


**INSTITUTIONAL TRAJECTORIES IN PUBLIC SPORT AND LEISURE
POLICY STUDIES: AN ESSAY ON APPROACHES AND METHODOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENTS**

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ABSTRACT: In the context of concerns about the density of knowledge production, this essay aimed to systematize a reflection on theoretical-conceptual approaches to investigate institutional dimensions put into action in analyzes of continuities/changes in Public Sports and Leisure Policies (PPELs). Without the intention of carrying out a review study, but inspired by analytical-reflective movements of the new institutionalism, we selected, studied and produced systematizations based on 29 research studies carried out in Brazil. Based on this, we point out and delimit 4 emerging theoretical-methodological approaches, understood as movements to densify the field and investigative possibilities of institutional dimensions. We point to these approaches as paths for further investigation that make sense in the field of PPELs in Brazil.

KEYWORDS: Public policy. Sport. Leisure. Approach. Institutional dimension.

TRAJETÓRIAS INSTITUCIONAIS EM ESTUDOS DE POLÍTICAS PÚBLICAS

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DE ESPORTE E LAZER: UM ENSAIO SOBRE ABORDAGENS E DESDOBRAMENTOS METODOLÓGICOS

RESUMO: No contexto de preocupações sobre a densidade da produção de conhecimentos, o presente ensaio teve como objetivo sistematizar uma reflexão sobre abordagens teórico-conceituais para investigar dimensões institucionais colocadas em ação em análises de continuidades/mudanças das Políticas Públicas de Esporte e Lazer (PPELs). Sem a pretensão de realizar um estudo de revisão, mas inspirados em movimentos analítico-reflexivos do novo institucionalismo, selecionamos, estudamos e produzimos sistematizações baseadas em 29 pesquisas desenvolvidas no Brasil. Com base nisso apontamos e delimitamos 4 abordagens teórico-metodológicas emergentes, entendidas como movimentos de adensamento do campo e possibilidades investigativas das dimensões institucionais. Apontamos essas abordagens como caminhos de aprofundamento investigativos que fazem sentido no campo das PPELs no Brasil.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Políticas Públicas. Esporte. Lazer. Abordagem. Dimensão institucional.

Introduction

This paper is part of studies and debates carried out within the scope of the Group of Sociocultural Studies in Physical Education (GESEF) at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS), in the line of research on Public Policies. Furthermore, its starts with a study that seeks to understand, from an approach centered on institutional trajectories, the places of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, as a federated entity, in the production of Public Sports and Leisure Policies (PPELs). This is a topic already investigated in different ways by other works (MARTINS, 2004; RIETH, 2005; TOLEDO, 2014; MAOSKI, 2016; KHALIFA, 2019; DALMAS, 2022; ELICKER, 2023). When studying them, we noticed different approaches regarding the study of the institutional dimension as a way of understanding PPELs, which led us to develop this reflection on this topic.

Implicated by concerns that have been present for more than two decades in the field of studies of PPELs, in Brazil, despite the demand/need for care and theoretical-conceptual and methodological density LINHALES; PEREIRA FILHO, 1999;

HÚNGARO *et al.*, 2009; STAREPRAVO, NUNES, MARCHI JÚNIOR, 2009; STAREPRAVO, 2011; MALINA *et al.*, 2015; FORELL; MAYBORODA, 2017; ATHAYDE *et al.*, 2020), we began to provoke ourselves about the approaches to institutional trajectories in works that refer to the changes or continuities of PPELs in different governments or periods. In the works of Mendes (2013, 2017), the author highlights this concern specifically regarding studies of political sports institutions, also highlighting the relevance of theoretical-conceptual and methodological care in this academic debate.

It is in within this context that we developed the present essay, which aims to systematize a reflection on possible theoretical-conceptual approaches to investigate institutional trajectories put into action in analyzes of continuities/changes in PPELs. We start from the understanding that the production of PPELs involves their institutionalization, especially in State apparatuses, but not limited to it. But how to study these institutional trajectories, their changes/continuities and their implications for PPELs? How has this been produced in this field of studies, in Brazil? To answer these questions, we began to study a set of works, mainly dissertations and theses developed on PPELs, with the purpose of identifying and reflecting on emerging approaches in Brazil, to study institutional trajectories, which have served as an analytical reference - interpretative in investigations.

This proposal for reflection places us in the field of debates called new institutionalism, defined by March and Olsen (2008) as perspectives for the study of political institutions, these conceived as social constructions, which have mobilized a heterogeneous set of ideas, theoretical and disciplinary studies on the relationships between institutional characteristics, political agency, stability and change. Starting from questions regarding the relevance attributed to conflicts and power struggles,

ruptures and continuities, the places of institutions in relation to individual or collective behaviors and interests, and the study of processes of formation and transformation that, in the field of Science Politics, it has been observed in the specialized literature (HALL; TAYLOR, 2003; THÉRET, 2003; MARCH; OLSEN, 2008) three approaches to the new institutionalism: the historical (focus on political conflicts, inequalities and path dependencies), the choice rational (focus on strategic calculations and individual interests in the face of opportunities) and sociological (focus on symbolic, cultural systems, social action and collective cognitive implications).

We will not analyze this debate here, due to its extension, heterogeneity and complexity, especially when it comes to the articulations between the aforementioned approaches. But it inspired us to look at works that analyzed institutional trajectories (in understanding changes/continuities of PPELs in Brazil), addressing the institutional dimension. Without the intention of carrying out a review study, operating from an essayistic perspective, we were working with 29 articles, using as a selection criterion those that had purposes close to ours, that is, understanding places in government spheres in the constitution of PPELs, especially those which dealt with trajectories during different government periods and/or management periods. We did so considering the propositions of Wolf (2003), for whom, in a broad panorama, works that analyze politics contribute to perceiving the world on different scales: local, regional, national, transnational and global.

