



## Castle of Purity

**El castillo de la pureza**

Mexico/1974/Colour/116'/Spanish

**Direction:** Arturo Ripstein

**Producer:** Angelica Ortiz

**Screenplay:** Arturo Ripstein, Jose Emilio Pacheco

**Cinematography:** Alex Phillips Sr.

**Editing:** Rafael Castanedo, Eufemio Rivera

**Sound:** Joaquin Gutierrez Heras

**Cast:** Claudio Brook, Rita Macedo, Arturo Beristain,  
Diana Bracho

Based on a true story that took place in Mexico in the last century, Ripstein weaves a disturbing drama of a father, who kept his family locked away in his ancestral home for 18 years in order to 'protect' them from the evils of the world outside. Their only activity is making rat poison, which the father then sells in order to provide for his family. The focus of the film is on the aspect of life inside this isolated microcosm. The father represents the ubiquitous institution of the state as the film points not only to political radicalisation in Mexico in the late 60s, but also to the fundamental changes in the concept of the family.