


CEPIA

CIDADANIA, ESTUDO, PESQUISA, INFORMAÇÃO E AÇÃO

CEPIA Annual Report

2019

CEPIA - Cidadania, Estudo, Pesquisa, Informação e Ação

✉ cepiacidadania@gmail.com

📷 @cepiacidadania / @partiupaporeto

f cepiacidadania / partiupaporeto

📺 YouTube Cepia Cidadania

BRAZILIAN CONTEXT

The national context of Brazil, in 2019, was very adverse, marked by the growth of the influence and strength of conservative religious groups. We have seen the politicization of religion, the growth of a narrative of hatred and intolerance, and the growth of authoritarianism, that inhibits the democratic debate. There was an increase of ultra-liberal right wing political groups, particularly in the Federal Executive and Legislative branches, contrary to sex education in schools and the use of the concept of gender in the educational system, trying to impose a model of the so-called "school without a party" to introduce fundamentalist and anti-democratic contents in opposition to the secular education existing in the public school system.

Bolsonaro's government has promoted an ultraconservative foreign policy, violating international governmental human rights commitments, being today allied with countries as Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan in issues related to gender and reproductive rights.

Bolsonaro's government understands the world in a binary perspective - on the one hand, the conservative fundamentalist discourse, those who proclaim themselves to be defenders of the country, of the traditional family, of Christian values, and on the other, its opponents transformed into dangerous political enemies. This moral and customs agenda is the ideological support of the government that defends the preservation of traditional values, including the recognition of only one family structure and combat against sexual and reproductive policies, among other agendas, with very negative impact on women's human rights.

The Bolsonaro government is opposed to a sustainable environmental policy. 2019 ended with a 30% increase in the number of fires recorded in the Amazon, compared to 2018, according to final data from Inpe (National Institute for Space Research). In these first two years, the deforestation of the Amazon and the burning in large areas of the forest, the Pantanal and the cerrado, gave rise to advances in soy plantations, pastures for cattle, in addition to the advancement of mining activities. In a negationist view, the government rejects the scientific evidence for global warming.

Among Bolsonaro's politics is a labor reform, reduction on the social policies already in place and weakening civil society, heavy investments in agribusiness with the dismantling of environmental policies and institutions.

There is an anti-gender crusade in the country that attacks, especially in social media, NGOs, feminists and LGBTQI+ movements, which are accused by the radical fundamentalists of being responsible for destroying families, subverting values, causing disorder. Other movements, such as black women, human rights, environmentalists, indigenous peoples, are also accused of being agents of disorder and destruction. Although particularly dramatic in Brazil, this is an international context, affecting other countries in Latin America and in other parts of the world where populist extreme right conservative governments rule.

The President maintains his “anti-institutions” electoral speech, investing against the National Congress and the Supreme Court (STF). In the state of Rio de Janeiro, Governor Wilson Witzel was aligned with Bolsonaro's agenda and had, as one of his main goals, to combat urban violence through the use and abuse of military forces.

The conservative agenda can be observed in the performance of the Federal Executive branch and in the proposal of bills in the National Congress aimed at restricting these rights, including the increase in the criminalization of voluntary termination of pregnancy, even in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape. The restriction on the right to abortion in the event of sexual violence contrasts, in a striking way, with the statistical data systematized in the survey by the Brazilian Forum on Public Security.

These data indicate the occurrence of 66 thousand rape victims in Brazil in 2018, with the majority of victims (53.8%) being girls up to 13 years old. According to the Forum, one way of preventing this violence depends on changes in behavior through sex education.

Even in this very adverse context there were positive aspects that brought hope for a better future. The civil society organizations are still very strong and articulated resisting, in different fronts the dismantling of democratic and human rights principles. Feminist movements, black and indigenous women movements, LGBTQI+ movements, environmentalists, are at the fore front of this resistance, building common agendas out of their diversity. Heterogeneous sectors, with different views on economics and politics, but a common agenda to defend secularism and democratic principles, were engaged

in the creation of large fronts. The mainstream press was very vocal against authoritarianism and populism and the Supreme Court has taken stands to protect the Constitution. Also even if the high level positions of the executive branch are occupied by supporters of Bolsonaro this is not so in medium range officers that resist this fundamentalist perspective in public policies.

MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CEPIA'S

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Main Accomplishments of CEPIA's Programs and activities in this context

CEPIA's accomplishments are based on its curriculum, with 29 years of competent and nationally and internationally recognized performance in a wide range of experience in research projects, social intervention, advocacy, campaigns, educational and training projects. Among its main assets are its capacity for interlocution with diverse sectors, and its advocacy actions for women's human rights. Another asset comes from partnerships with the justice, security, health and education sectors, and its interlocution with feminist organizations, social movements and the media. In the current adverse context it is key to participate in networks with mutual support strategies to face challenges.

Another asset is the trained and diversified team in terms of age, race, professional training, as well as its governance. Another important accomplishment is the fact that CEPIA continues to be a reference for the national and international media on gender and human rights issues.

In spite of this critical context, Brazilian NGOs, civil society organizations, feminist groups, as well as important sectors of the mainstream press, universities and professional associations are resisting this backlash. CEPIA, along with the democratic opposition, faces the challenge of preventing setbacks and maintaining agendas aimed at expanding and enforcing the rights of women and other vulnerable sectors. CEPIA

continues to defend women's human rights in its multiple dimensions. CEPIA intensified its networking with other feminist groups and organizations, implemented trainings and dialogues on women's issues and gender equality, invested in various ways on preventing and combating violence against women (VAW) and defending the sexual and reproductive rights agenda. CEPIA also invested on training adolescents and young people, strengthened its participation in various Forums, networks and initiatives that work to guarantee human rights of children, youth and adolescents, understanding that adolescence is a key moment of life to introduce values and principles of gender equality.

CEPIA also continued its important partnership with Rio de Janeiro State Magistrates School (EMERJ) collaborating on the *Gender and Law* course, as well as having a constant presence on other activities together with EMERJ, such as the *Permanent Forum on Domestic, Family and Gender Violence* monthly meeting to monitor the Maria da Penha Law.

Cepia continued its membership and participation in the meetings of the *Consortium Maria da Penha Law*, analyzing the numerous projects submitted to the National Legislative Power that aim to introduce changes that distort the objectives of these Law. The Consortium's feminist advocacy work has prevented the approval of these projects. A good news is that in 2019 CEPIA maintained and strengthened its alliance with the Rio de Janeiro Municipal Education Secretariat (SME) and, through the *Health at School Program* (PSE), introduced activities aimed at promoting human rights, health and sexual and reproductive rights and gender equality aimed at adolescents and young people. CEPIA also reached PSE professionals, from the area of education, social assistance and health. It was also possible to expand alliances with other sectors such as the Cruzada do Menor and with a set of institutions, organizations and democratic movements.

Advocacy is even more important and necessary in this current scenario of dismantling of human rights.

In parallel to these institutional articulations, CEPIA invested in strengthening knowledge and skills of young people who work in its team, as facilitators and/or are part of youth protagonism groups, stimulating their role as multipliers in promoting health and sexual rights and reproductive health and gender equality.

Along the year of 2019, through workshops and focus groups, with the aim of strengthening the role of young people in vulnerable situations, in the defense of their rights, in respect for diversity, in building more egalitarian relationships and in promoting health and well-being, CEPIA's project directly involved more than 380 adolescents and young people. CEPIA also positively impacted the dynamics between teachers, students and elementary and public high school students, professionals in the *Health at School Program* (PSE).

CEPIA also reinforced the dialogue with representatives of the Education Department of Rio de Janeiro, within the scope of the *Health at School Program* (PSE), as well as with coordinators of the 11 Regional Education Coordinators (CREs).

Another important component of CEPIA's work is the establishment of partnerships and collaborations, such as with *State Forum to Combat Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers* - FEPETI / RJ. In May, CEPIA, as part of FEPETI, participated in meetings, activities, including workshops and seminars to give visibility to the *National Day to Combat Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation against Children and Adolescents*, celebrated on May 18th.

In 2019, CEPIA was faced with the government's proposal to facilitate access to firearms, allowing up to four guns at home. CEPIA has protested against this measure, alerting public opinion and the security and justice sectors that femicide rates would increase.

