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Genders and Sexualities in Brazil

Editors: [Tanya L. Saunders](#), [Jessica Ipólito](#), [Mariana Meriqui Rodrigues](#), [Simone Brandão Souza](#), [Jess Oliveira](#) and [Bruna Barros](#)

Editors Biographies

[Tanya L. Saunders](#) is an Associate Professor at the Center for Latin American Studies at University of Florida. They are a sociologist interested in the ways in which the African Diaspora throughout the Americas uses the arts as a tool for social change. As a 2011-2012 Fulbright scholar to Brazil, Dr. Saunders began work on their current project about Black Queer Activism in Brazil. This is a continuation of their research on race, gender, sexuality, and arts-based social movements in Cuba. In 2016 they, and their colleagues at the State University of Santa Catarina (UDESC) and the Pontifical Catholic University in São Paulo (PUC-SP), were awarded the Abdias do Nascimento Award for Academic Development, funded by CAPES, Brazil. The grant-funded faculty members, organized research and student exchanges and collaborations between the University of Florida, UDESC, and PUC-SP from 2017-2019. They were also the UF LGBTQ Affairs Faculty Fellow for the 2018-2019 academic year. Dr. Saunders

holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a Master of International Development Policy from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Mariana Meriqui Rodrigues is a Sapatão and feminist activist who has been working with teacher training of public education network and public security agents for gender, sexuality, and ethnic-racial diversity in Brazil since 2009. From 2014 to 2016 she worked on a project of mapping the political participation of feminist lesbians in social movements in Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, and Brazil. She is part of Liga Brasileira de Lésbicas and is currently finishing her master's degree in Latin American Studies at the University of Florida. She holds a Master's degree in Education from the Federal University of Tocantins, Brazil (2016). Specialist in Gender and Sexuality by the Latin American Center for Sexuality and Human Rights - CLAM / State University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2011) and in Management of Non-Governmental Organizations by Presbyterian University Mackenzie, São Paulo, Brazil (2007). She holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the Ibero-American University Center (2006). She was a member of the Advisory Group on Civil Society of the UN Women Brazil (2015-2017). And she is also part of the LGBT Coalition that operates within the Organization of American States (OAS). She is interested in and works with Feminism, International Relations, Social Movements, Gender, Sexuality, Latin American Studies, Human Rights, Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Public Security, Public Policies, and Education.

Jézs Ipólito is a fat and black sapatão, Sagittarius, almost 30 years old, born in the interior of São Paulo. She is part of a black family that has undergone a strong whitening process over time, the rule is "cleaning the family". Today, Jézs is the first of her family to go to a public university. She is also the last black person in her family.

She is the creator and writer of the [Gorda & Sapatão](#) blog, covering themes concerning blackness, black feminism, lesbianism, fatphobia, and the fat body. In the academic field, she has already studied Journalism, Public Policy

Management, and Museology, but never graduated in any of them. At last, she found her path in university in Gender and Diversity at the Federal University of Bahia. She began her path in politics in the Unified Black Movement MNU in 2011, still in São Paulo, where she developed activities concerning black youth, black feminism, and sexuality. In 2014, she was one of the organizers of the I Intersectional Feminism Camp in São Paulo, bringing together 150 young people, most of them black and indigenous, in 3 days of political training. Currently, she is part of the National Articulation of Black Young Feminists – ANJF, an organization that brings together young black women from 15 to 31 years of age in all regions of Brazil in the fight against racism, sexism, LGBTphobia and other forms of oppression. In 2017, she was part of the executive committee that organized the II National Meeting of Black Young Feminists, bringing together 400 young black women from every region of the country, an occasion that resulted in the official creation of the ANJF. She also works with black women movements in Bahia and in Brazil's Northeast region.

She is an intern at the Public Defender's Office of the State of Bahia - DPE-BA, in the group of Population in Street Situation - POPRUA, working directly with vulnerable populations, promoting access to justice in the different fields of work of DPE-BA. She is an autonomous consultant for social projects, focusing on small black women's, youth and LGBTQ + organizations and collectives. facilitating fundraising and management processes through popular education, fostering the autonomy and self-management of these groups in dialogues with major funders.

She is a great enthusiast and student of social media, internet, images, and speech. She works as a media coordinator at Revista Afirmativa, a black press vehicle that produces online content and a press magazine.

Simone Brandão Souza is Assistant Professor, Graduate Program in Social Policy and Territories and Social Service Course at the Federal University of Recôncavo da Bahia (UFRB). She holds a Ph.D. in Culture and Society from the Multidisciplinary Graduate Program in Culture and Society at the Federal University of Bahia - UFBA, a Master's degree in Population Studies and Social

Research from ENCE / IBGE and a Social Worker from the Federal Fluminense University - UFF. She is leader of the LES group - Laboratory of Studies and Research in Lesbianities, Gender, Race and Sexualities at UFRB and researcher in the line Lesbianity, Intersectionals and Feminisms at NUCUS - Research and Extension Center in Cultures, Genders and Sexualities at UFBA. She is a militant lesbian, a member of the Rede Lesbi Brasil (Lesbian Brazil Network).

