


**POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS, JUVENTUDE E SISTEMA SOCIOEDUCATIVO: A EXPERIÊNCIA  
DA CÂMARA SETORIAL TEMÁTICA DE MATO GROSSO**

**PUBLIC POLICIES, YOUTH AND SOCIO-EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM: THE EXPERIENCE  
OF THE THEMATIC SECTORIAL CHAMBER OF MATO GROSSO**

**POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS, JUVENTUD Y SISTEMA SOCIOEDUCATIVO: LA EXPERIENCIA  
DE LA CÂMARA SETORIAL TEMÁTICA DE MATO GROSSO**

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**Raul Angel Carlos Olivera<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Almeida Brito<sup>2</sup>, Vanusa Batista Pereira<sup>3</sup>,  
Cesar David Mendo<sup>4</sup>, Cristina Teodoro de Melo Mendo<sup>5</sup>, Rose Kelly dos Santos  
Martínez Fernandez<sup>6</sup>, José Renato de Oliveira Silva<sup>7</sup>, Evelin Mara Cáceres Dan<sup>8</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> Doctor of Education

University of the State of Mato Grosso

Email: raulcarlos@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/7429617291839754>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0802-9727>

<sup>2</sup> Database Administration Specialist

University of the State of Mato Grosso

Email: Daniel.brito@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/6314932314637868>

<sup>3</sup> Dr in Accounting Sciences

University of the State of Mato Grosso

Email: vanusa.batista.pereira@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/6469750447186782>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1396-1033>

<sup>4</sup> Dr in Political Science

University of the State of Mato Grosso

E-mail: cesadavid@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/1524993279747313>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0009-0003-5100-5872>

<sup>5</sup> Dr in Sciences

University of the State of Mato Grosso

Email: cristina.teodoro@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/6838244404459133>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7264-0483>

<sup>6</sup> Dr in Linguistics

University of the State of Mato Grosso

E-mail: rosekelly@unemat.br

Lattes: <https://lattes.cnpq.br/6721608534217895>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3997-610X>

<sup>7</sup> Dr in Linguistics

University of the State of Mato Grosso

E-mail: zerenato@unemat.br

Lattes: <https://lattes.cnpq.br/9136240135574398>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3099-5163>

<sup>8</sup> Dr in Legal Sciences and Social Sciences

University of the State of Mato Grosso

E-mail: evelindan@unemat.br

Lattes: <http://lattes.cnpq.br/2220284399580848>

Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9960-6325>

## RESUMO

O Observatório Econômico parte de uma concepção freiriana de extensão universitária. Nesse contexto, em parceria com a Assembleia Legislativa do Estado de Mato Grosso, foi idealizada a institucionalização da Câmara Setorial Temática (CST): “O Sistema Carcerário no Estado de Mato Grosso: Aspectos Socioeconômicos e Institucionais da Violência e Criminalidade”, composta por representantes dos Poderes Executivo, Legislativo, Judiciário e de organizações não governamentais. Este artigo apresenta o percurso, o processo e os resultados alcançados pela CST, que adotou a metodologia Brainstorming (tempestade de ideias) para incentivar os representantes da Rede de Proteção Integral ao Adolescente a contribuírem com ideias, a fim de gerar uma lista ampla de problemas e soluções potenciais. Como resultado, foram propostas políticas intersetoriais de atendimento ao adolescente em conflito com a lei e elaborado um diagnóstico das ações de esporte e lazer desenvolvidas pelas instituições. Os achados indicaram diversas necessidades e dificuldades enfrentadas pelos agentes públicos no trato com adolescentes. Enfatizou-se a importância do esporte e do lazer como práticas educativas no processo formativo e a necessidade de articulação de políticas específicas voltadas a esse público. Defendeu-se, ainda, que tais políticas devem contemplar todas as diferenças sociais, não apenas adolescentes privados de liberdade, mas também outros grupos historicamente invisibilizados pelo poder público.

