

**Parkman, Arason, "La Cuota Femenina: A case study of Costa Rica, the effects of cultural, political and institutional influences on the Costa Rican Quota Legislation, 1986-2002." Advisor: Elaine White. Coe College. 2007. 43pp. [Study located in Women's Studies section]**

Currently, Costa Rica ranks second in the world for having such a high level of female participation in the Legislative Assembly. This can be attributed to Costa Rica's quota system, which mandates that political parties include 40 percent female candidates on their ballots. Between 1988-2007, Costa Rica implemented three different types of quota legislation in efforts to promote female participation in the Legislative Assembly. Moreover, while little analysis exists on the case of Costa Rica, current research either dismisses or ignores variables such as the political system and the women's movement when assessing the effectiveness and success of the quota legislation during the implementation process. This study examines the role of government institutions as well as the strength and articulation of the women's movement in the success of Costa Rica's quota legislation.