- **Activities organized by CEPIA in its four Programs**
- **CEPIA in international events**
- **Activities with other partners**
- **Other relevant initiatives**
- **Social Medias**
- **CEPIA in the mainstream media**
- **CEPIA's Publications**
- **Publications with articles by CEPIA's team**
- **Challenges**
- **Participation in Committees, Organizations and Boards**

● Activities organized by CEPIA in its four Programs

Training, Empowerment and Capacity Building on Women's Human Rights

CEPIA continues to be part of the *Women's Learning Partnership* (WLP) a successful network, a partnership of 20 feminist organizations from around the Global South, with which it develops training and advocacy campaigns on women's human rights. Every year CEPIA promotes, in partnership with WLP, the *Training of Trainers Regional Seminar: Empowerment and Women's Political Role*.

Training of Trainers Regional Seminar: Empowerment and Women's Political Role

In [June](#) CEPIA held the 8th edition of the *Training of Trainers* (TOT), which brought together 24 women with diverse life trajectories and professional backgrounds. Along 3 days, the group addressed issues related to horizontal leadership, dialogue and empathy, political participation, gender based violence and family laws. The training is based on methodology and manuals prepared by WLP and adapted by its partners to its context.

The political context on the Federal and State level with a dismantling of civil society organizations, an increase in insecurity and backlashes on human rights agenda, aligned with a still polarized society had a direct impact on this year's training. The participants considered that the training motivated them to improve their political role. Some of the comments included:

“The content of the training directly contributed to my political performance, especially as the practice of women's group facilitation. Yes, I understood how I can operate in various segments, various spaces and contexts. I realized I need to go deeper.”

“I liked quite a lot the way the agenda of the training was prepared and the way the facilitators helped us to build a concept of political participation. It became much more clear to me that to have a political role is to engage in a process.”

“For sure, I came here thinking that I knew a lot about political participation and found out that I didn't know, not even 10% of what I have learned here. The materials and debates helped me to improve my knowledge.”

“I had no idea of my political importance”.

The participants already had a considerable level of knowledge about gender concepts and rights, however, they stated that they increased their understanding based on what was discussed during the training and from the various points of view brought by the group.

“My knowledge on gender issues was broadened during the training thanks to the contact with personal life narratives, different professional positions and points of view, and the interaction with other feminisms.”

“The statistics about women and gender issues presented during the TOT were very helpful. I also learned from the participants own testimonies how gender based violence is a daily life issue and affects so many women. However, VAW is not so much present among my social groups.”

“The facilitation reinforced to me the fact that everything is a gender issue if we look through this lens.”

“Before the training I had many doubts and I was always silent when someone close to me addressed any gender issue. Now I haven't any more doubts.”

As for decision-making, almost all the participants said that the TOT had contributed to their decision-making at home. Some of them mentioned that the family structure should be understood as something not homogenous. Individuals with various personalities and values integrate a family structure making a parallel to the women's collective that they belong. To talk about feminism with relatives, for instance, is still a taboo, with others they have an open debate. They also stressed the fact that decision making should go beyond the walls of the house. The training impacted on other spheres of their lives. Some of the comments included:

“This is something I have to work on, dialogue and empathy with my family members. How is it possible to talk about feminism and empowerment with so many people and not being able to talk to my mother, for example? ”

“ I have a group among my family members, so, everything that we have learned in this training will be very important to share with my family.”

“With the understanding of the concept of participatory leadership on the individual and collective level I will be able to have my decision making respected.”

“The training strengthened my skills to discuss, listen and dialogue with my family about various situations that we live both at home and also in society as a whole.”

As for the questions related to future projects and networks all the participants mentioned that the training had a positive impact in their participation in future projects and networks. Most of them shared the experience with their partners. Some mentioned that the experience impacted their lives as a whole. Some of the comments included:

“I feel more willing to participate in initiatives beyond my work. I identified some people in the group that I want to collaborate with and that motivates me.”

“Building partnerships and networking will be important in the design and implementation of new projects.”

“I met several wonderful women who helped me have great ideas on how to improve the protocols adopted in my organization so as to turn it more fair and sensitive.”

“All the work that I do in social projects is being rethought after this training.”



In the first week of [November the 20th](#) partner organizations of the Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development and Peace (WLP) network met in Washington for their annual *Transnational Partners Convening*. The meeting was attended by representatives of women's organizations from Morocco, Mauritania, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Senegal, Pakistan, Malaysia, Kyrgyzstan, and Brazil.

Climate Justice and Gender was one of the central themes of the meeting, alerting participants to the fact that women are especially vulnerable to climate change but also alerting that they play a key role in their communities in finding solutions to the challenges they face, such as flooding. Another theme of the meeting's agenda was the discussions

on Beijing + 25 and WLP's strategies for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the IV World Conference on Women, held in 1995, as an opportunity to revise the Platform for Action.



CEPIA attended the meeting sharing the activities developed by the organization and, in particular, bringing a Latin American perspective to the debate in terms of advances, setbacks and strategies regarding women's human rights.

Formative meetings with representatives of the Regional Education Coordinators (CREs)

"I really liked the topics covered and I realized that human rights, education and power relations have fertile soil. However, I feel it would be very important to continue this very delicate debate. We need more information and recommendations on how to bring this discussion up for the students. We need to deepen the issues related to domestic and family violence against women and think about how to deepen this theme with our students from the experience they bring us. "

"I am sure that the activities that have been developed here will be multiplied. I will have opportunities to share and implement this knowledge in relationships with my family, friends and within the classroom. The issues addressed have to do with our life and they will always be revisited."

In 2019 CEPIA has also organized workshops, occurred on [May 22nd](#), [June 18th](#) and on [July 2nd](#) focused on education and human rights, power and gender relations and health and sexual reproductive rights, central themes of the workshops offered in schools. 22 female teachers participated in this training.

In addition to the participation of experts from the CEPIA's team, case studies were presented, related to the school reality. In these workshops, there were no male participants, reinforcing the fact that in Brazil the vast majority of high school teachers are women.

The participants considered the methodology excellent or very good, all considered the content very relevant and intended to implement the knowledge and skills acquired with their students. They also mentioned that the workshops offered them the opportunity to reflect deeply on their roles as teachers and on the effectiveness of their preparation for the "world" of adolescents. The PSE coordination was very satisfied with CEPIA's work and has already expressed an interest in continuing with its partnership in teacher education/training and also with the involvement of other high school students.



Popular Legal Promoters

CEPIA continued to lecture at the course for *Popular Legal Promoters* at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro Law School. Those students are women community leaders who are prepared to share and to learn better the use of institutional mechanisms for access to justice, bringing the theme of violence against women, Maria da Penha law and women's rights in the 1988 Federal Constitution.

Human Rights, Access to Justice and Violence Against Women

CEPIA continues to participate in the *Consortium Lei Maria Penha*, formed by 5 feminist NGOs, which work in the southeast, south and central west of Brazil, in defense of women's rights. The *Consortium* elaborated the draft law to combat domestic violence that culminated in the approval of Law 11.340/2006, known as the Maria da Penha Law. Since then, it has been monitoring the implementation of this law, following legislative projects on VAW, promoting advocacy actions, publishing, interacting with academic institutions and national feminist associations.

CEPIA also continues to be part of the *Permanent Forum on Domestic, Family and Gender Violence at the Rio de Janeiro State Magistracy School (EMERJ)*, and coordinates the EMERJ graduate course, increasing the awareness of law professionals, including judges, prosecutors, public defenders, among other professionals, on the importance of gender, race, sexual and reproductive rights, and ethnicity in the application of national laws.

Internationally, CEPIA is part of MESECVI, a committee of the Organization of American States - OAS that monitors the implementation of the *Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará*.

Women, Time and Voice - Rights, Achievements and Challenges

On January 30th, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the 1988 Brazilian Constitution, the Museum of Justice – Cultural Center of the Judiciary (CCMJ) inaugurated the exhibition *Women, Time and Voice – Rights, Achievements and Challenges*. On April 17th and June 3rd CEPIA's executive coordinators were invited to mediate the exhibition lecturing on themes such as: on Brazilian history, human rights, citizenship and feminism, entitled *Women from All Countries Unite Against Violence* and the women's demands during the constituent process.



