

**Verdugo, B. 1995. The socio-educational impact of the maquiladora industry on the female lineworkers in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico. Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Arizona. 548pp.**

This dissertation examines the social and educational aspirations of 6 women working in two electronic maquiladoras in Mexicali, Baja California. With a qualitative approach, a case study for every participant was developed. Every participant was interviewed on three occasions for about one hour and a half at a time. In the first interview they narrated their socio-economic and educational experiences from childhood to adolescence. In the second interview they commented about their experiences in the maquiladoras and their present family life. In the last one, they talked about their social and educational expectations, and their hopes. Results showed that all of them would like to study something else in order to get out of the maquiladora system. They do not see any improvement in their lifestyle, if they continue earning a salary just slightly higher than the minimum wage. They commented that the work in the plants is very tiring, and they still have work at home, which prevents them from studying. However, they know they have to study something else in order to improve their way of life, but they do not know what. They feel the need of somebody telling them what to do.