

RESOURCES: Why the Effort by Congress to force Cities to Merge Immigration and Criminal Enforcement will Make our Communities less Safe and push Immigrant Victims further into the Shadows.

Surveys the National Latin@ Network has conducted with Partners:

“Realidades: A National Survey on the Impact of Immigration and Language Access on Latina Survivor” by the National Latin@ Network and the National Domestic Violence Hotline

In a survey conducted in 2015 by our organization and the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 45% of foreign born Latinas interviewed reported they were afraid to call the police or go to court because they feared they would be deported or affect their residency status. This is an increase of 5% from the same survey conducted in 2012. The study shows that whether or not a victim chooses to report an abuse highly depends on their trust of the police.

2012: http://www.nationallatinonetwork.org/images/files/NLNRealidades_Latinas_The_Impact_of_Immigration_and_Language_Access_FINAL.pdf

2015: http://www.nationallatinonetwork.org/images/files/HotlineReport_2_2015_Final.pdf

The **No Mas** study, another study recently conducted by the National Latin@ Network, reiterates that fear of deportation is the number ONE reason why Latin@s believe Latin@s are afraid to report abuse to the police. You can find an overview of the study here: <http://nomore.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/NO-MAS-STUDY-Embargoed-Until-4.21.15.pdf>

Other useful resources:

“Latinas’ Perceptions of Law Enforcement: Fear or Deportation, Crime Reporting and Trust in the System” by David K. Androff, David Becerra, Jill Theresa Messing, and Allison Ward-Lasher

This study found that undocumented immigrant victims of domestic violence rates of reporting decrease as collaboration between police and ICE increases. They additionally concluded that Latin@s in general are more likely to report crime if local governments meet their need. Here is a link to the abstract: <http://aff.sagepub.com/content/early/2015/03/20/0886109915576520.abstract>.

“Barriers to Health Care for Abused Latina and Asian Immigrant Women” by Heidi M. Bauer, Yvette G Flores-Ortiz, Michael A. Rodrigues, and Seline Szkupinski Quiroga

The researchers in this study conducted interviews with 14 Latina immigrants and 14 Asian immigrant and found that fear of deportation was a concern expressed by undocumented women and those whose status depended on their partners. The study also focuses on the reluctance to seek medical attention by immigrant victims of domestic violence out of fear that they will be deported. You can find the abstract here: <http://vaw.sagepub.com/content/8/3/367.abstract>

“Violence Against Latinas: The Effects of Undocumented Status on Rates of Victimization and Help Seeking” by Carlos A. Cueva, Chiara Sabina, and Elizabeth Zadkin

Similar to the other articles, this study concludes that fear of deportation is one of the main reasons undocumented women do not report their victimization. The study examines a sample size of 1,377 and finds similar rates of domestic violence among immigrant women with legal status and undocumented women but concluded women with legal status are twice as likely to report than undocumented women. Additionally, of the almost 100 undocumented women interviewed, none of them sought medical attention because of their immigration status. You can find an abstract here:

<http://jiv.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/12/23/0886260514564062.abstract>