**Palavras-chave:** Sistema Prisional. Adolescência. Políticas Públicas. Justiça. Educação.

## ABSTRACT

The Economic Observatory is based on a Freirean concept of university extension. In this context, in partnership with the Legislative Assembly of the State of Mato Grosso, the institutionalization of the Thematic Sector Chamber (CST) was conceived: “The Prison System in the State of Mato Grosso: Socioeconomic and Institutional Aspects of Violence and Criminality”, composed of representatives of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches, as well as non-governmental organizations. This article presents the trajectory, process, and results achieved by the CST, which adopted the Brainstorming methodology to encourage representatives of the Comprehensive Protection Network for Adolescents to contribute ideas in order to generate a broad list of problems and potential solutions. As a result, intersectoral policies for serving adolescents in conflict with the law were proposed and a diagnosis of the sports and leisure activities developed by the institutions was prepared. The findings indicated several needs and difficulties faced by public agents in dealing with adolescents. The importance of sports and leisure as educational practices in the formative process and the need to articulate specific policies aimed at this group were emphasized. It was also argued that such policies should take into account all social differences, not only adolescents deprived of liberty, but also other groups historically made invisible by the government.

**Keywords:** Prison System. Adolescence. Public Policies. Justice. Education.

## RESUMEN

El Observatorio Económico se basa en el concepto freireano de extensión universitaria. En este contexto, en colaboración con la Asamblea Legislativa del Estado de Mato Grosso, se concibió la institucionalización de la Cámara Sectorial Temática (CST): “El Sistema Penitenciario en el Estado de Mato Grosso: Aspectos Socioeconómicos e Institucionales de la Violencia y la Criminalidad”, integrada por representantes de los poderes Ejecutivo, Legislativo y Judicial, así como de organizaciones no gubernamentales. Este artículo presenta la trayectoria, el proceso y los resultados alcanzados por la CST, que adoptó la

metodología de lluvia de ideas para incentivar a los representantes de la Red de Protección Integral a Adolescentes a aportar ideas para generar una amplia lista de problemas y posibles soluciones. Como resultado, se propusieron políticas intersectoriales para la atención a adolescentes en conflicto con la ley y se elaboró un diagnóstico de las actividades deportivas y de ocio desarrolladas por las instituciones. Los hallazgos indicaron diversas necesidades y dificultades que enfrentan los agentes públicos en la atención a los adolescentes. Se enfatizó la importancia del deporte y el ocio como prácticas educativas en el proceso formativo y la necesidad de articular políticas específicas dirigidas a este grupo. También se argumentó que dichas políticas deben considerar todas las diferencias sociales, no solo a los adolescentes privados de libertad, sino también a otros grupos históricamente invisibilizados por el gobierno.

**Palabras clave:** Sistema Penitenciario. Adolescencia. Políticas Públicas. Justicia. Educación.

## INTRODUCTION

The Economic Observatory extension project is based on a Freirean conception of university extension, conceiving it as a transformative social practice (Freire, 1977). From this perspective, university extension promotes the emergence of innovative pedagogical proposals, while knowledge produced outside strictly academic limits acquires singular value due to its direct link with social realities (Vasconcellos, 2011; Jenize, 2002).

Designed to interpret social phenomena based on economic analysis, the Observatory seeks to understand how institutions and political contours are shaped under market dynamics. Thus, it contributes to the strengthening of the tripod Teaching, Research and Extension, extending university performance beyond the walls of academia. Such a movement requires, as Jenize (2004) proposes, to overcome curricular fragmentation and technical rationality, promoting a humanized and integrated education. As Gadotti (2017) reinforces, the concrete experience of social realities - in the peripheries, schools, prisons and hospitals - is an essential element for the citizenship and critical formation of university students.

In this line, in articulation with the Legislative Assembly of the State of Mato Grosso (ALMT), the institutionalization of the Thematic Sectorial Chamber (CST) "The Prison System in the State of Mato Grosso: Socioeconomic and Institutional Aspects of Violence and Criminality" was proposed, with the objective of promoting the improvement of the legislative process through the integration of representatives of the Executive Branches, Legislative and Judiciary, as well as members of organized civil society. Created by Ordinary Law No. 10,825/2019 and officially installed through Act No. 052/2019, the CST was structured to diagnose, analyze, and suggest solutions to issues sensitive to the state reality, with an emphasis on issues related to public security, violence, crime, and human rights (Legislative Assembly of the State of Mato Grosso, 2019a, 2019b).

The CST's work began by bringing together researchers, technicians from the Public Security Secretariat and professionals from other public institutions, with the aim of fostering inter-institutional dialogue and producing diagnoses and proposals about the prison system and its interfaces with social development. The priority theme discussed was the situation of adolescents in conflict with the law, as provided for in article 2 of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent - Federal Law No. 8,069/1990, which defines an adolescent as a person between twelve and eighteen years of age, with an exceptional extension up to twenty-one years of age (Brasil, 1990).

