

The Representation of Femicide in Juárez, Mexico through Works of Literature and Culture

Silvia Arévalo

Advisor: Donaldo Urioste

CSUMB Spring 2017

Objective

- The main objective is to make known of the Femicide in Juarez, through works of literature, music and media works.
- Analyze each of the works of Literature and culture to express this tragedy.
- That my project inspires you so that you can share this topic with many who may not know this tragedy in history.
- I would like many people to be awakened by my project and want to see what happened at this moment in history that many of us did not realize.

Outline

- Research questions
- History
 - Define what is Femicide?
 - Define what are Maquiladoras and how they were an impact in the murders of many women.

Literature

- Author Alicia Gaspar de Alba
 - Desert Blood: The Juarez Murders
- Author Stella Pope Duarte
 - If I die in Juarez
- Bordertown (film)
- Music
 - Intocable and The Tigres Del Norte

Research questions

- What is Femicide?
- What are Maquiladoras?
- Why did this happen in Juarez and when did it start?
- How do different types of literature, film and music make a problem known?

What is Femicide?

- Femicide is a term of hate crime towards the female sex, the murder of women.
- Female & Homicide



Femicide

Every day, **6 women** in México are **killed**.



24% of the **3,892** femicides identified in 2012 and 2013 were investigated by authorities.

Only **1.6%** of reported cases of femicide led to **sentencing**.



Source: *Cálculos por el Derecho a Decidir* | www.cafolk.com/mexico.org



The femicide rate is **20 times** higher than the global average.



2007-2012, there were **1,909** cases of femicide a rate of **3.2 women for every 100,000**.

Source: *Amor Peligroso* | www.amorperigroso.com



In Ciudad Juárez, at least **1,530** women were violently killed from 1993-2014.

From 2005-2011, an estimated **1,997** were violently killed.

Source: *Vice News* | www.news.vice.com

mitú

What are Maquiladoras?/ History

- NAFTA (National American Free Trade Agreement) In 1994
- Women were needed to work in maquiladoras.
- Maquiladoras - A maquiladora in Mexico is a factory that operates under preferential tariff programs established and administered by the United States and Mexico.
- Assembling TV, Remote Controls, Clothes etc.
- Women went to their jobs by bus from their village to the maquiladoras.

History

- “According to The National Civic Observatory on Femicide, “At least 1700 have been killed since 2009.”
- Women were being killed and were thrown into the desert.
- Women Naked, raped, bloody, some burned, eaten by wild animals, tortured and cut up in pieces.
- Silence of Media, being afraid to report it, against the government and their country.
- Fear of Retaliation

Theories of who to blame for all these murders?

- Machistas
- Maquiladora workers, bus drivers
- Makers of Pornography, sold women as merchandise
- Border Patrol
- Drug Cartels & Narcos
- Human Trafficking

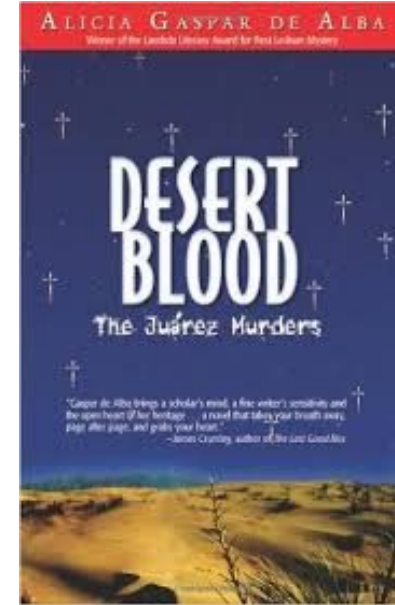
Alicia Gaspar de Alba

- She was born on July 29, 1958
- El Paso Texas fencing of the Juárez border
- Year 1983 received her Master's Degree
- Then her Doctorate in Philosophy in American Studies.
- UCLA- Professor of Chicana / o Studies
- Wife: Alma Lopez
- Earned many awards for her works of literature, organizes events as an activist.



Desert Blood : The Juarez Murders

- Fiction Novel
"Fictionalized account of true events"
(Gaspar de ALba)
- Fictional Characters
- Themes:
Corruption between Border Patrol Armed Forces
and local police.
- Gender Roles of Gender (Ivon)
- Silence/being afraid (community, law, victims
who have survived)



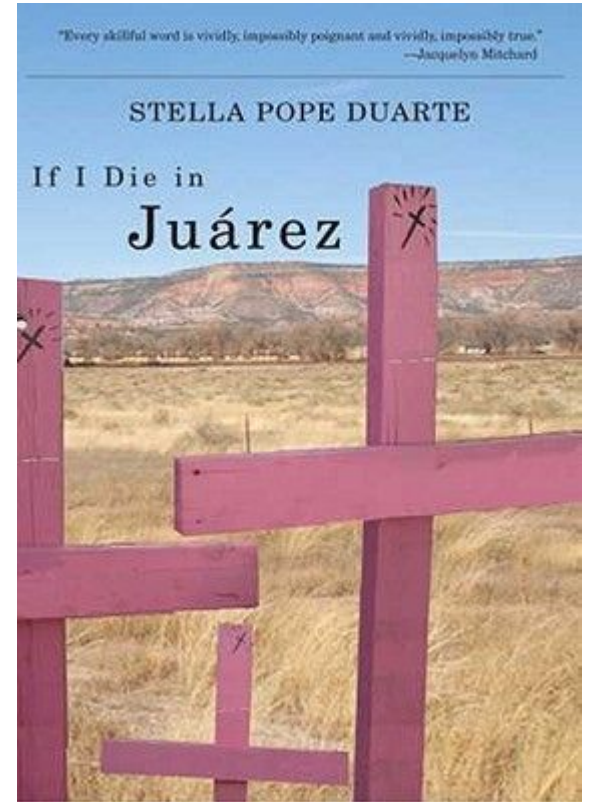
Stella Pope Duarte

- Latin American Author
- Born and Raised in Sonorita Barrio south of Phoenix, Arizona
- Her inspiration was a dream she had of her father who had passed away who told her “writing is where you are destined to be”
- BA. in Education
- Masters in counseling Education
- Also known as an Inspirational Speaker



