

Biography of Raquel Soto

I was born and raised in Spain. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, I continued in graduate school becoming a certified Spanish Literature researcher and instructor. I currently attend to Fordham University in New York City where I am pursuing a Masters in Social Work.

After years of experiencing personal difficulties in Spain, which provided me the impetus to pursue a social work career, I immigrated to New York where I worked as a Spanish instructor; first, at a language school and later, my freelance business teaching and translating Spanish. As a Spanish instructor, I worked and volunteered at non-profit organizations such as Esperanza, The Legal Aid Society, and Brooklyn Defender Services. My involvement in this environment enhanced my social justice commitment by confronting the myriad ways oppression and injustice play out. I also worked as an adjunct professor at Mercy College.

I currently intern at Nontraditional Employment for Women, organization that helps women achieve economic self-sufficiency by training and providing employment opportunities in skilled trades. In addition, I work as graduate assistant at Fordham University doing research on feminism and Latinas struggling with domestic violence and substance abuse.

As a future social worker, I am interested in doing agency work related to domestic violence survivors and starting a sliding-scale practice specializing in depression, trauma, and anxiety. I want to assist clients in overcoming the challenges that these conditions cause and support them while providing the tools that will make them feel safer and more accomplished.