



LESSONS FROM
women of Peru



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Common Challenges of women in Peru and Utah:

How Peruvian women have overcome them and how to apply their resourceful principles in the U.S.

given by: David Utrilla, Honorary Consul to Peru for Utah

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HARDSHIPS
women of the US & Utah



- Abuse
(There is approximately one domestic violence-related homicide each month in Utah (1))
- Marry young (Utah)
(Median age at 1st marriage in Utah - Groom: 23 Bride: 21; Median age at 1st marriage in US- Groom: 26.8 Brde: 25.1 (2))
- Lacking self sufficiency
- Image pressure

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- Teen pregnancy
(The United States topped the teenage pregnancy list in 2002 for births among teens in 28 of the world's wealthiest nations (3))
- Depression & self medication
- Societal expectations of success
- Spending beyond means
(Females ages 18 - 34 may have the heaviest debt load, with credit cards often a contributing factor. (4))

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- Little governmental assistance
- Lack of education & healthcare
(Health concerns in Peru revolve around a lack of basic health education among the majority of the rural population, as well as general issues regarding physical and financial access to medical care. Specifically, basic primary care, nutrition and sanitation tend to be the main cause of chronic health issues. (5))
- Men not as supportive
- Depression – Not considered a health problem, so not treated

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- Little sexual education
(Only 19% of Peruvian women have comprehensive knowledge of HIV(6) Peruvian women have one of the highest cervical cancer mortality rates (7))
- Extreme poverty
(Between 2008 and 2009, poverty rose from 69 to 70.3 percent in Apurimac; from 61.5 to 64.5 percent in Huanuco; from 53.4 to 56 percent in Cajamarca, the leading gold mining region; and from 48.8 to 58 percent in Loreto, home to most of the country's Amazonian indigenous tribes (8))
- Harsh living conditions

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1. BE RESOURCEFUL
Peruvian women are some of the least advantaged, but most resourceful people on the planet. (11) (12)

They are creative in using anything in their environment to promote commerce, feed their families, build shelters, and play.


They are masters of artistry in weaving, beading, farming and painting and generally have 4-5 jobs.

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2. BE ACCOUNTABLE
In 2010 Peru ranked #1 in a survey of the world's best business environments for micro lending. ⁽⁸⁾
In 2005, women in Peru represented approx. 42% of all micro credit debtors. ⁽⁹⁾
Peruvian women are proud, honest and are using this lending opportunity to grow.
Peru has one of the highest repayment rates.

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3. WORK HARD
Sense of family is rooted deep in Peruvian women. They will work tirelessly to provide the best life possible for their children.
Women will walk for 3 days to attend a health meeting, or for 8 hours in one day to provide food, supplies and shelter for their families.
Peruvian women have an attitude of whatever needs to be done, will be done. They work together.

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TAKE-AWAYS
women of USA



TAKE-AWAYS
1. We are not entitled. We must make opportunities for ourselves.
2. We must work hard and tirelessly.
3. We must be honest, ethical and proud of who we are and what we do.
4. Seek help that is available to become self sufficient.
5. Care for each other.

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