programs, preventative training modules for bystanders, students, faculty and staff, and introduce plans for systematic awareness of SGBV in and outside of the university. The proposal aims to challenge the dominant power structures that perpetuate a culture of violence and to build intra-university institutional alliances to effectively advocate for more comprehensive, combative, and sustainable measures to intervene and prevent SGBV in the future.



## RESEARCH TEAM

**PI:** Dr. Elena Kim has an interdisciplinary background in psychology, gender studies, and international development with a particular focus on gender-based violence in Central Asia. She has over ten years of experience leading research grants and recently commenced and authored AUCA's first Human Subject Review (IRB) policy.

**Co-PI:** Dr. Elena Molchanova is a current Professor of Psychology at AUCA with extensive training in psychiatry and psychology. She is an internationally renowned scholar focusing on survivors of sexual violence, who initiated the development of the AUCA's Anti-Harassment Policy and served in its first committee.

**Co-PI:** Dr. Elena Kosterina is a current Professor of Psychology at AUCA well known for her research on the consequences of GBV among women and on Benevolent Sexism. Her research has focused on connections between gendered violence and health symptoms. She currently serves as the acting Chair of the AUCA IRB.

