

Editorial

In order to give continuity to the previous editions of this Magazine, the present edition focuses on the reflection about the ways of community participation on the process of citizenship construction, by focusing on the deliberative or direct democracy, having as its ambit for social struggle the articulation among territory, institutionalization and improvement of life quality and well-being. The texts reflect about the concepts and methods of this approach which is related to economical and social issues, but at this edition emphasizing social relation of the urban space which are still undetermined in our country and whose scars from the military period still remain and more: scars from an oligarchical and colonial State where representative democracy is still in construction through Western models.

This edition goes even further: it brings into the surface the deliberative democracy, in Lüchmann's words, and it erects to the legitimacy statute everyday community and people's life which in the process of collective organization of its demands, "empower themselves", i.e., take for granted the active role in the decision making process, in Lisboa and Lüchmann's words, as a counterpoint to the institutional power or the traditional constitutive. Therefore, concrete experiences are analyzed in communities of Florianópolis, SC. surroundings, as for instance, Campeche in Sousa, Barbosa and Burgos's text where they analyze the new experience in Florianópolis which they name as "social-community construction of a defensible directing plan for Campeche plain", through the itinerant workshop of urban plan, against the Directing Plan from the City-Hall since 1997.

In the same context, Boehs, Heidemann and Grisotti make a balance of five years of the Community Encounter of Saco Grande II, a neighborhood located at the insular part of Florianópolis; and Cardoso examines the experiences faced by him during the practice of the Conclusion Work of his Course focusing on the methodological aspects of advising the organization of the Regional Seminars of the Forum from the City; he highlights the study of community participation from people's daily life in the construction of citizenship rights. Lisboa studies the process which he calls "empowerment" of leader women from two suburb communities in Florianópolis through gender dimensions, class and ethnic.

The term direct participation of the communities in the decision making processes, as one of the constitutive framework of the studies accomplished by Lüchmann, focusing on what he calls deliberative democracy referred to by many authors, permeates all the texts present in this edition of the Magazine. In the relationship of vigilance and health, in Boehs, Heidemann and Grisotti, the concepts of participation and popular participation are touched since its imposition form or institutional vertical or politically until its form built from the community and its citizenship; or in Cardoso when he qualifies that this participation should be multifaceted (avoiding the domain of a group over the other or the standardization of method, action and organization) and emancipating as an instrument of deoppression. It is also present in Constantini's institutional focus which analyses the "Program of Support to the Needy Population (Programa de Apoio às Populações Desfavorecidas) – APD – Rio", emphasizing the necessity of participation and involvement of the social actors as a principle of any institutional program.

Concepts of political intention, institutionalization and popular participation are outlined in a detailed way by Lüchmann and are studied by the authors Boehs, Heidemann and Grisotti, these concepts must be dealt with in an articulate manner from a shared (negotiated) comprehension between the civil society and the State (Lüchmann) or between the communities in the struggle for rights and demands and the public medium. These authors and particularly Lüchmann call attention to the social complexity of this relationship and to the various focus and methodological approaches to be contemplated. It leads to a need of an institutional intersectoriality (collective action in solving problems and social demand) and an interdisciplinarity (multiple view about problems). This process takes us to Rolnik, speaker who had his talk transcribed to this edition, who emphasizes the following in his texts: the need of a new social agreement as a new ethnical agreement (recognition of alteration and citizenship) and aesthetic (construction of the environmental, cultural and historical defensibility). These reflections help and contribute to the social and institutional disalienation process; they try to avoid the breaking up of the community actions in its struggles and its institutional actions which could still be intentional as a social act, several times as the authors show they are

result of institutional disorganization which cause financial waste to the public treasury and administrative inefficiency.

It is in this context that reflections that contribute to the real citizenship construction in this country are being constructed. The Forum of Florianópolis (SC), the congresses of Porto Alegre (RS), Chapecó (SC), Belém (PA), Santo André (SP), only naming some experiences, are somehow new ways of collective and institutional struggle of the rupture of political breaking up aiming at citizenship construction and improvement of the life quality.

Once having this social-political processes, it is easily confirmed what Lüchmann tries to expose: the integration of governmental political intention, participation of the civil organized society and a institutional design, I add shared and negotiated collectively.