And, with regard to these articles, from an analytical-reflective and essayistic perspective, we point out 4 emerging approaches, in the sense that we develop interpretations and categorizations marked by our trajectories and choices, but at the same time pointing out and understanding that they communicate a moment of production knowledge regarding the institutional dimension. The descriptions and

reflections of the approaches (critical conjunctural responses to social issues; socio-historical relations of power and meanings; models of public policy analysis; ethnographic in anthropological perspective) are set out below, but it is important to emphasize that they were not produced to evaluate the density of studies, nor to affirm that one is more appropriate than the other.

Critical Situational Approach to Responses to Social Issues

When systematizing our reflections, we chose to begin with the presentation of a conjunctural and critical approach to social reality and contemporary responses to social issues, because in it we locate the work of Eduardo Dias Manhães (1986), considered a pioneer in terms of analysis of Public Policy of Sport in Brazil from a notion of hegemony. In addition to this study that results from a dissertation, in table 1, we mobilize information from another dissertation and 6 theses defended in several Postgraduate Programs (Physical Education/Human Movement Sciences, Education, Social Policy, Sociology, Social Service), which already indicates that, even in different disciplinary traditions that configure Postgraduate courses, the approach is present.

Furthermore, when we look at the purposes, we notice at least two directions of questions that have become significant: one that seeks to understand, from this theoretical-methodological perspective, determinants of the production of priorities, the achievement of consensus maintenance and the prominence of group interests on others, doing so in a critical way to the responses produced in State apparatuses; and the other that focuses on relations between the sporting sphere (civil society) and the State, the institutionalization and organization of sporting culture in the state apparatus, the necessary conditions for the existence of PPELs linked to social law.

Table 1: Work taken as a basis to address the critical conjunctural approach to responses to social issues in the study of institutional trajectories of PPELs.

Author (year) Postgraduate Program and Format	General purpose and period of investigation Approach to the institutional dimension
<p>Eduardo Dias Manhães (1986) Book resulting from a master's thesis defended in the Sociology Postgraduate Program at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro [Federal University of Rio de Janeiro] (UFRJ)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: Understand the production of priorities for Public Sports Policies in Brazil, from the period of the Estado Novo [Third Brazilian Republic] to the period of the Military Regime, their relations with political and sporting situations, historical and concrete, in particular differentiating features of the State apparatus.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The author addressed the institutional trajectory regarding priorities taking into account the notion of hegemonic discourses or representations, these related to dominant historical blocs and the actions of their intellectuals, not just those from the political community, having as an empirical basis official documents and interviews with/from protagonist actors. Even though the author dialogued with concepts from Foucault's work, we understand that his research and analyzes crossed in a more organic way the field of historical materialism, especially the notion of Gramscian hegemony. Analyzing Sports Policies, the researcher pointed out 3 hegemonic discourses around which consensus exercises were very robust (that of discipline oriented towards the organization of entities; the nationalist one from the perspective of state guardianship of entities; and that of moral and civic in view of a project to educate the population, especially young people). From this perspective of the author, these speeches continued to produce effects for a few more decades.</p>
<p>Luiz Fernando Camargo Veronez (2005) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade Estadual de Campinas [State University of Campinas] (UNICAMP)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It was investigated the changes in the relationships that are established, in the same totality, between the sporting sphere (society) and the State, after the constitutionalization of sport (from 1988 to 2002).</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: It approaches the trajectories from the notion of the totality of social reality, as a result of a situation of different interests and clashes within the scope of the set of proposals to respond to the crises of capital accumulation and the implementation of neoliberalism in Brazil and its singularities. The author, working on a conjunctural analysis of the institution of public policy and from a class perspective, develops his analyzes to show the dominant fractions that constituted (or better, in the thesis, produced new ways of continuing the) blocks in power and their pedagogical work, administrative and financial-budgetary measures to establish hegemony as a way of reconciling and controlling interests in a context of liberalization, globalization and membership of international economic agencies, contradictorily to the discourses of social and educational policies.</p>
<p>Marcelo Paula de Melo (2011) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Social Work at Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro [Federal University of Rio de Janeiro] (UFRJ)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It analyzed the role of sports involved in ways of obtaining and maintaining consensus in different modes of bourgeois domination throughout the 20th century, but as it approaches the 21st century, it places more focus on the movements of International Organizations and political-pedagogical action in the weakening of popular struggles, in a context of worsening contradictions arising from the logic of capitalist accumulation.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The institutional trajectories in which the relations between sports and bourgeois domination were considered in the light of the Marxist framework, initially with work dedicated to locating sport as a forge of a pedagogy of consensus of bourgeois classes that influence the construction of hegemonies in interventions of the Government and private organizations, throughout much of the 20th century. Next, from the same perspective, it analyzes new dynamics of bourgeois domination as a third way project in the set of social policies, mobilizing, at this moment, the presence and participation of International Organizations, especially the System of the United Nations (UN), and its</p>