The first CST meeting had the virtual participation of members of the Network for the Integral Protection of Adolescents in Mato Grosso. The main objectives of this meeting

were: to propose intersectoral public policies aimed at serving adolescents in conflict with the law; establish spaces for dialogue between the institutions that make up the protection network; diagnose the sports and leisure actions already implemented; and to map the risk factors that permeate the trajectories of these young people (Oliveira; Oliveira, 2019; Oliveira, 2020b).

In the second meeting, the process of rescuing adolescents in deprivation of liberty was discussed. In this context, the "Reading the World Project" was presented, an initiative to promote reading in socio-educational environments, developed in partnership with the Justice System, the Socio-educational System and the Prison Pastoral. The project has the support of the Book Observatory, with access to virtual libraries and training of monitors working in the Socio-Educational Service Centers. Initially, the actions were directed to the male detention centers located in Cuiabá and Cáceres, under the coordination of Professor Juliano Alves.

The participation of the Prison Ministry of the Western Region, in conjunction with the Aid Association, the Public Defender's Office and the legal sector of the Federal University of Mato Grosso - UFMT, highlighted the gap represented by the absence of a Pastoral do Menor in the state, which has demanded from the Prison Pastoral the action also with adolescents in vulnerable situations.

In this scenario, there is an urgent need to ensure that young people deprived of liberty have access to the same educational opportunities as those in freedom, ensuring them the fundamental rights provided for by law. Whether in person or remotely, through digital platforms, it is essential that socio-educational activities are accessible and equitable.

In this sense, the State Department of Education (Seduc), in partnership with the Center for Research and Studies in Emancipatory Practices in Language (Nepel/UFMT), has sought to contribute to the reassessment of reading as a socio-educational measure, considering its emancipatory potential for adolescents inserted in the system.

Understanding that these adolescents are subjects of rights, according to the Doctrine of Integral Protection, implies recognizing them as people in development, whose education requires meaningful experiences that are integrated into the community. Among the rights assured, the practice of sports and leisure stands out as a strategy that is not only recreational, but also educational, capable of promoting autonomy, socialization and belonging.

Therefore, this introduction seeks to contextualize the articulation between university, public power and civil society in confronting inequalities that affect adolescents in conflict with the law. By presenting the first steps of CST, the potential of intersectoral actions as

effective mechanisms of intervention and social transformation is evidenced. This article details this path, its initial results and the proposals resulting from the cooperation between different institutional spheres, reaffirming the commitment of university extension to social justice and citizenship.

## METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted in this study was based on the *Brainstorming technique*, also known as "brainstorming". It is an approach aimed at stimulating creativity, with the aim of facilitating the formulation of innovative solutions through the collective generation of ideas. This technique was used during the meetings promoted by the Thematic Sectorial Chamber (CST), with the aim of encouraging the active participation of representatives of the Network for the Integral Protection of Adolescents in the State of Mato Grosso.

The application of *Brainstorming* followed its original logic: to create an environment free of initial criticism, in which participants could express their perceptions and propositions with spontaneity. With this, we sought to build a broad list of problems identified in the institutions and possible alternatives for coping, especially related to intersectoral policies aimed at adolescents in conflict with the law.

These contributions took place through conversation circles, in which representatives of the various institutions that make up the Protection Network exposed their operational needs, the actions currently developed and the perspectives for future articulations. Among the axes discussed, the initiatives in the areas of sports and leisure stood out, considered as fundamental educational strategies in the process of resocialization and development of the adolescents served.

The methodological process described is part of the field of social innovation, understood as the collective effort to mobilize knowledge and experiences to respond effectively to complex challenges of society. The proposal was based on the premise that participatory construction — both at the institutional and community levels — favors more lasting solutions that are appropriate to local realities. The interaction between the actors involved promoted a space for active cooperation, in which academic knowledge and practical knowledge were intertwined in the search for significant transformations.

In order to ensure the reliability of the records, all meetings were recorded and the respective minutes made publicly available. This material supported the preparation of the final report of the CST, which systematized the main notes, proposals and referrals formulated throughout the discussions.

## RESULTS

From the intervention carried out with the Comprehensive Protection Network for Adolescents, it was observed the beginning of a process of articulation of intersectoral policies aimed at the practices of sports and leisure. These actions aim to create environments favorable to the positive development of adolescents in conflict with the law, configuring themselves as elements of social protection against the commission of infractions (Oliveira, 2020a; Oliveira, 2020).