Jess Oliveira is a Black *sapatão* translator, poet and editor. Visiting Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Colorado College. Ph.D. student in Literature and Culture at Federal University of Bahia (UFBA). She holds a Master's degree in Translation Studies from the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) and a B.A. degree in German and Portuguese from the University of São Paulo (USP). Jess works mainly with poetry and performance across the Black Diaspora, focusing on the Black German and Black Brazilian productions in a comparative perspective. She is also an Associate Researcher of the Group *Traduzindo no Atlântico Negro* – [Translating in the Black Atlantic] at UFBA.

Bruna Barros is a Black *sapatão* artist, translator, filmmaker, writer, poet and editor. They hold an Undergraduate Major in English at Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) and is an Associate Researcher of the Research Group *Traduzindo no Atlântico Negro* [Translating in the Black Atlantic] (UFBA). Literature, poetry, cinema, translation and adaptation are among their main interests, both in life and in their work as a researcher. Bruna is also interested in the study of Black English – or African American Vernacular English. Concerning their work as a filmmaker, they wrote and directed the short film "Amor de Ori" (2017) and co-wrote and co-directed the short documentary "à beira do planeta mainha soprou a gente" (2020), both of which portray Black *sapatão* love.

Contributors Biographies

Rita Helena Borret is a Family Physician who works at the Municipal Health Secretariat of Rio de Janeiro. She is a Member of the Working Group *Gender, Sexuality, Diversity and Rights* of the Brazilian National Society of Family Medicine.

Dayana Brunetto is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Education. Professor of Didactics at the Federal University of Paraná – UFPR; Researcher in the *Laboratório de Investigação em Corpo, Gênero e Subjetividades na Educação* (LABIN/UFPR) – [Research Laboratory on Body, Gender and Subjectivities in Education] and in the *Rede Nacional de Ativistas e Pesquisadoras Lésbicas e Bissexuais* [National Network of Lesbian and Bisexual Activists and Researchers] – Rede LésBi Brasil.

Renata Carneiro Vieira is a Family Physician who works at State Health Secretariat of Rio de Janeiro and a Member of the Working Group *Gender, Sexuality, Diversity and Rights* of the Brazilian National Society of Family Medicine.

Ribamar José de Oliveira Junior is a PhD student at the School of Communication at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro.

Aline Dias dos Santos is a Researcher at LEGH-UFSC (Laboratory of Gender and History Studies). Associate Researcher at IEG - (Institute for Gender Studies) and Ph.D. student in History at Federal University of Santa Catarina.

Aline P. do Nascimento is a Black fat *sapatona* from Brazil's Northeast, born and raised in the Global South and is a PhD student in Geography at Federal University of Bahia. They are a volunteer teacher at *Quilombo Educacional Vilma Reis* and a social educator with a focus on critical race theory and sexuality. One of the idealisers of the cultural production *Ocupação Sapatão*.

formiga aka formigão (he/his) (also Aline do Nascimento Aguiar) is a light skinned, 29 years old against all the odds (i was born in oktober, 1990) in the são paulo south zone's deep south. i am a poet, kapoeira y *sapatão*. i've been publishing in a couple of ontologies like *perifeminas* (2013), *além dos quartos* (2015), *poemas para combater o fascismo* (2018), *a resistência dos vagalumes* (2019), among others. i also had some poetry zines spread in the streets, namely: *aversão poética*

(2012 - 2015), *eu-lésbika* (2014) by edições herétika, *seis sentidos* (2016). i work with independent zines by edições formigueiro since 2017. i kreate the non-periodikal komic book *lesbo ódio* since 2018. *afro latina* (2018) is my poem book published by padê editorial, it is in its sekond edition (2020) with a brand new foreword.

Sheyla dos S. Trindade is a Black fat *sapatona* activist from Brazil's Northeast. Member of *Coletivo Diversidade, Gênero e Negritude SindUte/Gy*. She holds a B.A. in Geography from Faculdade de Tecnologia e Ciências – FTC (Science and Technology College). Teacher of basic education in the state of Minas Gerais. One of the idealisers of the cultural production *Ocupação Sapatão*.

Barbara Falcão is a M.A. student undertaking a master's degree in Languages and Literature at the Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Literature and Human Sciences – University of São Paulo (FFLCH-USP).

Milena Fonseca Fontes holds a master's degree in History from the Catholic Pontifical University of São Paulo (PUC-SP) and has been a member of the Siriricando block since its foundation. E-mail: blocosiriricando@gmail.com

Lore Fortes, PhD, Sociology is an Associate Professor of the Graduate Program of Sociology at Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte (UFRN).

ani ganzala is a watercolor and graffiti artist. She explains “I develop techniques in watercolour because I do like the element water mixed with fluid colours, lines, marks and strokes of expression which overflow from me to the skin paper whose pores absorb those fluids as earth absorbs rain. I use my overflowing angst and anxiety, utopias and desires as ink to delineate spaces and translate ideas on the skin-paper, so these feelings and ideas don't end up within myself, but hit your eyes.”