Students from municipal schools, graduate students, postgraduate students on courses related to gender were present in this important exhibition. On that date the Museum of Justice organized a joint interview, organized by the exhibition curator Silvia Monte with [4 historic feminists](#): Comba Marques Porto; Jacqueline Pitanguy and Leila Linhares Barsted, from CEPIA, and Schuma Schumacher. An article was written, by a newspaper of great circulation in Brazil, talking about this

event.

Jacqueline Pitanguy, who presided the National Council for Women's Rights during the Constitutional process also spoke at a meeting with the Supreme Court Minister Roberto Barroso on the Constitution and women's rights.



Women's human rights defenders and State violence

CEPIA, in partnership with the Kroc Institute for Peace, held a project on women's human rights defenders and state violence, initiated in 2018. The project aimed to strengthen those women on their search for

justice and to ensure that they have access to the due process of law. On [April 30th](#), CEPIA organized a visit to the exhibition *Women, time and voice: rights, achievements and challenges*, to strengthen human rights defenders, including mothers who lost their children or relatives to state violence.

Forum on Domestic, Family and Gender Violence at the Rio de Janeiro State Magistracy School (EMERJ)

CEPIA continues to be part of the *Forum on Domestic, Family and Gender Violence at the Rio de Janeiro State Magistracy School (EMERJ)*, and part of the coordination of the extension and training course on *Gender and Law*, promoted by EMERJ, raising the awareness of law professionals, including judges, prosecutors, public defenders, social workers, among other professionals, on the importance of gender, race, sexual and reproductive rights, and ethnicity in the application of national laws.

Training to Professionals Assisting Migrant and Refugee Women on Women's Human Rights, Gender Violence and Humanitarian Crisis

CEPIA conducted, in partnership with UN Women, a gender and human rights training for justice, security, health and social care professionals, as well as members of United Nations agencies that assist women in situations of violence, Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the Amazon region. The training was held in February, in Boa Vista, at Casa da Mulher. CEPIA promoted the training and qualification of professionals who worked to combat violence against women and girls in the context of the humanitarian crisis triggered by Venezuelan migration. The training expanded their knowledge and skills so that they were sensitized in assisting women and girls in situations of social vulnerability, including Venezuelan migrants living in Roraima. CEPIA offered subsidies so that security, justice and health professionals could identify the difficulties of these women, as well as their needs, skills and expectations, and could support them so that they could have access to citizenship rights, public policies and, in particular, protection against violence,

in services aimed at their attention and care, also allowing them to find respect and solidarity in society. CEPIA prepared specific support materials for the training.

Discussions on Brazilian Law

CEPIA has reinforced its partnership with the Getulio Vargas Foundation. On [March 20th](#), CEPIA attended the seminar *Legislative Reforms in Criminal Matters*, held at the Foundation. The event aimed to discuss proposals for change in Brazilian criminal law in the current context of the criminal justice system and the direction of criminal policy. The event brought together experts to discuss proposals for changes in Brazilian criminal law, especially those provided for in the so-called “anti-crime package”, presented by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in February 2019.

Women’s Law: theory, practice and transformative action

On [June 14th](#), CEPIA was also present on the online postgraduate program *Women’s Law: theory, practice and transformative action*, lecturing on public policy and violence against women. The general objectives of this course was to raise awareness of gender issues, promote and strengthen the culture of gender equity, encourage the naturalization of female leadership in academia and the labor market.

Citizen Justice Program



On [September 5th](#), CEPIA gave the inaugural lecture of the 14th *Specialized Class of the Citizen Justice Program* (Justiça Cidadã), of the *Department of Pro-Sustainability* (Deape) of the Rio de Janeiro State Court of Justice. The class was attended by leaders of various communities in Rio. CEPIA addressed the achievements of women in recent decades, but stressed that much still needs to be

done for equal rights. The Constitution brings a formal equality, but this has not necessarily eliminated all economic, social and political discrimination. The course included topics such as the role of Maria da Penha Law in guaranteeing human rights and the mechanisms and instruments ratified by Brazil in the human rights international system.

Law in the feminist perspective

On [October 09th](#), CEPIA participated at the Association of Public Defenders of the State of Rio de Janeiro – ADPERJ, in a conversation about law in the feminist perspective. The conversation was inspired by the book [Weaving Threads of Feminist Criticism of Law in Brazil](#), organized by the Maria da Penha Law Consortium for the Fight against All



Forms of Gender Violence against Women, which CEPIA is part, and rescues the reflections and debates of the Workshop *Weaving Threads to Discuss Feminist Criticism of Law in Brazil: Theoretical Production of Women's Law and Civil Law from a Feminist Perspective*, held in May 2017, in Brasilia.

On [November 4th](#), took place at the Magistrate's School of the State of Rio de Janeiro, the 1st Seminar *Women's participation in the spaces of power* in which CEPIA attended. The event rescued the *Declaration and Platform for Action of the IV World Conference on Women, in Beijing, in 1995*, which deals with women in spaces of power and what States must do so that these women have equal conditions to ascend to any position they want.

CEPIA'S ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS

Women's equality in political participation - Electoral campaign funds: more funds to women candidates

CEPIA has been building a promising and successful partnership with Fundação Getúlio Vargas, through the FGV Law - *Diversity Program*, since the campaign for more

equalitarian representation of women in electoral processes. CEPIA along with FGV Law School was *amicus curiae* on an Action on Federal Supreme Court (STF), ADI 5617, to assure that at least 30% of electoral funds would go to women candidates, aligned with the quota law that stipulated that parties should have at least 30% of female candidates, and STF ruled favorable to the ADI 5617.



Along with other organizations, CEPIA has participated in the monitoring of this decision to make sure that it has been applied by the political parties. On [November 22nd](#), CEPIA participated in the seminar *More Women in Politics* where international strategies were presented. The themes debated were how to increase the political participation of women, it was brought the history of

the performance of feminist movements in Brazil, aimed at enhancing the presence of women in the legislative power; political violence against women, advances in Federal Supreme Court (STF) and the Superior Electoral Court (TSE) decisions to increase resources for women candidacies and to prevent fraud by the parties; the role of the Public Ministry in the electoral process, among other themes.

More Guns = More Femicide

CEPIA took the initiative to develop a national campaign, with the *Collective 4D: Four Generations of Feminism*, and the collective *Agora é que São Elas* to produce a film alerting to the danger for women of the Presidential decree allowing individuals to have up to four guns at home. The film featured 4 very short stories of women in situations of domestic violence calling attention to the fact that while most victims of domestic violence can escape this situation, this is not so when there is a gun in the house. The film was sent to parliamentarians, justice and security system officers as well to different civil society organizations. *More guns = More femicide* (see more on CEPIA's social media campaigns, on page 40).

Human Rights, Health and Sexual and Reproductive Rights

CEPIA introduces the themes of sexual and reproductive health and rights in almost all workshops. This issue, given the situation of setbacks and the constant threats to rights, especially of women, is of fundamental importance to be debated. The theme *health and youth* was brought up in all the workshops in the municipal schools, with adolescents and youths. CEPIA was able to work in the gaps, taking the opportunity and the space conquered within the Municipal Secretary of Education, since the mayor of the city of Rio de Janeiro is a conservative evangelical pastor.

CEPIA's social media *Partiu Papo Reto* as well as the app are digital platforms of sexual education, used mainly by youth. The *Partiu Papo Reto* is an app that brings information about sexual and reproductive health and rights for teenagers and young people in addition to bringing information about services available in the city of Rio de Janeiro, having been expanded to the municipality of São Paulo and Recife.

CEPIA continues to be a member of REBRAPD, the *Population and Development Network*, denouncing setbacks and calling for the implementation of the *Action Plan of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Cairo Conference*.

CEPIA continues to be part of the *Feminist Collective 4D*, organizing campaigns and other advocacy actions on sexual and reproductive rights and gender violence.

CEPIA is also a member of GEA, *Group of Studies on Abortion* that brings together physicians, nurses, psychologists, lawyers and women's rights activists and that plays a major role in defending abortion rights.

