

BEYOND THE COLOURFUL FLAG. AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO LGBT RESEARCH IN BRAZIL.

Ramon Almeida.
University Of Brighton.

What comes to your mind when you think about Brazil? (take a break , think!) Carnival? Nature? Samba? In fact, in Brazil they know how to party. Brazil hosts the largest LGBT Parade in the world, which perpetuates the misleading impression of a pluralistic and friendly Brazil. However, a flag full of vibrant colours does not represent the daily experiences of LGBT people in Brazil (Antra, 2020). This poster brings an allarmant situation involving the Brazilian LGBT community, followed by how the Brazilian government has tried to address the social issue. Then, it demonstrates how other areas can contribute to the construction of new perspectives on violence and its consequences.

"Brazil has been ranked as **one of the worst** places for LGBT people to live in the world".
(Antra, 2020)

"In 2020, **more than 237 Brazilian LGBT people** died in situations of violence".
(GGB, 2020).

"Every 26 hours one LGBT person is murdered or commits suicide as a victim of hate crime".
(GGB, 2019).

To reduce this alarming scenario the Brazilian Supreme Court criminalised homophobic and tranphobic acts in 2019. However, studies indicate that the number of transgender people killed in Brazil has risen by 70% over 2020. (ANTRA, 2020).

YOU MUST ASK THEN:

Why even the recent criminalisation has not reduced the levels of hatred and violence against LGBT people?

In addition to punitive criminal laws, other academic disciplines can help build knowledge to understand and implement effective policies that address real LGBT needs.

Sociology

There is a lack of research in Brazil that addresses queer criminology or that has been informed by black feminist and postcolonial feminist epistemologies. These critical reflections can understand not only why criminal justice has not reduced cases of violence, but also contribute to creating new understandings about the real meaning of violence from the point of view of the LGBT community. (Dehesa, 2010).

Health Studies.

Studies suggest that the LGBT population is at greater risk of mental disorders and, therefore, a National LGBT Health Policy is highly recommended as an effective tool to promote the fundamental rights of access to health. (Negreiros, 2019)

Bussines studies.

"54% of LGBT workers do not feel confident to speak about their own sexual orientation or gender identity in the professional environment" (CNN, 2021).

Therefore,

different disciplines have shown different forms of violence. Criminal justice itself does not produce knowledge. It is a court of law not knowledge. Therefore, it is vital to understand the limits of the judicialization of rights and what happens after the court's decision. Different qualitative research in the field of health, critical queer criminology, employment relations, among others, can contribute to the construction of understanding the plural particularities of a colonized LGBT population and their needs with their own point of view. (Dehesa, 2010).

The LGBT population's access to health is marked by obstacles, such as inappropriate behavior and discriminatory care by health professionals, which end up keeping them away from health services. (Santos, 2020).

"67% of LGBT workers who experience violence do not report for fear of losing their jobs". (Antra, 2020).



- Antra, 2020. "Dossier: Murders and Violence against Travestis and Trans People in Brazil - 2019 ... (ANTRA), The Brazilian Trans Institute of Education (IBTE), 2020".
- CNN, (2021) - "54% não sentem segurança no ambiente de trabalho - CNN" - <https://www.cnnbrasil.com.br/business/lgbtqi-54-nao-sentem-seguranca-no-ambiente-de-trabalho/>
- Dehesa, R. de la (2010) Queering the Public Sphere in Mexico and Brazil: Sexual Rights Movements in Emerging Democracies. Duke University Pres.
- Grupo Gay da Bahia (GGB) (2019) Assassinato de homossexuais (LGBT) no Brasil relatório 2014.
- Negreiros, F. (2019). Saúde de Lésbicas, Gays, Bissexuais, Travestis e Transexuais: da Formação Médica à Atuação Profissional. Revista Brasileira De Educação Médica,
- Santos, (2020). Access to the Unified Health System in the perspective of male homosexuals. Rev Bras Enferm. 2020.