

Candies in Hell + 20

20 year of activism to
end violence against
women in Nicaragua

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The Global
Women's Institute

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

After he beat me, he would court me and buy me clothes, but my grandmother said to me,

“Child, what are you going to do with Candies in Hell?”

Ana Cristina, Candies in Hell, 1995

Leon, Nicaragua





Candies in Hell 1995

- 1st prevalence study on VAWG in Central America
- 488 women interviewed in Leon, Nicaragua

1 out of 2 women experienced physical or sexual abuse by an intimate partner

1 out of 4 experienced violence in the last year

Candies in hell

Research and action on
domestic violence against
women in Nicaragua

Mary Carroll Ellsberg



Confites en el infierno

Prevalencia y características
de la violencia conyugal
hacia las mujeres en Nicaragua

Mary Ellsberg
Rodolfo Peña
Andrés Herrera
Jerker Liljestrand
Anna Winkvist



2ª Edición

Nº 25 Marzo 1996

Boletina

"No quiero confites
en el infierno..."



■ En Esteli:
Mujeres taxistas
al volante

■ En Waslala:
No es lo mismo estar juntas
que ser "revueltas"

Los acuerdos
de Beijing

Un aporte de Puntos de Encuentro a la comunidad



CARTA ABIERTA

a los Diputados y Diputadas de la Asamblea Nacional:

Por este medio, solicito que la Asamblea Nacional priorice la discusión y aprobación, durante el presente periodo legislativo, del Anteproyecto de Reformas al Código Penal para la Prevención y Sanción de la Violencia Intrafamiliar presentado por la Red de Mujeres contra la Violencia. Considero urgente aprobar este proyecto de ley porque:

- ♥ Una de cada dos mujeres ha sido maltratada físicamente alguna vez por el hombre con quien convive.
- ♥ Una de cada cuatro está siendo maltratada actualmente.
- ♥ Son miles de niñas y niños que también son víctimas de violencia a manos de las personas con quienes conviven.
- ♥ Las hijas e hijos de mujeres maltratadas sufren hasta 5 veces más problemas emocionales, de aprendizaje, de comportamiento y de abuso físico.
- ♥ Actualmente, sólo 2 de cada 10 mujeres maltratadas hacen denuncias a la Policía.
- ♥ Existe consenso entre amplios sectores de la población, y entre las expertas en materia penal y de salud, sobre la importancia de sancionar la violencia psicológica y no sólo las lesiones físicas.
- ♥ Sólo con las medidas preventivas contempladas en el anteproyecto se puede fomentar que más víctimas denuncien las agresiones que sufren.
- ♥ La Red de Mujeres contra la Violencia ha recogido más de 100 casos de violencia intrafamiliar.
- ♥ La Red de Mujeres contra la Violencia ha recogido más de 100 casos de violencia intrafamiliar.

Por todas estas razones, solicito se aprueben las reformas al Código Penal lo más pronto posible.

ATENTAMENTE,

Blanca Estela Pérez
Nombre: *Blanca E. Pérez* Domicilio: *...*

Para expresar tu apoyo, firmá la carta, mézala en un sobre lo doblas y envíala por fax al 228-3039, o por correo electrónico a la Asamblea Nacional. También puedes enviarla por correo postal a la Red de Mujeres contra la Violencia: de Plaza España.

Texto y explicación de la **Ley N° 230:**

Reformas y Adiciones al Código Penal para prevenir y sancionar la violencia intrafamiliar

Managua, Nicaragua Noviembre 2, 2005



Candies in Hell +20

20 year follow-up study in Leon, Nicaragua, using same methods and sampling frame



1400 women aged 14-64 were interviewed about experiences of different forms of violence in their lifetimes and last 12 months using WHO instrument



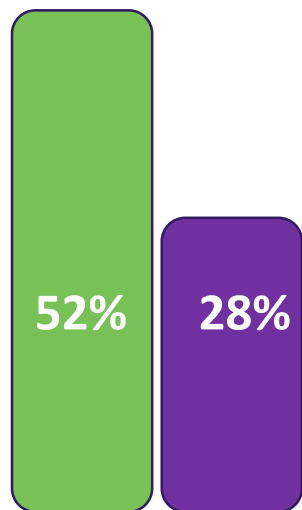
Qualitative
interviews with
community men
and women,
service
providers,
government
officials and
women's rights
activists