CEPIA is also one of the few NGO's member of the *Maternal Mortality Committee of Rio de Janeiro* that monitors maternal death and proposes measures to prevent it. In the monthly meetings of the Committee, CEPIA addresses issues of gender and race inequalities as main determinants of MM as well as sexual abuse of adolescents and girls.

Events on Cairo + 25



CEPIA is part of the executive secretariat of the *Brazilian Network of Population and Development* (REBRAPD) and, on [September 05th](#), participated in the *Regional Meeting – Brazilian Population and Development Dialogues Marielle Franco*, organized by REBRAPD in São Paulo, at the School of Public Health. This event

celebrated the 25th anniversary of the *Cairo Population and Development Conference*, which set a new milestone in the affirmation of sexual and reproductive rights.

The Cairo + 25 Seminar was a celebration of the International Conference on Population and Development - CIPD + 25, which was organized by REBRAPD, in which CEPIA participated. The seminar, took place on [October 5th and 6th](#), and was co-organized by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and brought together key players with the objective of evaluating achievements and setbacks since Cairo and reflect on the progress and challenges of implementing the *Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development* (ICPD).

The structural axis was *Health - Education - Human Rights* and the transversal axes were: *Gender - Race - Sexuality - Generation*. Activists, public health professionals, teachers and researchers participated in the event. A female youth from CEPIA's team participated in the intergenerational panel *From Cairo 1994 to Nairobi 2019: Paths for the 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development in Brazil*. CEPIA's executive coordinators opened the first lecture *Rights, Vulnerabilities and Violence*. The event was attended by activists and militants, public health professionals, teachers and researchers.

Communication Group of the Sexual Autonomy Project

CEPIA, as part of a feminist coalition, *Communication Group of the Sexual Autonomy Project*, attended the *National Workshop on Communication and Abortion - paths to*

new narratives and communication strategies in dark times. The workshop was held on November and the target audience were partner organizations and communicators, and those with the potential to become partners in the defense of reproductive justice, in particular the right to abortion.

CEPIA, through this coalition, participated in several mobilization actions around the defense of reproductive autonomy, a topic of fundamental importance, especially in the context of several attempts to restrict the sexual and reproductive rights of Brazilian women.

Training, Empowerment and Capacity Building of Youth and Adolescents

“Teenagers need to know more about their bodies. There are so many things that we don't know and that we need to know. Please stay with us”.

"Thank you for letting us say what we think, what we know and what we don't know."

Along the year of 2019, the *Training, Empowerment and Capacity Building of Youth and Adolescents* engaged 380 adolescents and youth directly in the training activities.

CEPIA developed a project *Puberty and girls empowerment* for very young adolescent girls which has allowed a greater immersion and understanding of issues and needs more specific to the 10-14 age group, specially those with greater social vulnerability. The project aimed to contribute for girls to experience their puberty in an informed, pleasant, free of coercion and responsible way, understanding it as a life cycle, in which each person experiences in a different way.

The project was divided into two moments – planning and intervention. Through workshops and focus groups with diverse audiences, it aimed to gather information in order to identify the main needs, demands and needs that affect girls, as well as existing services. On the second moment a diagnosis was done, which involved training and workshops with adolescent girls based on participatory and inclusive methodology and with the use of materials developed by CEPIA to support these activities

CEPIA improved its institutional knowledge and production of materials support for working with that audience, as well as strengthened direct dialogue with girls and boys of those ages, promoting the exchange of experiences and reflections. A series of workshops and focal groups were held. It was possible to listen to their family members about their perceptions of their teens and the teens of their parents. The learnings

achieved during this project will become a publication such as a diagnosis, that will help to guide the activities that will come along the year of 2020.

During 2019, CEPIA had also impacted positively the dynamics between teachers and students in the high school where the projects were developed. Teachers and representatives of the Department of Education were also impacted by CEPIA's work of sensitizing them and giving them inputs on how to incorporate a gender sensitive approach in their practices.

CEPIA continued its partnership and renovated the formal agreement with the Rio de Janeiro Educational Department (SME), through the *Health at School Program (PSE)*, strengthening formally, once again, its entry into municipal schools in the public school system. This agreement represents the recognition of the SME on the relevance of CEPIA's work to the empowerment of adolescents and the improvement of their skills to better defend their rights, exercise their citizenship and establish relations based on gender equality.

CEPIA's Youth Program continued to develop and expand its training and capacity building activities to empower adolescents and youths on the defense of their rights, on the promotion of gender equal relations and to stimulate them to play an active role in society as agents of change. Indirectly more than 2.000 people were affected by this Program.

CEPIA continued to develop activities in public high schools, Henrique Dodsworth Municipal School and Orlando Vilas Boas Municipal School and also in Cruzada do Menor, a NGO that offers after our activities to adolescents and youth in vulnerable situations.

CEPIA's continued its active participation in various Forums, networks and initiatives, such as working groups to combat sexual abuse and exploitation, from the *State Forum to Combat Child and Adolescent Labor (FEPETI-RJ)*, bringing knowledge, expertise, expanding networks and enriching our agenda.

CEPIA considers that this year was very enriching for all those involved, including its team, which also benefited from the exchange of experiences with young people and adolescents, students, teachers and PSE professionals, including the areas of education, social assistance and health.

This strengthens CEPIA to respond to the challenges of the current adverse national environment, which has been attacking the educational area, trying to ban gender and sexual education from the school curriculum, among other conservative ideological interventions.

This is an example of how CEPIA responds to the challenges and the importance of the institution's work with the public education system at the municipal level in Rio de Janeiro.

CEPIA's goal was to enable teachers to adopt a human rights and gender perspective in their classes. For this, throughout the year, CEPIA organized meetings and workshops with teachers, on the same issues that were discussed with the students. The meetings were very productive and very well received by the teachers, who expressed their desire to continue participating in future workshops held by CEPIA.

Internationally, on March, from [20th to 22nd](#), CEPIA participated in a workshop in Mexico City, hosted by EMPower Foundation, involving organizations from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru, discussing advances, challenges, and strategies for advocating for the sexual rights of 10- to 14-year-old girls.

Seminar to Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and International Women's Day

CEPIA was invited by the coordination of the Henrique Dodsworth Municipal School to participate in a series of workshops and debates which took place on [March 26th](#), and involved the school community, including students and teachers.

Most of the workshops were facilitated by CEPIA's team and each workshop addressed a theme: gender violence against girls; power relations; how to improve health with good nutrition; empowerment and decision making; masculinities and adolescent sexuality. Each of these workshops was developed twice in order to reach different classes, as well as different age groups.

The seminar was attended by approximately 150 students, from the 6th to the 9th grade, aged between 11 and 17 years, girls and boys. The evaluation of the students, as well as the teachers, was very positive. They considered the activities to be very relevant, as they represented an innovative, participatory and horizontal learning strategy, with diverse

dynamics in approaching the themes and a good opportunity to speak openly about some subjects. The students prepared a poster with key points on how to promote more egalitarian relationships. The poster was displayed on the school walls for more than a month.



Workshops with young students from the Orlando Villas Boas Municipal School

The Orlando Villas Boas Municipal School promoted, between [September 16th and 20th](#), a *Youth Week*. Throughout the week, several workshops were held on topics of interest to the students, with the participation of teachers, coordination and few invited organizations.

These workshops aimed to work with adolescents and young people on issues that are still taboo in society, including sexual violence, sexuality, gender violence and health and sexual and reproductive rights, among other topics.

In each of the four workshops, CEPIA's team asked students to think of effective messages to be spread at school or even among family and friends, in order to draw their attention to discriminatory attitudes present in our daily lives.

"Value yourself for what you are. It's not what they want you to be! "

"We must first treat women well. They must have the same rights as men. #ForaMachismo "

"#Safesex: the condom is free. Get yours "

"The workshop was very important for me. Talking about our body, our rights and what it means to be a young woman is still taboo and I don't have many spaces to share my thoughts. I really believe that CEPIA should come to our school regularly. Having young facilitators like us is very important. We speak the same language ".

Workshop with teenagers and young people from the Cruzada do Menor



The partnership with Cruzada do Menor, a non-governmental organization that offers cultural and sports activities for children, adolescents and young people, from the communities neighboring their units, outside school hours, made it possible to hold workshops with these adolescents.



