

EL SALVADOR

Teodora del Carmen Vásquez



IMPRISONED FOR SUFFERING A STILL-BIRTH

Teodora del Carmen Vásquez was sentenced to 30 years in prison for 'aggravated homicide' in 2008 after suffering a still-birth. Expectant Teodora, already mother of an 11-year-old boy, started experiencing severe pain while at work. She went into labour and was unconscious when she gave birth to a still-born baby. When she came round, bleeding profusely, police handcuffed her and arrested her on suspicion of murder. Only then did they take her to hospital. In El Salvador, women who suffer still-births are often suspected of having had an abortion, which is considered a crime, under any circumstance. Teodora's trial was deeply flawed; she was presumed guilty and could not afford an effective legal team.

+ www.amnesty.org.uk/teodora



'I am 32 years old, and I have been in jail for eight years. It has been a difficult process'

Teodora

SHOW SOLIDARITY ONLINE:

Sending messages to Teodora or her family may put them at risk. Instead, please post a photo of yourself holding a solidarity message online. We plan to collect the images at the end of the campaign and make them into a newspaper which local partners, Agrupación Ciudadana, can show to Teodora's family. Her family or lawyer can then take the newspaper to show her when they visit.

- + Please use hashtags #TeodoraLibre and #W4R
- + If you use Twitter, tweet your photo to @AmnestyUKUrgent
- + If you use Tumblr, upload your photo to <http://teodoralibre.tumblr.com/>
- + If you don't use social media, email your photo to iar@amnesty.org.uk
- + Suggested message: Teodora, estamos contigo #TeodoraLibre (Teodora, we are with you #TeodoraLibre)

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Call on Justice Minister Benito Antonio Lara Fernández to order Teodora's release.

Write to: Ministro de Justicia y Seguridad Pública
17 Avenida Norte, Complejo Plan Maestro, Edificio B1, nivel 1
Alameda Juan Pablo II
San Salvador, El Salvador

Fax: 00503 2281 5959
Email: benitolara@seguridad.gob.sv
Twitter: @MiSeguridad_SV (Use #TeodoraLibre)

Salutation: Dear Minister / Estimado Señor Ministro

In your letter: Call on the minister to ensure Teodora del Carmen Vásquez is immediately released. Urge the government to decriminalise abortion in El Salvador.

Suggested tweet: Free #TeodoraLibre and decriminalise abortion in El Salvador @MiSeguridad_SV

