

Collectors and the social movement: A bibliometric survey

Catadores e movimento social: uma pesquisa bibliométrica

Gleiciane Rosa da Silva¹, Maria Zanin²

¹Universidade de São Paulo

²Universidade Federal de São Carlos

RESUMO: O objetivo do presente trabalho é demonstrar importância do tema estudado, mediante pesquisa bibliográfica empreendida, tendo como objeto, pesquisas que empregaram os termos “Movimento Social” e “Catadores de Materiais Recicláveis” e seus respectivos correlatos, na base de dados CAPES, no período compreendido entre os anos de 2010 a 2012. Para isso foi indispensável conceituar ambos os termos, por meio de publicações com reconhecimento científico atestado. A pesquisa bibliométrica apontou para as peculiares das publicações e permitiu uma análise pormenorizada da justificativa sobre a importância da temática movimento social de catadores de materiais recicláveis no campo científico, conceituado no trabalho como ferramenta de divulgação e reivindicação de direitos sociais, por ora renegados pela sociedade brasileira, cuja desigualdade social alimenta a exclusão.

PALAVRAS CHAVE: movimento nacional de catadores, movimento social, catadores.

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this study is to demonstrate the importance of the subject studied by undertaken literature, with the object, research that employed the terms "Social Movement" and "Recyclable materials" and their correlates in the CAPES database, the period between the years 2010 to 2012. this was essential to conceptualize both terms, through publications with scientific recognition certificate. The bibliometric research pointed to the peculiar publications and allowed a detailed analysis of the justification of the importance of thematic social movement of waste pickers in the scientific field, regarded the work as marketing tool and claim social rights, for now disowned by society Brazilian, whose social inequality feeds exclusion.

KEYWORDS: national movement of collectors, social movement, collectors.

Contact

¹ Gleiciane Rosa da Silva
São Paulo University
São Paulo, SP.
Email: gleici.any@hotmail.com
ORCID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0001-9210-6467>



JITA: BB. Bibliometric methods.

1 INTRODUCTION

In an attempt to define the term “social movement”, we come across a gap. According to Gohn (1997), it is not easy to define these movements as struggles, protests, revolutions, riots, insurrections, among further collective actions. The theories in this subject present a wide range of understandings. While it might be understood as an empirical phenomenon, others may also understand it as theoretical objects. There is not only one definition for “social movement”, which changes according to geopolitics, because North America, Europe and Latin America have specific historical contexts, which reflect in specific strategies from their social movements. With the advent of globalization, these contexts have changed, and it was possible to find general characteristics in the 1990s. There is a preoccupation with organizational structures, with a special focus in collective action, organizational behavior, social integration, among further aspects. In Europe, it is important to differentiate the Marxist concept from the Social Movements concept, each of those with its own subdivisions and theories. The Marxist approach understands global historical processes in view of contradictions and class struggles, through categories as social classes, contradictions, struggles, experiences, consciousness, conflict, class interests, reproduction of the work force, State, etc. On the other hand, the New Social Movements’ paradigm seeks more conjectural explanations from the political sphere or the daily life’s micro processes, while exploring reality in order to observe the politics of new social actors. It presents the basic categories: culture, identity, autonomy, subjectivity, social actors, daily life, representations, political interaction, etc.

The Latin American paradigm has been almost exclusively focused on indigenous’, blacks’, women’s and minorities’ libertarian or emancipatory social movements, on urban popular struggles for collective equipment and goods, and space for urban housing (in neighborhood associations, church communities and struggles for land in rural areas) (GOHN, 1997, p. 15).

These movements were guided by European theories, highlighting Marxists in the 70’s and the New Social Movements’ approach in the 80’s. The Marxist theories have focused in hegemony, urban contradictions and social struggles, while the New Social Movements theories have been emphasized in autonomy and identity, but have also resulted in the creation of new historical subjects, popular force field, collective citizenship, urban spoliation, social exclusion, decentralization, solidarity networks, public and private tertiary sector, etc. These new categories are favorable to the development of new paradigms, but which face dilemmas. In Latin American countries, the problems which have resulted from globalization, such as the encouragement of neoliberal economic policies, has led to the emergence of community productive networks.