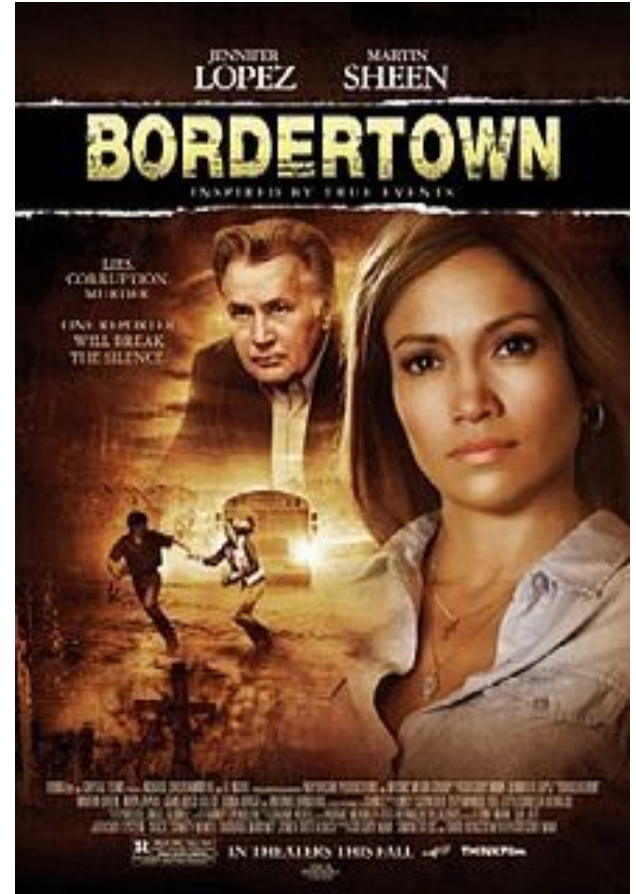
IF I Die in Juarez (2008)

- Fictional Representation of the Real life tragedy
- Time period 1995–1996
- Themes:
 - Corruption
 - Poverty
 - Violence
- Characters
 - Petra who works in a Maquiladora
 - Eva (evita)
 - Mayela an indian girl



Bordertown Film (2006)

- Director: Gregory Nava
- Actores:
 - Jennifer Lopez como Lauren
 - Antonio Banderas como Diaz
- Lauren Adrian (JLo), a Chicago reporter, travels to Mexico to investigate the unsolved murders of hundreds of Mexican women taking place over the years near an American-owned factory. Lauren reunites with Alfonso Diaz, her ex lover and colleague, who publicizes the murders despite threats from local authorities. Together the pair seek the truth and try to help the survivor (Maya Zapata) of a brutal attack find justice.



Musica:

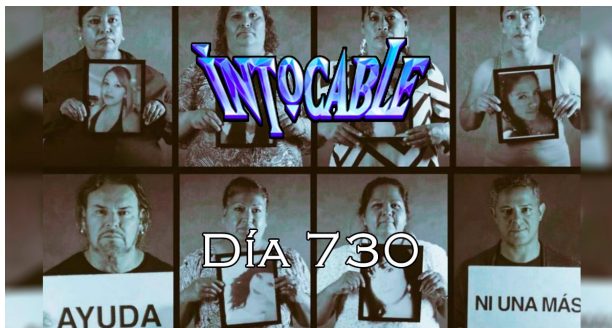


- Los Tigres Del Norte:
Mujeres De Juárez(2004)
 - Tells the story of a series of murders of hard working women working in a city of northern Mexico. This ballad calls for the basic resolvement by punishing the cowards.

Humillante y abusiva la intocable
impunidad
los huesos en el desierto
muestran la cruda
verdad.. las muertas de ciudad
juárez
son verguenza nacional...

Mujeres trabajadoras.. puestos
de maquiladoras
cumplidoras y eficientes mano de
obra
sin igual.. lo que exportan las
empresas
no lo checa la aduana..

Music continued...



- Dia “730” Intocable (2016)

- “But 'Dia 730' has to be heard. It talks about the disappeared girls of Juárez. We want to create conscience about what’s happening and work hand in hand with the people that run these movements and have actually lost their daughters and their sisters”. (Munoz).
- “This song is about a little girl who has dreams, who gets a call from someone who wants to take pictures of her and make her a model. And she goes and never comes back. But the mom still has hope.”

“Por fin llamó
Ese señor te va a dar la
oportunidad
Ojalá gusten tus fotos y veras
Pronto vamos a salir de esta
pensión

Empacó sus cosas
En un maletín de Bob Esponja
17 años pero su inocencia
Aun sigue rosa

Necesidad
Caridad, superación o vanidad
Convencida de que iba a regresar
Que vivía en Ciudad Juárez
olvidó..”

Conclusion:

- Femicide is still happening till this time. Our goal as humans is to care for another and share our culture. Being a female shouldn't stop us from living our lives. We shouldn't be afraid to be women. Hopefully I have opened up some eyes and made you learn something NEW, that you might not have heard of.
- Each of these writers, actors, and musicians have one goal and that is to create conscious about this issue that politicians and people of Mexico won't admit to what's happening.



Thank You to all my professors, family, classmates and Gus for all the support and knowledge throughout these incredible past 5 years of my education.

