

Ocupação Quilombo das Guerreiras

A Squatt in the center of Rio de Janeiro, who was evicted recently for the urban renewal entitled “Porto Maravilha”, in the context of the Olympic Games city changes



In Brazil, while there are about 7.5 million **empty** houses, more than 5 million people haven't access to **decent housing**.

The recent process of gentrification, result of a public policy regarding social housing and urban planning focused on a **capitalist logic** of production for the cities, has been increasing this problem, forcing **poor people** to live further and further from the places of opportunities and public services.

Although Brazilian legislation assures that all buildings and spaces in the city should exercise its **social function** and that the right to decent housing, in practice the right to **property** often stands above the right to housing and the city.

As a result, many movements of **resistance** appears, such as **squatting**. Either as a form of organized resistance, through the movements struggling for housing and other **collective** organizations, either from individual initiatives, the urban poor population has found ways to use vacant spaces on which the government or the real estate market has no interest, ensuring somehow its **right to housing** and its urban insertion.

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Ocupação Telerj

A public building that has been empty for 20 years, was squatted by 1.000 families from different origins (slums, homeless, social movement members). This Squatt was removed a few weeks later and their occupants made a series of protests in the city. They later squatted two other empty buildings, and were violently evicted from both.

“We didn't invade, we occupied seeking for housing. We are good people”

Poster made by occupants of an empty building in a rich area from Rio de Janeiro, who have been twice evicted from previous squatts.