2 THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT OF RECYCLABLE WASTE PICKERS

The recyclable waste pickers perform their work in Brazil in the face of extreme poverty sceneries, which are related to capitalist unequal relations arisen from competitiveness patterns which exclude those who were not given the necessary requirements to enter the formal labor market. This way, there is an increase in underemployment, precarious work conditions and consequently in violence, crime, among further difficulties that compel the search for alternatives for a decent survival, considering this unsustainable scenery (CRUZ-SOUZA; 2011, KLINSBERG; 2002).

Considering the immediate need for survival, waste gathering activity was developed in urban areas by individuals who have obtained in “garbage” materials which could be reused or recycled. This way, waste pickers arise in society, and have socially organized themselves despite the work exploitation they have suffered from entrepreneurs. The organization of a social movement which represents this working class is the main evidence of that (GUTIERREZ; ZANIN, 2011).

The National Movement of Recyclable Waste Pickers is a social movement which aims not only to organize waste pickers throughout the country, but also to achieve the valorization of their class through self-management principles, direct action, class independence, class solidarity, direct democracy and mutual support (MNCR, 2013).

A historical event which determines the creation of this social movement was the first National Meeting of Paper Pickers, which was held in 1999. Furthermore, there was the First National Congress of Recyclable Waste Pickers, held in Brasília, in 2001, which is considered to be the date of its foundation (MNCR, 2013). The mobilization for this event brought together more than 1.700 waste collectors, and culminated in the launch of the Brasilia Letter, which expresses the needs of people who survive collecting recyclable materials (MNCR, 2013).

This movement, which currently has built up more than ten years of struggles, celebrates positive results and has been organizing people all over Brazil, but still coexists among the precarious reality of waste pickers. However, nowadays they have their voice amplified and make themselves be heard in various social spaces. An example of their achievements, which might be considered its main contribution, is the recognition of the recyclable material collector as a category of work by the Brazilian Classification of Occupations (CBO) since 2002 (CBO, 2002), even though this work has been performed at least for fifty years (MNCR, 2013).

Within the framework of favorable public policies, there can be found the Decree No. 7.404, which establishes the Interministerial Committee on the Social Inclusion of Garbage Collectors, on September 11th, 2003 (FERREIRA, 2008), as well as the Decree No. 5.940, of October 25th, 2006, which seeks to socially and economically include the waste picker in a legal way, in order to ensure that recyclable materials are destined to waste pickers’ associations and cooperatives. Moreover, the

decree establishes that recyclable waste discarded by organs of federal public administration should be separated and destined to waste pickers' cooperatives and associations (GUTIERREZ; ZANIN, 2011).

2.1 The Bibliometric Survey

This work was carried out based on the CAPES' thesis and dissertations database, where only papers from 2011 and 2012 were available for bibliometric survey. Firstly we chose the theme, classified its related terms and quantified their occurrence among the researches' titles and keywords. After selecting the dissertations and thesis which establish a relation between the terms, we read the abstracts in order to ensure that they are close to the theme "Social Movement of Recyclable Waste Pickers".

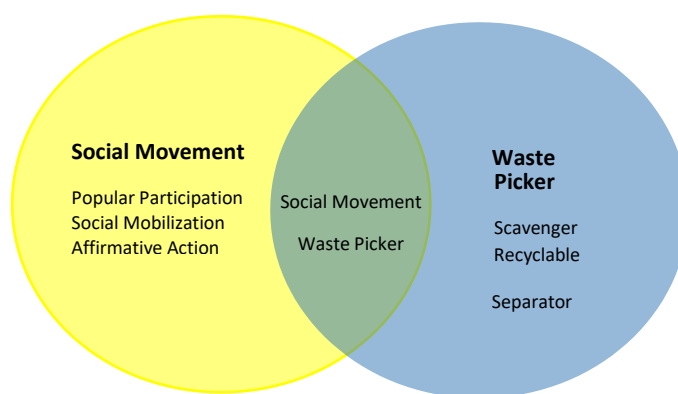


Figure 1 – Terms used in the bibliometric research
Source: Elaborated by the authors.

As it can be noticed in Figure 1, the searched terms were added from their correlates, so that we could find all the papers which covered the themes. The term "catador" (waste picker), for example, appears in only one thesis, while "reciclador" (recycler) was found in three documents. The search is described below.

- Group A: Social Movement - were also sought: "Popular Participation", "Social Mobilization", "Affirmative Action".
- Group B: "Picker", "Recycler", "Recycling", "Recyclable" and "Separator".

Table 1 presents the final result of this analysis, from which it was possible to find the intersections between the thesis and dissertations.

