



Socioeconomic Context of Residents in Extractive Reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste-Rondônia-Brazil

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Abstract

This article aims to analyze the economic, social and environmental perspectives in the territory that comprises the city of Machadinho D'oeste in the State of Rondônia, considering the type of economy and its relationship with the issues of deforestation and social problems. The theoretical bases used in the reference are based on reflections on how the Amazon is seen, on how the economy of the State of Rondônia and the municipality of Machadinho D'oeste are composed. A semi-structured interview was conducted with the Secretary of Social Action of the Municipality. The analysis of the interview was carried out by the Discourse Analysis (AD) methodology of Dominique Maingueneau. The research findings confirmed what was proposed in the objectives, which indicated that there are no public policies that can meet the socioeconomic demands of residents in the reserves of Machadinho D'oeste in Rondônia. These findings only show that the Amazon is seen by many perspectives, of a more exploratory nature of its biome.

Keywords: Machadinho D'Oeste, Extractive reserve, Amazon, Rondônia, Socioeconomia.

Introduction

In a very evident way the Amazon, since the death of the rubber tapper leader Chico Mendes in 1988, has become constant news in the news around the world, when it is not reported issues involving agrarian conflicts, are recurrent stories about the exploitation of ores illegally or even the fires and systematic deforestation that has been happening more recently in the last 20 years. Several authors (IMBIRIBA, 1990; OLIVEIRA, 1998) understand that the Amazon region needs to have a more effective type of development different from the cruel way that has occurred in recent years, which makes extensive use of natural resources, generating social conflicts, being directly related to land inequality.

The Amazon has always been the object of constant exploitation, however, now such anthropic action is practiced in a more blatant and freeway, where the public power itself has the purpose of punishing, disapproved of the control and inspection bodies, reducing its capacities of action with the systematic reduction of budgets for ICMBio, FUNAI and others (INA, 2022) not to mention the policy that has been carried out to undermine the arrival of resources via international organizations. The reflexes are possible to perceive in our Brazilian cities, floods, intense heat waves, seasons of rains higher than normal, cold in places never occurred, the climate is signaling that in the way it is we will not be able to have the long-dreamed desire for sustainable development for future generations, recommended in 1987 by *the Brundtland Report* (1991).

Rondônia, is one of the most recent States of the federation, with its few more than 40 years, stands out for being a state that thickens the data on the problems in Amazonian society, especially when deforestation and burning of large areas for the use of agricultural monocultures and pasture (FONSECA et al, 2018). Data from a historical series carried out by IBGE, indicate that in less than 30 years the State of Rondônia left 2% deforestation in its territory to be the champion in the destruction of the natural biome in 2022, reaching 28.5% of its area, more than 1/4 of the devastated territory, it is as if every year of these thirty, the territory of the State of Rondônia was devastated 1%.

According to data from IMAZON (FONSECA *et. al*, 2018), Rondônia is the second state in the country that

deforested the most in this period, and part of this is explained by the advance of the agricultural frontier: soybeans, corn and cattle; and the exploitation and commercialization of timber illegally. These ingredients form a negative and unequal condition that privileges the economic interests of a few over the many, who harvest as a result the ills already as released by the media as the warming of the climate on earth.

The traditional populations (indigenous, extractive, quilombolas, riverside and others) an important part of residents in rural territories of the Amazon, are systematically affected by the invasions of their lands. Their purposes, settled where they are, is in addition to protecting the forest, perpetuate the great diversity of their traditional knowledge, but, for matters beyond their will, bow in the name of an unequal liberal economy. Most of the vulnerable, people sands of the Amazon are silent, raped and in the worst of the dead situations, such as: Chico Mendes, Sister Dorothy, Nilce de Souza Magalhães (Nicinha), and now more recently the journalist Dom Phillips and the indigenist Bruno Pereira.

This article has as main precept to analyze the economic, social and environmental perspectives in the territory that comprises the city of Machadinho D'oeste in the State of Rondônia, considering the type of economy and its relationship with the issues of deforestation and social problems currently encountered in the rural area. We will specifically address the study problem, which are the people who reside in extractive reserves located in the territory that comprises the municipality of Machadinho D'Oeste in the State of Rondônia.

