UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE NUEVO LEON

FACULTAD DE TRABAJO SOCIAL



LOS FACTORES EN LA DECISION DE LA MUJER MEXICANA DE ABANDONAR O QUEDARSE CON SU PAREJA EN UNA RELACION DE MALTRATO

TESIS

QUE PARA OPTAR POR EL TITULO DE DOCTOR EN FILOSOFIA

CON ESPECIALIDAD EN TRABAJO SOCIAL Y POLITICAS COMPARADAS DE BIENESTAR SOCIAL

PRESENTA
WILMA CAROLINA GONZALEZ RIOS

JULIO 2004



UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DE NUEVO LEON

FACULTAD DE TRABAJO SOCIAL



LOS FACTORES EN LA DECISION DE LA MUJER MEXICANA DE ABANDONAR O QUEDARSE CON SU PAREJA EN UNA RELACION DE MALTRATO

TESIS

QUE PARA OPTAR POR EL TITULO DE DOCTOR EN FILOSOFIA

CON ESPECIALIDAD EN TRABAJO SOCIAL
Y POLITICAS COMPARADAS DE
BIENESTAR SOCIAL

PRESENTA
WILMA CAROLINA GONZALEZ RIOS

TD 77 . C6 FTS, 2001. 106



UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

DISERTATION COMMITTEE

Debra Woody, PhD.

Guillermo Zúñiga, PhD.

Peter Lehmann, PhD.

Luis Rosado, PhD.

Rene Landero, PhD.

FACTORS IN THE DECISION OF MEXICAN BATTERED WOMEN TO STAY OR LEAVE ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Dissertation defense

Wilma González June 24, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title	Page
Chapter I	1
Introduction	1
Nature of the problem	1
Magnitude of the problem	5
Prevalence: statistical findings concern	6
Battered women as a concept	9
Stating the question	9
Study Rationale	11
CHAPTER II	12
Theoretical Framework: Major theories	12
Major theories	12
Psychosocial theories	13
Cycle of Violence Theory	14
Self-esteem theory	14
Learned Helplessness Theory	15
Survivor Theory	17
Coping Theory	17
Social Learning Theory (SLT)	18
Intergenerational Theory	19
Socio-political Theories	19
Patriarchal Theory	20
Feminist Theories	21
Domestic Violence Theory	22
Conceptualization of Battered women's stay/leave decision	23
Quantitative research about women's stay/leave decision	25

The type of the abuse	25
Psychosocial factors	26
Studies in coping strategies	27
Qualitative and quantitative research in the decision-making process to leave an	ıbusive
Coping resources in the process of leaving	33
Housing	34
Limited resources for economic independence	35
Social support	36
Disabled battered women resources	37
Legal system failure	39
Leaving unsafely	40
Collective action issue in the survival	41
Survival and successfully ended	41
Battered women advocacy policy	42
Research Question	44
Variables in the decision to stay or to leave an abusive relationship	44
Figure 1. Variables in the decision to stay or leave an abusive relationship	45
CHAPTER III	46
Method	46
Subjects	46
Setting of the study	46
Sampling method and sample size	47
Process of interview and criteria of inclusion and exclusion	48
Overall criteria of inclusion and exclusion in the seleccion of the sample	49
Materials and Procedures	51
Instruments	51
Study design	53
Data Collection	54
This code will be used to enter the data collected	54
Protection of human subject procedure	55

Operational definitions and measurements	56
Independents variables	56
Measures and Variables	56
Statistics and analysis	58
Bivariate analyses	58
Multivariate analyses	59
Limitations of the study	59
Chapter V	61
Description of the general survey measured components and scales validation strategy	61
Results for Current Study	65
Test of Normal Distribution on Major Variables	74
Bivariate Analysis	77
Multivariate analyses	82
Summary of Multiple Regression Analysis Predicting Stay/Leave Decision	90
Chapter VI	92
Discussion	92
Summary of Results and Explanations for Findings	92
Summary of Results	92
Explanations for Findings	94
Limitations	111
Recommendations	115
Future Directions	116
REFERENCES	118
APPENDIX – A – CONSENT FORMS	132
SAMPLING AND DATA COLLECTION CONSENT PROPOSAL	133
SUBJECT CONSENT FORM	135
APPENDIX – B – INSTRUMENTS	137