	<p>approaches to government agendas at the end of the 20th century and beginning of the 21st century, resulting in the horizons for the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. It brings to the analysis not only sporting issues, but a tangle of situational information of political, economic, social and sporting dimensions, considering Brazilian and international realities, projects and historical blocks.</p>
<p>Carlos Eduardo de Souza (2011) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Education at Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora [Federal University of Juiz de Fora] (UJF)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It analyzed the movement of institutionalization of sports culture in the Brazilian state apparatus during the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, with a view to understanding the role of the Ministry of Sports and its policies in class education, in the dispute/correlation of power/forces and in the relations of hegemony that operate in Brazilian social formation in the early years of the 21st century.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The author worked from the perspective of historical materialism, taking into account capitalist social relations and the forms of organization of the Brazilian State (extended and capitalist), which is understood as a question of class and class fractions, their struggles and contradictions. The analyzes carried out pointed to a trajectory of institutionalization of sport in the state apparatus, which was linked to the development of the economic policy in force at different historical moments, but the economy understood as a cultural issue crossed by the constitution of historical and power blocs, by incessant work of consensus and hegemony of dominant classes or fractions of classes. It analyzes aspects of these blocks at different times (Estado Novo, populist, military regime, democratic reopening), as well as in terms of actions by the Ministry of Sports itself (national conferences, programs and projects, major events) to address the social relations aimed at in the presence and renewal of historically dominant forces and their patterns of wealth accumulation, which are evident in the actions of International Organizations and in Brazilian Public Sports Policies.</p>
<p>Pedro Fernando Avalone Athayde (2014) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Social Policy at Universidade de Brasília [University of Brasília] (UNB)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It identified and analyzed economic, social and political determinants that outlined and configured the priorities of Brazilian sports policy in the period 2003-2010, locating and interpreting actions and interests of groups within the state structure.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: Meeting this purpose had as an analytical-interpretative question the critical understanding of the interests of groups and fractions of classes within the state structure, with a view to the debate on guaranteeing access to sport as an intermediate need capable of cooperating in achieving the rights of citizenship. The theoretical-methodological approach of the study was based on historical materialism, analyzing the descriptions and reviews of multiple determinations of reality (unity of the diverse) and the importance of unveiling the intricate essence in the phenomenal appearance. At first, the work shows the inseparability between the development of capitalism, economic, social and political policies in Brazil since the 1930s, and then goes on to analyze the economic and political determinants, actors and themes of interest that permeated sports policies in the first and second 'Lula Governments' and his project dubbed neo-developmental.</p>
<p>Cassia Damiani (2021) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to understand the Brazilian National Sports Policy between 2003 and 2015, investigating - over the course of 3 Multi-Year Plans (2004-2007, 2008-2011, 2012-2015) - its development process in which the necessary conditions for a State Policy oriented social law, analyzing finalistic, transversal and major event actions.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The author goes through the Brazilian history of Public Sports Policies, contextualizing the translation of a secondary policy for its incorporation into strategic programs, signaled as a priority in the PPAs and by the creation of the Ministry of Sports itself. It starts from a notion of State developed in the relationship with Marxist authors, looks at the historical and purpose conditions, at the contradictions and determinations that mobilize and mark inequalities, but also class struggles and permanent disputes (mobilizing international and</p>

	<p>national forces, sports, economic, social and political) in active consensus, in maintaining hegemonies, concluding that, in the Brazilian reality, between 2003 and 2015, an effort was made to establish Sport as a State Policy. To reach this conclusion, the author builds and describes categories of necessary conditions for a policy aimed at guaranteeing social rights, developing, based on them, analyzes of final, transversal policies and major events of the Ministry of Sports, between 2004 and 2015.</p>
<p>Leandro Casarin Dalmas (2022) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade de Brasília [University of Brasília] (UNB)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It analyzes public sports and leisure policies in the Federal District from 2009 to 2019, corresponding to three government administrations, with the relationship with the field of Social Policies as a transversal issue. Institutional dimension approach: The work takes democracy itself as an institution in the sociological sense. And, in terms of theoretical-methodological operation, it mobilizes the understanding of the action of the State as an institution that configures itself as a framework or a conformation that enables specific social groups (among them sports and leisure groups), according to the correlations of power, can impose, in the sense of coercion, but also of pedagogies of hegemony, their issues as those of ‘society’, however, without losing sight of economic, social, cultural and historical determinants. For this type of analysis of the political institution as a configuration, it makes use of a large amount of information from reality, based on some axes and their multiple relationships (social rights and benefits; financing, public expenditure; management and social control). Sometimes, throughout the work, in the argumentative processes, the use of the notion of institutions associated with forms of organization (public, private, sports, etc.) appears, but this does not represent the analytical-interpretive model.</p>
<p>Eliane Elicker (2023) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade de Brasília [University of Brasília] (UNB)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: In the context of questions, problems and defense of forests as a matter of citizenship (‘florestania’), the purpose was to analyze how public sports policies in the State of Acre were organized and developed, in the period from 1999 to 2018 (5 periods of management). Institutional dimension approach: It takes as a methodological reference the same categories contained in the work of Dalmas (2022), highlighting fundamentals with a markedly Marxist basis, especially the notions of political and civil societies, coercion, consensus, devices and hegemony. These notions, articulated with those arising from the field of Social Policies, become important for understanding an institutional perspective in the study of PPELs, as they show us the actions of different groups and fractions of political-sports groups and their ways of governing, which is related to fluctuations, fragmentation and syncretism provided in policies.</p>

Source: Prepared by the authors

By analyzing Table 1, we realize that this approach is supported by theoretical traditions in the field of historical materialism and its critical provocations about the State's place in producing answers to social questions. It is no coincidence that the productions are developed from a perspective of politically engaged, sometimes militant science, pointing to imperative changes, especially counter-hegemonic ones, to confront inequalities, discrimination, inhumanity and guarantee social rights, after all, asymmetries need to be overcome because they support exploitative ideologies and

relationships. These are works that teaches us about understanding the reality of PPELs, which does not happen immediately, but based on a situational description. This means that such an approach to the forms of institution of PPELs does not make it possible to dissociate them from the social conflicts carried out by classes and fractions of classes and their distinct concrete realities or historical, economic, social and cultural situations. Thus, studying Policies and their modes of institution implies studying the concrete relationships and contradictions that structure, as a totality, a given reality, how conjunctures are placed in the fabric of the State (in the form of the organizational structure, the constitution of the budget and the public spending, management and social control processes, partnerships and contractual relationships, for example).