We will consider as specific objectives of the study: (1) to raise the economic issues of the city; and (2) to analyze the social situation of those residing in extractive reserves. For this, we will analyze the interview conducted with the secretary of social action of the municipality of Machadinho D'Oeste.

1 Views and occupations of the Brazilian Amazon

Historically, the Amazon has much to tell us when it comes to colonization as an exploration analogous to the country's own colonization process. Porto Gonçalves (2019) comments that for Brazilians living in the north-east, south and southeast of the country there are several types of Amazon, which essentially differ from the perspective of the real Amazon understood by residents and researchers of the region. For the author, the Amazon is seen by national and international society as an imaginary nature and in this case, it is thought that the immense territorial extension conditions it to be a place of resources to be explored in an unlimited way, which will never end.

The second conception that is thought about the Amazon is that it is seen as a peripheral region, a territory subordinate dwelling hierarchically to the national power, which is based on regions considered as more urbanized and civilized. The Amazon is seen to the country as the country is seen for the central countries, a kind of regionalized coloniality (PORTO GONÇALVES, 2019) and as has already been discussed, as a space of domination for exploration, with a purely predatory perspective for it.

The third type is that it is seen as a national issue, and this has materialized since the colonization of the country, going through the process of the dictatorial coup of 1964, where the military afraid of invasions and exploitation of mineral and natural wealth, tried to create pseudo-developmental policies, donating land in the northwest regions of the country, especially in the former Federal territory of Rondônia, encouraging urbanization, through the exploitation of noble timbers in the region (PORTO GONÇALVES, 2019).

The fourth characteristic of the region is based on the idea of an Amazon that is considered as a demographic void, this idea, is consistent with the same condition predicted in the previous one. The Amazon has the lowest number of people residing per square meter than other territories in the country; however, the incentives for migration from other parts of the country reinforce this conception, those who would come to inhabit the great emptiness of the country, would come and enrich through some kind of exploitative ephemeral economy, such as mining, logging and others, but after “bamburrou”¹ return to their places of origin, this became a constant practice in Rondônia (PORTO GONÇALVES, 2019).

Another aspect of how they see the Amazon according to Porto Gonçalves (2019) is that the region is an inexhaustible source of supplies for supply to the least peripheral localities of the country and the world. The Amazon is a natural reserve of the planet, is the main supplier of ores of the country in the figure of projects: Carajás, Jari, Alunorte among others, known as projects, that exploit the Amazon soil, but unfortunately leave more social ills to those who stay than they could leave. So, this is the scenario that Porto-Gonçalves draws for how they see the Amazon. A place with colonial features.