The texts have also a theoretical nature as shown in Constantini when he analyses the public politics and the struggle against poverty in the program APD- Rio, a work of interinstitutional analysis. It centers in the concept of governorship as a set of social reality among public actors of the civil society and the private sector. It calls attention to the treatment boundary and methods of the previous programs improving the understanding of how to approach the poverty problem and the exclusion in the institutional programs. In Nascimento, Campos and Schenini, who study the legal and urban implications of environmental laws and mainly the Law 10.257, City Statute. And also in Lüchmann in the relationship study among society and State, the object of study being the deliberative democracy in the political-institutional tension with the representative democracy.

Rolnik, as well as Schaeffer, emphasize the spatial dimension between civilians and the State, focusing on the segregating processes in the city and on the polarization legal city and illegal or invisible city. This social-spatial segregation process, even not yet mentioned straightly by the majority of the authors or either examined by Schaeffer, it is the territorial dimension through where the authors refer to the inequality and disparity concepts.

Schaeffer and Rolnik also explore how the processes of suburbs formation (phenomenon of misplacement - (desterritorialização)), where a great amount of the working class population, result from the movement of social-spatial segregation which is formed by the capital and excluding urban politics that contribute to concentrate the useful effects of agglomeration, or the centering of means of production and its circulation. These authors analyze the unbalanced conditions between the urban, valued city that targets the upper class population and the informal, irregular city that lacks all kinds of basic services. On the other hand, as asserted by Rolnik, this city without

social planning – even in the case of Brasilia, a planned city, as Schaeffer seems to prove – ends up being built by this working class, poor and excluded, with its own means and resources, which is the major part of the urban domain. However, this part of the population is poorly granted with public investments. This same system of planning, even the legal one, as affirmed by Rolnik, and not its absence, ends up pushing the poor people towards the preservation areas, areas under lawsuit process, or yet areas where urbanization proves to be difficult. The City Statute – as asserted by the author, reverts this logic based on the principle that the urban property has a social function and the base for this function is the citizen's right to housing, to the city, under the perspective of an including urban order, recognizing the diversity and the cultural and social heterogeneity of the population. This Federal Law, sanctioned on July, 10th 2001, as shown by Nascimento, Campos and Schenini, describes, even though its legal process in the National Congress took long 12 years since the Constituent of 1988, the urban instruments and mechanisms that guarantee a democratic management and a defensible construction of the city. These authors examine the urban and legal progress of this law, from a historical perspective, referring to the colonial period in Brazil. They highlight, however, the necessity to improve this mechanism, calling the attention to the importance of the society role to the efficient guarantee of this law. The most important among its urban and legal instruments is to build a direct plan that covers the totality of the town, a strategy that links the city and guarantees its defensibility. But, as Rolnik highlights, this law like many other ones, means nothing if it does not work as an effective instrument to citizenship and to the improvement of life quality and democratic domain of the city.

I do believe that these texts are full of historical and social praxis that sustain them. They are “reflexive tasks” that aim to contribute to the turning of the social misery situation that our poet Drummond describes in his poem “Favelário Nacional” that follows in this issue. Its lines contain multiple voices of the suburbs phenomenon that still echoes in my ears, breaking through the wool over that which our eyes got accustomed to see or that the media makes us believe in. But one of these voices called my attention: reverse the supposed neutral attitude of the academy or intellectual work before the dramatic social and urban problem that have been torturing our country and the majority of its population that has passed from poverty to exclusion. Differently from what the poet says: “*the wasted time we spent counting them is in same length to see other ones rising*” – these texts seem to emerge from the depth of the suburbs – suburbs, here, on a wider context – saying that there is no time left to just count them, even though it is necessary to study them, but we must act and not just act but do it with them. Moreover:

that what is made by them is also part of “our” reality, since they built a territory, the city. Maybe, after reading these texts, we do not miss the perplexity with which the poet concludes his poem, or the enchantment in the lines of another...

I am not sure if I have accomplished this noble and hard task of presenting these wonderful texts in this present Magazine. As for any translation act which for any academic or literary worker is an act of creation and reinterpretation, I also show here the almost impossibility of presenting these texts as their authors would like it to be or any hypothetical reader would expect, but only tease the eagerness to reading them and making the reader travel

throughout them. Is it not another text already? I do believe that, as a reader of these texts, that in beginning this provocative, reflexive and essayist activity, is not a already one of the results of this magazine? I invite you all to read it, make this journey. I do believe that you may be provoked to build other texts. After all: is not it the greatest work of the investigative, scientific, literary activity or any other naming to the intellectual work? Or is not it the role of raising active subjects looking for transformation or not in and of the world and, furthermore, write about this and other experiences, helping us getting out of the alienation and oppression that drown us all? Can it soothe our pain? And, if we still can eliminate its causes?

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