

## “No Más Bebés” Review

*No Más Bebés* (2015) is an American documentary film directed by Renee Tajima-Peña. The film’s title translates into “no more babies”, and the film is about the real-life experiences of immigrant women who were sterilized upon going into labor. The women shown in the documentary are Latina mothers who were victims of the sterilization that was carried out at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, California, during the 1970s. The mothers speak of the horrible act of sterilization that was done to them without their knowledge and consent, and how it affected their dreams and lives. The documentary shows us the pain of the mothers and their fight against the injustice that was forced upon them. The film recollects the case “Madrigal v. Quilligan, 1975”, where the mothers sued the State of California, the doctors, and the Government, with the help of Chicana lawyer Antonia Hernandez. The mothers explain and share their side of the story about how they were tricked into having the sterilization and not being made aware of what happened. The doctors claimed that the tubal ligations were carried out on these women as they already had too many children. This reasoning is and always will be preposterous, as the doctors do not have the authority to decide for the women. They tricked these women and took away their rights, and the women had to live with the consequences. The film even shows one of the doctors who took the decision, and he still maintained his view that it was done for the good. The doctors who carried out this decision are to be viewed as rule-breakers, as they have deliberately taken advantage of the fact that these women could not read English. Using this, the doctors made the women sign documents that would allow the doctors to carry

out the tubal ligations. The film shows the outside world of this sad incident and its everlasting consequences on families.