The State of Rondônia: Economic Context

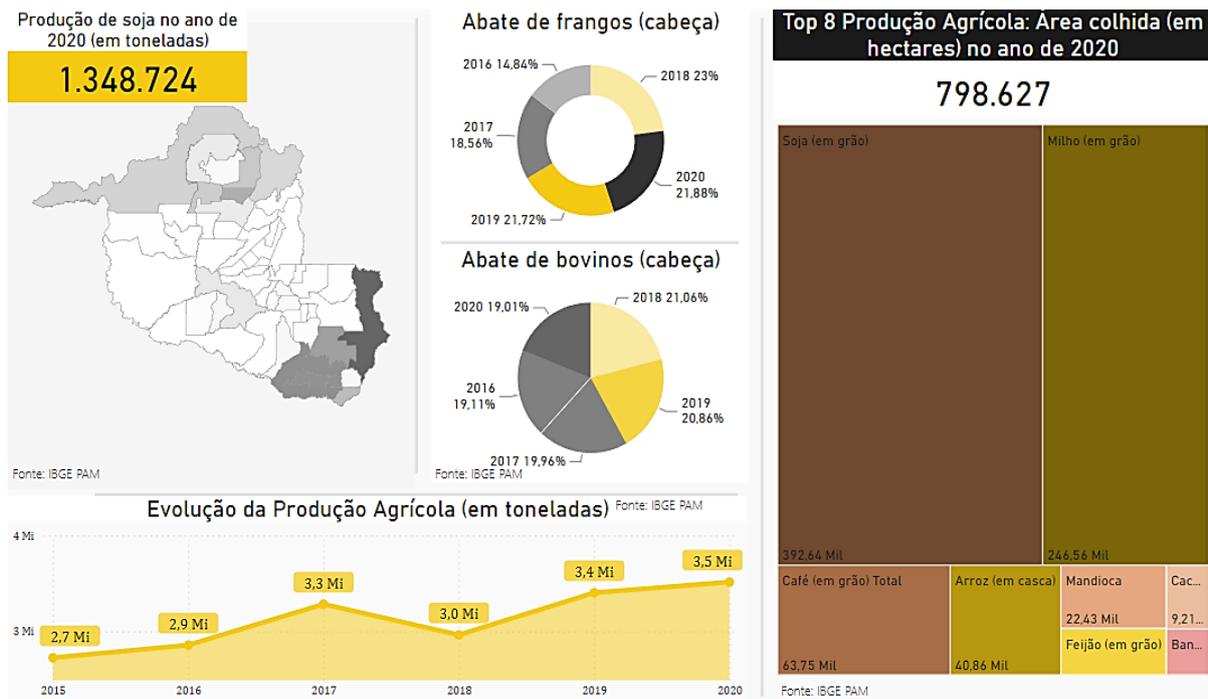
The State of Rondônia was created on December 22, 1981 and installed on January 4, 1982. Previously, Rondônia was the Federal Territory, dismembered from the states of Amazonas and Mato Grosso. Rondônia is bordered to the north with the Amazon; east with Mato Grosso; west with Acre; and with the country Bolivia West/South. The State has 52 municipalities, its capital is Porto Velho, where the entire society of the State originated, occurred by the construction of the Madeira Mamoré Railway in 1903.

The state's economy since its creation until the late 1990s was basically sourced from the payrolls of public servants: municipal, State, and federal. At the turn of the 2000s, Rondônia emerges as an agricultural potential, first by beef cattle, then by monoculture grain, especially soybean, which occurred, but strongly in the southern cone of the State, and later in several regions of the State.

Data from the Rondônia Agricultural Information 2020, produced by EMBRAPA-RO, show a significant growth in the five-year period from 765,000 tons. in 2016 to 1,138,600 tons. EMBRAPA document also emphasizes that productivity in this period increased by 7.9%. The area destined for this increase reached 37.9%, this “[...] expansion of the planted area occurred mainly due to the occupation of degraded pasture areas, with planting advancing to the central and northern regions of the state” (EMBRAPA, 2020, p. 7).

Image 01: Information on Agricultural Production of the State of Rondônia 2016-2019

¹ The term is used by prospectors in the region, referring to the fact that they mined a lot of gold in a short period, when this occurred much of them left the hard and dangerous work of the prospector to come to the city to spend money on sold gold.



Fonte: Rondônia (2022)

Na imagem 01 observa-se que a área para a cultura da soja chega em 2020 a 392.642 hectares plantadas, praticamente a metade das áreas destinadas às demais culturas agrícolas que é de 798.697 hectares. A produção da soja no Estado em 2015 foi de 2,7 mil t.; 2016: 2,9 mil t.; 2017: 3,3 mil t.; 2018: 3,0 mil t.; 2019: 3,4 mil t.; 2020: 3,5 mil t.

The average growth process in the historical series is 5% p.a. This, on the one hand, shows that soybean agricultural culture is the main economic source of the State of Rondônia, along with corn and beef cattle. This requires more areas to meet the growing demand of local *agrobusiness*, forcing the vast majority to further deforest the Amazon biome.

