

# Community Interventions in Chile



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# Objectives

- Introduction
- Community Interventions Utilized in Chile
- Interactions with Community Agencies
- Visits to Memorial Sites
- Relevance to Community Violence in the US

# Introduction

## Presenters Bios

- Educational Background and areas of interest

## Course Experience in Chile

- Purpose of the course
- Topics addressed
- Meetings and presentations
- Site visitations
- Cultural experiences

# Community Interventions Utilized in Chile

## Truth Telling (Stanley, 2002)

- Highlights individual experience
- Public awareness discussions

## Liberation Social Psychology (Burton & Kagan, 2005)

- Rebuilding communities who have experienced trauma (torture, persecution)
- Helps to mobilize and empower individuals and communities

## Ecological Perspective (Stanley, 2007)

- Cultural identity
- Resilience

# Community Interventions and Holiday Recognition

## Importance of Truth-Telling

- Find Meaning
- Shared Connection

## Demonstrations on 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pinochet coup (Achtenberg, 2013)

- Commemoration of events through marches, etc.
- Public gatherings
- Remembrance of victims
- Commemorative holidays include International Women's Day and International Worker's Day



# The Debate of Memory-Making in Chile

“To remember or forget--which is healthier? To demolish it or fence it off? To dig it up, or leave it lie in the ground?” -Anna Funder, *Stasiland*

Cultural beliefs in Chile about remembering such events:

- Denial and national identity preservation
- “Made disappeared”
- Memorial sites as healing
- Current government and separation from dictatorship regime
- Generational differences, education in schools
- Identity as political prisoner v. female identity

# Community Interventions and the Arts

## Arpilleras

- Increase awareness of relationship between political oppression and everyday life

## Music

- Utilized to remember and continue telling the narrative

## Poetry

- Poets, such as Pablo Neruda, utilized their work in order to bring to light the social and political conditions



# Visits to Memorial Sites

Villa Grimaldi



Paine Memorial





# Visits to Memorial Sites Contd.

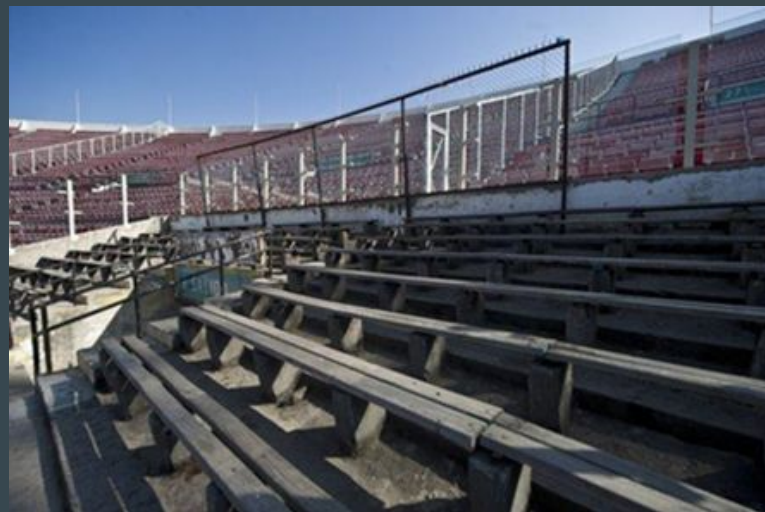
Museo de la Memoria y Los Derechos

Humanos (Museum of Memory and

Human Rights)

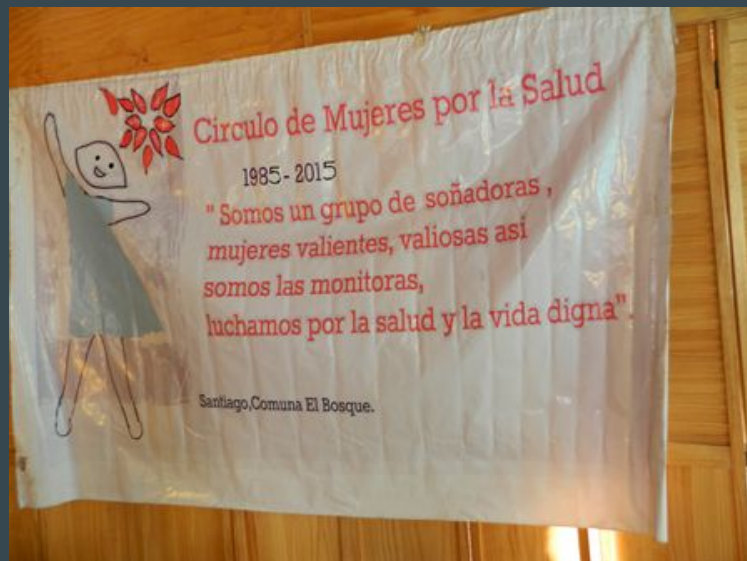


Estadio Nacional (National Stadium)



# Visits to Community Agencies

Educación Popular en Salud (EPES)



Servicio Médico Legal



# Visits to Community Agencies

Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos



Instituto Latinoamericano de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos



# Relevance to Community Violence in the U.S.

- Police torture in Chicago
  - Chicago Torture Justice Memorials
  - Decades later, in 2016, 57 victims of CPD torture received reparations totaling about \$5.5 million from the city of Chicago
  - Teaching about torture history in CPS
- After effects: sense of distrust with government and law enforcement bodies
- Trump and torture
  - John McCain



# References

- Achtenberg, E. (2013). In Chile, remembering 9/11: Reflections. Retrieved from: <https://nacla.org/blog/2013/9/30/chile-remembering-911-reflections>
- Burton, M., & Kagan, C. (2005). Liberation social psychology: Learning from Latin America. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 15(1), 63-78. doi:10.1002/casp.786
- Stanley, E. (2002). What next? The aftermath of organized truth-telling. *Race & Class*, 44(1), 1-15.