

Write for Rights
Make a difference

3-17 December 2011

Inés Fernández Ortega and
Valentina Rosendo Cantú
Mexico



ACT NOW

Write to the President of Mexico:

■ Calling on the authorities to implement in full the binding judgement of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. This includes carrying out a prompt, full and impartial investigation, under ordinary jurisdiction, into the rape and torture of Inés Fernández Ortega and Valentina Rosendo Cantú in 2002, and guaranteeing adequate reparations and effective protection.

Send appeals to:

Lic. Felipe de Jesús Calderón Hinojosa
President of the Republic
Residencia Oficial de "Los Pinos"
Col. San Miguel Chapultepec
Mexico D.F., C.P. 11850
Mexico

Fax: + 52 5550 935321

Email:

felipe.calderon@presidencia.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear President

Montaña Tlachinollan A.C.

Calle Mina No 77

CP 41304 Tlapa

Guerrero

Mexico

Example message:

Queridas Inés y Valentina: Seguimos acompañándolas en la lucha por obtener verdad y justicia y para que estas violaciones a los derechos humanos no vuelvan a repetirse.

Send a message of solidarity:

Cards and letters can be sent in solidarity to Inés Fernández Ortega and Valentina Rosendo Cantú at the following address:

Dear Inés and Valentina, We continue to accompany you in the struggle for truth and justice and in order for these human rights violations not to be repeated again.

Inés Fernández Ortega y Valentina
Rosendo Cantú

c/o Centro de Derechos Humanos de la



Amnesty International
International Secretariat
Peter Benenson House
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW
United Kingdom

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English

www.amnesty.org/individuals-at-risk

ACT NOW FOR

Inés Fernández Ortega and Valentina Rosendo Cantú



Inés Fernández Ortega and Valentina Rosendo Cantú were raped by Mexican soldiers in 2002. Although they reported the attacks to the authorities and followed up their cases, no substantive investigation has taken place and no one has been brought to justice.

Inés Fernández was raped on 22 March 2002, when three soldiers entered her house while she was cooking with her children. She was pushed to the floor and raped by one soldier while the others watched. Valentina Rosendo, then aged 17, was washing clothes by a river when soldiers approached her. She was threatened, and raped by two of them.

Inés Fernández and Valentina Rosendo are Indigenous Me'phaa (Tlapaneca) women. Indigenous women in Mexico who are raped rarely file a complaint because of cultural, economic and social barriers. Inés Fernández and Valentina Rosendo have shown courage in reporting their ordeals and have followed up their cases in national and international courts.

Military investigators have tried to disprove the allegations, placing the burden of proof on the victims. Meanwhile, the women's cases have been inadequately dealt with by civilian institutions. The women and their families have since suffered intimidation. On 28 August 2010, Inés Fernández' daughter was accosted by two men who threatened the family with death if they remained in the area.

In August 2010, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued two judgements against Mexico and ordered a full investigation by civilian authorities, as well as reparations and reforms to the military justice system.

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