

Short Story

Microinsurance in Bolivia

Sra. Jesusa Fernández lost her husband three years ago. They were dedicated to public transportation and legal sale of coca leaf as well as some other products, when her husband died after falling from the roof of his house. Jesusa took on the debt he had with the bank that had lent money to purchase a minibus for interprovincial transport. Thanks to the desgravamen insurance, she could pay off the loan and not to lose her business or the minibus. Now Jesusa has 3 young children, and is building a house for rental in the City of El Alto in La Paz Bolivia.

Interview:

Q. What is your name and age?

A. Jesus Fernandez I'm 52 years old

Q. What activities did you do before the death of your husband?

A. Trading of Coca and a little shop that I still have in the city of La Paz, now I'm still traveling and marketing the Coca leafs.

Q. After the death of your husband the economic situation changed?

A. At first he had many debts to pay for the loan that we got from the bank to buy a minibus, but after we had the insurance it helped me to pay the debt and I'm relieved now.

Q. If there were not insurance, could you have paid the bank debt?

A. I don't think so, I might have continued to pay or had lost my little car.

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Q. Did you currently improve your economic situation?

A. If I'm right, I have a new bank loan to build my home here in El Alto.

Q. What is the objective of the construction of this house?

A. Yes , I'm going to rent it and I'm going to the center to live.

Q. How many people do you have in charge now?

A. I have a daughter who lives with me and I'm raising two girls, my other children are married and work in the bank.



Sra. Jesusa Fernández



The Minibus