

1. The blurred limits of peri-urban territories: a methodological proposal to examine their socio-economic situation and change processes

Francisco Entrena Durán

Since the first half of the 20th century, processes of large increase and expansion have been going on in urban areas of several cities around the world. As a result, a new model of a scattered and diffuse city is already extended to planetary scale. It makes it more and more difficult to define what is urban and what is rural, as well as to clearly delimitate the physical and socio-economic boundaries separating the former from the latter. In that context, peri-urban territories - which are spaces with hybrid rural-urban characteristics - gain more and more importance as spaces whose socio-economic situation changes and subsequent tendencies to development, stagnation or decline we need to know. Above all, because of the possibility of articulating proper policies to regulate and/or condition such situation, changes and tendencies, in order to be able to contribute to improve life quality for the population that dwells in peri-urban territories depends to a very large extent on such awareness. Accordingly, the purpose of the present article is to put forward a methodological proposal based on a system of indicators aimed at measuring the degree of development, stagnation or decline of such territories, as well as the changes and tendencies they have been experiencing under current circumstances of their increasing participation within global dynamics.

Keywords: peri-urban territories, blurred limits, socio-economic situation, change processes, social indicators and methodology for their analysis.

2. A political dilemma at the historical crossroads of the process of regional integration in Latin America and the Caribbean

Alberto Rocha V.

Based on the analysis of internal and external political dynamics of Latin America and the Caribbean's regional and subregional integration mechanisms, one concludes that the region has built a weak economic position and a diffused

political position within the FTAA negotiation process. This situation in the region becomes even more complex due to the new historical crossroads it faces and particularly for the political dilemma (regional or continental integration) that takes place in such crossroads. Clearly, we present the hypothesis of a crisis in the project of regional integration of Latin America and the Caribbean, and articulate the general ideas for a project of alternative regional integration.

Keywords: Latin America and the Caribbean, regional integration, FTAA, integration dilemma, alternative regional integration.

3. The territorial approach to rural development and its external articulations

Sergio Schneider

The debate on the rural development of certain regions and its external articulations is seen as an examples of a subjects areas that is brought back into debate in Brazil because of reflections increasingly interested in understanding the diversity of routes taken by the process of development and the social, economic and cultural roots that explain such diversity. The first section of the work examines the more general factors that condition economy's and society's restructuring process, in order to identify the relations and mediations between local processes and the changes resulting from the restructuring of contemporary capitalism. The second section discusses the *new approach to rural development*, based on the widening of the spatial, occupational and sectorial scope of the rural. The third section is aimed at indicating the need to strengthen the displacement of the idea of region to the territory, recovering both implications of and resistances to this operation, which come from geography, and the indications by some scholars, international institutions and governments that make a normative and operational use of the territorial approach to point out a new focus on regional development. In the light of such discussions, the fourth and last section intends to examine articulations and intermediations of local and territorial dynamics with the external environment, here understood as the economic and societal context in which social change processes take place.

Keywords: rural development, territorial approach; regional development.

4. Borders: from the imaginary line to the field of conflicts

José Luiz Bica de Mélo

Taking the notion of *field* as a theoretical reference and based on statements by authorities as well as employers' and labor union leaders, aspects are pointed out that demonstrate the existence of a field of conflicts resulting from disputes over land, work positions, and distinct aspects of national legislations within the Brazilian-Uruguayan border space. Analyses demonstrate that the longed-for integration between populations living in the cities of Sant'Ana do Livramento and Rivera remains as representation, being more discursive than real.

Keywords: border, power field, social representations, social conflict.

5. Territorial policies, science & technology and the action of local and regional actors: the Highlands technological modernization area – State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Aldomar Arnaldo Rückert

The article examines territorial policies, particularly those aimed at local-based endogenous development. The program of areas of technological modernization (*Programa dos Pólos de Modernização Tecnológica*) of Rio Grande do Sul's State Department of Science and Technology has been established by community universities, specially in the 1990's. Actions by collective civil actors in order to establish innovative policies at the Highlands technological modernization area at Caxias do Sul University - a planning region within the Highlands regional Development Council - specifically in the cities of Caxias do Sul and Campestre da Serra.

Keywords: territorial policies, local-based endogenous development.

6. The symbolic power of cattle raisers' associations in contemporary Uruguay

Alberto Riella, Alejandra Andrioli

This article will try to study the broad influence and power maintained by large landowners and their associations since over a century ago in Uruguay. Based on the analysis of the symbolic dimensions of the agrarian world, we will study discursive practices of Cattle Owners Associations - *Asociación Rural del Uruguay* and *Federación Rural* - as a core part of their symbolic strategy to keep their hegemony within the agrarian social field. Therefore, we believe that the social construction of our country's territory is based on the form of perception imposed by that group's symbolic power, which made its particular forms of land appropriation and use into the only possible and legitimate way to use natural resources. In order to examine discursive practices, we start from the assumption that social, associational and corporate organization are always immersed in symbolic struggles, since the objective achievement of their long-term interests is always at stake within themselves. In Merton's terms, we could say that, besides an organization's manifest function - associational, commercial, professional - there is always a latent one that seeks to impose on its opponents and the public opinion the typical worldview of the group it represents. As a result, we can find those agents' power, alliances, conflicts clearly expressed in their discursive practices, thus allowing us to access the understanding of their symbolic strategic of social reproduction.

