

Criminalization of Abortion in Latin America from a Human Rights Perspective

Wednesday, October 31, 2012 · 9:30 – 11:00 AM
Georgetown University Law Center
McDonough Hall, Room 140
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW · Washington, DC 20001

Join reproductive rights experts from Latin America in a panel discussion on human rights and the criminalization of abortion in Argentina, Bolivia, and Brazil.

Katherine Romero
Senior Attorney, *Women's Link Worldwide*

Gillian Kane
Senior Policy Advisor, *Ipas*

Beatriz Galli
LAC policy associate, *Ipas*

Moderated by Oscar Cabrera
Director, *O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law*

Ipas

Founded in 1973, Ipas is a global nongovernmental organization dedicated to ending preventable deaths and disabilities from unsafe abortion. Through local, national and global partnerships, Ipas works to ensure that women can obtain safe, respectful and comprehensive abortion care, including counseling and contraception to prevent future unintended pregnancies. Ipas works with health-care systems and providers to increase their skills and capacity to deliver safe abortion services. Ipas works with nations' ministries of health to interpret laws governing abortion in the broadest terms possible and to write standards and guidelines for abortion care accordingly to ensure access for as many women as possible. Ipas educates health-care providers and administrators about the importance of providing safe abortion services as a matter of public health and human rights. Ipas works to bolster the number of available abortion providers by advocating for laws and policies that allow non-physician providers to perform abortion services and referrals; Ipas also works to train these non-physician provider groups, such as certified nurse midwives and community health volunteers, and to support their work within the communities they serve.

Women's Link Worldwide

Women's Link was founded in 2001. Women's Link Worldwide is an international human rights non-profit organization working to ensure that gender equality is a reality around the world. With this objective in mind, Women's Link strives to advance women's rights through the implementation of international human rights standards and strategic work with the courts, including strategic litigation. In order to close the gap between rights on paper and reality, Women's Link is convinced that it is necessary to work with judges, prosecutors and others, who work with the judicial branch, to ensure that in practice these rights are respected, protected and guaranteed. Women's Link believes that in considering the judicial system as a place where we can seek social change, the courts become avenues for the implementation of social justice. To bridge the gap which currently exists between the justice system and society, Women's Link works in alliance with groups dedicated to human rights and justice with the aim of incorporating gender and other variables into their analysis and legal projects.