This approach takes a close look at the modes of relations between State and Capital, the forms of restructuring of the mode of production and domination, taking into account the different crises of capitalism and its constant needs for restructuring as an important definer of the trajectories and institutional changes, whether in the State apparatus or in the private apparatus of civil society. Thus, several of the studies highlight that the fact that institutional changes occur does not mean changes in the relations of hegemony and domination, and it is essential to understand them in relation to the constitution, presence and continuity of historical and power blocs, which often pose enormous obstacles for counter-hegemonic, progressive-popular projects. It becomes relevant to understand the institutions and their practices put into action by PPELs as technologies or pedagogical devices of consensus in the construction and legitimization of hegemonies that structure and aim at forms of domination, without being perceived as arbitrary cultural, class or blocs in the power and its interests. Hence the importance of understanding, despite the institutional changes in the PPELs, of

discourses, of representations that they inscribe as hegemonic and the social pedagogies involved.

Socio-Historical Approach to Power Relations and Meanings

Based on the first steps taken by the work of Meily Assbú Linhales (1996), we identified the emergence of a possibility of studying institutional trajectories, despite PPELs, based on an approach that handles concepts-theories of relations of power and meaning of social action, several of them from a perspective of historical understanding. In table 2 below we describe 9 investigations that developed their research and analyzes in this socio-historical approach, 4 Ph.D. theses and 4 master's dissertations, most of them (6) defended in Postgraduate Programs of the State of Paraná (UFPR /UEM/UEL) and in programs in the area of Physical Education/Human Movement Sciences (7).

The purposes of these works with which we have been working and reflecting led us to understand that studies in this approach were dedicated to studying why and how the State has been/is concerned with Sport as a matter of Public Policy, including the viability of existence and a specific National System and the implementation of the concept of social law. Thus, it is important to construct purposes around the notions of symbolic disputes, meanings of social action, relationships of interdependence, involving different fields or social configurations.

Table 2: Works taken as a basis to deal with the socio-historical approach to power relations and meanings in the study of institutional trajectories of PPELs.

Author (year) Postgraduate Program and Format	General purpose and period of investigation Approach to the institutional dimension
Meily Assbú Linhales (1996) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Public Policies at Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais [Federal University of	Purpose/Period: Understanding why, throughout a good part of the 20th century, the State was interested and concerned with Sport and, on the other hand, why Sport was concerned and interested in the State. Institutional dimension approach: Implied by critical questions (which permeate the work) of analyzes centered on macro foundations and functionalist interpretations, the author resorts to a sociology of social fields. In her analyses, the author highlights the struggles, conflicts, interests in both the political and sporting fields and, towards the end, in the economic field, each with its relative autonomy, history and trajectory

<p>Minas Gerais] (UFMG)</p>	<p>in Brazil. It is based on the analysis of actors and interests in these fields and between them that the author seeks to bring her analyzes and interpretations of sports policies in the Brazilian reality, relating this in a very decisive way to the existence of struggles and conflicts. The author does not fail to recognize that political and sporting or political-sporting actors (people and groups) have possibilities of choices, but that this does not occur in an unlimited way, as these are related to games in/between political, sporting and economic.</p>
<p>Dilson José de Quadros Martins (2004) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Education at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: Mobilized by the question about the role of the State in relation to Sport in Paraná, the author investigated the dynamics of supply and demand for sports services in the fabric of Public Policies, between 1987 and 2004. Institutional dimension approach: The study was developed based on the understanding that Public Sports Policies in the State of Paraná, between 1987 and 2004, involved the functioning of different social fields: the sports field, the political field and the field of public administration. Although the author mentions the work of Norbert Elias and notions of configuration and interdependence, it is the perspective of studies of social/symbolic fields in the work of Pierre Bourdieu that has the most impact on the analyses. It describes actions developed in 5 administrations, pointing out organizational practices, interests and protagonisms in which the symbolic fields of sport, politics and public administration weigh. Finally, it develops an analysis that raises questions of autonomy and heteronomy in the relationships between these fields and their effects on Public Sports Policies. It points to a notion of evolution as a direction of Policies over the period studied, in line with what is established in the work of Norbert Elias.</p>
<p>Fernando Bruno Rieth (2005) Master's degree dissertation defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to understand the Intermunicipal Games of Rio Grande do Sul based on the relations of disputes and tensions that occurred during the process of implementing these Games in the period from 1999 to 2002. Institutional dimension approach: The institutional changes studied have as their context the election of the Popular Front for the Government of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, in 1998, this as an agenda for the radicalization of democracy, the inversion of priorities and inclusion, in a proposal for a 'new model' of development for the State. Among the Sports and Leisure Policies, a new way of structuring the Intermunicipal Games of Rio Grande do Sul (JIRGS) was constructed and implemented, to address the issues on the popular government's agenda. There were 4 editions, which were involved in/in symbolic disputes about the sport. The author analyzes these structural changes based on Pierre Bourdieu's theory of social fields, placing conflicts between players and interests in the political, pedagogical, media and sporting fields, with internal disputes (within the group of members of Popular Front itself) and external (with players from the sports and media fields).</p>
<p>Isabel Cristina Martines (2009) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Education at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It analyzed the relationships established between Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Government of the State of Paraná with regard to the development of socio-sporting projects, in the period from 1996 to December 2007 (which are related to the main 'partnerships'). Institutional dimension approach: The notion of 'partnership' used to deal with institutional relationships between State apparatuses and non-profit Social Organizations needs to be understood. In this regard, the author addresses the institutional changes in the State of Paraná in relation to one aspect of the PPELs, the intertwining between the symbolic fields of politics, sport and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), taking into account the disputes and interdependencies that come into existence and produce effects. It points out as theoretical-methodological references for the study the use of works by Pierre Bourdieu (struggles, field, interests) and Norbert Elias (configurations, chains of interdependence,</p>

