

INTRODUCTION

In 2018, we present to you Issue No. 49 of *Revista Última Década*, echoing the celebration of our 25-year publication journey. We have set forth a series of challenges for this new era: on one hand, to maintain and deepen the quality of the works presented here; to facilitate the participation of authors from various countries across the continent; to diversify the topics included, and to move towards publishing three issues per year.

Thus, this last issue of 2018 contains works grouped into three thematic sections. In the first section, "Youth in Educational Contexts," the dynamics of youth within this sphere are observed. This section opens with an ethnographic article by Guido García, based on a conflictive incident that occurred in a secondary school in Córdoba, Argentina, culminating in the expulsion of a student. This incident allows the author to engage in a debate about the notion of a young student as a problematic individual, analyzing generational dynamics and educational public policy. In the same educational context, Giovanni Frizzo, Pamela Alves, and Katarina Cecchim analyze manifestations of gender inequality in Physical Education classes at public schools in Pelotas-RS, Brazil, highlighting how these classes perpetuate social inequalities and domination against women.

The second section, "Youth Cultures: Consumption, Bodies, and Identities," consists of three works that analyze youth dynamics in festive contexts, bodily expressions, and cultural manifestations in three cities in Chile. This section opens with a study by Sebastián Bravo, which examines the practices and meanings of festive and recreational alcohol and cocaine consumption among young women in Santiago. The author identifies and characterizes four consumption cultures—punk/hardcore, underground, alternative, and house/electronic—highlighting the gender reconfigurations these female dynamics provoke. Rodrigo Ganter, Daniela Carrasco, and Pablo Pinto analyze the meanings, habits, and self-care practices that the youth in Concepción display in their bodily experiences and personal image. They propose a typology that expresses tensions and alternatives in what they conceptualize as corpography within different generations and youth worlds. The section concludes with a work by Pedro Riquelme, who analyzes the otaku culture in the city of Valparaíso, exploring the processes and mechanisms of youth identity construction through their participation in interaction spaces, which he refers to as "events," along with the material and symbolic consumption that takes place within these spaces.

The third section, "Youth on the Borders: Law Infringement, Political Action, and Police Violence," opens with a study by Carlos Reyes and Felipe Durán, who analyze policies aimed at juvenile penal reintegration in Chile as power devices that seek to maintain and reproduce the neoliberal model as a governmental regime over youth lives. Next, Juan Grandinetti discusses conceptual tools to analyze the dynamics of recruitment and sociability within youth party organizations in Argentina, as well as the party-related uses and meanings of youth and the processes of political activation among activists. This section concludes with the work of Valeria Plaza, who examines young people as urban citizens constructing group identities beyond activities defined as illegal, where political participation emerges as relevant and with particular characteristics.