

Family violence that happens to people with disabilities in Mexico



About us

HUMAN
RIGHTS
WATCH

We are called Human Rights Watch.



We work to make sure that everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their rights.

About this report



This report is about people with disabilities in Mexico.



It is about when their families are violent to them or treat them badly.



We looked at what was happening to people with disabilities in different parts of Mexico.

We spoke to many people.

This includes:

- People with different kinds of disabilities
- People from the government
- People who support the rights of people with disabilities



Violence is a big problem in Mexico.
This includes violence in the family.



Many people do not tell the police about violence and other crimes.



There is not much information about violence against people with disabilities.

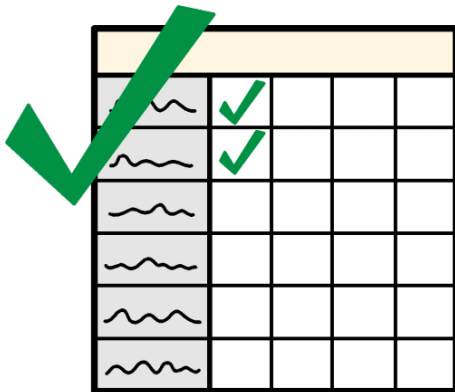
And no one really talks about it.

We want to change this.



This report looks at:

- Violence and other bad things that can happen to people with disabilities in the family



- What we want the government in Mexico to do next

This means all governments in Mexico.

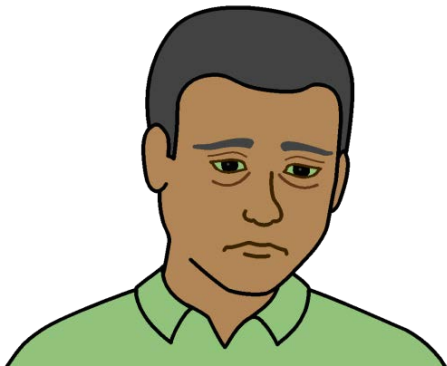
What is happening to people with disabilities in Mexico?



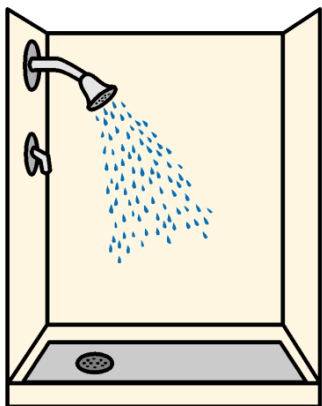
Some families in Mexico may treat people with disabilities in the family very badly.

For example, families may sometimes:

- Lock people with disabilities up in rooms
- Hit or hurt people with disabilities
- Say they will hit or hurt them
- Say or do mean things to them
- Make decisions for them without asking them first

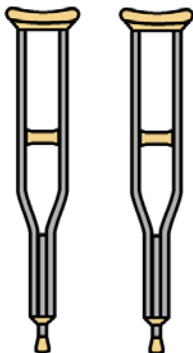


Families may leave people with disabilities without the care they need.

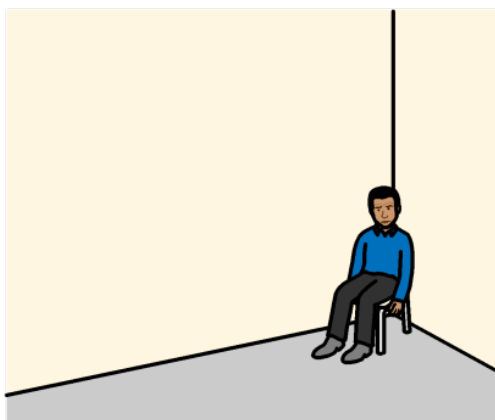


Some people with disabilities told us that their families:

- Do not help them wash very often



- Do not buy things that can help them move around



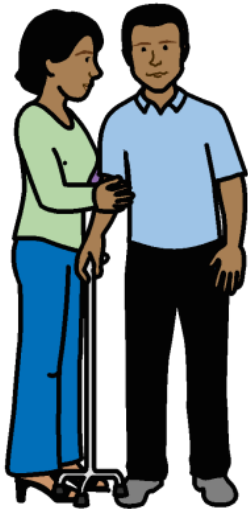
- Do not help them go out and meet people



The government has not done much to stop this problem.