3.3 Machadinho D'Oeste - RO: Current Situation

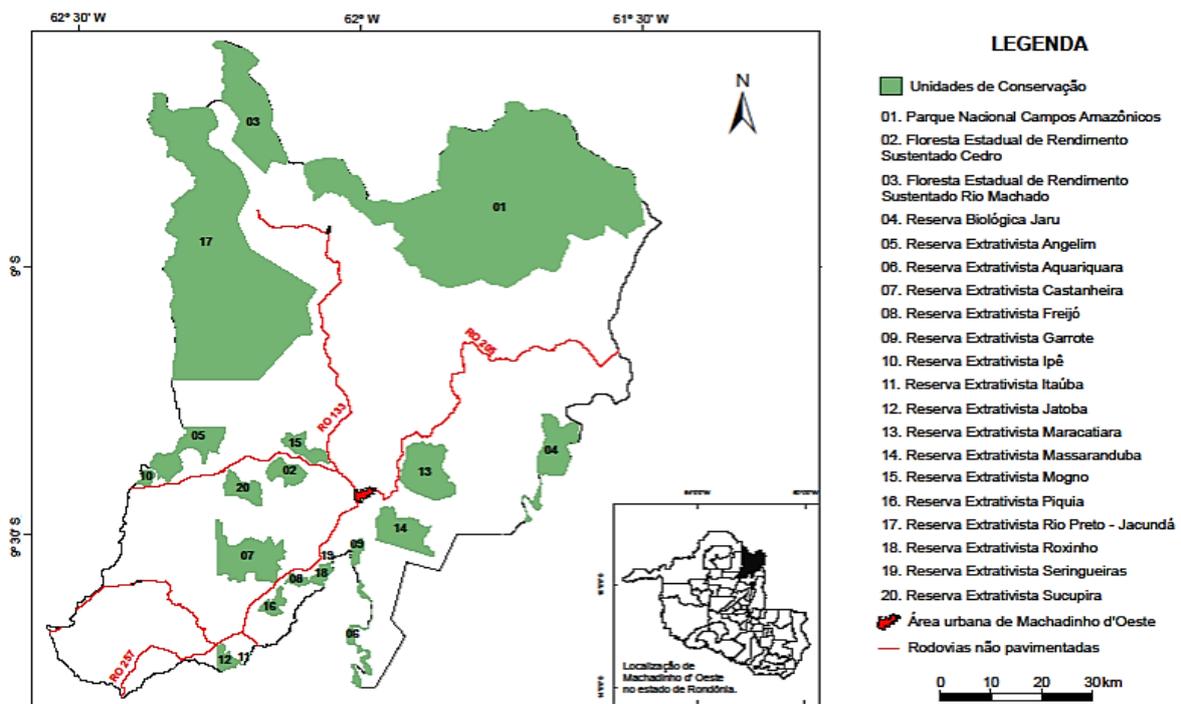
Abramovay (2019, p. 53) states that CUs "[...] occupy 18% of the Brazilian territory, that is, 152.4 million hectares, and 73% of this area (111 million hectares), is in the Amazon: 37% of them are "full use" [...] and 63% are of "sustainable use". The author emphasizes that CUs should not be seen as untouchable sites, or averse to any type of economic activity, it is important that there is conservation of biomes that traditional populations are present in the process; so that indigenous, riverside, extractivists, quilombolas and others can make their cultures compatible with the preservation of the forest (ABRAMOVAY, 2019).

Rondônia has a total of 40 State Conservation Units (UCE), created and instituted by Decree Law 1.144 of 12/12/2022, which classified the UCE in two categories. The first has seven, which are of full protection; and thirty-three that are categorized as Sustainable Development (CARDOZO, 2020). Of this amount of 33, only the city of Machadinho D'Oeste includes fourteen UCE.

Machadinho D'Oeste is the municipality of the State of Rondônia with the largest number of extractive reserves (RESEX), they are: (1) Resex Angelim; (2) Resex Ipê; (3) Resex Massaranduba; (4) Resex Chestnut;

(5) Resex Aquariquara; (6) Resex Rubber Tree; (7) Roxinho Resex; (8) Freijó Resex; (9) Piquiá Resex; (10) Resex Jatobá; (11) Maracatiara Resex; (12) Resex Mahogany); (13) Garrote Resex; (14) Resex Sucupira (CARDOZO, 2020).