On [September 2nd and 4th](#), a workshop was held on *bullying and diversity: the various forms of bullying, how to respond to it and the guaranteed rights to face it.*

On [September 13th](#), CEPIA brought the theme of puberty to adolescents from 10 to 14 years old, facilitating two workshops, one with boys and another with girls, where adolescents were invited to share their doubts, experiences and uncertainties related to puberty.



CEPIA participated in the graduation event that brought together all the students who had achieved an important improvement in their sports activities. The event took place on [December 16th](#) and brought together more than 150 teenagers. CEPIA's team was responsible for some of the cultural activities carried

out during the event.

Workshop "Why women's human rights?"

On [March 15th](#), CEPIA organized a workshop that brought together young people from various backgrounds, to collect information, exchange experiences, concepts and opinions with participatory discussion of other youth on women's human rights.

CEPIA's youth team facilitated the workshop, providing an opportunity for them to improve their human rights skills and knowledge, presenting to them the international instruments in force and the campaigns for the defense of women's human rights.

The workshop was also valuable for networking with other young people and for allowing a safe space to talk about the human rights principles that have been criticized and violated by the governor of Rio de Janeiro, with his indiscriminate use of force, as well as the security measures of President Bolsonaro that puts human security at risk. This workshop significantly contributed to the content of CEPIA's workshops on human rights held in schools.

Adolescence, Health and Rights Seminar

CEPIA organized the seminar with the aim of bringing together the various actors involved in our project *Protagonism, Human Rights and Youth* project, to share lessons learned, promote the network among the teenagers of the various schools, among the school coordinators and among them and representatives from Education and Health Departments in Rio de Janeiro. The event was also an opportunity to plan joint activities for 2020 with these key institutions.

The seminar was called *Teens, Health and Rights* and took place on [November 29th](#).



The event was attended by teenagers, teachers, school principals and representatives of the Municipal Departments of Education and Health of Rio de Janeiro, benefited by the project, as well as professionals in the areas of education, social assistance and health, engaged in the *Health at School Program (PSE)*. The seminar was a combination of panels, talk-show and cultural activities.

The seminar ended with an emotional debate from the audience and moving testimonies from teenagers.

Considering the political context in which we are living and working, where gender and sexuality are two words that cannot be addressed with high school students, CEPIA's team consider that its program and the event were a very strategic initiative, allowing to reinforce the need to discuss relations of power and gender with adolescents and young people and have an open dialogue about sexuality, pregnancy and autonomy over their bodies, and commit teachers to the debate.

Focus Group with Mothers of Adolescents and Youth



On [October 22nd](#), CEPIA held another focus group with mothers of teenagers from 10 to 14 years old with the theme *Puberty*. The proposal was to find out what mothers have to say about their children's puberty process.

The meeting was marked by exciting shares and the approach of several subjects in this circle, such as: the role of women in society and how responsibilities and blame are imposed on the actions of children and the imagination that a mother must be perfect and does not have errors. The participants felt very comfortable and asked questions about how to talk to their children about sexual and reproductive health.

• CEPIA in International Events

Internationally, on [March 11th to 22nd](#), many events took place at United Nations Headquarters in New York on the condition of women in various fields. This was the 63rd meeting of the *UN Commission on the Situation of Women (CSW)* which meets annually bringing together representatives of NGOs, companies, world leaders and representatives of United Nations agencies to debate the rights of women and girls in the world. CEPIA participated on a panel on *Gender Equality in the Moroccan Social and Security System* organized by *Women's Learning Partnership (WLP)*.

On [March 20th to 22nd](#), CEPIA participated in a workshop in Mexico City hosted by EM Power Foundation that aimed to discuss advances, challenges, and strategies for advocating for the sexual rights of 10- to 14-year-old girls. The meeting was attended by Mexican teenagers along with representatives of organizations from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru, providing a broad approach to the need to raise awareness of the challenges faced by very young girls in the defense of their rights.

On [May 15th to 17th](#), CEPIA participated in the *SIF Stockholm Internet Forum 2019* on limitation of democratic online spaces. The event, hosted by the *Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA*, had as one of its Forums, the topic of gender-based online violence, bringing the idea that gender-based violence online is a reflection of what happens offline.

On [May 27th-30th](#), CEPIA participated as an exhibitor at the *First Colloquium of We: Training, Diversity & Social Inclusion*, held in Lisbon, which held various Portuguese feminist organizations from Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Colloquium was aimed to promote reflection on the issues arising from violence, especially gender-based violence, committed through the various forms of social, political, religious, intellectual exclusion, cultural or economic, ethnic-racial prejudice, discrimination on grounds of gender identity and expression, sexual orientation and class inequality. This was an opportunity to promote a dialogue between Brazilian and Portuguese feminists.

On [June 2nd to 06th](#), CEPIA participated in the *Women Deliver 2019 Conference*, in Vancouver, presenting strategies for defending human rights in contexts of

authoritarianism and family and violence in Brazil. This event involved directly 8000 people from 161 countries. CEPIA also participated on a panel on *Violence against Women and Family Law* organized by *Women's Learning Partnership* (WLP) and International Development Research Centre (IDRC), from Canada.

CEPIA continues to be part of the *Inter-American Dialogue* (IAD), a main hemispheric organization, taking women's issues to hemispheric discussions. In June CEPIA was present at the Sol Linowitz Forum, organized by IAD, in Washington D.C..



On July [29th and 30th](#), the *Inter-American Commission of Women, of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention* (MESECVI) and the *National Institute of Women – INAMUR*, held in Panama City the *25th Anniversary of Belém do Pará Convention*. This Congress brought together members of the MESECVI Expert Committee, CEDAW President and representatives of other international human rights bodies. CEPIA participated in this event as a member of the MESECVI Committee of Experts, in the panel *Advancing Concepts, Dismantling Myths and Creating Bridges* and discussed issues related to the challenges of implementing the *Convention of Belém do Pará*.

On [November 27th](#), CEPIA participated at the feminist Lab organized by the Swedish Institute and also presented the setbacks on women's rights in Brazil at a public event organized by the *Kvinna Till Kvinna Organization*, in Stockholm, Sweden. The *Fierce and Furious* event was intended to bring into the public debate the rise of forces opposing gender equality that endanger human rights.



On [December 10th to 12th](#), The *Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará* (MESECVI) held its sixteenth [meeting in Washington D.C.](#) The *Committee of Experts* is the technical body of MESECVI responsible for analyzing and

evaluating the process of implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará. It is composed by independent experts appointed by each of the States Parties. CEPIA is a member of this *Commission* representing Brazil.

On that occasion, the *Committee* met with the Executive Secretary of the *Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM/OAS)* where they agreed on a broad agenda for the prevention, punishment and eradication of the violence suffered by thousands of women and girls. Topics addressed at the meetings included: addressing violence against women with disabilities; establish shelter standards for women survivors of violence; cyber violence; child marriage and early union; gender stereotypes in access to justice; women living with HIV; violence against human rights defenders; consent and power relations in cases of sexual violence; among other relevant topics.

● **Activities with other partners, networks**

Working group to combat the abuse and sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, within the scope of the State Forum to Combat Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers - FEPETI / RJ



CEPIA is an active member of the working group to combat sexual abuse and exploitation as one of the axes of the *State Forum for Combating Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers (FEPETI/RJ)*. As a member of FEPETI, CEPIA participates in the Forum's monthly meetings, which

addressed various topics related to the rights of children and adolescents and involved governmental and non-governmental institutions. Under this partnership, CEPIA co-organized events around issues to combat sexual abuse of children and adolescents. Representatives of Municipal Secretariats from several municipalities in the state of Rio de Janeiro, representatives of the *State Secretariat for Social Assistance and Human*

Rights (SEASDH) of the Public Defender's Office and representatives of civil society organizations, such as Fundação Mudes and CEPIA, attended the meeting¹.

