



## SOCIAL INEQUALITY: AN ENDEMIC CASE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CHARITY, STATE OF CEARÁ, BRAZIL

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### ABSTRACT

Social inequalities exist in Brazil, from the colonial formation process to the institution of republican Brazil. The purpose of this study is to understand the reasons that lead people living in the municipality of Caridade to occupy the margins of the BR 020 road, up to the limits of the municipality of Maranguape, as beggars and beggars. From our study it was understood that even with the help of supplementary programs from the Federal, State and Municipal Government, there are still people in social vulnerability. In this way, an opportunity is created to open a discussion on a subject that seems increasingly common in our municipality: inequality and the condition of misery of the less favored population.

**KEYWORDS :** social inequality; poverty; Misery.

### INTRODUCTION

It is a reality that the process of social inequality is growing and one of the main problems to be faced in the contemporary world. It is a complex issue, with different interpretations and difficult to resolve (OXHORN, 2003). Thus, the more unequal a society is, the less it will develop and the greater its challenges to survive. (SØRENSEN, 1996).

According to Rehbein (2018), inequality is increasing in several generations and this growth occurs due to the combination of several factors, such as: economic, food, job insecurity and lack of opportunities.

In this context, the development of technologies and scientific innovations can contribute to economic and social development, as well as to analyze how is the process of expanding inequality, the migration of people in search of better living conditions, the changes that occur in the climate and influence food production, differences between social classes, thus, it is possible to know how the evolution of all these factors is (UN DESA, 2020).

Currently, Latin America and the Caribbean are the places that have the lowest income concentration index on the planet. According to the 2017 survey, Latin America concentrated 184 million people on the poverty line and 62 million in extreme poverty. The factors that lead to this number of people in poverty or extreme poverty are related to the high tax burden that charges more of the poorest, increasing the cost of living of a large part of the population (UN, 2018; ECLAC, 2018, 2019).

Molina (2019), describes that this social inequality in Latin America is a consequence of colonial exploitation, which sought to eliminate any chance of social ascension of those who were not part of the local elite, as well as a process of late industrialization. According to Kraus et al (2017), this process prevented a process of distribution of income, employment, services in general and mainly land reform. The region constantly lives with poverty and misery, even with an intense industrialization process in recent years, as the region is marked by intense processes of political instability.

In relation to Brazil, the country has faced an intense crisis since the middle of 2014, and the result has been a growing increase in unemployed people and people in the line of extreme poverty. According to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, in 2019, 11.6 million people were unemployed and 38 million people were informal workers without any stability. (DE SOUZA BARBOSA, et al, 2020).

From this context, our research portrays the social inequality that exists within the municipality of Caridade, in the state of Ceará, realizing the factors that make part of the local population ask for help on the margins of a federal road risking their own lives in search of survival for you and yours.

### METHODOLOGY

For the development of the present study, a qualitative research was used through a bibliographic review.

The research took place in the city of Caridade. The sample used during the research was composed of 32 people who were daily on the side of the BR 020 road. To meet the ethical aspects for carrying out the study, it was based on Resolution 466/12 of the National Health Council, regarding refers to research involving human beings and the signing of the Free and Informed Consent Form.

In our study, we used open questionnaires, where people were able to express their opinions, as well as a "logbook", where all the steps and practices of the beggars were recorded. the logbook allows the researcher to demonstrate his research object, reporting all the experiences gained during the research.

### RESULTS

The first question asked to those people was how old they are and the data show that 51.6% of people are between 19 and 45 years old, concluding that this population is economically active and does not have a permanent job.

The second question directed to the researched sample was why you are subject to this situation and 83% reported that it is for survival and 17% to supplement income, that is, from the data we realize that within the municipality of Charity there is no jobs for the population.

The survey posed the following question: has any public agency ever tried to resolve this situation? And for 75% of the population located there, no public agency was interested in making any intervention in this way, we understand that public agencies do not care about this population that lives in begging. Another question asked was regarding the time they practice this action on BR 020 and the result shows that for 48% of respondents they have been in that activity for more than 10 years, for 35% between 1 and 5 years and for 17% of respondents between 6 and 10 years and we realize that the culture of asking is something cultural that is passed on from generation to generation.

Another question addressed by the research was how often the population goes towards BR 020 asking for donations and for the vast majority of the population 88% between 1 and 3 days and according to the people surveyed the most frequent days are part of the end of week. Asked if they receive any income distribution benefit, 81% receive Bolsa Família and 19% retirement. Finally, people were asked whether they are already looking for other means to survive and 87% of the people reported that they had already looked for other means and 13% did not look for another source of income.

## CONCLUSIONS

We conclude that the local population occupies the margins of BR 020 because the municipality does not provide working conditions for the population, but we also realize that in addition to the lack of opportunities, there is a culture of asking that is well rooted in that place.

According to our research, there are people who have been on BR 020 for more than twenty years and this way they pass this culture on to other generations who see the act of reaching out as a way of survival.

We conclude that part of the researched population is in the economically active phase and for lack of opportunity is subjecting itself to beg to survive. Another relevant fact from this research is to realize that part of this population does not think about leaving this condition, therefore, it continues this action.

Greater public policy action is needed for better income distribution to occur for those who do not have as many chances of survival.

In the current context of economic, political and health crisis, state intervention must be prioritized and the state must act as an agent that guarantees the survival of all people and that this service guarantees human dignity.

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