

IMAGES Country Study Documentation

Mexico

2011

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KEY OBJECTIVES

The Men and Gender Equality Policy Project (MGEPP) is a multi-year, multi-country effort to gather evidence and raise awareness among policymakers and program planners of the need to involve men in gendered ways as part of health and development agendas. A key component of the project has been the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES), one of the most comprehensive efforts of its kind to gather household survey data on men's attitudes and practices—along with women's opinions about and experiences of men's practices—on a wide variety of topics related to gender equality.

IMAGES is a comprehensive household questionnaire on men's attitudes and practices—along with women's opinions and reports of men's practices—on a wide variety of topics related to gender equality. From 2009 to 2010, household surveys were administered to more than 8,000 men and 3,500 women ages 18-59 in Brazil, Chile, Croatia, India, Mexico and Rwanda.

1 KEY OBJECTIVES

Topics in the questionnaire included: gender-based violence; health and health related practices; household division of labor; men's participation in caregiving and as fathers; men's and women's attitudes about gender and gender related policies; transactional sex; men's reports of criminal behavior; and quality of life. This report focuses on the initial, comparative analysis of results from the men's questionnaires across the six countries, with women's reports on key variables.

The overall goal of IMAGES is to build understanding of men's practices and attitudes related to gender equality in order to inform, drive and monitor policy development to promote gender equality by engaging men and women in such policies. IMAGES seeks to assess the current practices and attitudes of men on a range of issues related to gender equality.

2 DATA COLLECTION

MAGES followed standard procedures for carrying out representative household surveys in each participating city in Mexico. The survey was carried out in one or more urban settings in each country with men and women ages 18-59, guided by the following parameters:

- The men's questionnaire has approximately 250 items and took from 45 minutes to an hour to apply; the questionnaire for women is slightly shorter and took from 35 minutes to an hour to administer. The survey instruments were pretested in the participating countries and the study protocol was approved by ICRW's institutional review board (IRB) and by in-country IRBs, when such existed.

2

DATA COLLECTION

- The survey instrument was designed to be relevant for adult men and women in stable, co-habituating relationships as well as those not in a stable relationship; women and men who define themselves as heterosexual as well as men and women of different sexual orientations and practices; and women and men who have children in the household (biological or otherwise) and those who do not. Stratified random sampling and probability proportion to size (PPS) sampling methods were used within each neighborhood or community to ensure the inclusion of adequate sample sizes by age and residence.

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SAMPLE SIZE AND LOCATION

In IMAGES in Mexico, the study population is aged 18 to 59 years for both men and women. Only ever married women were interviewed. The survey was conducted in Monterrey (one of Mexico's three major metropolitan areas), Queretaro and Xalapa (two intermediate-sized cities). The design of the sample through Primary Sampling Units was contracted to the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI). The sample design was designed to produce survey results generalizable to the population of the three cities. The design used a stratified cluster methodology, where the last unit of selection is a housing unit that contains at least one eligible respondent aged 18 to 59.

Researchers were able to interview 1001 men and 383 women, according to the distribution described below, comparing the data with the estimate was for each city and town.

3

SAMPLE SIZE AND LOCATION

The sampling frame used is INEGI's National Housing Framework 2002, which draws on the geographic and demographic information obtained by the 2000 Census of Population and Housing.

“Primary Sampling Units” were identified in designing the IMAGES sampling frame, from which were selected housing units based on other INEGI survey samples. The primary sampling units consist of groups of dwellings, and in the case of localities over 100,000 inhabitants, the size of a PSU ranges from 80 to 160 inhabited households. A PSU can comprise the following characteristics:

- a block or “manzana”,
- the union of two or more contiguous blocks of the same BGA (Basic Geo statistics Area),
- the union of two or more contiguous blocks of different census tracts in the same locality, or
- the union of two or more contiguous blocks of different locations but the same size of locality

4

RESPONSE RATE

High levels of violence in the research sites appear to be associated with high levels of non-response that occurred when trying to conduct interviews. Given a high incidence of violence related to drug trafficking in the country, it is understandable that many people allude to a fear of abduction, fraud and extortion in refusing to participate in the survey.

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WEIGHTING PROCEDURE

No additional information available in this section.

6

MISSINGNESS ASSESSMENT

IMAGES was carried out as a city-based, random household survey. The findings presented here are representative of individual cities where the survey was carried out and not of the country as a whole. Throughout this report, city data are aggregated in order to present overall percentages for each country, but the initial results presented here are, strictly speaking, only representative of their city or neighborhood settings. Other limitations to IMAGES include the length of time it took for an individual to respond to the entire questionnaire, which led to fatigue on the part of interviewers and respondents in some contexts, as well as the challenge of getting middle-class households to respond in most settings.