Table 1 – Thesis and dissertations found according to each group of terms

Group	Term	CAPES database
Group A	Social Movement	1520
Group B	Scavenger	144
	Recycle	3

Source: prepared by the authors based on research undertaken at the CAPES thesis and dissertations database, on January 14, 2016.

2.2 Analysis of relevant aspects

Based on the bibliometric research which had as its object the set of thesis and dissertations available in the CAPES database, from 2011 to 2012, we can proceed with some analysis:

A) Two dissertations were found with the intersection of the main terms "social movement" and "waste picker", or even "recycler", which indicates the importance of this study to the scientific field in order to disseminate the matter.

B) Through analyzing the terms in isolation, "catador" appears in 144 researches, while the term "Recycler" is present in only three papers. The researches mainly deal with case studies of waste pickers' cooperatives, with a focus on their training and organization, adopting as reference the Popular Education and the Popular or Solidarity Economy, which demonstrates the contingent number of Brazilians who seek social inclusion through emancipatory processes, by associating themselves and seeking to work in a cooperative way, built through democratic processes. There is still a demand for further studies on the subject, in order to contribute to the organization of the scavengers and their social rights.

C) The term "social movement" can be found in an expressive number of thesis and dissertations: there are 1520 papers which aimed to study the phenomenon from different perspectives. Those have covered social movements focused in a wide range of specific struggles: the agrarian issue, such as the MST, education, blacks' rights, indigenous, women, sexual diversity, cultural movements, people with disabilities, etc.

D) Two motivations stand out as the most popular among the CAPES database: agrarian issues and education for various groups. There are 32 thesis and dissertations dealing with agrarian issues.

3. CONCLUSION

Finally, we consider that the theme approached in this paper demands for attention in the scientific context, especially in the education field, so that social movements and recyclable waste pickers can be better noticed by society. The role of scientific research in the social field can be transformative as well as an important support to legitimize struggles of populations committed to the achievement of their

own social rights. We believe that academic research on the National Movement of Recyclable Waste Pickers (MNCR) is necessary and urgent in order to contribute to this legitimate organization, which is supported by Brazilian universities through extension projects and further actions. Waste pickers organized by this social movement have already achieved an important victory, which was for their work to be formally recognized as a profession, and they keep on working for further achievements.

COLECCIONISTAS Y MOVIMIENTO SOCIAL: UN STUDIO BIBLIOMÉTRICO

RESUMEN: El objetivo de este estudio es demostrar la importancia del tema estudiado por la literatura llevado a cabo, con el objeto, la investigación que emplea los términos "movimiento social" y "materiales reciclables" y sus correlatos en la base de datos CAPES, el periodo comprendido entre los años 2010 a 2012. esto era esencial para conceptualizar ambos términos, a través de publicaciones con certificado de reconocimiento científico. La investigación señaló bibliométrico de las publicaciones peculiares y permitió un análisis detallado de la justificación de la importancia de la temática movimiento social de los recicladores en el campo científico, considerado el trabajo como herramienta de marketing y reclamar los derechos sociales, por ahora repudiado por la sociedad brasileña, cuya desigualdad social alimenta la exclusión.

PALABRAS CLAVE: Movimiento nacional de los colectores, Movimiento social, Colectores.

Submetido em: 24/04/2016

Aceito em: 11/07/2016

Publicado em: 03/11/2016

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

GOHN, M. G. M. **Teria dos Movimentos Sociais: Paradigmas Clássicos e Contemporâneos**. São Paulo: Loyola, 1997

GUTIERREZ, R. F. e ZANIN, M. **Empreendimentos Econômicos de Catadores de Resíduos e Legislações Vigentes: Avanços e Limites Gerais**: Revista Interinstitucional de Psicologia, 4 (2), Special Edition, December, 2011, p. 113-121.

FERREIRA, E. **Dinâmicas de apropriação do conhecimento por famílias de catadores de material reciclável**: políticas públicas, projetos e tecnologias sociais. Master's dissertation. Federal Technologic University of Paraná, Curitiba, 2008.

CLASSIFICAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE OCUPAÇÕES (2002). Available in <<http://www.mtecbo.gov.br>> Access in: Nov. 13th, 2014.

MNCR: MOVIMENTO NACIONAL DOS CATADORES DE MATERIAIS RECICLÁVEIS. Available in <<http://www.mnrc.org.br>> Access in: Nov. 13th, 2014.

