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Vidas Sitiadas:
A Learning
Network
About Youth,
Work, and
Violence



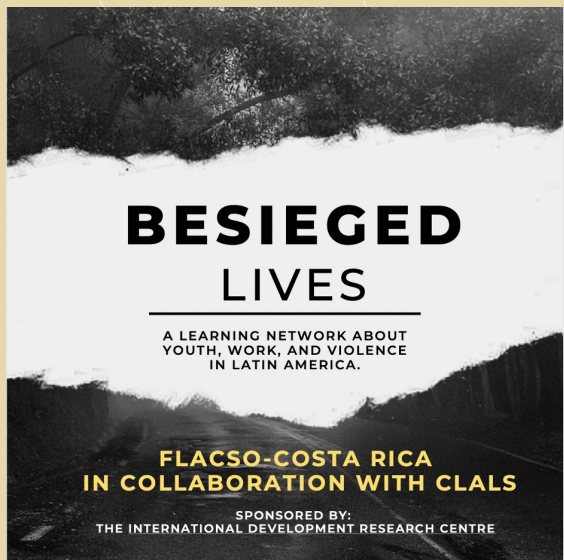
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

VIDAS SITIADAS: A LEARNING NETWORK ABOUT YOUTH, WORK, AND VIOLENCE

Vidas Sitiadas (Besieged Lives) is a research and practice-oriented initiative to illuminate how systems of violence and marginalization impact the lives of vulnerable women and girls in Latin American cities. In partnership with la Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Sede Costa Rica (FLACSO-Costa Rica), this three-year project has produced key findings on the links between youth, gender, violence, and economic opportunities in five studies conducted in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Uruguay. Additionally, this initiative analyzes local efforts to construct learning communities that provide insights to policy makers, development practitioners, academic specialists, and other influential actors in the field.

The investigations produced by the Vidas Sitiadas initiative address a variety of important topics that were shown to impact vulnerable young women in Latin America, including victimization, motherhood, intersectionality, mental health, informal labor markets, pathways to criminality, post-imprisonment reintegration, the affiliation of young women in gangs, and the impact of COVID-19.

These findings, in addition to strategies for the social inclusion of vulnerable youth, are being disseminated through English-language outlets, including a



Working Paper and three AULABLOG posts. CLALS and FLACSO-Costa Rica convened a two-day virtual seminar that featured leading experts in the field to discuss researchers' findings, systems of marginalization,

and policies for women's empowerment. Vidas Sitiadas is a collaboration between CLALS and FLACSO-Costa Rica, and is sponsored by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).