

Racism, Patriarchalism, Classism and Politic Intersections in Rio de Janeiro

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Abstract

Colonialism, eugenics, structural racism, patriarchalism, and social class inequalities have been constructed and reproduced and legitimated by the State in institutions, religion, politics, communication media, and family. Foucault's concepts of biopower and normalization are adopted to analyze the persistence of racism, associated with post-structural feminism to understand the perception of gender's roles. The objective is to analyze to what extent and how discriminatory arguments are interlocked and mutually reinforced today in multiple forms. A two-step survey was applied with a questionnaire that combines sociodemographic characteristics and statements that refer to discriminatory attitudes and practices. Results show correlated experiences of explicit racism, feelings of fear, threat, violence, and the criminalization of Black people, the rejection of interracial intimacy and reproduction, the criminalization and structural violence against Black people, and the rejection of any kind of protection by the State. Explicit racism is intersected with the patriarchal attitudes, such as women should assume their domestic role as wives and that female behavior cause their own rape, the rejection of LGBTQ marriage, discrimination against the youth, and the rejection of providing sexual education at schools. The rejection of street dwellers is highly correlated with xenophobia. Poor groups are likely to live in overcrowded housing and less urbanized neighborhood; race, gender and class discrimination are correlated to far-right political identification and activism and the rejection of public policies and laws to guarantee the rights and protection of these groups, and with the preference for a government that controls rather than listens to citizens.

Keywords: intersectionality, racism, gender, social class, political identification