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This proposal focuses on the causes of gender-based violence with implications for how to reduce violence against women and girls in the future. With this research we hope to better understand the larger context of violence against women, as part of a broader system that encourages a wide range of oppressive and violent behaviors toward women within the household, workforce, community, and at the hands of the state. The initiative will examine how social, cultural, political, and judicial institutions have enabled and shaped responses to gender-based violence.

Our proposal describes three broad categories of focus. This includes work that seeks to conceptualize the problem of gender-based violence around the world; to understand the empirical conditions associated with femicides and honor killings; and to examine outcomes for migrant women who are subject to gender-based violence even after arriving in wealthier societies with better institutional protections associated with abuse against women. Taken together, we believe that the interconnected papers that we hope to write will set forth a robust agenda for the social sciences with regard to gender-based violence.