

“New” Forms of Masculinity? Young Middle-Class Men who live in Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro

Abstract

The rapid and profound changes gender identity has been undergoing during the last decades gave rise to what some researchers have been calling the “new” man, someone who still oscillates between old and new values. However, we interviewed 4 young men for understanding this process from Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, aged 25 to 35, who have completed their undergraduate studies. The interviews were tape-recorded, fully transcribed, and the resulting texts were submitted to a discourse analysis based on the following categories: Masculinity; Femininity; Sexuality; Aesthetic Care; Close Relationships; and Work. We focus here on the results related to the first category, which pointed out the fact, although assimilating new roles and functions in society and thus constructing new forms of masculinity, the interviewees still held old values still present in social discourse to some degree.

Key-words: Masculinity; Identity; Contemporaneity.