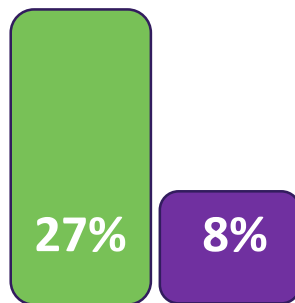
Results

IPV was reduced by nearly half in 20 years

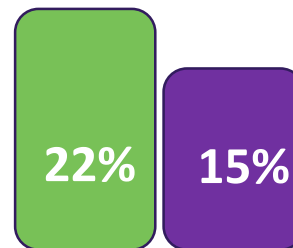
1995
2016



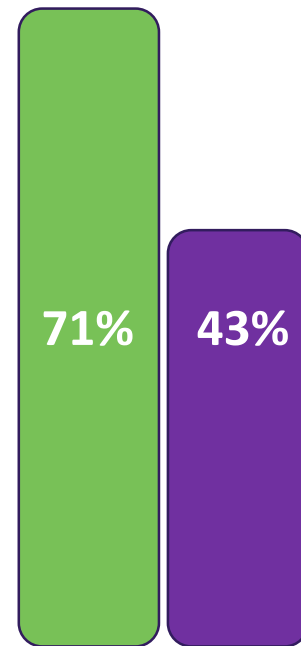
Lifetime physical violence



12 months physical violence



Lifetime sexual violence

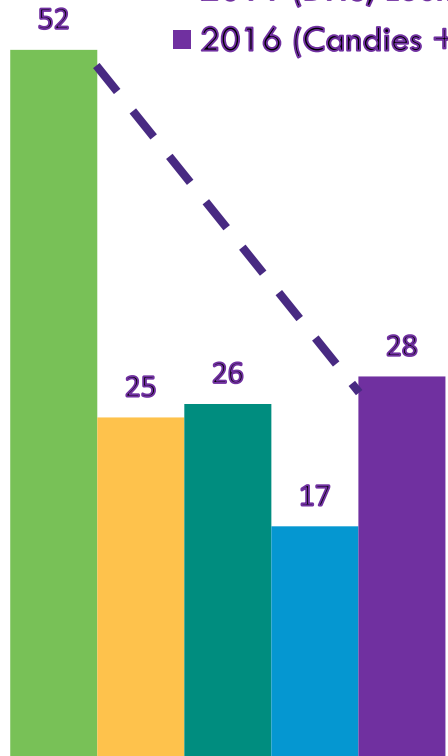


Lifetime emotional violence

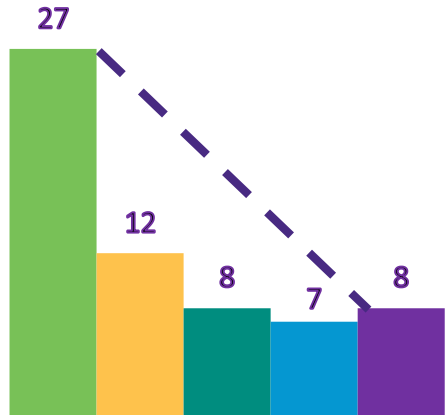
- 1995 (Candies in Hell)
- 1998 (DHS, Leon)
- 2006 (DHS, Leon)
- 2011 (DHS, Leon)
- 2016 (Candies + 20)

But it is still unacceptably high and much higher than official numbers

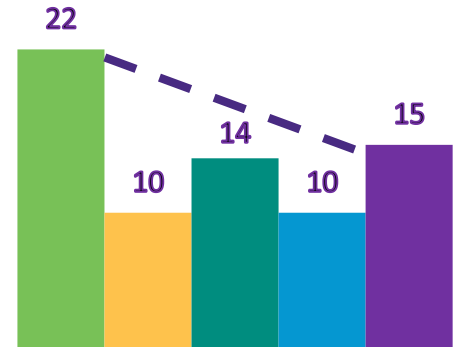
Under-reporting is due to methodological and ethical issues, including privacy, training of fieldworkers