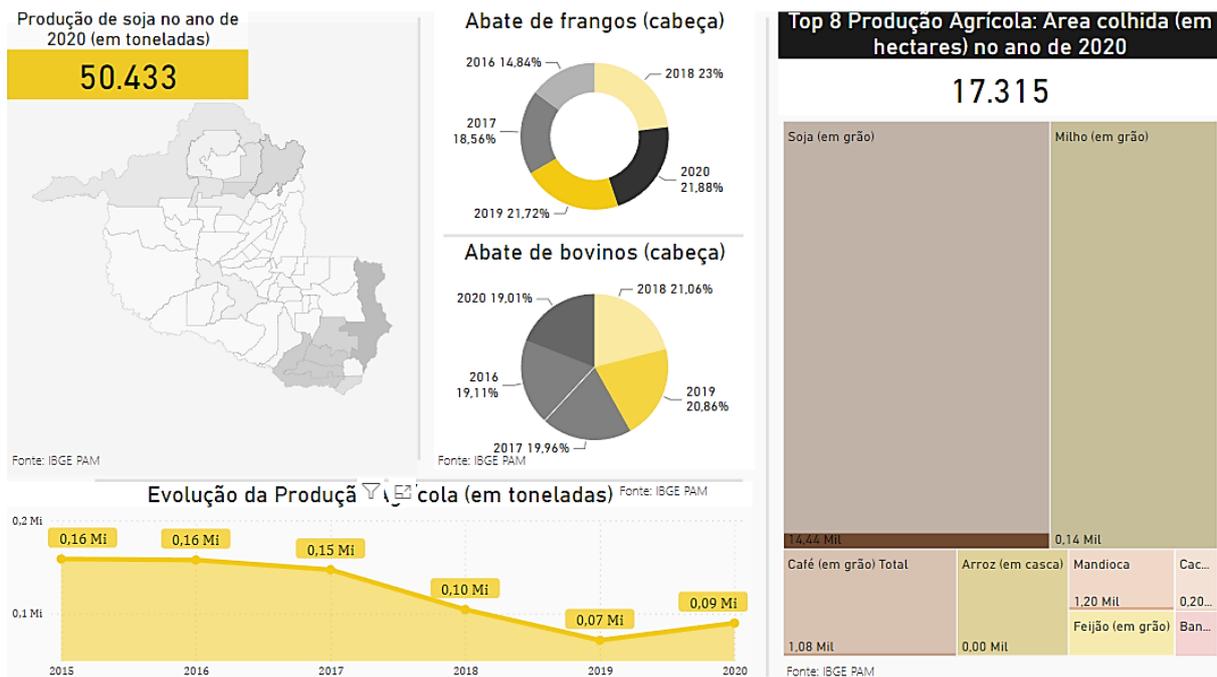
Image 02: Municipality of Machadinho D'Oeste contemplating 20 CUs, of which 14 are sustainable development located in the territory of the municipality



Batista; Cavalcante; Penha; Sousa *et al.* (2021)

Cardozo (2020) points out at least 12 problems that make it impossible to develop THE RESEX located in the city of Machadinho D'Oeste, and which in turn also make impossible, therefore the sustainable development of the families living in these localities. They are: (1) the lack of public servants, tax and environmental technicians who can act directly in RESEX; (2) The areas of the Resex are not regularized and the demarcation of their borders does not show their limits; (3) the lack of in-depth studies on biodiversity in Resex; (4) The lack of management plans in a large part of the Resex; (5) The management plans existing in the Resex: Roxinho, Freijó, Itaúba, Jatobá, Garrote do not reflect the reality of the reserves; (6) There are very few resources allocated through the State budget for the Management of Resex; (7) There are many problems regarding the performance of the deliberative councils of the Resex; (8) Illegal deforestation originating from invasions, land-clearing, and lack of control and punishment of invaders are one of the problems/causes (of many of the factors raised); (9) The lack of infrastructure for some Resex; (10) hunting, fishing which takes place illegally in much of the territory of extractive reserve; (11) There is the presence of cattle within some Resex, evidenced by systematic pastures; (12) The Resex that has its deliberative councils do not work, which hinders social control and management itself. With this, we find the ideal scenario so that there is no practice with the populations living in the Resex of Machadinho D'Oeste.