	<p>games. In the empirical descriptions and analyzes they highlight the changes/trajectories of operating logics, legal and bureaucratic mechanisms, infrastructure of practices, financing, people's actions, we seek to highlight the operating logic of the fields, interests and relationships of interdependence between NGOs and the management of the Government of Paraná, specifically the actions of the autonomous government agency of Paraná Esporte.</p>
<p>Fernando Augusto Starepravo (2011) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It investigated the appropriation of production from the academic-scientific field by agents from the political-bureaucratic subfield in the constitution of Public Sports Policies, especially analyzing two programs from the Ministry of Sports.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: His look at this relationship has as theoretical-methodological references the works of Pierre Bourdieu (the notions of field, habitus and capital) and the works of Norbert Elias (the perspective of competitive games and configurations). The author develops an analytical look at the institution of public sports and leisure policies based on the trajectories, changes and approximations (some, punctual or incipient) of the social or symbolic subfields (the scientific-academic that was going through a consolidation process; the political-bureaucracy as a more consolidated social space, with its long history and relative autonomy). The work develops descriptions that represent the structure of these symbolic fields as relatively autonomous spheres, punctuating interests, capitals, actors, habitus. The author points out that the institution of policies substantially results from the accumulation of political capital, where the insertion of agents occurred much more through acts of political appointment than through scientific capital.</p>
<p>Leticia Godoy (2013) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: The work investigated the constitution of the academic-sports, legal-sports and political-sports subfields, taking into account the viability of the existence and functioning of a National Sports System (SNE) in Brazil, taking into account the period between the 1940s and 2010s .</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: Since the creation of the Ministry of Sports (2003), the author identifies a greater interest in creating a SNEL. This leads her to investigate the relationships that exist between the Federal Government and other representative segments of Brazilian sport. To this end, it is based on the theoretical-methodological delimitation that the institutionalization of SNEL is related to the institutionalization of 3 sub-fields: political-sports; legal-sports; and scientific-sports. Regarding each of them, the author develops descriptions and analyzes with the aim of showing their structure as a symbolic sphere that acquires singularity and relative autonomy, with emphasis on meanings and interests. The author concludes that the sub-fields presented have their own understandings and interests regarding the SNEL, with relatively independent functioning (few points of intersection/approximation), which makes the existence and effectiveness of a national system difficult.</p>
<p>Toledo (2014) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Sociology at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: Its proposal involved studying government action carried out by public policies in the state of Paraná (between 1995 and 2010), with a view to implementing the concept of social law.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: It contextualizes that despite the priorities evident in Public Policies regarding high-performance sports practices, some actions and speeches focus on social rights. In analytical-conceptual terms, the author places herself close to sociological neo-institutionalism, understanding the institution and its study of Policies in the face of social law, in the inseparable relationship between/with legal-administrative dimensions (magnitude with which sports issues arise in the legal-administrative fabric of the state) and the cultural meanings of sport (the values and beliefs that give meaning to social actions) that constitute the institutions in the relationship with the actions of people and social collectives. And, to study the social right to sport using this analytical key, it develops comparative work with other social rights considered more</p>

	consolidated (education, health, social security and social assistance). In the end, the author concludes that sport has a low institutionality, compared to the other rights analyzed.
<p>Andrea Luiza Alves Silveira (2016) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Education at Universidades Estaduais de Maringá e Londrina [State Universities of Maringá and Londrina] (UEM/UEL)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It investigated the relationships of dependence/interdependence historically established between the Sports Associations (Third Sector) and the Local Government of Maringá, in Paraná, taking the period between 2005 and 2014 as a time frame.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The work addresses institutional changes linked to PPELs in the Municipality of Maringá, taking into account the relationship with sports entities. It takes as a reference theoretical-methodological concepts from the work of Pierre Bourdieu (in particular, field, capitals and interests), articulated, as complements, with concepts from the field of political sciences (policy and polity; arena and policy networks). To investigate, it starts from the understanding and description of the relationships between the bureaucratic-political field and the sports field in the Municipality, doing so from 3 categories of analysis emerging from the content produced (administrative; technical/sports; and financial), looking at conflicting and interdependent relationships. These relationships are permeated by political interests influencing public sports policies in Maringá.</p>
<p>Fabiana Gazzotti Mayboroda (2022) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: To construct a historiographical analysis to understand the Public Sports and Leisure Policy of Porto Alegre as constituting places of memory crossed by ideologies, in the period between 1950 and 1989.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The approach of the author to the institutional trajectory of the PPELs in Porto Alegre, between 1950 and 1989, takes place at the interface between Anthropology and History, but is deeply marked by the perspective of description and interpretation of meanings in historiographical work. From this theoretical-disciplinary position, the author points to the notion of ideology as an object of study, treating it as a place for the production of meanings, thoughts, identities, intelligibility and collectivities despite social action and, in this case, political action. Thus, it was proposed to historicize ideologies in the interface with this perspective of anthropology. To this end, the study unfolds to describe and analyze three ideologies that permeate and drive the Public Policy of Sport and Leisure for almost 100 years: community participation, interaction with Education and relations with social assistance. The work concludes that these ideologies are intangible heritage of enormous relevance in the institution of PPELs, as they do not leave voids of meaning in the actions, something that has been occurring for more than 90 years.</p>

Source: Prepared by the authors

The descriptions in table 2 provide us with arguments that there are elements of a critique of conjunctural or structural macrofoundations, pointing to the importance of research that appeals to the history or particular direction of certain fields or social configurations (their logics and principles and relative circumscription or autonomy), to then establish relationships between them. Hence the effort to investigate and describe/about fields, subfields and/or configurations (sports, political-bureaucratic, legal, economic, media, educational-pedagogical, non-governmental organizations) and

socio-cultural values that permeate and legitimize the action social environment around sport and leisure.

