

DON CATRÍN DE LA FACHENDA AND THE MEXICAN DRUG WAR

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This paper discusses the necessity of international discourse by explaining the connection between the power shift in José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi's *Don Catrín de La Fachenda* and Mexico's current fight against the drug cartels. Although the story was written nearly a century ago, Lizardi's work provides insight into a modern solution to the Mexican drug war. The paper addresses how the protagonist, Don Catrín, resolves his issues with the advice of various characters whom he encounters. The analysis shows the path way to ending Mexico's war on drugs can be found through the tactics of Don Catrín. As in Lizardi's novel, dirty politicians and deception have fueled terroristic acts happening today in Mexico. Moreover, increased militant action only exacerbates the problem. The paper shows that in order to end the war on drugs, Mexico must engage in political discourse with all affected countries as Don Catrín did throughout the novel.