Political participation of indigenous women in different contexts of community autonomy

The cases of Cherán K’eri (Michoacán) & México City.

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Literature Review

Community autonomy level

- Economic
- Political
- Justice administration
- Territorial
- Cultural

Access to public office

1. Electoral system and political parties
   - Community authorities
   - Assemblies
   - Religious Charges
   - Popular election charges
     - Legislative
     - Executive
   - Unlected officials

2. Indigenous regulatory system
   (Usos y costumbres system)
   - Territory defense
   - Autonomy
   - Gender agenda
   - Dwelling
   - Sale on public roads
   - Health

Various Organizational processes

- Organizations, Networks, Movements
- Conventional approach to political participation
- Broad approach to political participation

Political participation of indigenous women

- Political participation of indigenous women in different contexts of community autonomy
Research Questions

- What does political participation mean, from the perspectives of indigenous women who live in communities with different levels of autonomy?
- What are the ways in which they participate?
- How is the level of community autonomy of indigenous peoples related to the political participation of the women who live in them?
Methodology > Mixed Methods > QUAL -> Quant

**QUALITATIVE phase**
- Semi-structured interviews, participant observation
  - (29)
- Literature review, secondary sources

**Quantitative phase**
- Survey
  - (400)
- Structural Equations Model

Political participation of indigenous women in different contexts of community autonomy
Mixed Methods

Ethical criteria

Gender violence

Community autonomy level

Low
Medium
High

Phase 2:
quan: survey, SEM

1. Mexico City
2. Cherán K’eri

Political participation of indigenous women

Access to public office

1. Electoral system and political parties
2. Indigenous regulatory system (*Usos y costumbres* system)

Various Organizational processes

Organizations, Networks, Movements

Phase 1:
QUAL: Ethnography, interviews
Survey construction for quan phase

16.03.2023

Research Project
Paz Chávez

Economic
Political
Justice administration
Territorial
Cultural

Broad approach to political participation
Using MAXQDA

- Literature Review
- Analyzing Interviews
- Content Analysis
- Visual exploration tools
- Coding, Memos, Paraphrases, Comments
- Research diary

- Systematize
- Compare cases
- Methodological transparency
Political participation of indigenous women in different contexts of community autonomy
Codes by type of approach to political participation of indigenous women (Literature Review)

Political participation in different contexts of community autonomy:

- Political participation in organizational processes: 46%
- Political participation in conventional political processes: 54%
- Political participation in the electoral system and political parties: 34%
- Political participation in the indigenous regulatory system: 20%
Results

- Obstacles, Intersectionality -> need to broaden the definition of political participation for a heterogeneous citizenship.
- Indigenous women conceive of political participation in a broad way
  - They distrust the electoral system and parties
  - They exercise leadership of various kinds
- Gender violence is the main obstacle
Lessons Learnt

- Affirmative actions, are they being effective?
- Psychological component (insecurity, doubt about their own abilities) -> affects the political participation of indigenous women.
- Participating in organizational processes -> offers tools to participate politically in more conventional spaces.
- Still to analyze: relation between autonomy & political participación of indigenous women (quantitative phase)