

Who Are We?

The Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida (GIRE) or Information Group on Reproductive Choice is a non-profit NGO that was established in 1992 to defend and advance reproductive rights in Mexico, particularly the right to abortion which

is illegal in Mexico and allowed under restricted circumstances,* depending on individual state law. Restrictive abortion laws are responsible for women seeking desperate measures to end unwanted pregnancies, sometimes with tragic results. Abortion is the fourth cause of maternal mortality in Mexico. But even under the circumstances where abortion is legal, ignorance, prejudice and a lack of referral mechanisms in the health and legal sectors conspire to deny women their rights. In this context, GIRE sets out to ensure and expand legal abortion services.

Our Mission:

To contribute to the recognition, respect and defense of reproductive rights, in particular abortion rights, which uphold women's free choice.

Our Objective:

Generate, systematize and distribute the most accurate information on reproductive rights to strategic sectors, principally policy and decision makers, opinion leaders, the media and youth leaders.

* In case of rape, threat to life, threat to health, artificial insemination without consent, accidental (i.e. miscarriage), for severe fetal abnormalities, and for socio-economic reasons if a woman already has three children (only in one state).



We Work Towards:

- Guaranteeing Mexicans the ability to exercise their reproductive rights in a responsible and informed manner
- Ensuring access to information that enables individuals to lead healthy and pleasurable reproductive and sexual lives, free of sexually transmitted infections and unwanted pregnancies
- Providing the most current information on reproductive rights, and related issues such as bioethics, to decision makers and opinion leaders working in the legal, educational and health sectors
- Promoting the decriminalization of abortion via public debate

What We Want:

- Safe and legal abortion services
- An end to reproductive and sexual rights violations
- Homogenous abortion laws throughout Mexico
- Accessible information for people to make informed decisions about their reproductive lives
- Laws and policies that favor reproductive and sexual rights
- People who are able to take charge of their reproductive and sexual lives in a free and informed manner without coercion from society, religion, partners, or family members
- The decriminalization of abortion

Achievements:

- GIRE has become a key reference point for reproductive rights in Mexico
- Keeps the issue of reproductive rights, particularly abortion rights, in the media
- Has turned the spotlight on reproductive rights violations and advocated for justice
- Has trained government officials in reproductive rights
- Is a leading disseminator of specialized materials in reproductive rights
- Has created Mexico's largest single collection of specialized materials in our field
- Collaborates with national, regional and international reproductive rights organizations
- Received the Burdick Award from the U.S. National Abortion Federation in 2004

How We Work:

GIRE is divided into four working areas:

Information gathers, writes and disseminates information on reproductive rights through training manuals, booklets, books, fact sheets and a web site. Uses case study narratives to exemplify reproductive rights violations;



Inter-Institutional Relations works to create a base of pro-choice advocates among our strategic sectors and among the Mexican public;

Communications maintains a pro-choice presence in the national media through interviews, press conferences and outreach work and monitors reproductive rights issues in the media;

Institutional Development is responsible for GIRE's administrative and financial operations, including its fundraising activities.

Where does our funding come from?

- Private U.S. foundations
- International agencies
- Mexican government agencies
- Individual donations

How to donate:

You can donate by sending a check to the following U.S. bank account in the name of Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida, Account: 0005609066 at City National Bank, 1428 Bricknell Ave., Miami, FL 33131, USA. You can also find information on how to donate on-line at www.gire.org.mx and via e-mail at develop@gire.org.mx.



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