

JOSÉ ADRIÁN,
MEXICO

WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME, **WRONG** **SIDE** OF THE TRACKS



JOSÉ ADRIÁN

MEXICO

It was late on February 25 2016 when 14-year-old José Adrián left school and headed home. Out of nowhere, police jumped him and threw him against their car. One officer stomped on him, causing an injury to his neck.

José Adrián had stumbled into a street fight between a group of youths just as it was ending. Some of them threw stones and damaged a police car. The police arrested just José Adrián. They didn't explain why and didn't call his parents. Officers shoved José Adrián into their car and drove him to the Chemax police station where they strung him up by handcuffs. "They left me for almost, like, half an hour there," he says. "They hit me on my chest. Then they slapped me across the face." A hearing disability may have prevented him from communicating well with police during his ordeal.

To get their son released, José Adrián's family had to pay a fine and the cost of damage to the patrol car – money they couldn't easily afford as they lived in the impoverished Mayan community of X-Can. Adrián dropped out of school because of what happened.

Early in 2019, José Adrián finally received a hearing aid and he is finally starting high school. He wants to leave this ordeal behind, but the police who assaulted him remain unpunished and the family is still waiting for the government to make amends. "What I want is that they make police better. I don't want what happened to me to happen to other kids," he says.

The arrest of José Adrián followed a familiar pattern in Mexico. Police target the poor and those who experience discrimination - in this case, a young Indigenous boy. Access to justice in his case may help prevent harm to other Indigenous youth.

Demand justice for José Adrián.



#W4R19

WRITE TO THE GOVERNOR

Explain your reason for writing about what happened to X-Can resident José Adrián in 2016.

Ask the governor to make sure Adrián is fully compensated for the injustices he has suffered. This must include finding the officers responsible and bringing them to justice.

Lic. Mauricio Vila Dosal

*Governor of Yucatán State
c/o Amnesty International
312 Laurier Ave. E.*

Ottawa, Ontario K1N 1H9

(We will deliver all messages to the governor on the February 25 anniversary of José Adrián's arrest)

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Salutation: Dear Governor

SHOW ADRIÁN YOU'RE WITH HIM

Send a message of solidarity and strength. José Adrián enjoys cooking, horror movies, music by Prince Royce, exploring beaches, and helping his father sell flowers. Email it to mexteam@amnesty.org or send it by mail.

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**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**

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