Ever physical violence

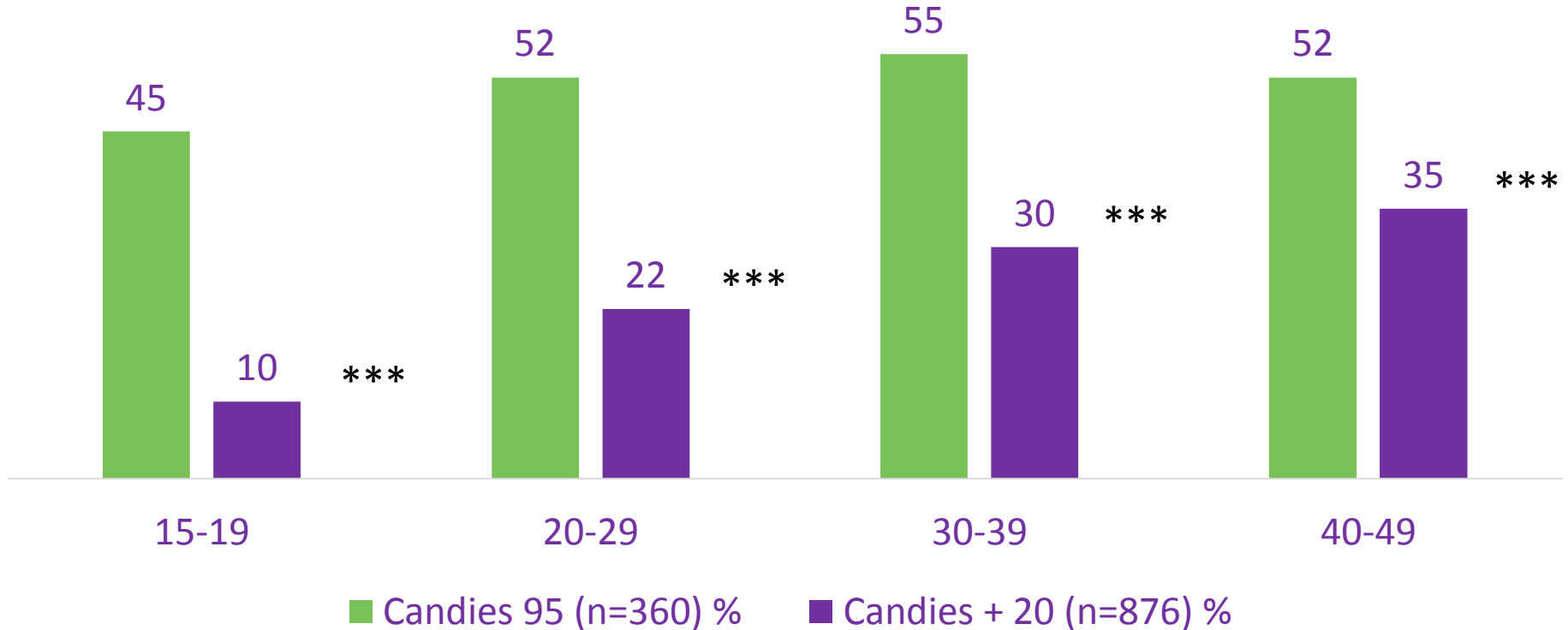


12 months physical violence

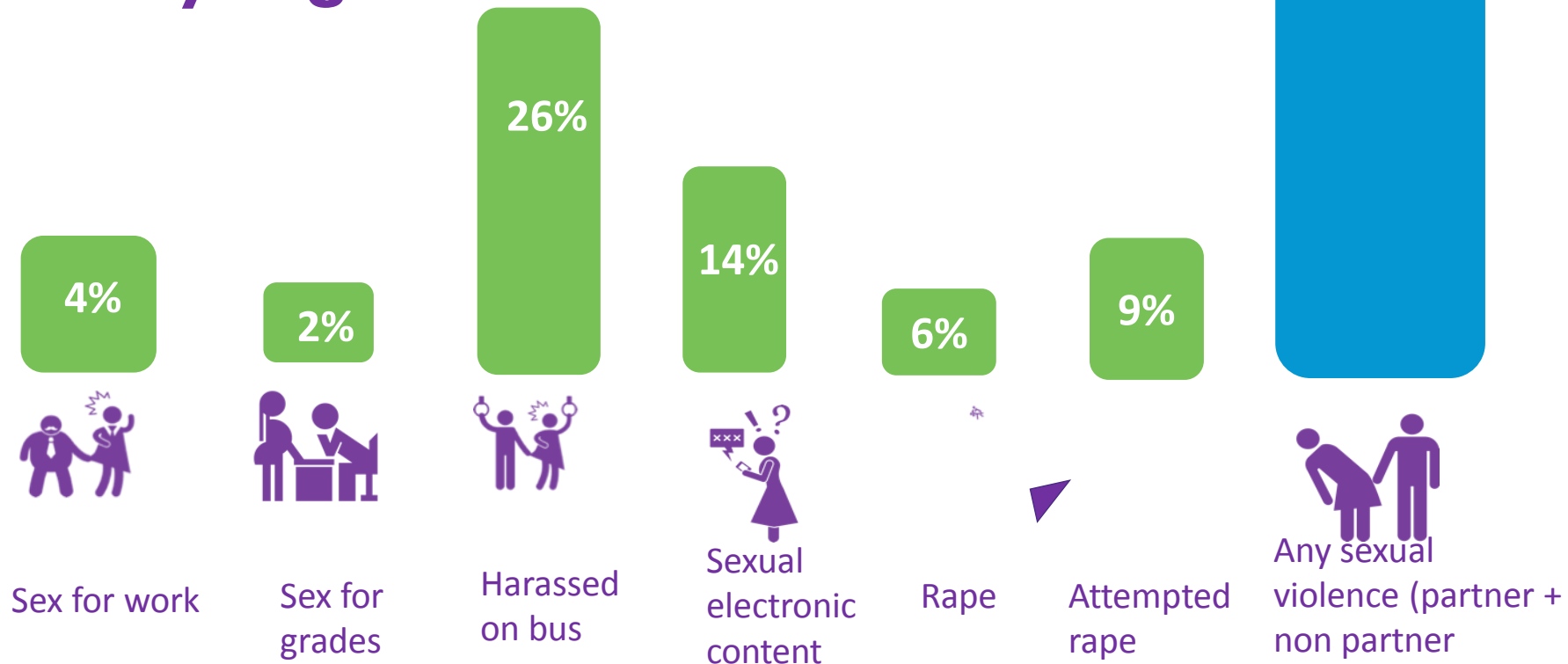


ever sexual violence

Lifetime prevalence of IPV has decreased particularly among younger women

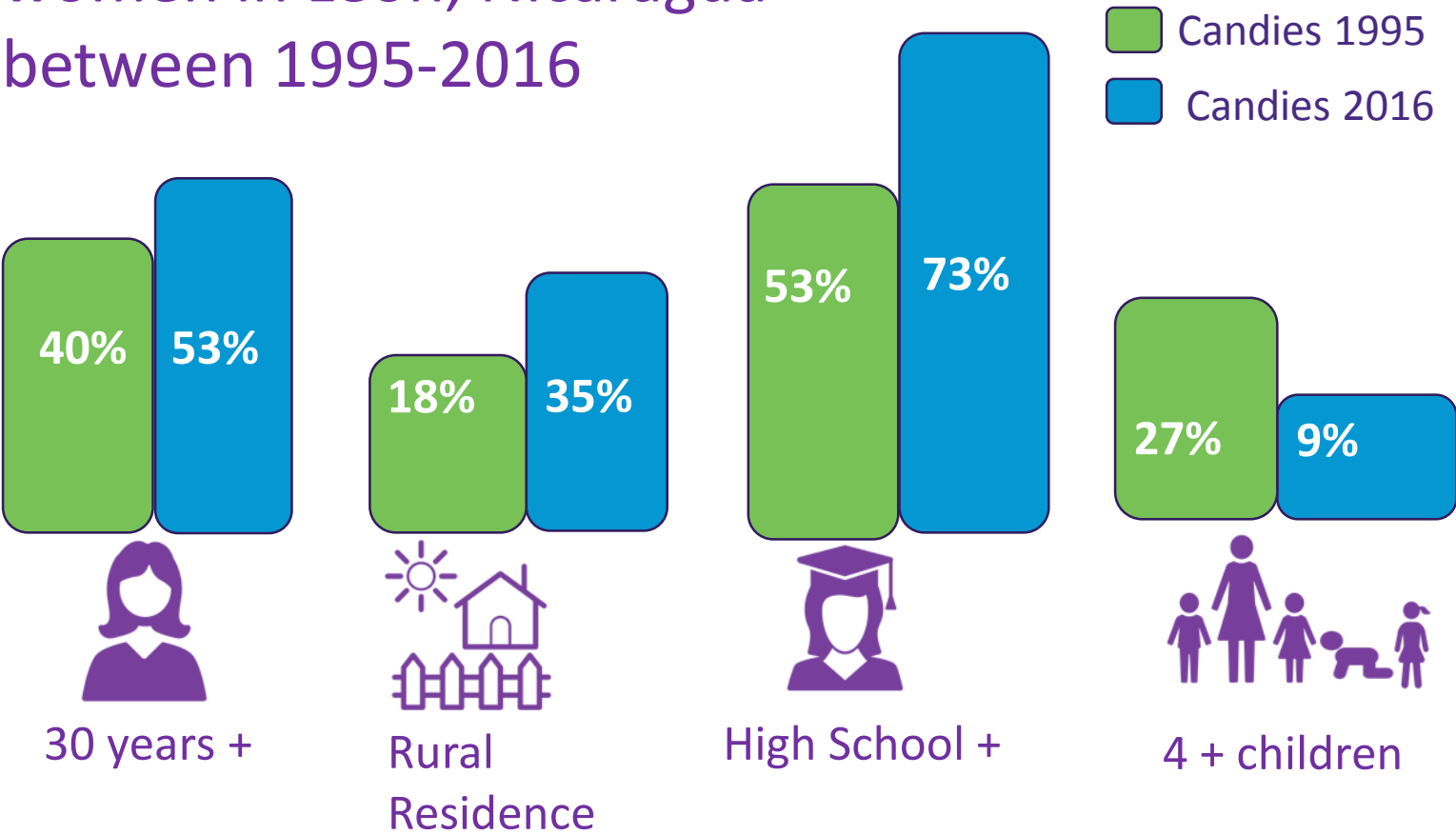