Image 03: Information on Agricultural Production Municipality of Machadinho D'Oeste 2016-2020



Fonte: Rondônia (2022)

Image 03 shows us that the city of Machadinho D'Oeste, also has as source soybean, which uses 14,438 hectares, collecting approximately 392,642 shades. In 2015 Machadinho D'Oeste produced 158,681 t. in 2016; 157,681 t. in 2017; 147,107 t. in 2018; 104,223 t. in 2019; 71,286 t.; in 2020 50.433 t.

In the historical series of the city of Machadinho D'Oeste for soybean production, we see that there has been a degrowth from the year 2018, coinciding with the same period of low production in the State of Rondônia (see image 01).

Methodological Procedure of Research

This is qualitative research of inductive character, which aims to understand the main characteristics of a situation observed as the objective of the study. A single interview was conducted, where the interviewee has important information that clarifies what is intended to be obtained as the objective of the study. It is critical social research, in which the foundations rest on dialectical logic, allowing to present historical components of the phenomenon to be studied (RICHARDSON, 2010).

The analysis of the results occurs through Dominique Maingueneau discourse analysis approach. Discourse Analysis has the function of understanding the subjects' gaze through a socio-historical ideology, which materializes in the speech of these subjects, through the *discourse's own ethos*, which is according to Maingueneau (2008), a discursive notion, constituted by discourse, that is, an image of the outside speaker to speech; an interactive process of influence over the other; and a hybrid idea, socio-discursive, who has a socially evaluated behavior and seized out of a precise communication situation. For the author, Discourse Analysis is the discursive practice itself (MAINGUENEAU, 2015).

Clippings of the interviewee's statements were made, considering important parts to answer the objectives of

the study. This occurred through the arrangement of tables with columns where the speech clippings and the analysis from the discourse analysis method theory were included.

The research data were collected from an interview with the Secretary of Social Action of the Municipality. The study was based only on this interview. The interviewee is born in a rural area of the city Machadinho D'Oeste, currently resides in the urban area, has a lot of experience with the social demands of people residing in the territories of the fourteen extractive reserves of the city of Machadinho D'Oeste.

The interview was conducted in two moments. The first occurred on March 18, 2022. A visit was made in Machadinho D'Oeste to present the intention of an academic research that would culminate in the submission of a research project to the Foundation for the Development of Scientific and Technological Actions and the Research of the State of Rondônia (FAPERRO). In addition to the presentation of the project, some non-systematic observations were made around the local trade, in addition to some informal conversations about the social, economic, and environmental situation of the city. At the time of the research date, a public hearing would take place to discuss the impacts of the construction of the Tabajara Hydroelectric, which directly involves some traditional populations and the *Tenharim Marmelos indigenous ethnicgroup*.

The second moment occurred on April 9, 2022. In this meeting, which took place remotely, the secretary of social action of the city of Machadinho D'Oeste answered fifteen questions foreseen in the script of the semi-structured interview. The interview lasted approximately 1h and 10 minutes, being recorded, with the interviewee's permission. The interview was authorized by the research ethics committee, opinion 5,056,330², granted by the Federal University of Rondônia- UNIR.

In this section of the article will be presented the results of the interview held and the discussions. This results in and through table 1, which in the first column presents the cutout of the interviewee's speech; in the second column the theoretical elements of discourse analysis and in the last column the discussion.

Table 01: Presentation of the Results and Discussions of the Interview Held

<i>Question: Do families living in extractive reserves that are within the municipality of Machadinho D'Oeste basically have their incomes from what types of products? And what is the average income of the families living there?</i>		
Discursive Training (FD) (Clipping)	Theoretical Elements of Discourse Analysis	Discussion
[...] I can talk to property [...], their income [...] unfortunately, is practically zero. The little income they have is [...] from retirement, [...] Brazil aid.	"The critical analysis of contemporary discourse focuses on social dysfunctions, very often expressed in	When asked about where it came from the income and the average income of residents in the extractive reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste, the interviewee reports

² This authorization was requested by the author, to research beyond the interviewee, agents representing other institutions that contributed to the study: Biodiversification and Productive Complexity: Third Way of Development in Extractive Reserves of the Amazon.