These analyzes include symbolic positions and disputes regarding the cultural meanings of sport, the processes of its legitimization on the Public Policy agenda, including notions of interests, capital, meanings, relationships/games of dependence-interdependence in/ the fields/configurations themselves and/or between them, showing the permeabilities and distances with implications for institutional trajectories and PPELs. These are studies that empirically look at institutional changes in terms of issues/elements that imply power positions/relations, from the perspective of providing capital or better conditions in a game in a given configuration. We thus perceive a robustness of descriptions and analyzes regarding political-administrative organization, interests, values and beliefs, legal-legal frameworks, and the legitimacy of actors.

Approaches of Analysis Models of Public Policies

The third approach that we highlight in our reflections on institutional trajectories in terms of changes or continuities is the one that emerges from the relationship with the field of political science, especially public policy analysis models. In an article published on this subject, Almeida and Mezzadri (2017) already highlighted this possibility of approaching to support the analyzes of PPELs and, thus, account for identified gaps or deficiencies in density. To address this approach, we used studies of 9 works (4 doctoral theses, 4 master's dissertations and 1 article published in a journal³), involving studies of a more heterogeneous group in terms of institutional

³ We initially chose to select only theses and dissertations, but in the case of this approach we selected and brought an article published in a journal because it is the only one we found and known that deals with the use of the Multiple Streams model as an approach to studying PPELs. In this decision, we took into account the study by Lino, Duarte and Rosa (2022), who investigated the recurrence of the Multiple Flows, Punctuated Equilibrium and Defense Coalition models in dissertations and theses that analyzed

links in Postgraduate Programs (FGV, UEM/UEL, UFMG, UFPR, UFRGS, UFSCAR, UNICAMP) and disciplinary areas (Physical Education/Human Movement Sciences; Public Administration; Political Science; Public Policy; Leisure Studies).

Looking at the purposes of the works, as expressed in table 3, it seems to us that 3 concerns arise in this approach: the first which deals with the political and government agenda, in terms of beliefs, coalitions, ideas, actors, communities and flows; the second focuses on analyzes of institutional structures and their contents, as well as the entanglements they make up; and analyzes focused on stages of the policy cycle (elaboration, formulation, implementation). The works have as important mobilizing questions the notions of stability (why are they maintained over periods?) and/or changes (why and how ruptures, novelties and/or changes became possible/) of PPELs, looking at for long periods. And, in addition, a comparative perspective appears with issues (stabilities/changes) related to other social rights (health, education, social assistance) in Brazil.

Table 3: Work taken as a basis to address the approach of public policy analysis models in studying the institutional trajectories of PPELs.

Author (year) Postgraduate Program and Format	General purpose and period of investigation Approach to the institutional dimension
Luciano Bueno (2008) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Public and Government Administration at Fundação Getúlio Vargas [Getúlio Vargas Foundation] (FGV)	<p>Purpose/Period: The work investigated the reasons for the predominance and/or hegemony of the High Performance Sports (EAR) coalition in Public Sports Policies in Brazil, considering historical elements (since 1937) and the most recent clashes (from the 1988 Constitution to the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro 2007).</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The author, using the Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF) model as a theoretical-methodological reference, starts from a classification-conceptualization of sport oriented towards its social functions (participatory-educational sport - EPE; high-performance-competition sport - EAR), understanding them as different advocacy coalitions (a set of heterogeneous actors that come together around beliefs and mobilize their resources and repertoires to defend, legitimize and assert their positions) active in Public Sports Policies (a specific policy subsystem). This model proposes to look at changes over a period of a decade or more, as a result of the dispute between opposing coalitions. Based on descriptions organized into periods that demarcate changes in the institutionality of PPELs, it concludes that even with the predominance of the EAR coalition, this coalition has been losing strength.</p>

public policies in Brazil. These authors highlighted that, of the three models analyzed, Multiple Streams is the one that finds the greatest adherence in postgraduate programs in Brazil.

	<p>With this, the EPE coalition is capable of institutional influence. In addition to these two coalitions in direct dispute, it highlights that the football coalition ends up constituting itself as a new autonomous subsystem, being structured in the structuring beliefs of football. This is reflected in the ‘ministerialization’ of Sport.</p>
<p>César Machado Carvalho (2013) Master’s thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Political Science at Universidade Federal de São Carlos [Federal University of São Carlos] (UFSCAR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: Analyzed the configuration of political ideas, political actors and government organizations around sports policy brought about with the change in political regime (in 1988) and their impact on the formulation of public sports policy until the creation of the Ministry of Sports in 2003.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The work is based on the understanding that Public Sports Policy is an issue present on the agenda of governments in different contexts, but which acquires another status when it is recognized as a right in the 1988 Federal Constitution. From this, appropriating the analysis model known as Punctuated Equilibrium, it begins to analyze actors, ideas and institutions, to understand changes and patterns of public policy post-Constitution until the creation of the Ministry of Sports (2003). They describe political images, political monopolies, processing subsystems and the possibilities for scheduling new issues or incrementalism. They identify periods of stability, but also note the incidence of ideas and political players linked to the democratization of sport, which resulted in a new rearrangement. However, this was still under the hegemony of traditional ideas, players and institutions present in a more robust way in the agenda and scheduling decision-making arenas. Thus, the standard for formulating public sports policy arises more from a perspective of establishing consensus than ruptures.</p>
<p>Ana Paula Cabral Bonin Maoski (2016) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to understand whether the structure and actions of the federative entities that promoted high-performance sports in Brazil, in the state of Paraná and in the City of Curitiba were articulated with regard to the consolidation of the Brazilian National Sports System, considering the period from 2003 to 2016.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: Throughout the work, the author activates different meanings or dimensions of the notion of institution, however, it is the dimensions of policy analysis that permeate in an important way, as interpretative keys, the handling of information regarding the objective of the study, dealing with the dimension institutional, legal and administrative (polity), policy contents (policy), political processes (politics) and interactions between political institutions (policy networks); as a definition of sport, in the form of a modern institution, sometimes as a representation of sports organizations, bodies and entities. The descriptions of the institutional dimension of policy (polity and its legal and administrative aspects) and the content dimension of public policy (policy and its programs, projects, actions, financing) stand out, as a basis for analyzing the articulation between federated entities. In this sense, the notion of policy networks comes into play as a methodological operator, given the (few) interactions that occur between a tangle (especially in the different spheres of the federated entities investigated) in the formulation and implementation of a public policy.</p>
<p>Alessandra Dias Mendes (2017) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Public Policies at Universidade Federal do Paraná [Federal University of Paraná] (UFPR)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It analyzed the performance and potential effectiveness of deputies who are members of legislative institutions (formal and informal) responsible for sports legislation in the House of Representatives, considering the 54th Legislature (2011-2015) as a reference.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The work has as its initial context the relations between Governments and Sport in an international debate and the identification of a gap to be explored regarding the study of political institutions (and their impact on Public Sports Policies) in a social network approach of political actors (policy makers) and their political work in a legislative arena (the National Congress). When analyzing the social-</p>