S. Tay Glover is founder of The Witch Goddess Wellness and thewitchgoddess.com her holistic spiritual wellness lifestyle brand and media platform that houses her modern mystic creative content, and consulting-healing services. She is a medium and shamanic artist; certified Reiki Master Teacher, Tantric Psychosomatic Touch Practitioner, and Intimacy Coach. She holds an M.A. and doctoral candidacy in African American Studies from Northwestern University, an M.A. in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and a B.A. in Women's Studies and Political Science

from The Ohio State University. Her scholarship centers critical theory; black lesbian and queer southern geographies and sexual politics; decolonial feminist thought, methodologies, activism, and pedagogy; and educational studies of queer student experiences. She has presented her original research variously, and been instrumental in various administrative efforts to support wellness and equity for black women and queer students of color. Her recently published work contributes the first queer decolonial theoretical account of marginalized underrepresented graduate student abuse and push-out in the academy, bridging the literature written about racialized-gendered abuse and push-out in secondary education, and accounts by experiences of professors of color who died too soon” that teachers, equity practitioners, and social justice student orgs/ labor union groups are using as a tool in their social justice and institutional change efforts. Her published work can be found in The NASAP Journal, Feminist Teacher, American Quarterly and thewitchgoddess.com.

Norma Rita Guillard Limonta is a Psychologist, Afrofeminist, Communicator and Member of the Cuban Society of Psychology

Flavia Meireles is a Ph.D. in Communication and Culture at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and Assistant Professor at CEFET-RJ (Brazil). Associate Researcher of QDFCT (Queer Studies, Decolonial Feminist and Cultural Transformations) at Justus-Liebig Universität Giessen (Germany). Her work was recently shown at “Transcontinental Queerness” at McGill University in Montreal (Canada) and “Cuerpos y Creacion: practicas universitarias” at Uruguay University (UDELAR) in Montevideo (Uruguay). Her main interests are grassroots social movements, cultural and artistic contexts; politics of the body, gender, racialization, sexualities, and decolonial feminists approach.

Tatiana Nascimento is a 39-year-old wordsmith from Brasília: poet, composer, singer, translator, videomaker, educator. editor of artisanal books by black/LBTQI authors in padê editorial, phd in translation studies, aquarian.

www.pade.lgbt/tatiana | @tatiananascivento

Léo Ribas is the National Coordinator of the *Rede Lésbi Brasil* and state coordinator of the *Liga Brasileira de Lésbicas do Paraná* [Brazilian League of Lesbians of Paraná] – LBL.

Suane Felipe Soares, PhD, Bioethics, Applied Ethics and Collective Health holds a master's degree in Bioethics, Applied Ethics and Collective Health and a B.A in History from the *Universidade Federal Fluminense* [Fluminense Federal University]. She is also a specialist in Gender and Sexuality from *Instituto de Medicina Social* (IMS-UERJ) – [Institute of Social Medicine]. Currently she is a PhD student in the Graduate Program in Social History at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, where she was a lecturer of Bioethics and Applied Ethics.

Translators Biographies

Tito Mitjans Alayón is an AfroCuban transmasculine non binary feminist and queer. Dr. Mitjans Alayón holds a PhD from the Departamento de Economías Decoloniales del Proyecto comunitario El Cambalache (2020) and a Master's in Interdisciplinary Studies of Cuban, Caribbean and Latin American History.

Bruna Barros (See Editors Biographies)

Alanne Maria de Jesus is a Literature teacher and a Master's student in Literature and Culture at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA) whose interests include black publishing industry, discourse analysis and literary theory. Associate Researcher of the Group *Traduzindo no Atlântico Negro* [Translating in Black Atlantic] at UFBA.

Jész Ipólito (See Editors Biographies)

Jess Oliveira (See Editors Biographies)

Marina Pandeló has a degree in letters from USP and is a master's student at Freie Universität Berlin. She acts as a language teacher, translator and interpreter in addition to producing events, such as the Fuzarka Festival, a feminist festival by and for dissident Latinxs in Berlin.

Cintia Rodrigues has been an ELT professional for 16 years. She holds an MA in Applied Linguistics (University of Bedfordshire), a BA in Linguistics (University of São Paulo), CELTA and CPE. She is a teacher, teacher educator and is passionate about pronunciation, inclusive practices and diversity. She also volunteers for English to Trans- Form (Casa 1)

Caroline Santos has been an ELT professional for more than 16 years. She is a teacher, author and publisher. She also volunteers for English to Trans-form, a project that offers English classes for the LGBTQIAP+ community, and operates at Casa 1, in São Paulo.

Tanya L. Saunders (See Editors Biographies)

Ayala Tude is an ESL (English as a Second Language) Teacher and Master's student in Literature and Culture at Federal University of Bahia – UFBA. Member and associate researcher of the Research Group *Traduzindo no Atlântico Negro* [Translating in the Black Atlantic] at UFBA.



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