<p>[...] extractive reserve is few even those who receive. Apart from those who receive the benefit, retirement the few who have succeeded, those who are receiving help Brazil today of R \$ 400 practically is zero. It's little like that, because today they're not living in the forest. They are not managing to live in the forest, they have no road, they have no way to sell their product, but their income is practically so nothing [...].</p>	<p>terms of "power or social inequality" (MAINGUENEAU, 2015, P. 55). "In reality, this discursive ethos puts into interaction <i>an ethos</i> shown, resulting from the way of speaking, and <i>an ethos</i> said, what the announcer says of himself as an enunciator [...]" (MAINGUENEAU, 2020, P. 11). "Memorability, the fact that, in a given moment and place, an utterance can become a trait, is not a phenomenon outside the annunciation; it is taken in a constitutive relationship with its own become-trace while enunciating [...]" (MAINGUENEAU, 2015, P. 151 AND 152), memory of external affiliation that is based on the historical condition of the events THAT OCCURRED (MAINGUENEAU, 2008).</p>	<p>that practically the income of people living in the fourteen reserves is incipient, that is, a place where it can be obtained incomes in a sustainable way from the economic potential of biodiversity and are not, shows that in the reserves there are no specific projects for public policies that can better harness these potentialities and thereby give better conditions of decent living to those who reside there. Evidencing that extractivists are invisible actors. The interviewee does not evidence any simulacrum of what he talks about the situation of residents in the Extractive Reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste, he lives the day-to-day of the situation, and shows that this is in fact a component of his, of his historical situation lived, not only as one who looks at the situation, but the one who once lived the situation, therefore it is emphasized in its way of enunciation.</p>
<p><i>Question: How many families today are registered in the reserves? And what are the main obstacles to this scenario having another reality?</i></p>		

Discursive Training (FD) (Clipping)	Theoretical Elements of Discourse Analysis	Discussion
<p>I made a survey, I do not need [...] in all reservations, [...] I came across this [...] total lack of public policy for the permanence of this people in the reserves, [...] are on average 70 to 80 families who are living within the Reserves of Machadinho D'oeste.</p> <p>They've got a lot of business. It is the lack of a road, it is the lack of a training [...] has no energy, does not have access to education, I know of cases of extractivists who have children who were forced to leave the reserve, come to the city, because there was no way for school transport to reach her residence.</p> <p>It's a lack of a public policy of serious buyers for their products.</p> <p>So, that's a lot of factors that stop them, you know?</p> <p>The main obstacle, the main complaint is the lack of public policies that meet them with dignity.</p>	<p>The discourse presents three genres: (1) political activity; (2) ideological political positioning; (3) places of political activity. (MAINGUENEAU, 2015).</p> <p>Quoting Bourdieu Maingueneau (2008) he comments that "[...] language is a technique of the body [...] especially phonological, it is a <i>dimension of body hexis</i> in which the whole relationship with the social world is expressed" (MAINGUENEAU, 2015).</p>	<p>In the case of the interviewee's statements, especially the one under analysis, he evidences a type of discursive genre of political activity, he is outraged, even in the intolled form of his voice (perceived by the audio in the interview).</p> <p>He lives daily and sees the problems widely mentioned by him as a citizen and in the figure of public manager about extractive peoples.</p> <p>He concludes in virtually all the questions asked as being those related to the sphere of political activity of discourse, of evidence of interest.</p>
<p><i>Question: In the case of the 14 reserves, which of these have the most economic potential and which products can be found in these reserves with the most abundance?</i></p>		
Discursive Training (FD) (Clipping)	Theoretical Elements of Discourse Analysis	Discussion
<p>All of them have [...] potential, some that have more, for the</p>	<p>The notion of <i>node</i> in AD, "[...] is a subject</p>	<p>When asked which of the 14 reserves have the most economic</p>