Colloquium of Children and Adolescents in Situations of Sexual Violence: Special Declaration, Specialized Hearing and Specialized Service



The *Colloquium* took place on [May 17th](#), and brought together about 25 participants, most of them specialists in the rights of children and adolescents and in sexual violence. This event aimed to promote a debate on the legal instruments in force to help children and adolescents victims of sexual violence and, more specifically, recently amended the Laws (Law 13.431--2017 and Decree 9.063/2018) that determine how victims should be attended and what are the procedures for listening to the victims' statements. Important information was shared on how to improve laws and ensure that it includes the needs of adolescents and that they avoid re-victimization.

Seminar Weaving a Assistance Network for Children and Adolescents in Situations of Sexual Violence



As a closing activity of the series of events developed during the month of [May 30th](#), this Seminar was organized, bringing together about 80 participants from various government institutions, including the departments of Education, Health and Human Rights and Social Assistance of Rio de Janeiro, prosecutors, along with adolescents and

¹ The third meeting occurred on [March 28th](#). The fourth meeting occurred on [April 25th](#).

The fifth meeting occurred on [May 23rd](#), The sixth meeting occurred on [July 25th](#). The eighth meeting occurred on [September 26th](#). The tenth and last meeting occurred on [December 5th](#).

youth and civil society organizations that work directly with children and youth. CEPIA participated by bringing the need to adopt an intersectoral approach while thinking about the roots of sexual abuse and the strategies to prevent it. Several suggestions on how to improve existing services were highlighted by the participants and the panel participants. This material has been compiled and will be available.

Seminar on Child and Adolescent Labor - The child must not work. Childhood is a time to dream

Another important event took place on [June 12nd](#), *International Day to Combat Child and Adolescent Labor*. This event, also organized by the *State Forum for Combating Child Labor and Protection of*

Adolescent Workers (FEPETI / RJ), together with other institutions, including the *National Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents (CONANDA)*, brought together more than 900 participants, with a large number of children and adolescents.

It was a one-day event, with the morning dedicated to the debate on data and public policies on child and adolescent labor, and the afternoon, with the main target population teenagers and young people. Through creative cultural, musical and dance activities, the issue of child and adolescent labor was addressed from the perspective of



a violation of human rights. CEPIA's youth team disseminated the *Partiu Papo Reto* app at various times during the afternoon's activities.

CEPIA, together with RAP da Saúde, held a talk show on child exploitation and the role of parents in protecting their daughters. The event was very much appreciated by the

teenagers and young people present at the event. The event gained even more



relevance after President Bolsonaro's recent statements, putting himself in favor of child labor.



Let's Combine Event - Youth and Experiences in Prevention of STI / AIDS and Viral Hepatitis

The seminar [Let's Combine?!](#) was a three-day immersion, and took place on the 25th, 26th and 27th of October. The event was organized by the *Rio de Janeiro State Department of Health*, in partnership with civil society organizations, including CEPIA, ABIA, CEDAPS, Conexão G, Pela Vida, Bandeirantes Movement, Rap, Youth Network, RENAFO. It gathered more than 60

people, including adolescents and young people from various areas of Rio de Janeiro to discuss combined prevention and think about actions to prevent STIs/AIDS and promoting youth's sexual and reproductive rights and health.

The seminar methodology was designed to encourage the active participation of young people. The space created was concerned that teenagers and young people would feel safe, allowing them to speak openly about issues that directly affect their lives and their sexuality as young people and adolescents. CEPIA was on the first panel, represented by Debora Pinheiro, reflecting on the interfaces between combined prevention and sexual and reproductive rights from a gender perspective.

In addition to the exchange of knowledge on STI and HIV prevention, strategies with a broad view were discussed, emphasizing that health permeates several other issues, such as ethnicity, social context, sexual orientation, religion and diversity.

"I found this activity very rich and interesting because it made us reflect, in a relaxed way, how vulnerable we are if we don't pay attention to the care we need to have during sex."

"I was happy to leave this table with several subjects debated, but mainly, learning to respect everyone equally."

“The event was an opportunity to learn more about vertical transmission of HIV-AIDS and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).”

Seminar *Pain and Flavors*

On [November 05th](#), the Seminar *Pain and Flavors* was held for an audience of 120 people. Health agents and promoters, teachers from municipal schools, representatives of the *Regional Education Coordination* (CREs), social workers and psychologists were present to reflect on self-inflicted violence. The *Adolescent Multiplier Center* (NAM), formed by teenagers who work in schools in a specific territory in Rio de Janeiro and who work with the well-being of teenagers, also participated in the event. CEPIA was

present at this event through Kezia Yasmim who shared her experiences working with teenagers and the sufferings they experience, and how this is not always understood by society. Suicide prevention strategies were pointed out and one of them was peer education.



● Other Relevant Initiatives

Feminist consciousness and in the articulations of the feminist movement

On [March 25th](#), CEPIA attended the event to honor the centenary of feminist writer Carmen da Silva at the Museum of Justice – Cultural Center of the Judiciary (CCMJ). During the three days of the event, the themes of the debates were: *The role of Carmen da Silva in the formation of feminist consciousness and in the articulations of the feminist movement of the 1970-1980s*, *The construction of female stereotypes in the macho culture* and *Violence against the woman, the fundamental agenda of feminism*.

Inequality and difference on science

On [March 27th and 29th](#), the *Brazilian Academy of Sciences* organized, at the Museum of Tomorrow, a conference focused on strategies for implementing the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) with the participation of scientists from different countries. CEPIA participated in the table on *Inequality and difference, tensions and complementarities*, bringing a history of unequal legislations and policies for women and the affirmative actions and legislations that, after the 1988 Constitution, allowed a baseline of greater equality within the feminist motto *Different, but not unequal*.

Violence against women

On [March 29th](#), CEPIA participated on an event organized by the *Women's Lawyer Commission* with the theme *Violence against women: attacked one, attacked all*. The event occurred in the Regional Labor Court (TRT).

Women's Dossier

On [April 30th](#), the Institute of Public Security launched the 14th edition of the *Women's Dossier*, an annual thematic report that presents data on violence against women in the state of Rio de Janeiro. CEPIA was present and participated in the debate. The *Dossier* addressed the main daily crimes committed against women, such as willful personal injury, threat, indecent assault, rape, willful homicide and domestic violence.

VII National Meeting of State Judges

On [May 23th to 25th](#), CEPIA attended the *VII National Meeting of State Judges*, invited by the *Association of Brazilian Magistrates – AMB*, and discussed data on women's participation in the Brazilian judiciary. This meeting gathered around 1000 judges from all over Brazil to discuss, among other topics, the research *Who are we? The judiciary we want*.

Women and the environment

On [May 7th](#), CEPIA participated in a fundamental debate at the *Institute of Brazilian Lawyers*, with the theme *Women and the environment*. In developing countries women are the first victims of environmental degradation. Globally, women have assumed the management and support of the natural resources. It is clear that gender relations shape the spaces for negotiation, as well as the practices of women's participation in the public sphere related to the environment.

Growing Without Violence Workshop. Shall we talk about it? What abuse is this? What exploitation is this? What body is that?

On [May 22nd](#), a workshop was held to talk to high school students about sexual abuse and exploitation. The activity brought together 44 high school students, aged between 14 and 18, and was facilitated by Canal Futura (an educational TV channel). Participants were asked to think about the various forms of human rights violations they knew and then to think more specifically about the various types of sexual violence and how it affects children and young people differently, according to the age group, the socioeconomic condition, race and ethnicity, gender. The activity was very well evaluated by the group and by the teachers who attended it.



Academic Meetings

On [July 11th](#), CEPIA hosted a group of students from Columbia University of New York to discuss human rights, gender violence, feminisms and CEPIA's work.

Women's Festival

On [September 21st and 22nd](#), at the São Paulo Cultural Center, occurred the *Women's Festival*, with roundtables, panels, films and debates. This festival was aimed to be a space for dialogue and exchange around struggles for equal rights, leadership and affirmation of identities. CEPIA participated in a debate about how women made politics while being out of politics.

