



Clésio Moura de Souza

Youth and Violence in Brazil

An Ethnographical Study on Youth Street Violence Related to Drugs and Social Order in Maceió

Schriftenreihe des Max-Planck-Instituts für ausländisches und internationales Strafrecht

Reihe K: Kriminologische Forschungsberichte, Band 192

Tab., zahlr. farb. Abb., XXIII, 228 Seiten, 2022

ISBN 978-3-428-18556-6, franz. Br., € 35,-

Street violence in Brazil has been on the rise in recent years, with young people representing the vast majority of perpetrators and victims. Streets and neighborhoods across disadvantaged areas in Maceió – widely recognized as Brazil's most violent city – have become flashpoints for power struggles involving informal norms and standards of behavior. Within this context an important question emerges: What are the main processes responsible for bringing youths to engage in street violence – taking into account personal and familial developments, the city's environment, and social pressures as well as other ties that motivate or force youths to become members of criminal groups?

This book consists of an ethnographical study based on participant observation and in-depth qualitative interviews with twenty-four male youths who had intense experiences with street violence. The data were mainly collected during seven months of fieldwork in Maceió in 2013. In January 2016, a second visit to Maceió took place to collect pictures of the neighborhoods where the interviewed youths came from, as well as of the prisons and internment units where young offenders are housed.

The aim of the research is to analyze the significance of violence among individuals and criminal groups and, furthermore, to assess the impact of this violence on the social order that governs the streets of Maceió. In addition, the role that drug trafficking has in this context is examined in order to better understand why this activity has become so attractive to youths and how drug-related street violence is used as an instrument of punishment to establish social control in local communities.

Contents

Introduction: On the Way to the Cemeteries and Prisons in Maceió

Homicide Rates in Latin America and Brazil: Clues about Street Violence — Street Violence and Drug Warfare in Brazil — Street Youth Violence in Maceió — Youth and Violence — Gangs, Criminal Groups, and Organized Crime — The Study in Maceió

1. Methods, Data, and Qualitative Analyses

Prior to Fieldwork — During Fieldwork — After Fieldwork

2. Grotas, Favelas, and Conjuntos Habitacionais: Marginalized Areas of Maceió

The Proliferation of Grotas and Favelas in Maceió — Conjuntos Habitacionais — Growing up in the Deprived Areas of Maceió — The Geography of Crime in Maceió

3. The Street as a Stage for Violent Acts

4. My Street, My Neighborhood, and My Domain: Social Ordering of Space and Drug Trade

Bocas: Dynamics of the Drug Business in Maceió — Soldiers and Coringas: Youth Criminal Groups in Maceió — Guilherme's Cell: Coringa Sanguinário — Nessa Vida: Why Are Criminal Activities and the Drug Trade Attractive to Youths? — From Informal to Illegal Markets: Seeking Profit

5. Ruling the Environment: The Meaning of Street Violence in Maceió

Cabuetagem: Rule of Silence in Maceió — Rixa, Treta, and Bronca: The No-Crossing Rule in Maceió

6. Conclusion: What Do the Youths Wish for Their Future?

Bestellungen können an jede Buchhandlung oder direkt an den Verlag gerichtet werden.

Nutzung und Download von E-Books erfolgen über unsere eLibrary.

Tel.: 030/790006-0 · werbung@duncker-humblot.de · verkauf@duncker-humblot.de

www.duncker-humblot.de