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Dossier:

The history of women's reproductive and sexual rights in Brazil: paths of resistance

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Presentation

Apresentação | Presentación

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In “Debate about abortion from the perspective of the feminist movement”, Kamila Delfino Santos Corgozinho, researcher and author, aims to establish a historical retrospective about abortion in Brazil, as well as to demonstrate how this fight for self-determination of the bodies was based on the demand for broad sexual and reproductive rights – and in confrontation with the conservative ideals, propagated mainly by religion in the country. The debate promoted by Luciana Nunes Fonseca in “A socio-historical retrospective of social participation and the construction of public policies for women's sexual and reproductive health care in Brazil”, also aims to promote a historical reflection on public policies of integral attention to women's health. The author criticizes the public policies that were promoted without dialogue with society, influencing the constant reformulations and claims of feminist groups.

In “Feminisms and literature: sexual liberation and the literary indications of *Mulherio* (1981-1988)”, authored by Érica Estefany Borges de Aguiar, a discussion is constructed about the sexual freedom present in literature, emphasizing the debate about female desire and pleasure. According to the author, feminism is an emancipatory movement that has crossed the walls of the “morality of Brazilian families,” decisively influencing soap operas, films and books. In this aspect, the movement brought modernization with regard to the theme of female self-determination and the valorization of pleasure and desire.

In “The female condition in the modern family: marriage, maternity, sexuality and medicine in Rio de Janeiro’s press during the first half of the twentieth century”, Vívian Marcello Ferreira Caetano seeks to promote a debate on how the press conveyed issues inherent to women's sexuality and the exercise of motherhood. The author found through research that there was a gender differentiation, especially regarding sexual freedom and, therefore, men and women received different information on topics such as chastity and role within marriage. In addition, public health agencies recommended that men who intended to marry should be examined, since in order to build a family, men should be sexually and reproductively healthy, with the goal of not transmitting sexual diseases. However, the press recommended that “smart fiancés” should exercise their sexuality, deceiving their fiancées and families by ingesting drugs with the purpose of purifying the blood before the pre-nuptial examination.

This dossier also has a section of free theme papers that bring a diversity of debated subjects. In “Relation between author and work: authorship marks of the author Márcia Della Flora Cortes”, Cosme Alves Serralheiro approaches the importance of the understanding of authorship marks, being that the several marks found in the works help us to understand the existing relations between the book and the author. In Serralheiro's second article, entitled

"Civic-military Schools Project: a palliative option for a possible improvement in Brazilian education", he portrays the implementation of the civic-military school project in Brazilian primary education. The third article, whose theme encompasses anti-science, is entitled "Teaching History against anti-science: adapting teaching towards today", by Nelson Luis Hernandez Cabreira Junior. In it, the author approaches themes that concern the current historical context and the difficulties that the advance of the unbridled dissemination of information, due to the technological advance, can mean to current History, bringing important notes as to the current Brazilian History. In their paper, authors Juliana Porto Machado and Eduarda Porto Machado bring us the following approach in its title: "The Afro-Brazilian and African History and Culture represented in a textbook used in a school of Jaguarão/RS". In this article, the authors approach the textbook, evidencing that it, despite the market structure regarding teaching materials, is at the same time a source of research to both teacher and students. Thus, the main objective of the authors is to reflect about the representation of Afro-Brazilian History and Culture in the book under focus.

In the fifth free theme article, entitled "Music and the classroom: possible History teaching themes in national music albums (2017-2019)", Matheus Valduga Martins addresses the use of music in the classroom, and its efficiency in teaching History.

In the sixth article, entitled "Cemitério das Irmandades: a tourist product that keeps alive in its tumular collection a space of memory and History of Jaguarão/RS", Larissa Bitar addresses the cemetery as a place of memory and History and, simultaneously, as a tourist product in the municipality of Jaguarão, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

The seventh paper, and the last of this free theme articles section, is Vitor Viebrantz's "On a horizon of renewed Political History: biography, individuals and context". In it, the author addresses the criticism to traditional Political History, which is linked to historiographical practices that centralized the narratives in great political and military events.

Lastly, we are honored with a text that compacts with the theme of the dossier, in which the author, Francisca Cibele Da Silva Gomes, performs a critical review entitled "Freedom, equality and feminist solidarity: interpretations and reinterpretations on 'Feminism is for everybody: passionate politics', by bell hooks (2018)". This review closes the current Semina's dossier.

We wish you all a great read!