6

MISSINGNESS ASSESSMENT

The fact that female interviewers carried out interviews with men in some cases in Mexico may have also produced some biases in the case of data from Mexico. Other factors also likely contributed to refusal rates or may have biased results, particularly ongoing urban violence in the cases of Brazil and Mexico. Interviewers in research sites in those two countries noted high levels of tension and reluctance on the part of respondents to allow interviewers to enter their homes. Interviewers suspect that the ongoing violence in both settings may have biased some of men's reports on the use of different forms of violence.

Although all participating countries included questions on all the themes that make up IMAGES, the questionnaire is not identical in all countries, thus data is not available from every country for every question.

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QUALITY CONTROL

Double-back translation of the questionnaire was carried out to ensure comparability and consistency of questions across settings. Some country-specific questions were included; some countries excluded items due to local political or cultural considerations.

The questionnaire in Mexico was an interviewer-administered paper questionnaire.

Standard procedures were followed for ensuring anonymity and confidentiality.

- All research sites followed standard WHO practices for carrying out research on intimate partner violence in terms of offering referrals and information for services and special training of interviewers. Following these guidelines, men and women were not interviewed from the same household in any of the research sites.

7

QUALITY CONTROL

- More sensitive questions were asked later in the questionnaire, and some key variables were included in multiple questions (to compare and thus be more informed in affirming validity). The questionnaire was pre-tested in all the settings prior to application.
- In all settings, male interviewers interviewed male respondents and female interviews interviewed female respondents, with the exception of Mexico, where some interviews with men were carried out by female interviewers (but only women interviewed women).
- Survey locations were chosen to represent different contexts in each country to achieve a mixture of major urban areas and a secondary city or cities. Within a survey location, neighborhoods or blocks were chosen based on population distributions from the most recent census data.

8

INTERVIEWER TRAINING

Interviews in Mexico followed standard WHO practices for carrying out research on intimate partner violence in terms of offering referrals and information for services and special training of interviewers.

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DATA COLLECTION PARTNER

Instituto Promundo is a Brazilian-based, non-governmental organization with offices in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Washington, DC, USA, that work in collaboration to promote caring, non-violent and equitable masculinities and gender relations in Brazil and internationally.

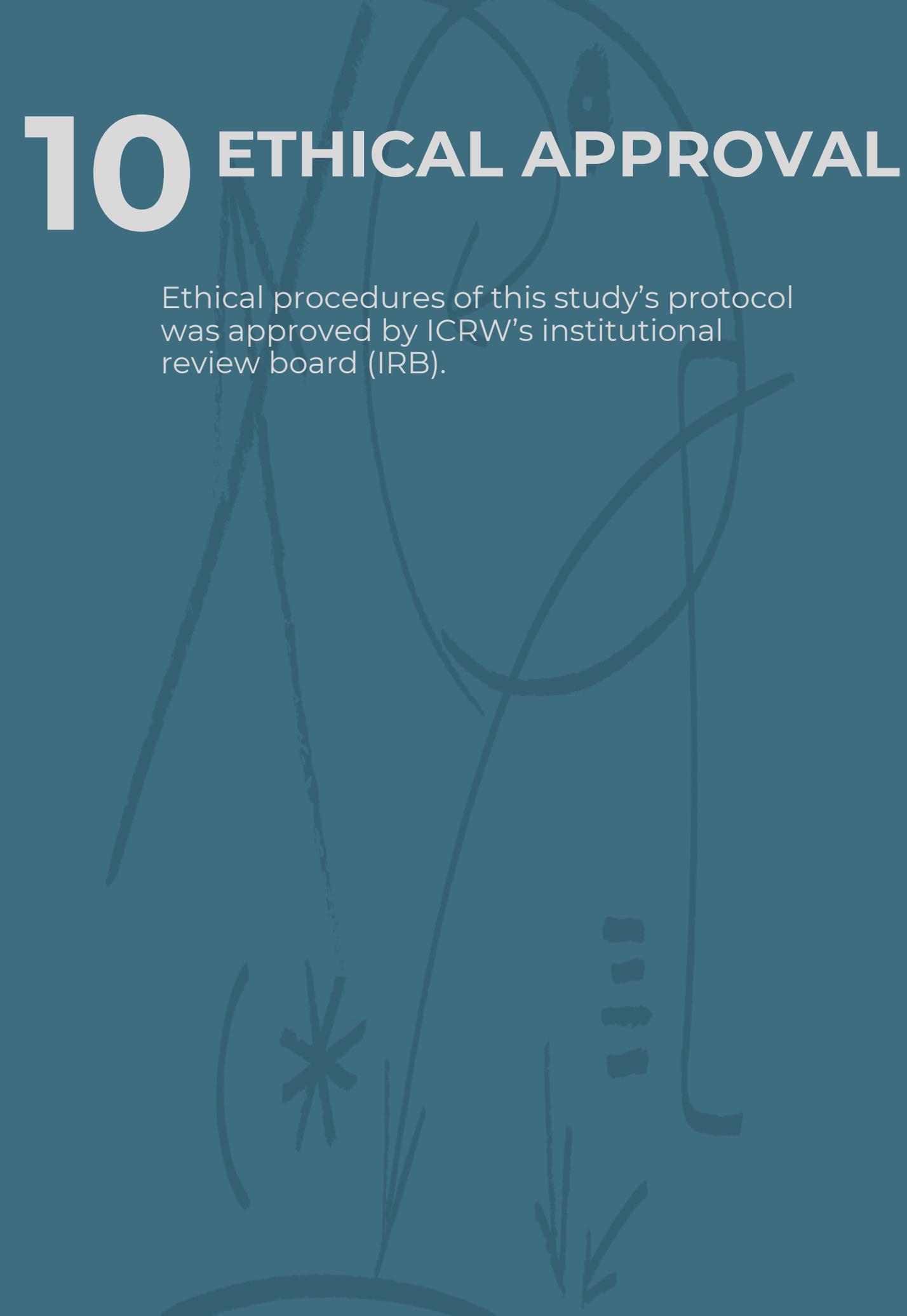
The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is a global research institute with headquarters in Washington, D.C., and regional offices in New Delhi, India and Kampala, Uganda. Our research evidence identifies women's contributions as well as the obstacles that prevent them from being economically strong and able to fully participate in society. ICRW translates these insights into a path of action that honors women's human rights, ensures gender equality and creates the conditions in which all women can thrive.

