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More than ever, the struggle for knowledge continues

Geraldo Lucchese* 

The planet appears to be shrouded in a cloud of chaotic energy. The world around us is proving to be openly absurd. However, such absurdities are presented to us as normal, as part of the path of development. Climate change and other dysfunctions in the environmental area; the growing concentration of income and the impoverishment of the majority; the migration of expressive contingents of people in search of better conditions of survival; scientific denialism; “religious” radicalization and fanaticism; contempt for life, the trivialization of violence and criminality; and hatred for education and the formation of conscientious citizens are some examples of an endless list.

At the root of this situation is the current model of capitalism - finance capitalism, also called neoliberalism, and its main objective of exponentially expanding profits to benefit, almost exclusively, the megafunds of investors and their allies. weaken the State; deliver everything to the market - education, health, security, housing, etc.; privatize strategic companies and institutions; associate the State and politics with inefficiency and corruption and hegemonize an ultraliberal narrative are some strategies of this power, which does not produce but accumulates wealth, mainly through the indebtedness of the States and the maximum exploitation of labor.

London and New York are the focal points of this wealth disconnected from the dignity of life and collective well-being. The immense political, economic, and media power of financial capitalism surpasses the regulatory power of nation-states. Incompatible with democracy, even liberal democracy, which is manipulated by economic power, neoliberalism is associated with neofascism. The powerful machine that feeds this chaotic energy hides reality and distorts human perception, which impels millions of people to support the neo-fascist narrative, which uses violent, dishonest, and highly misleading means to maintain itself.

This editorial was written a few days before the second round of the 2022 presidential elections. It is a highly critical moment for the future of Brazil. Anxiety and tension dominate hearts and minds. And it is at this moment that we celebrate the 10th anniversary of this Journal, which has always been committed to the scientific reading of reality, with the production of scientific knowledge and its dissemination.

We deal with the quality, safety, and effectiveness of services and products present in our daily lives, based on traditional or innovative technologies. We are aware that without a change in perception, without a more sensitive awareness, any technology will be used to keep people in their programming and their cultural and social conditioning. And deny reality. If technology fits into the dominant expression of neoliberalism, we will accept and consume everything that is produced and placed on the market as good and beneficial. However, we are witnesses that the uncontrolled market puts public health at risk.

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The recent history of sanitary surveillance in Brazil shows us that, without State intervention, without sanitary regulation, without surveillance, the market gathers its forces to obtain the greatest possible profit, without worrying about the risk to health and causing tragedies that kill or cripple thousands of people. The neoliberal and neofascist government acts exclusively contemplating the interests of the market and hates critical conscience. Deregulation is one of its strategies (the release of pesticides is an example).



Awakening scientific awareness, unveiling reality, and unmasking tyranny was and will be our contribution to this change in perception, in this and in the coming decades. The production and dissemination of scientific knowledge are essential contributions to this change in perception and the construction of a critical awareness that frees us from the neoliberal narrative.

At the global level, evidence can already be seen that we are on the way to a break with the hegemonic order. The machine becomes exasperated and uses all its power to sabotage evolution,

annihilate pirital immunology, and keep humanity within the expected standards. We ardently hope that the election will change the course of our government and the role of the State. However, whatever the electoral result, we will continue our struggle for a more conscious, sovereign, just, and humane Brazil.

We thank everyone who contributes to the existence and maintenance of this Journal - the secretariat and executive team, the editors, those who submit their articles and reports, and, in particular, our expert reviewers.



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