



ORPHANS OF PUBLIC HEALTH : ORAL HISTORY OF A GENERATION ACHIEVED BY LEPROSY CONTROL POLICY IN BRAZIL.

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Abstract

This work aims to investigate the history of healthy children separated from parents sick with leprosy, which were isolated by compulsorily determination of the Brazilian state. Through qualitative research methodology based on the technique of oral history, we sought to understand this form of violation of rights of a generation that was hit by the disease control policy in Brazil. In this study, there were five in-person, written and handwritten interviews and documentary research through secondary sources to seven stories of people who were separated from their parents sick with leprosy, among them: a person that was created in Preventório Santa Maria in Rio de Janeiro (RJ); one that was sent and raised in Preventório of Goiás; one that was created by family in Rio de Janeiro (RJ); a person that was created in Preventório Santa Terezinha in Carapicuíba (SP) and then was adopted; two people that have been created by family in the state of Minas Gerais; three maids in Preventório Carlos Chagas in Juiz de Fora (MG) and three created by family in São Paulo. Such interviews have an understanding of the multiple forms of social control related to the separation of healthy children of leprosy patients parents. Thus, we aimed to rescue part of the silenced the Brazilian Public Health memory about the various forms of state surveillance in disease control. We conclude that one of the major impacts of the measure of segregation and removal of these individuals was the deepening of the social stigma that had the perverse effect of the breaking of the bond with the family and the social networks, in addition to the restriction of study and work opportunities , conforming a way of discrimination which translates in the history of life of individuals affected by the disease, as well as their families.