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DATA COLLECTION PARTNER

El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico, D.F
El Colegio de México, A.C. is a prestigious Mexican institute of higher education, specializing in teaching and research in social sciences and humanities. This Institution received the Prince of Asturias Award for Social Sciences in 2001. The College of Mexico is a public institution, of a university nature, dedicated to research and higher education in social sciences and humanities, and is one of the most prominent in the Hispanic world, which has received numerous awards since its founding in 1940 to the present. To fulfill its purposes, the College of Mexico carries out research and teaching in the areas of specialty of the Centers of Studies that comprise it: Historical, Linguistic and Literary, International, Asian and African, Economic, Urban and Environmental Demographics, and Sociological, in addition to the Gender Studies Program. It offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees by specialty, as well as specialization and summer course.

10 ETHICAL APPROVAL

The background features a light blue, sketchy illustration of a person's face and hands. The face is the central focus, with simple lines for the eyes, nose, and mouth. The hands are positioned near the face, with fingers slightly spread. The overall style is minimalist and artistic, using dark blue lines on a lighter blue background.

Ethical procedures of this study's protocol was approved by ICRW's institutional review board (IRB).

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NOTES ON STUDY

This report focuses on men's attitudes and practices related to relationship dynamics, parenting and caregiving, health-related practices and vulnerabilities, violence (intimate partner violence and other forms), transactional sex and attitudes toward existing gender equality policies.

This report focuses on descriptive statistics and bi-variate analyses of the associations between educational levels, economic or work-related stress, gender related attitudes, and age and these practices. In all cases where statistically significant differences are reported, these are at the $p < .05$ level as assessed using the Pearson's chi-square test. IMAGES is not a longitudinal study; nonetheless, by comparing responses stratified by age groups we can make some inferences about generational change.

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NOTES ON STUDY

Overall, IMAGES results affirm that gender equality should be promoted as a gain for women and men. Change seems to be happening as younger men and men with higher levels of education show more gender-equitable attitudes and practices. Men who report more gender-equitable attitudes are more likely to be happy, to talk to their partners and to have better sex lives. Women who report that their partners participate in daily care work report higher levels of relationship and sexual satisfaction. Findings suggest that most men in most of the survey sites accept gender equality in the abstract even if they are not yet living it in their daily practices.

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NOTES ON STUDY

For this four-country IMAGES MENA study, a year-long consultation, starting in 2015, was conducted with research partners in the region, as well as with civil society, UN Women staff in each of the countries, and government counterparts. A review of existing research and surveys on context-specific issues related to masculinities and gender equality in the MENA region complemented this process; these are referenced in the country chapters and in an accompanying overview of existing research. This four-country consultative and review process led to the adaptation of existing survey questions and the creation of new, region-specific modules on:

- Gendered laws and policies in the MENA region;
- Women in public life
- Gender-based violence in public spaces (also referred to as sexual harassment/assault in public spaces);
- Honour and honour killing;
- Men and marriage;
- Men and migration;
- Female circumcision/FGM

The background is a solid teal color with several dark blue, hand-drawn style lines. These lines are abstract and somewhat chaotic, with some forming large loops and others being straight or slightly curved. The lines vary in thickness and have a slightly textured, chalk-like appearance.

IMAGES

International
Men and Gender
Equality Survey