Sexual violence remains very high



Why did violence decrease in
Leon?

Demographic changes among women in Leon, Nicaragua between 1995-2016



>30 
years
old

Risk of physical
partner violence



2 X

Disabled



Early
marriage



Partner beaten as
a child



Sexual abuse
in childhood



Urban
residence



Not Married



partner
uses
alcohol

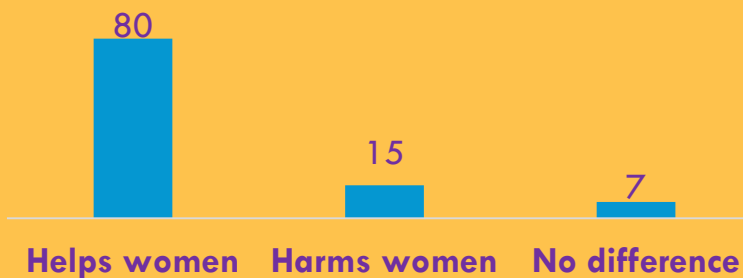
4 X

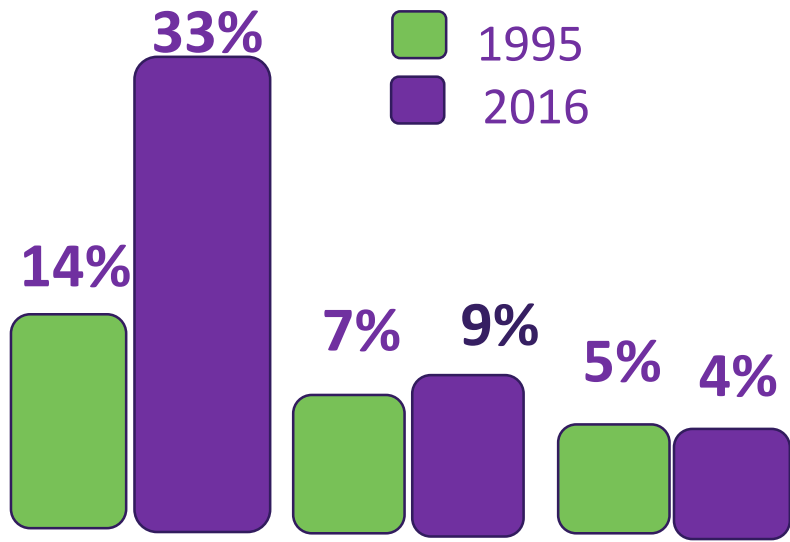
Adjusted odds ratios in
multivariate logistic regression,
controlling for education

What do women know about Law 779?



Does Law 779 help or hurt women?