Gender, Families and Climate Justice

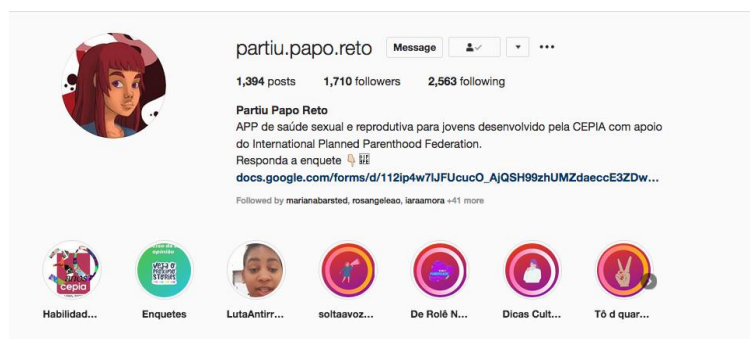
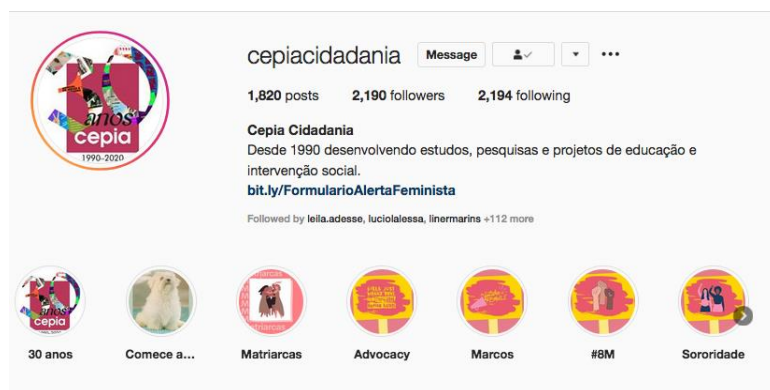
On [November 5th](#), CEPIA attended the event organized by the *Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development and Peace (WLP)*, on *Gender, Families and Climate Justice*, at John Hopkins University, bringing together students, human rights activists, academics and civil society organizations. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights was the keynote speaker. The panelists shared experiences in their countries, highlighting the need to place the debate on climate justice on the political arena and to address it from a human rights perspective.

Tributes

The *Women's Rights Commission of the Legislative Assembly of Rio de Janeiro* gave a [tribute to Nair Jane](#), a member of the CEPIA Board of Directors. Nair was the founder of the *Rio de Janeiro Domestic Workers Union*, worked for many years in women's movements at the municipal and federal levels as part of the celebrations of the month of women and played an important role in the 1988 constituent in defense of women's rights. She is currently vice-president of the Municipal Council of Women's Rights of Nova Iguaçu.

● CEPIA's Social Medias

In recent years, CEPIA has intensified its performance and acquired greater skills in social media, having invested, especially in instagram, one of the most accessed media in Brazil. CEPIA has two social media, which act in communication to different personas.



[@cepiacidania](#) reaches a more female audience, between 25 years old and over, and [@partiu.paporeto](#) a more specific audience of young people.

In addition to daily article posting, content production and investment in the visual communication of these medias, CEPIA had also invested learning tools through stories, cards and videos as a way to diversify communication strategies, humanizing and bringing



content related to human rights, sexual and reproductive rights, power relations, gender violence, among others, bringing them closer to the daily universe of these audiences, with positive results.

CEPIA's social media *Partiu Papo Reto* is playing an important role in improving young people's knowledge about their sexuality, services they can access as well as important events and other initiatives that CEPIA shares in its media.



The publications that achieved the greatest reach dealt with the subject of machismo, women's rights and contraceptive methods, especially videos produced by the CEPIA's youth team.

CEPIA's facilitators also made extensive use of the *Partiu Papo Reto* app during workshops held by CEPIA or with CEPIA's participation, especially in workshops related to sexual and reproductive health and rights, talking about sexuality, contraception and gender violence.

Partiu Papo Reto

 Instagram	 Facebook
Followers: 1.130	Likes: 1.190
Organic Reach: 914	Organic Reach: 2.100
Impressions: 4.100	Impressions: 18.922
Public 66% Female - 34% Male	Public 77% Female - 23% Male

Cepia Ciudadania

 Instagram	 Facebook
Followers: 1.073	Likes: 2.340
Organic Reach: 1.301	Organic Reach: 2.237
Impressions: 6.202	Impressions: 2.252
Public 87% Female - 13% Male	Public 76% Female - 24% Male

CEPIA's social media campaigns

In view of the approval of a bill that allowed citizens to have up to four weapons at home and the alarming number of cases of violence against women, CEPIA launched, during the second half of 2019, two wide-ranging campaigns. A campaign, called *Start listening*, with two videos: [video 1](#) and [video 2](#), which is an appeal to the entire population to denounce domestic violence.

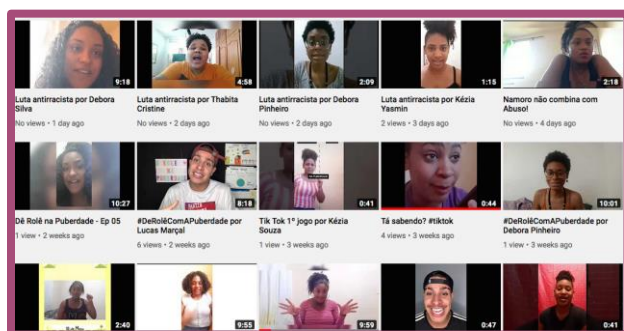
This campaign was a success and reached more than 350,000 people.

The other campaign produced was an initiative by a feminist women's collective, called *4D*, integrated by CEPIA. The campaign is called [More weapons = More femicide](#) and its main tool was a video on the danger of having guns at home and their relationship with femicide. CEPIA was directly engaged in all stages of the production of the video

The video was broadcasted among countless organizations and sent to members of Congress who will vote on this law. This video was made by well-known actors from our main TV network who acted pro bono in the film.

[On September 3rd](#), the video *Mais Armas Mais Feminicídio (More Guns More Femicide)* was launched with a debate at the Maison de France in Rio de Janeiro. See more on the [link](#).

In [November](#), it is celebrated 30 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall by remembering that, just as the division of Germany belongs to the past, women's equal rights should have been fully achieved. This fight should also belong to the past. CEPIA produced a video: [Berlin Wall and the struggle for women's equality](#).



Short videos of CEPIA on issues of adolescents and young people

Short videos prepared by CEPIA's youth team were displayed regularly in *Partiu Papo Reto* social media, CEPIA's social media to youth public. The videos addressed issues related to sexual and reproductive rights, pregnancy prevention and contraception, violence among other issues. The videos are available in CEPIA's YouTube channel (CEPIA Cidadania).

• Cepia in the Mainstream Media



PROTECTIVE MEASURES SAVED WOMEN'S LIFE

The newspaper "O Globo" published, on February 2nd, an article about the effectiveness of Protective Measures, provided for in the Maria da Penha Law, which counted with an [interview](#) given by Leila Linhares Barsted.



WOMEN: TIME AND VOICE

The Justice Museum – Cultural Center of the Judiciary is hosting the exhibition “Women, Hour and Voice – Rights, Achievements and Challenges”. Multirio was there and presented the exhibition and an [interview](#) with Jacqueline Pitanguy.



RETROCESS RESISTANCE

Jacqueline Pitanguy, in an [interview](#) to the newspaper O Globo rebuts a statement by the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights.



“POSSESSION OF ARMS: AN ANNOUNCED CHRONICLE OF FEMICIDE ”

Jacqueline Pitanguy's article “[Possession of Arms: An Announced Chronicle of Femicide](#),” was published in the newspaper O Globo.



BRAZILIAN REPORT CALLS OF THE INCREASED RACIAL ABUSE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Leila Linhares Barsted was [interviewed](#) by The Guardian newspaper and noted that “Brazilian society has become more aggressive.” “Since last year, we have had an increase in hate speech, in the perception that women should be submissive to men.”

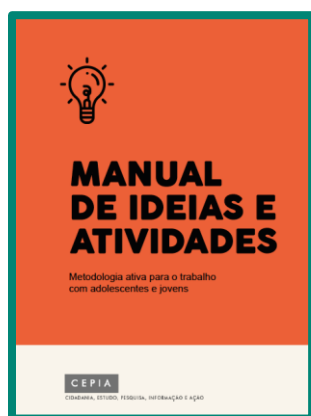


OUR STRUGGLE SHOULD NOT BE STOPPED BY THE BIBLE

In an [interview](#) to Marie Claire Magazine Jacqueline Pitanguy, comments that Brazil is experiencing a setback regarding public policies in defense of women's rights.

