

Dossier

Violence and Society

We are pleased to present this dossier that deals with the issue of violence in Latin-American societies. Addressing the theme in Brazil, Costa Rica and Uruguay, and in Latin-American sub-continent, the articles have diverse approaches to the analysis to a variety of subjects, such as narratives of memories of violence, changes in judicial policies to fight organized crime, collective feelings on security, and representation of violence in literature.

The large range of issues expresses the vitality of this field of sociological research in Latin America as well the profound and widespread concern of researchers, governments and citizens about the growing forms of violence and its social representation. They demonstrate the commitment of sociologists with policy aiming to reduce violence and construct pathways to a peaceful society, and to denounce the pervasive culture of violence.

The issue is not new since violence was an imbedded structural feature of the colonial past that has reproduced itself, although with new formats, in the contemporaneity. We hope the dossier will help readers to understand different facets of this phenomena.

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