Courts
Police



Hospital
Health Center



Women's
House

1995



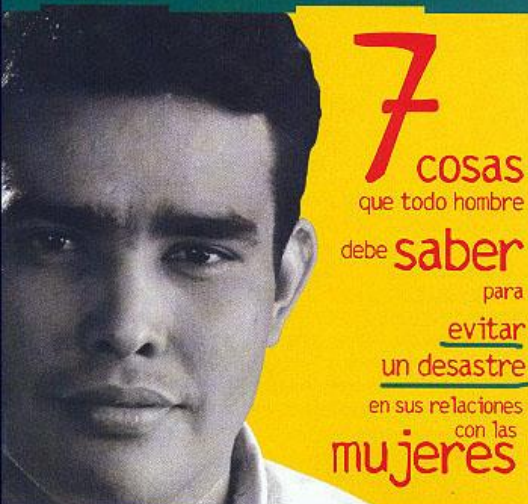
2016



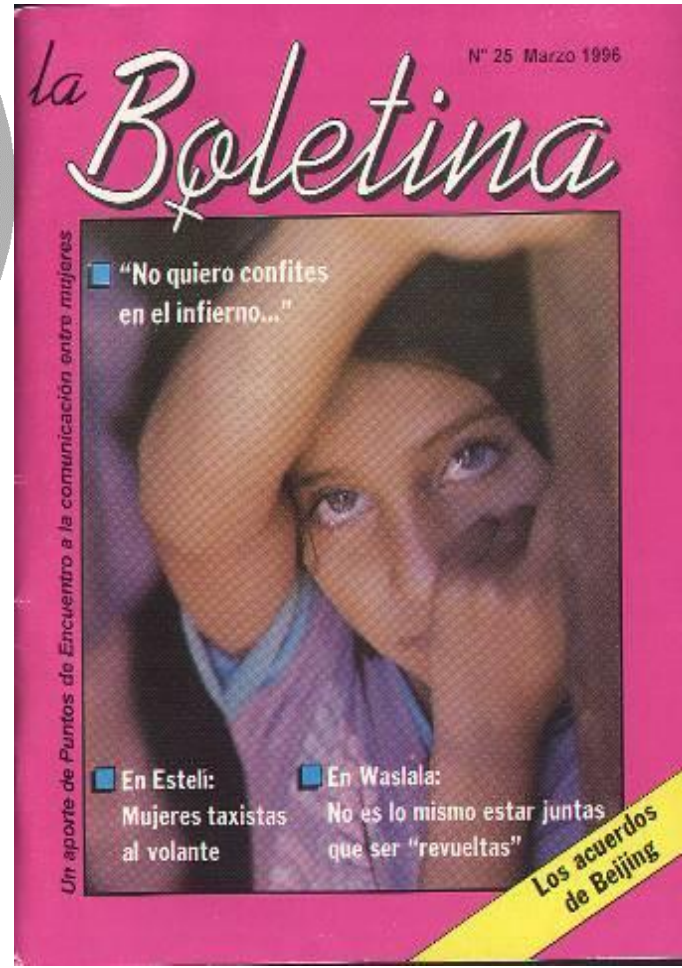
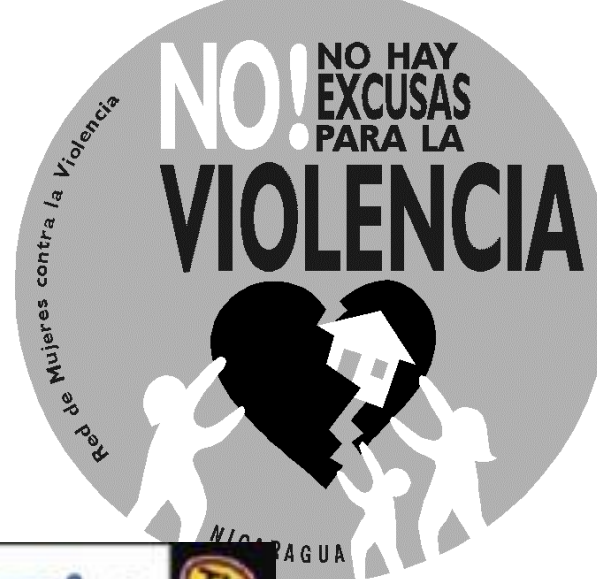
looked for help

Where do women
look for help?

