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FORCED DISPLACEMENT
A GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION
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An exegesis presented in partial fulfilment
of the requirements for the Degree of the Master of Design at the College of Creative Arts, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand.
Forced displacement is one of the most difficult social problems affecting Colombia. This project focuses on exploring the realities of internal forced displacement through the mediums of sequential storytelling and graphic narrative.

In addition to telling the individual stories of those intimately involved in and affected by the violence, the villagers and the perpetrators, the research project sets out to explore the Rashomon effect through a range of characters and perspectives.

By bearing witness through the Rashomon effect, and the spatio-temporal language of graphic narrative, I aim to show both sides of Colombia’s story of forced displacement, and how they eventually led to the reconciliation of both parties in the conflict.

Reconciliation is a significant part of the current construction of the social fabric in Colombia. It is important that this project contributes to the collective memory of Colombia by arguing that violence is not the answer in any circumstance, rather, it has serious consequences for society and the country’s future.
First of all, I want to thank my mother for all her support and encouragement. I know all the effort that it means for her having me here in New Zealand doing this Masters Degree. I also want to thank my brother, who I believe has always been beside me. Thank you to my wonderful supervisors Dr Caroline Campbell and Lee Jensen, without whom this project would not have been possible. I learned a lot from them and their comments have helped the project to achieve the level that it is now. Finally, I would like to thank Vaughan Flanagan, Amelia Taverner, Phoebe Smith, Harita Kapur and Andrew Cridland for the company and the encouragement they gave me throughout my postgraduate study and experience.
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