	<p>political networks of deputies who are articulated by sports issues and legislative institutions (Parliamentary Sports Front; Parliamentary Committees linked to Sports; Bancada da Bola; performance in the Congress itself in proposals), the author does so based on construction of profiles (prosopography), articulation capacity, campaign financing, direction of amendments, contracts with companies financing campaigns with the Government, proposal of bills, processing and approval of projects. The approach to understanding trajectories, mediated mainly by the social networks method applied to the study of public policy, was centered on political actors linked to sport.</p>
<p>Mehrez Palumbo Khalifa (2019) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Interdisciplinary Leisure Studies at Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais [Federal University of Minas Gerais] (UFMG)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to investigate how the State of Minas Gerais conducted sports and leisure policies in the period from 2012 to 2018, under the governments of Antônio Anastasia and Fernando Pimentel, respectively, given the lack of a definition of the responsibilities of the federated entities.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The author starts from the assertion of a lack of coordination and a national system of leisure and sport, when compared to other social rights, including health, education and social assistance. From this, it proposes to study, in an institutionalist approach, how the state of Minas Gerais, from 2012 to 2018, conducted PPELs. Although at times the author recognizes different possibilities of understanding the notion of institution (he briefly deals with the dimensions of policy analysis), when he operates with this concept, he does so clearly based on the understanding that the sports political institution, as a legal apparatus- administrative/bureaucratic, gives greater or lesser relevance and presence to PPELs as social rights through the presence of principles, guidelines, objectives, rules and inducers. In other words, the institution as a legal-administrative induction mechanism, which can be studied from the perspective of organization and institutional administration, taking into account the social and political effects of management.</p>
<p>Cindy Laupe Amaral Pacheco (2019) Master's degree dissertation defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to understand trajectories of mobilization of Non-Profit Associations and Foundations in the implementation of public sports policies in the Municipalities of Canoas (2013 to 2019) and Porto Alegre (2010 to 2019), State of Rio Grande do Sul.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: In the context of managerialist advances in/in the public management of Municipalities, the author starts to look at changes in governments in the Municipalities of Canoas and Porto Alegre, through the election of parties and coalitions considered distinct in relation to public management (with opposite directions in the period studied). And, to study the trajectories of institutional changes, it chooses to investigate the modes of action of Non-Profit Associations and Foundations in the implementation of Public Sports Policies, using as theoretical-methodological references the Policy Cycle Models (specifically the implementation phase) and the top-down and bottom-up models, as well as the phenomenon of discretion. It produced empirical research using semi-structured interviews and document surveys, developing an interpretative analysis of the institutional implications of the mobilization of Associations and Foundations. These analyzes point to trajectories of distance between political and administrative dimensions/actors, a business decentralization to entities that have more possibilities to define the implementation parameters.</p>
<p>Vitor Hugo Marani <i>et al.</i> (2019) Article published in Licere magazine, by researchers linked to the Associated Postgraduate Program of the State</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: It proposed to analyze how and when, in the second decade of the 21st century, the World Games of Indigenous Peoples became part of the national sports political agenda.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: Institutional transformations in PPELs were studied by the authors regarding the holding of mega sporting events in the second decade of the 21st century, in Brazil. Among the events, the researchers investigated the holding of the World Indigenous Peoples Games (JMPI) in 2015. Based on the relevance of the event for</p>