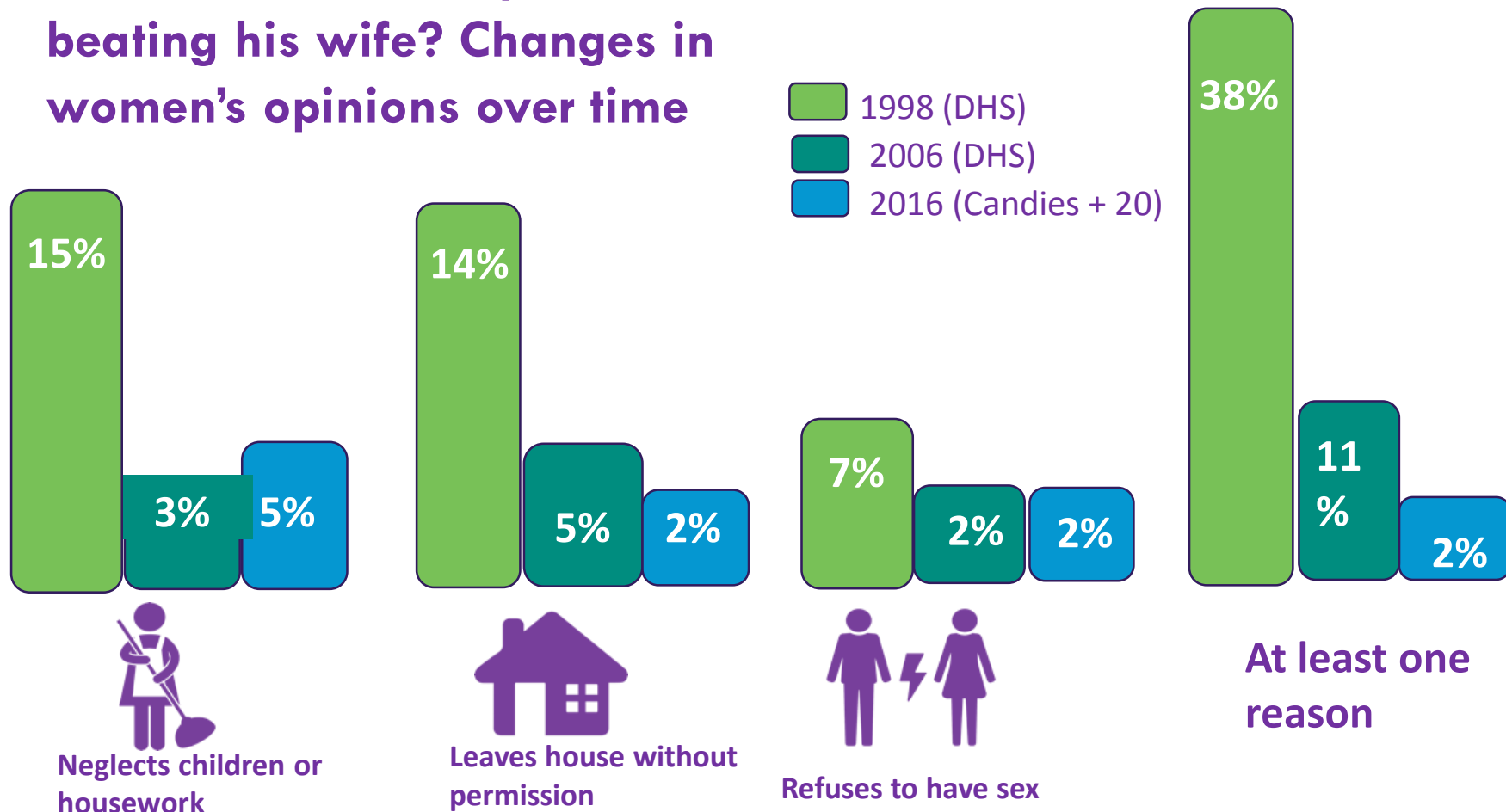
DE HOMBRE A HOMBRE



7 cosas
que todo hombre
debe **saber**
para
evitar
un desastre
en sus relaciones
con las
mujeres



When is a husband justified in beating his wife? Changes in women's opinions over time



1995

Everyone told me - he is the father of your children, you have to stay....

2016

My neighbor told me, “You know that men can’t lay a hand on a woman: that’s not allowed.”

Before, it was taboo, something you shouldn't talk about. Now people see it as something that shouldn't exist - there is more rejection of violence.

I think that women are more decisive, that they won't just stay in a relationship because it's their husband and they are going to stick with him til the end. That doesn't happen anymore.

Ana Cristina, 2016

This study found a 50% decrease in intimate partner violence in one generation.

Violence against women and girls can be prevented through a coordinated effort to increase women's access to justice, comprehensive services for survivors, and greater awareness of rights.





THANK YOU

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