

THE EXPANSION OF THE INHABITED AREA OF TERESINA: DYNAMICS OF SEGREGATION AND SPATIAL HETEROGENEITY IN THE EASTERN ZONE OF TERESINA FROM 1970 TO 1990.



Studies on the city, according to Sandra Jatahy Pesavento (2004), in Brazil, especially in the field of History, have undergone significant transformations. The urban space is no longer seen merely as a place of residence, but also as a space of representations and everyday appropriations. Thus, when reflecting on the city, we are directly analyzing urban life, marked by the physical occupation of a territory, from which, through this demarcation, spatial separations emerge. The 1970s marked profound changes in the urban configuration of Teresina, as well as the expansion of its inhabited area. As the city expanded, differentiated spaces emerged. Roberto Lobato Corrêa (2003) assists us in understanding the social agents and the way they act, as it is from their actions that the physical modifications of the city arise, responsible for its fragmentation. This fragmentation, according to Milton Santos (1993), depending on how it occurs, is configured as socio-spatial segregation. While the urban space is one of planning, it can also be taken and occupied through everyday tactics. Michel de Certeau (1994) enlightens our understanding of the daily actions of individuals who, through their everyday gestures, appropriate places within the city. Thus, in this research, we understand a city that emerges from urban planning, giving rise to spatially privileged zones; however, parallel to this socio-spatial privilege, another segment of society inhabits segregated areas from a housing perspective. This research seeks to answer: In what ways did social agents act as protagonists in the processes of production and organization of the physical space of the Eastern zone of Teresina? Based on this guiding question, we aim to understand to what extent such agents, as socio-spatial configurators, played a decisive role in concentrating real estate investments in specific segments of the Eastern zone. Furthermore, the study intends to analyze how this dynamic of capital was responsible for the constitution of differentiated spatialities in the territory in question, and how local newspapers portrayed this process of transformation of the Eastern zone between 1970 and 1990. For the development of the research, we use bibliographical research, through which we seek thematic references related to the subject — scientific articles, dissertations, and theses. We also use hemerographic sources, selecting the newspapers *O Dia*, *O Estado*, *Meio Norte*, and *Jornal de Notícias*. These periodicals, through their records of daily events, document the actions of social agents as well as their impact on the city's configuration. Tania Regina de Luca (2008) emphasizes that the use of newspapers as a source for the production of historical knowledge gained relevance from the 1970s onward in Brazil. The choice of these newspapers was due to the fact that all of them circulated within the time frame of our research. With this study, we aim to understand the ways in which social agents acted in the spatial configuration of the Eastern zone of Teresina and how this action led to the emergence of socio-spatially privileged neighborhoods, while at the same time leaving other neighborhoods marginalized and segregated within the same region.

KEYWORDS: City. History. Teresina. Segregation



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