During the meetings, the need to expand access to external activities for adolescents in compliance with socio-educational measures of internment was highlighted, with the aim of diversifying bodily experiences and offering educational alternatives. Recurrent difficulties in the insertion of adolescents in schools, vocational courses and cultural and sports programs were also reported, due to the resistance of some institutions to accept them. As a measure, it was suggested that these demands be formally forwarded to the Public Prosecutor's Office, to ensure compliance with the rights provided for by law.

The conversation circles highlighted the importance of the school's role in the socio-education process, emphasizing its responsibility to ensure schooling during the fulfillment of the measure and the necessary support for the continuity of studies after reintegration. Propositions were recorded in order to broaden the concept of playfulness, reinforcing sports and leisure as essential pedagogical components in the integral formation of adolescents.

In addition, it was proposed that public policies for this public should not be restricted to those deprived of liberty, but that they should also be designed to serve adolescents in open environments and other historically invisible vulnerable groups, such as the black population, LGBTQI+, refugees and the elderly. It was also pointed out the urgency of decentralizing the supply of leisure equipment and spaces, especially in peripheral regions, with proper programming and community management, in order to avoid idleness and depredation of spaces.

## DISCUSSION

The data obtained at the CST meetings reveal not only the institutional gaps in guaranteeing the rights of adolescents in vulnerable situations, but also the power of collective listening as a mechanism for formulating more effective and inclusive public policies.

The demand to expand bodily practices and leisure activities in the socio-educational context dialogues with current legislation and with the contemporary understanding that the



right to culture, sports and education should not be interrupted due to deprivation of liberty. Such an understanding reinforces the importance of integrated policies that recognize the uniqueness of the subjects and act in an articulated manner between the various sectors of public administration.

The representatives' speeches point to the urgency of reconfiguring the view of adolescents in conflict with the law, combating historical stigmas and promoting the active inclusion of these young people in social spaces. The emphasis on decentralizing the supply of policies to the urban peripheries, as well as on building an expanded conception of playfulness, highlights the need to rethink the ways in which the state distributes its resources and recognizes its subjects.

In addition, by suggesting that the Public Prosecutor's Office be called upon to ensure the realization of rights, the participants reaffirm the importance of social control and institutional accountability as part of the democratic process. It is, therefore, an experience that highlights the transformative potential of intersectoral practices, based on listening, dialogue and the collective construction of solutions.

## CONCLUSION

The experience of carrying out the Economic Observatory project, in partnership with the Legislative Assembly of the State of Mato Grosso (ALMT), which resulted in the institutionalization of the Thematic Sectorial Chamber (CST), proved to be extremely enriching from an academic, political and social point of view. Direct action on complex and contemporary issues, such as the prison system and the rights of adolescents in conflict with the law, provided the students and teachers involved with a deep contact with the social reality, promoting the broadening of their educational horizons and the strengthening of citizen commitment.

Throughout the activities developed, it became evident that the process of social reintegration of many adolescents in conflict with the law, in fact, is configured as an inaugural process of insertion. Many of these young people have never had effective access to basic guarantees of citizenship, such as education, culture, leisure and community life. In this way, the CST's action revealed that facing the incarceration crisis — which goes beyond national borders and is expressed as a global phenomenon — requires articulated, comprehensive, and lasting public policies, aimed not only at those who are deprived of liberty, but also at ex-prisoners and those in situations of permanent vulnerability.



The participatory methodology adopted in the CST meetings demonstrated the transformative potential of collective listening and inter-institutional dialogue. The proposals for intersectoral policies built from the *Brainstorming* technique evidenced the capacity of public institutions to act cooperatively, sharing responsibilities and formulating joint strategies aimed at the full protection of adolescents.

In addition, the analysis of the results pointed to the importance of recognizing sports and leisure as rights and educational tools, capable of contributing to the strengthening of the identity, self-esteem and belonging of adolescents. It was also clear that confronting inequalities requires the recognition of diversity and the inclusion of historically invisible groups, such as the black population, LGBTQI+, refugees, and residents of the peripheries.

It is concluded, therefore, that experiences such as the one developed by CST strengthen the interface between university, public power and civil society, constituting concrete spaces for knowledge production, social transformation and citizenship formation. The Economic Observatory, by combining extension and public commitment, reaffirms the university as an active agent in the construction of fairer, more humanized and integrated policies with the realities of the territory in which it operates.

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