

**Silvia Pimentel (Brazil)**

**Date and place of birth**

3 March 1940, Minas Gerais, Brazil

**Working languages**

Spanish, English, French

**Current position/function**

PHD Professor in the programme of graduation and post-graduate studies of Law at Pontifícia Universidade Católica (PUC)/São Paulo

**Main professional activities**

Currently, proceeds teaching Law at the Catholic University of São Paulo (PUC-SP), where she began teaching in 1973. Also in the programme of post-graduate studies of Law

Expert of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, CEDAW Committee/UN, from 2005 to 2008

**Educational background**

PHD in Legal Philosophy, PUC/SP — 1977

Master in Psychology of Education, PUC-SP — 1973

Law Degree, PUC-SP — 1970

**Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned**

**Non-governmental**

- Founding Member of the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM), 1987. Member of its Honorary Consulting Council, 2003 — present Coordinator of the Brazilian Section of CLADEM, 1992-2005;
- Founding Member of the International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP), 1985;
- President of the Institute for the Advancement of Equity (IPE) 2003 — present;
- Member of the Director Council of Commission of Citizenship and Reproduction (CCR);

**Selected advocacy experiences**

- Author of "The New Civil Statute of Women", a proposal for changing the Brazilian Civil Code. Presented to the National Congress in 1981, it was included in the reform of the Brazilian Civil Code in 2002;

- Participation in the drafting process of the Brazilian Constitution, as one of the six women who wrote the historical "Women's Letter to the Constituents", in August of 1986.

**List of most recent publications in this field**

1. "Education and Legal Literacy". In "The Circle of Empowerment"—CEDAW Book 25th Anniversary, organized by Cees Flinterman and Beate Schopp-Schilling, Feminist Press, NY, 2007;
2. "Legitimate Defense of Honour, or Murder with Impunity?" — critical study of legislation and case law in Latin America by Silvia Pimentel, Valeria Pandjiardian and Juliana Belloque, edited by Lynn Welchman and Sara Hossain, ZED BOOKS, London, 2005.