

# War and Emigration Break Up Families

*Romulo Guerra*

The civil war (1980-1992) was very hard on the Salvadoran people. It was hard to see brothers fighting brothers and fathers fighting sons. People who didn't go to war lived in panic because they knew they could be the victims of violence.

People tried to get to work, but sometimes they couldn't because of fighting in the streets. Sometimes the guerrilla soldiers stopped traffic for a few days.

Even after the war ended, there were still problems. People could not find jobs, and there was a lot of gang violence. I moved to America because I lost my job and I had problems with the gangs.

A lot of Salvadorans come to America because our country has had many wars and our government forced the people to fight. When so many people

have to leave, it is a problem for the whole country. The families start to disintegrate.

It was a hard decision for me to move here because my son and my sister stayed in El Salvador. I would like to go back and see my son and my sister, but I can't because I do not have an emigration permit for travel. I miss my son.



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