● CEPIA's Publications

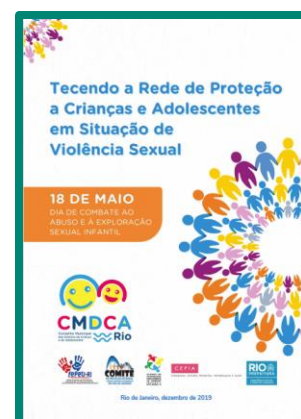
Publication of Ideas and Activities Manual: active methodology for working with adolescents and young people



CEPIA developed a Manual that brought together its experience in developing training activities with high school students and young people. The [Manual](#) is divided into sessions that includes conceptual information about the active methodology, the role of a facilitator, tips on how to prepare a workshop and important topics such as human rights, sexual and reproductive rights, youth protagonism, power and gender relations, among others. The idea of the Manual was to have a tool that could be used in future workshops, but that could also be used by other people, including teachers and other organizations, in order to develop training activities with young people. learn more in the item "Publications" of this report.

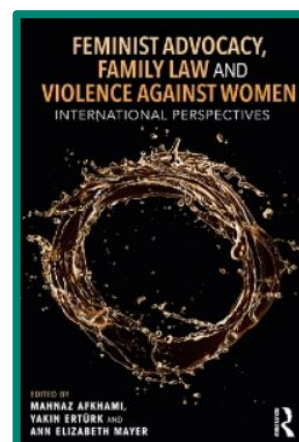
Publication Weaving the Protection Network for Children and Adolescents in Situations of Sexual Violence

As a member of the *State Forum for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers* (FEPETI-RJ) and the *Working Group on Sexual Violence* that is part of this Forum, CEPIA has contributed to a joint effort in the fight against sexual violence and in building more equitable and fair gender relations. The publication [Weaving the Protection Network for Children and Adolescents in Situations of Sexual Violence](#) constitutes one joint efforts alluding to May 18th – *Day to Combat Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Brazil*. Under the coordination of CMDCA-Rio (Municipal Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents) and CEPIA, features texts



by many authors including Andrea Romani, from CEPIA, who brings a reflection, with a gender perspective, about the house as a place of safety and risk for children and adolescents, specially female adolescents.

- **Publications with articles by CEPIA's team**



[Pensamento Feminista Brasileiro](#)

[Tecendo Fios das Críticas Feministas no Direito no Brasil](#)

[Feminist Advocacy, Family Law and Violence Against Women](#)

● Challenges

The period of this Report overlaps with the mandates of president, Jair Bolsonaro, and governor, Witzel. Both are politically aligned defending the preservation of traditional and religious values, opposing gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights, LGBTQ + rights and investing heavily in military strength as a strategy to promote urban security with the increase in the deaths of black adolescents by police forces.

At the federal level, for example, important departments have been dismantled, such as the *Ministry of Women's Affairs* (SPM), with the incorporation of women's rights issues into a new Ministry called *Women, Family and Human Rights*, governed by an evangelical woman from right with strong religious convictions, being against reproductive and sexual rights.

Brazil's foreign policy, generally progressive, now follows a new orientation and Brazilian diplomats are prohibited from using the concepts of gender and health and sexual and reproductive rights in the UN arena.

This very adverse political scenario poses challenges for women's human rights organizations, such as CEPIA. Despite the obstacles, we continue to work and learn that, more than ever, it is necessary to find allies for our causes and map the public officials responsible for programs that affect the rights of adolescents and young people who are on our side and are willing to collaborate with us. This is what CEPIA did with the *Rio de Janeiro Municipal Education Secretariat*, through the *Health at School Program* (PSE), which allowed us to continue with our *Empowerment and Training Program for Adolescents and Youth*, bringing also the objectives of CEPIA's other programs. CEPIA also maintains an open dialogue with progressive agents from the Municipal Health Secretariat and the Security and Justice system.

CEPIA's active participation in other networks like FEPETI has been very positive, maximizing and diversifying the scope of CEPIA's activities and, in the interaction with these organizations, CEPIA participate in various activities, bringing an approach to gender equality, health and sexual and reproductive rights and women's human rights to the agenda. In these activities, developed in partnership with other institutions, CEPIA

has also benefited and continues to benefit from interlocution with them, bringing different perspectives to our work, especially with adolescents and young people.

At the state level, due to the increase in urban violence, with drug traffickers and paramilitary groups vying for power and territories and with military interference with a strong use and abuse of violence and weapons, CEPIA is more cautious, ensuring that we do not put our team at risk, especially young facilitators. In this sense, CEPIA is in a constant dialogue with the young people and the Municipal Secretary of Education for the selection of the schools in which CEPIA works.

The challenges related to the increase in extremism, moral fundamentalism and customs that affect women's rights have been answered with our advocacy campaigns, training and capacity building activities, networking with other organizations, CEPIA's presence in the press and its advocacy work.

The funding challenge is faced, expanding our reach to potential new funders and also creating more systematic contact with them, by publishing a monthly digital newsletter, since October 2019, on CEPIA's activities and programs. CEPIA also translated the news posted on our website into English, making it easier to follow our programs.

The new political contexts require more investment in CEPIA's security and we have established security measures in relation to our media, including whatsapp. CEPIA is also more careful when receiving visitors from our officers and taking precautions when carrying out activities in violent areas.

CEPIA has *Safety Guidelines* that guide our activities as well as *Guidelines for Safeguarding Children, Adolescents and Young People* that were shared and discussed with its entire team.

Partnerships and dialogues with other social institutions are also strategic, such as the Public Defender's Office, the *Rio de Janeiro Bar Association*, the *Rio de Janeiro State School of Magistrates*, NGOs and feminist movement networks, the *Brazilian Network Population and Development (REBRAPD)*, to respond to future challenges.

● Participation in Committees, Organizations and Boards

National

- Action Aid Brasil
- Brazilian Association of Non Governmental Organizations – ABONG;
- Brazilian Institute of Family Law
- Brazilian Bar Association
- Brazilian Collaborative Practice Institute
- Commission on Citizenship and Reproduction
- Committee on Women's Security of CEDIM
- Consortium Lei Maria da Penha, which involves feminist organizations and jurists from several Brazilian institutions, who elaborated the text of the Maria da Penha Law, monitoring the implementation of the Maria da Penha Law
- Diversity and Inclusion Commission of the Brazilian Institute of Collaborative Practices
- Feminist Collective Four Generations of Feminism - 4D
- Group of Studies on Abortion – GEA
- National Committee to Combat Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents
- National Commission on Population and Development
- Permanent Forum on Domestic, Family Violence and Gender from EMERJ
- Permanent Campaign For the Lives of Women (Pela vida das mulheres)
- REBRAPD - Brazilian Network for Population and Development
- Special Committee on Collaborative Practices of the Brazilian Bar Association
- State Forum on Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor and Protection of Adolescent Workers in Rio de Janeiro - FEPETI
- UN Women and UNFPA's Situation Room on Women Rights and the Zika Virus

International and Regional

- Inter American Dialogue – IAD
- Empower America Latina
- MESECVI-OAS Follow-up Mechanism for the Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence Against Women, known as the Belém do Pará Convention
- REDLAD - Red Latino Americana y del Caribe para la Democracia
- WLP - Women's Learning Partnership, for Rights, Development and Peace

Cepia's Team

Executive Directors

Jacqueline Pitanguy

Leila Linhares Barsted

Senior Program Officers

Andrea Romani

Mariana Barsted

Social Communication

Juliana Grisolia

Karla Oldane

Finance and Administrative

Fernanda Pires

Marina Damião

Youth Team

Débora Pinheiro

Debora Silva

Kézia Yasmin

Lucas Marçal

Tabita Cristine

Funders

- EM Power
- Fundo Elas
- International Planned Parenthood Federation
- KROC Institute
- OAK Foundation
- UNFPA
- UN Women in Brazil
- Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development and Peace