

Preface

The article that begins volume 40 of *Interações* addresses the experience of young adults in Nigeria using the TikTok application during the lockdown decreed in that country in the context of the COVID 19 pandemic. The main objective of the investigation by Udenze and Uzochukwu was to understand the extent to which the use of TikTok contributed to minimizing the negative effects of isolation resulting from confinement. Using Katz and Blumler's Theory of Uses and Gratifications as a theoretical framework, the authors did a qualitative study based on interviews with young adults aged between 19 and 31 years. The thematic analysis of the interviews, supported by the perspective of Braun and Clarke's steps, allowed them to conclude that sharing short videos from the TikTok application helped young adults to manage the negative effects of confinement, having a positive impact on their well-being. The authors suggest that the TikTok application can be used by individuals and psychotherapists in the treatment of patients in a context of compulsory confinement.

The following article, by Delali Dovie, analyzes the experiences lived by the elderly population in Ghana during the Covid 19 pandemic in four dimensions: social, childcare, self-care and humanitarian. The author interviewed five men and five women, selected through a purposive sampling technique. The findings of their study show that the elderly people interviewed developed a myriad of strategies for resilience and adaptation to the isolation environment in a pandemic context, taking on new social roles and expanding their daily activities. The author highlights the strengthening of the bonds established between the elderly and their grandchildren, closing the gap in childcare that the closing of schools brought and relieving working mothers. On the other hand, socialization between the elderly and children, although developed outside the classroom environment, allowed the children to remain academically focused. Finally, the author emphasizes the need for reflection and study of the social, psychological, self-care and childcare dimensions in a pandemic context.

Julian Affonso de Faria and Cláudio Márcio Magalhães seek to establish a relationship between the legal and illegal traffic of data obtained from citizen surveillance and the phenomenon of disinformation, essentially centered on the dissemination of fake news that reaching a large scale, threatens the foundations of democratic re-

gimes. Their research question is: to what extent does surveillance capitalism contribute to the political economy of disinformation? According to the authors, “surveillance capitalism and the policy of disinformation are one of the greatest concerns of society today. The great challenge is to face such phenomena, either with specific laws or with public policies, without restricting the citizens’ right to freedom of thought and opinion” (p. 76). For the authors, the solution is not the implementation of censorship actions but the investment in education policies in order to provide citizens with a critical sense level that enables them to differentiate truth and manipulation.

In the article “Arielism Versus Cosmopolitanism: Brazilian Reaction to 9/11/01 as Cultural Narrative and Identity Work”, Laura Robinson analyzes identity work through the Brazilian discourse in relation to the events of September 11, 2001, using a social constructivist perspective. By examining how the offline cultural norms of digital discussion forum participants are transformed through online interaction, the author focuses on one of the central themes of global studies on media, culture and identity. Her investigation, based on data taken from digital discussion forums organized by the newspaper *O Estado de São Paulo*, points to the existence of two main attitudes that she identifies as arielist and cosmopolitan, completed by a third one limited to a small group of Brazilian expatriates self-proclaimed as Americanophile. The author concludes that the different postures in reaction to the events of September 11, 2001, are still current, reflecting the chasm between left and right in Brazil and the United States.

Reuben Connolly Ross starts from an initial discussion about the Amoreiras Shopping Center to, in a very original way, critically explore the most recent changes in Lisbon’s urban and architectural landscape. For the author, Amoreiras are a symbol of Portugal’s consumerist aspirations in the post-revolutionary period and of the rise of neoliberal policies that, at the global level, invaded capitalist regimes, sharpening their inequalities and contradictions. As Reuben Connolly Ross points out, “Its towers reflect the economic changes and political turmoil that have helped produce radically new urban forms; its imposing size epitomises the devastating effects of uneven spatial development; its kitsch designs embody a kaleidoscopic vision of an uncertain future.” (p.114). The Amoreiras, concludes the author, by marking the emergence of post-modern trends in Portugal, serves as a starting point for a reflection on the directions that modern Portugal is taking.

Camila Costa Feijó’s article examines the parallel between women’s magazines in Brazil and virtual communities in Brazil. As the old women’s magazines lost sub-

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scribers and readers, virtual communities emerged, made up by women, as spaces for exchanging information and advice. The author used a qualitative research combining a literature review with an analysis of information taken from two Facebook groups (*Fashionismo* and *Modices*). Her study shows that women are now using new discourses and new forms of identification that go beyond the contents of the old women's magazines. On the other hand, and even more important, now women are not limited to being content consumers but are also producers, which contributes to their empowerment. Interestingly, the new forms of representation of women, resulting from their participation in digital spaces, did not set aside women's magazines, as there are still several digital publications, although there is a change in the discourse used.

In the essay that closes the volume, Deepak Gupta highlights two dimensions in the COVID 19 vaccination program, namely, the guarantee of equitable access and the development of marketing strategies that encourage positive behavior changes on the part of citizens, as the dissemination of misinformation is gaining in popularity, especially in the media and digital spaces. Supported by the information collected through an interview conducted with a key informant, a former specialist at the World Health Organization, Deepak Gupta argues that only through public policies will it be possible to achieve a balance between environmental sustainability, economic development and positive health indicators. Thus, he concludes, it is not political logic but scientific logic that should drive the main decisions to be taken in matters of public health. In his words: "it is therefore time to witness more of science in politics than politics in science" (p. 138).

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