AN OVERVIEW

of the

MEXICAN PRIMARY EDUCATION SYSTEM

with an

EMPHASIS ON DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS

at

LA ESCUELA AMERICANA

PACHUCA, STATE OF HIDALGO

AN ABSTRACT

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ABSTRACT La Escuela Americana (hereinafter referred to as LEA) is a private, secular, coeducational nursery through grade 9 school founded by an American mining company in Pachuca, Mexico, in 1920. The school traditionally educated dependent children of employees of the Real del Monte mining company. Since the nationalization of the mines by the Mexican government in 1946, the school was forced to cater to the children of local wealthy Mexican families. Mexican public schools do not tolerate habitual disruptive behavior by students and expel major discipline problems. LEA, being a high-tuition private school with partial instruction in English, has attracted in part students from wealthy families. Some LEA students were expelled from public schools. In some ways, LEA has become a catch basin for discipline problems.

This document is a study of the Mexican primary-education system, with emphasis on discipline problems at LEA during the

years 1977-1979.