Keywords: social conflicts, power and domination, symbolic power, rural sociology, Uruguay.

7. Challenges facing Social Sciences in contemporary scientific and technological development

Fernanda Sobral

The article seeks to analyze the broad context of scientific and technological development, which also allows for restraining knowledge production within Social Sciences. In order to do that, it presents some ideas of contemporary studies

about new trends in scientific and technological development and approaches recent science and technology policies from the perspective of such ideas, focusing on the transition to a hybrid model of scientific and technological development. Afterwards, it shows research results that indicate those new trends and, finally, it discusses the challenges facing social sciences within this context.

Keywords: social sciences, hybrid model of scientific and technological development, priority.

8. Cross-discourses: news programs on TV, free time for political propaganda on TV, and the construction of the electoral agenda

Luis Felipe Miguel

The free time for political propaganda on TV gives candidates a space for autonomous communication in which their messages do not have to pass the scrutiny of media groups. This paper discusses the effectiveness of such free time on TV as opposed to TV journalism, and examines the development of the relationship between them in the four presidential elections in Brazil in the post-authoritarian period. In 1989, TV news programs welcomed the agenda put forward by candidates in their TV programs, but a closure is clear in the next elections. In 2002, the main candidates chose to join mainstream agenda and frameworks, acknowledging the inability of free TV time to change the media's agenda.

Keywords: media and politics, elections, political discourse, public agenda, television.

9. Modernity, discipline and soccer: a sociological analysis of the social production of soccer players in Brazil

Francisco Xavier Freire Rodrigues

This work investigates the relationship between modernity, discipline and the formation of professional soccer players. It discusses modern soccer as a disciplining institution with rules, norms and scientific principles (positivities), which

is aimed at producing, manipulating, individualizing, coaching and improving the individual's body and making the player docile and utilitarian. Modernity, characterized by secularization, subjectivation, the triumph of instrumental rationality, the mastering of nature and the emergence of the modern individual, makes human beings into a knowledge object. The empirical field of this investigation is composed by minor categories of the Sport Club Internacional (Rio Grande do Sul-Brazil). The study finds that the social production of soccer players is a process of disciplining, adaptation, socialization, coaching, development and improvement of physical and technical potentialities of athletes, besides the management of their genetic potential. It is a disciplining, pedagogical and civilizing process characterized by regulation, control, institutionalization and rationalization. Soccer players are labor force resulting from disciplining, physical, technical and tactical practice, as well as the development of their genetic capacities.

Keywords: modernity, soccer, body.

9. Leaving "the shadows": perspectives for social, economic, cultural and political inclusion of visually impaired people in Porto Alegre

Anita Brumer, Katiuci Pavei
Daniel Gustavo Mocelin

The text covers social, economic, cultural and political aspects related to social inclusion of visually impaired people in Porto Alegre. Firstly, it presents the main legislation formulated in the 1990's in Brazil to widen the perspectives for inclusion of visually impaired people into Brazilian society. In the cultural aspect, it approaches prejudice and terminologies used to refer to visually impaired people (*cego*, *deficiente visual*, *portador de deficiência visual*, "*invidente*" - Portuguese for blind, visually impaired, visual impairment bearer, "non-seeing", respectively) and the stigmas linked to them. As for social and economic aspects, it includes education and professional training as well as access to the job market. In the political aspect, it approaches the rights to vote and to be elected and the enforcement of visually impaired people's rights and the pressures exerted by their associations in the struggle against prejudice and discrimination.

Keywords: visually impaired people, inclusion, citizenship.

10. Review of the work: "*As prisões em São Paulo*. (Prisons in São Paulo) 1822-1940." SALLA, Fernando. São Paulo: Annablume/Fapesp, 1999

Filling a significant gap in our (Brazilian) scientific production about prisons and detention societies, at the interface of disciplinary knowledges, Fernando Salla's *Prisons in São Paulo - 1822-1940* is, besides a socio-historical work on punishment within the state's context (nevertheless valid for the whole country, given São Paulo's then already outstanding position in the national scene), the report of a thorough research effort and a detailed presentation of data and analyses. It shows the permanent socio-legal-punitive wound (and its permanence) in our reality, expressed in the distance between discourse and practice, in the unequal treatment of social levels and categories, in the conflict between legal and medical knowledges as well as between them and management practices, and in the confrontation between the demands by the political field and the claims of the scientific one.

Keywords: penitentiaries, prisons, São Paulo.