



UK-Brazil
Knowledge Frontiers Symposium

Urban Violence

06-08 March, 2020 | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

AGENDA

MARCH 6

09:30-09:45 - **Registration**

09:45-10:00 - **Opening Remarks**

10:00-11:30 - **Introductions**

11:30-12:00 - **Tea/Coffee Break**

12:00-13:00 - **Session 1: Identities, communities and manners of experiencing violence and responding to interventions**

13:00-14:00 - **Lunch Break**

14:00-15:00 - **Session 1: Identities, communities and manners of experiencing violence and responding to interventions** (continuation)

15:00-15:30 - **Tea/Coffee Break**

15:30-17:00 - **3-minute research pitches**

MARCH 7

09:30-10:30 - **Session 2: Concepts, recording practices and representations of violence, illegal markets, discourses of violence and social legitimacy**

10:30-11:00 - **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 - **Session 2: Concepts, recording practices and representations of violence, illegal markets, discourses of violence and social legitimacy** (continuation)

12:00-13:30 - **Lunch Break**

13:30-14:30 - **Seed Funding Connections**

14:30-16:00 - **Funding and Support for Early Career Researchers (including ABC and BA Funding Opportunities)**

MARCH 8

09:30-10:30 - **Session 3: Criminal justice systems, the securitization of social problems, and state and paramilitary violence as barriers to “pacification”**

10:30-11:00 - **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 - **Session 3: Criminal justice systems, the securitization of social problems, and state and paramilitary violence as barriers to “pacification”** (continuation)

12:00-13:30 - **Lunch Break**

13:30-16:00 - **Seed Funding Proposals**

16:00-16:30 - **Closing Remarks**

ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS - DESCRIPTION

Session 1: Identities, communities and manners of experiencing violence and responding to interventions

Places and territories are arenas in which different forms of violence evolve and local identities are constructed, in ways that vary according to the social and physical-environmental morphology of different cities, their ongoing relations with rural areas, and the patterns of migration, national and international, that shape their demographics. Their characteristics are central to understanding how violence manifests itself, its impacts on communities, and how violence can be understood from a comparative perspective, since patterns of violence and social responses to it differ between urban contexts. Many strategies, programs and policies for the control of crime address these environmental dimensions in the hope of inducing local development and fostering mechanisms of citizen and community empowerment. A major comparative issue is whether existing crime prevention strategies are effective in addressing all of the distinct but often interrelated forms of violence that exist in urban environments, including violence linked to gender or race, and sufficiently grounded in the kinds of understandings of the target populations that social science and humanities research can provide as a counterweight to stereotyping media narratives and political postures that have other agendas. This session will discuss different approaches to understanding, planning and implementing interventions, whether in urban environments or in particular communities, giving participants an opportunity to evaluate different experiences of intervention in the light of their own research findings and to discuss results that shed light on the whether differences in community organization and the strength of social ties between their residents influence their responses to interventions.

Session 2: Concepts, recording practices and representations of violence, illegal markets, discourses of violence and social legitimacy

Violence is a multidimensional concept that can be defined in different ways. Likewise, it can be recorded and represented in several manners that depend not only on technical decisions but also on the perception of different social actors and on the purposes of these measurements and representations. This session will discuss various approaches to violence and the way in which it is monitored and represented. Furthermore, it will discuss how discourses on violence are produced by various social actors and the production of legitimacy for violent acts perpetrated by either state agents, private individuals or criminal groups. The session will consider the relation between illegal markets, violence and public policies related to drugs, offering opportunities for participants to discuss the insights that are being provided into these issues by both quantitative and qualitative research, the role of non-governmental organizations, community organizations and religious groups, in both public debate and on-the-ground practice, and the differences of perspective between what is discussed in public policy debates, mainstream and alternative media presentations, depictions through film and the arts, and representations and creative expressions constructed within popular culture itself.

Session 3: Criminal justice systems, the securitization of social problems, and state and paramilitary violence as barriers to “pacification”

Brazil and the UK have very different criminal justice systems, as these are product of different historical and social contexts. Yet, they also share similarities, as both are part of a Western legal tradition. This session will discuss some comparative/contrastive features of criminal justice systems in Brazil and the UK. Possible topics for discussion are: distinct bureaucratic frames of police and justice institutions, including prisons, courts, police stations, Public Prosecutors and Defenders; the rule of law, social hierarchies and the effective separation of powers; legal equality and legal inequality in criminal procedure; main orientations of public policies on public safety/public security; various degrees of “normalization” of police brutality and police lethality; the policing of lower class citizens as “warfare” and global trends towards the militarization of policing; legal limits to the exercise of state violence and the problem of the extent of its social legitimacy; moralities and pragmatic considerations that guide agents’ decisions when applying alternative official and non-official methods of social control and conflict management. This session will provide opportunities for participants to discuss possible ways forward from what often seems to be an impasse resting on historical structural conditions that reformers have found it difficult to modify, whilst at the same time reflecting on ways in which current patterns and drivers of urban development, in their social and cultural as well as economic and spatial aspects, are continuing to exacerbate problems of conflict and violence.

STRUCTURE OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Introductions

Participants will be divided alphabetically into groups of around eight. Each participant will be given one minute to introduce themselves to the rest of the participants and outline their research. After each group there are five minutes when people are free to approach those who have just spoken to ask further questions. Rounds of presentations and five minutes of discussion will follow until all participants have introduced themselves.

Seed Funding Connections

This session is an opportunity for participants to discuss ideas for possible collaboration with a number of different participants of their own choosing.

Symposium Sessions

The symposium is split into roundtable sessions. Each session will have two co-Chairs who will present some leading questions at the start of the session. The floor will then be opened for a free-flowing discussion among participants. We hope and expect that everyone will have an opportunity to participate fully in each session. There will also be sessions dedicated to networking and forging collaborations between Brazilian and UK participants.

What to Prepare

There will be no formal presentations during the symposium sessions, but please review your and the other participants' initial thoughts, which are contained in this booklet. During the Introductions, you will have one minute to present yourself and your work, so please ensure that you have thought through how you will do this before that session.

3 Minute Research Pitches

In this session you will present orally on your research topic (a current project, your PhD thesis, a new idea that you might like to collaborate on, your teaching, etc.) and its significance in just three minutes.

The format will follow 3 Minute Thesis - an academic competition developed by the University of Queensland, Australia, which some of you may have participated in as PhD students. Our version is not a competition, but we hope that this format will help you to convey your research in an interesting and concise manner, as well as to identify potential points of overlap and collaboration.

You will be split into groups of 10 to present initially, each participant taking three minutes to present their research. At the end of the group stage you will have a chance to discuss everyone's research further, before deciding on one participant to present to the whole group.

The rules

- Presentations are limited to three minutes maximum.
- No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are to be spoken word (e.g. no poems, raps or songs).

Things to consider

- Does your presentation provide an understanding of the background and significance to the research question being addressed, while explaining terminology and avoiding jargon?
- Do you use language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
- Does your presentation elaborate for too long on one aspect or was the presentation rushed?
- Are you conveying enthusiasm for your research?

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