New Pathways for Social Development
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Human Development Index: A comparison of Rio’s neighbourhoods and countries

Evolution of the Homicide Index in Rio de Janeiro, 1980-2005

Source: SIM-DATA/SUS.
Homicide Rate (in 100,000) by Race/Colour in Total Population, Rio de Janeiro

THE LIFEWORLD OF THE FAVELA
The Institutional Framework

- **State Police**
- **Family**
- **Church**
- **Drug Traffic**

CUFA AfroReggae
The Experience of the Self

- Family
- Fear of crime/loss
- Religion/Faith
- Drug trade
- Violence/crime
- Leisure
- Role models
- Insecurity
- Suffering/pain

Source: Interviews.
The Experience of Community

- Hill/Asphalt
- Border-crossing
- Security/Fear
- Police
- Segreg/Isolation
- Solid/Friendship
- Cohesion/Union

Source: Interviews.
New Voices, New Actors: AfroReggae and CUFA

- Hybrid organisations: NGOs, social movements, entrepreneurs, artists and social workers.
- Life trajectories of leaders analogous to those of favela residents.
- Innovators and agenda setters: projecting and forcing the presence of peripheral actors in the Brazilian public sphere.
Constructing New Sociabilities

✓ Attention to personal trajectories and the self as a central asset for social development

✓ Social technologies of the imagination: arts and culture to connect the city and subvert negative stereotypes of the favela

✓ Local culture and Brazilian black heritage: tools for healing and for counteracting suffering and exclusion

✓ Crossings, mediations and unconventional partnerships: they are not afraid of markets, media and government
The Psychology of Urban Frontiers

- Institutions
- Location in Rio
- Urban Connectors
- Social Representations
- Leisure

Porosity of Borders
CANTAGALO

- Open borders
- High porosity

Map: LSE Cities.
- Semi-open borders
- Medium to high porosity

Map: LSE Cities.
CITY OF GOD

- Semi-closed borders
- Low porosity

Map: LSE Cities.
- Closed borders
- Minimum porosity

Map: LSE Cities.
Building the Communicative City
Empowering agents to cross borders in the city

- Developing self-esteem and competencies
- Challenging stigma and dominant representations
- Regenerating the built environment
- Building urban connectors
- Re-appropriating public spaces for positive sociability
There is resilience, 
a vibrant culture and 
a proud and powerful collective intelligence 
living in the edges of the city.
THANK YOU!
For more information go to
http://www.psych.lse.ac.uk/undergroundsociabilities