<p>sake of geographic size is that of Rio Preto Jacundá, Castanheira which are large reserves, Massaranduba, Maracatiara, these have a little. [...]. I've been in all of them, and the main products would be rubber, babassu coconut, chestnut, copaiba oil, [...] has flour, has family farming [...]</p>	<p>of recurring debate in a given community." These <i>nodes</i> are organized into two types of categories: (1) the questions, which take the form of alternatives; (2) Problems, which do not necessarily need to be reduced to alternatives. (MAINGUENEAU, 2015, p. 90)</p>	<p>potential, he replies that all have potential, generating alternatives to the problem that is the lack of public policy that can meet the demands of people squatting in the extractive reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste. It is emphasized that the first two reservations mentioned by the interviewee are not part of the 14 Resex de Machadinho D'Oeste. The FD in analysis evidences a daily discursive notion of the interviewee, as to his way of perceiving that within the extractive reserves there is economic potential, but that different from what most do not understand him so, this shows in practically all his discursive ethos a form of indignation, with something that for him is obvious.</p>
<p><i>Question: What are the main obstacles, which you see when it comes to developing public policies and actions to increase the incomes of families living in the reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste</i></p>		
<p>Discursive Training (FD) (Clipping)</p>	<p>Theoretical Elements of Discourse Analysis</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>[...] was created within SEDAM, the unit called CUC <i>Coordination of Conservation Units</i>. But I will not blame only the CUC, because I also went and I am secretary of social assistance in other administrations and did not see these people, but there is on our part</p>	<p>Again, the discourse is based on the genre political activity (MAINGUENEAU, 2015). "It is within the field of the discourse that a discourse is constituted, and we raise the</p>	<p>In answering that the main fault of not having public policies that can meet the demands of extractivists residing in the reserves of Machadinho D'Oeste, the interviewee attributes the blame to the government, when he says that things need to come from</p>

<p>the responsibility in every decree of the government, has an article in each. There is a single article in the Law for all of them that says the following: it is the responsibility of the state executive's public power to make public policies for reservations.</p> <p>So, I put myself with a little guilt, but also at the same time, I don't feel guilty because this public policy must come from the state. It must come from above, I can't, that's what I've been trying to do for a year, and I say to you, I was kind of vanquished in this war, to create a public policy, so today it's like this, it's the lack of interest, of these bodies that were created to develop public policies for these people, of not running</p>	<p>hypothesis that this constitution can be described in terms of regular operations on existing discursive formations" (MAINGUENEAU, 2008, p. 34).</p>	<p>above to happen, yet the interviewee is half to blame for also being in charge of a municipal secretariat, where it is also up to the condition of creating the said public policies necessary to meet the economic and social demands of those who reside in the 14 extractive reserves of the city of Machadinho D'Oeste.</p> <p>In his discursive notion the interviewee makes use of the common sense of the discourse that he as representative of the State is a participant in the problem, but that in a speech he exempts himself for not being in the still situation, declaring that he feels guilty and at the same denounces the problems, makes him a passive culprit.</p>
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Conclusion

Considering all the assumptions evidenced during the work, we conclude that many are the problems found in the reserves located in the city of Machadinho D'Oeste. The problems are certainly not novelties for most of those who know the reality of peoples living isolated in the Amazon, as we emphasize in the introduction of this work, the Amazon, is seen in many respects, but none of them accredit so that it is the silver bullet that will save the country, considering the historical and current exogenous policies idealized by technocrats settled in their offices.

The Amazon, needs to be seen as a priority, bring the report of a public servant, who knows for decades the problems of a suffering public is the visible part of this monstrous *iceberg of problems that peoples* in the Amazon live daily, there is no way to solve all problems at once, but there is a way to think of the words of our interviewee, in public policies that can further broaden the debate around the biodiversification of what the Amazon has as an economic potential.

The current economic models of monoculture grain, pasture for cattle, felling of noble timber, illegal mining

in environmental protection lands only enrich a few, leaving the vast majority the burden, which in the case of the Amazon, paraphrasing Keynes, will only recover after everyone in the long run is dead.

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