For example:

The government has not made plans to help people with disabilities live on their own in the community.



There is not much support for people with disabilities to live on their own.

For example, there are not enough staff to support people with disabilities.

Staff are people who are paid to support people with disabilities.



Some laws say that families must support people with disabilities even if they don't want to.



The government pays some money to support people with disabilities.

But sometimes the money goes to the family.

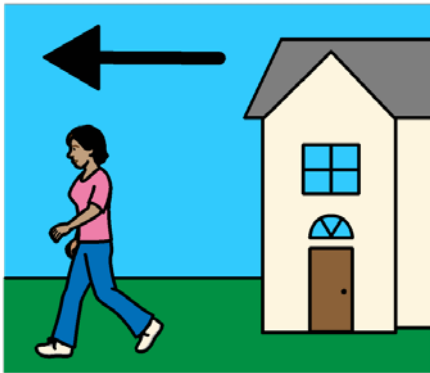
Not to people with disabilities.



Some people with disabilities get money from the government.

But the money is not enough for them to live on.

Many people with disabilities do not get any money from the government right now.



The government has not done much to stop violence in the family.

The government might move people with disabilities away from their families instead.



They might move people with disabilities to homes for people with disabilities.

Or to live with someone else in the family.



Many people with disabilities do not get the right support if someone is violent to them.

For example, the police and courts might not know how to support them.

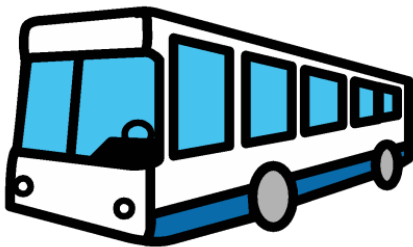


There are safe places for women to go if someone has been violent to them.

But the places are often hard for people with disabilities to use.

And they might not let women with mental health conditions in.

It is also hard for people with disabilities to live without their families because:



- Many things in Mexico are hard for people with disabilities to use, like transport and health services



- Many people with disabilities do not have a job



- Many houses are hard for people with disabilities to live in

And they cost too much.



This means that many people with disabilities have to stay at home with their families to get support.

They have no choice even if their families treat them badly.

What should be happening



There is an important document about the rights of people with disabilities in the world.

The government in Mexico has promised to do what it says.

This means the government in Mexico should be making sure that:

- People with disabilities are safe from violence and are treated fairly
- People with disabilities can choose where to live and who to live with
- People with disabilities get the right support to do this



What we want the government in Mexico to do next



Make it safe and easy for all people with disabilities to get help if someone has hurt them or treated them badly.



Help the police and other organizations to know when family violence might be happening to people with disabilities. And what to do about it.



Make sure that all people with disabilities can stay in safe places if someone has been violent to them.



Give people with disabilities information they can understand about:

- Violence in the family
- Where to get support



Change laws that say that families must look after people with disabilities.

Laws should say that people with disabilities can:

- Choose how to live and who to live with



- Live in the community with support if they need it



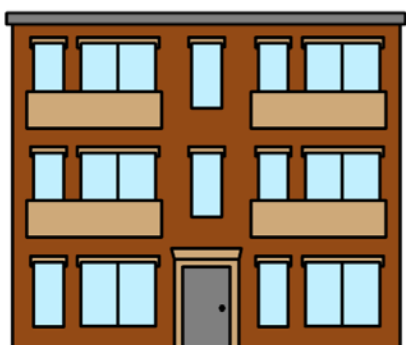
People with disabilities should not be forced to live with their families or in homes for people with disabilities.



Make sure there is better support for people with disabilities in the community.

For example:

- Have more staff to support people with disabilities to live on their own



- Have better housing for people with disabilities



- Make transport, health care and other services easier for people with disabilities to use



Work with people with disabilities on new laws and plans about violence.

Make sure there is better information about violence against people with disabilities.