<p>Universities of Londrina and Maringá (UEL/UEM)</p>	<p>valuing the culture of indigenous peoples, and for understanding forms of expression of sport and leisure, the study turned to analyzing how and when JMPI became part of the national sports political agenda. The analyzes were carried out based on the Multiple Streams model, which has as its central concern the understanding of how and when certain problems capture public and political attention to the point of being inserted into the government agenda. To this end, considering the actions of political entrepreneurs and invisible actors, they point out the issue of confluence between three relatively independent flows (windows of opportunities): flow of problems; flow of solutions; policy flows. The authors of the research develop their descriptions based on these analytical categories. They concluded that this was an ‘old demand’, but that, in the context of mega-events, a window of opportunities was produced (convergence of flows).</p>
<p>Carlos Fabre Miranda (2020) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Physical Education at Universidade Estadual de Campinas [State University of Campinas] (UNICAMP)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: The purpose of the work was to analyze the trajectory of elaboration, formulation and implementation of the National Training Network, a Public Sports Policy presented as a 'legacy' of the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Olympic Games, considering the period from 2010 to 2016. Institutional dimension approach: The holding of the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games was something unprecedented in Brazil and had resonances in the institutional trajectory of Public Sports Policies in the country, especially in the decade of preparation to host this mega event, with a view to mobilizing the notion of ‘legacy’ . The focus of empirical analysis was the Athletics modality for the implementation of this policy in an agreement signed between the Ministry of Sports and the Brazilian Athletics Confederation (CBAt): the National Athletics Training Network. In terms of theoretical approach to elaboration, formulation and, above all, implementation, it points to the notion of path dependence as a reference, understood as an analytical tool that looks at temporal sequences in the context of debates on historical neo-institutionalism, in perspective that the social and historical structure provides imperative paths in the political choices and decisions of actors, shaping contemporary arenas and institutions. Its analysis makes it possible to perceive the relationship between institution and actors (in addition to the arrival of new actors), in a temporal and sequential pattern, where disputes arising from this relationship generate moments of crisis. Even in moments of crisis, however, institutional inertia did little to make ruptures or significant institutional changes possible.</p>
<p>Débora da Silva Oliveira (2020) Master's thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Interdisciplinary Leisure Studies at Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais [Federal University of Minas Gerais] (UFMG)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: The aim of the work was to analyze the implementation of public sports and leisure policies for people with disabilities in Belo Horizonte – MG, taking into account the installed capacity in the Municipality to respond to programs and projects in the period from 2017 to 2019. Institutional dimension approach: The text's starting point is the growing social pressure for the rights of people with disabilities in Brazil, including the rights to sport and leisure. It takes the Municipality as a relevant federated entity in guaranteeing rights, with Belo Horizonte as its empirical field. It addresses the institutional trajectory for guaranteeing the rights to sport and leisure for people with disabilities in the context of public policy studies, specifically those that look at the Policy Cycle (different stages). Although he recognizes the relevance of all of them, he chooses to analyze one of the stages, implementation, highlighting the possibility that this could occur in top-down and/or bottom-up models. In this approach, it also specifies that its implementation analysis was focused on the capacity installed by the Municipality (through financial resources, infrastructure and territorial coverage) to meet the demands of programs and projects in the period 2017 and 2019. In these analyses, the author also highlights institutional changes in terms of advances in legislation, advances in the Brazilian regulatory framework for people with disabilities and the expansion of guidelines with regard to sport and</p>

	leisure.
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Source: Prepared by the authors

In this approach, from what we learned, efforts to understand institutional changes or continuities and their resonances on Public Policies take into account a shared cognitive dimension (beliefs, ideas, themes, images). Such dimensions are associated/homologous to specific subsystems, social networks or policy communities (these articulated by questions specific to the history and disputes of/in the sport and leisure sector), which, with their actors (including policy makers), resources and repertoires fight and seek to identify and build opportunities to legitimize and assert and/or maintain their positions in public opinion and in the arenas of political and government decisions, whether through ruptures or incrementalism. It should be noted that the studies present us with investigations of/with heterogeneous players in/of the PPELs, making the categories political society (restricted State) and civil society (extended State) permeable, due to the dynamism and circulation of people, ideas and resources.

In addition to the actors or with them, institutional trajectories can be understood from an approach to legal, administrative and financial dimensions (public spending and budgets), these understood as historical, social and cultural phenomena (more or less) instituted-institutionalized, that is, present in a fabric that makes PPELs autonomous in relation to private and group interests. This institutionality is frequently analyzed to understand the presence, continuity and changes in the contents of PPELs (programs, projects and actions), as well as to build a complex institutional arrangement (which, in addition to State apparatuses, involves sports organizations and others non-profit), this is where the debate about the National Sports and Leisure System comes into play. In the studies accessed, the focus on the implementation dimension of Policies stands out.

Ethnographic Approach in Anthropological Perspective

Finally, we highlight the ethnographic approach to studies 'in' Public Policies, from an anthropological perspective. To highlight some elements of this approach, we made use of 4 works prepared within the scope of the Sociocultural Studies Group in Physical Education (GESEF/UFRGS), of which we are part. We use these 4 works described in table 4 (all Ph.D. theses defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences), because they contemplate, in their investigative trajectories, possibilities of understanding the trajectories of the institutional dimension and relationships with PPELs, strange and problematizing notions that, a priori, seem stable in political practices, such as 'participation', 'talent', 'anti-doping' and 'projects'.

Table 4: Works taken as a basis to deal with the ethnographic approach from an anthropological perspective in studying the institutional trajectories of PPELs.

Author (year) Postgraduate Program and Format	General purpose and period of investigation Approach to the institutional dimension
Leandro Forell (2014) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)	<p>Purpose/Period: Based on an ethnography carried out between 2011 and 2013, the purpose of the paper was to study the meanings of participation in the daily management and PPELs, in a Public Park in the city of Porto Alegre.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The work begins with the recognition that other research has investigated popular participation in the management of PPELs in Porto Alegre, including in Parque Araribóia, where the study was developed. However, unlike these, the author proposed to ethnographically investigate the meanings of the notions of participation (and public management) from the point of view of the people - heterogeneous actors (managers, teachers, users) - who participate in the people who involve in the daily life of/in Public Policies, so that the Park continues and qualifies its interventions in the areas of sport and leisure, as social rights. The central issue is to study not only the PPELs, but 'in PPELs' and 'in' everyday life in the Park of the city of Porto Alegre, known in the city for its involvement in community leadership. Thus, ethnography began to coexist with and follow social actors and how they understand and experience politics, in this case through/in participation, often through rituals of commensality, in bodily practices and meetings. It is based on this ethnographic perspective regarding participation that one can perceive the institutional changes in the PPELs in Porto Alegre.</p>
Ariane Corrêa Pacheco (2017) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul	<p>Purpose/Period: It sought to follow actors and describe the performance of 'sports talents' in the constitution of Public Sports Policies, whose multi-situated ethnographic fieldwork was carried out between 2015 and 2016 in the daily life of a Sports Club.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: From a perspective of opening 'the black box', the author enables an approach to institutional trajectories based on actor-network theory (sociology of associations or translations). The notion of 'sports talent' she investigated came to be understood as a</p>

<p>[Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>more or less stable association of heterogeneous elements, capable of producing effects on National Public Sports Policies. As a proposal and object of research, it was therefore necessary to follow actants (mediating actors, who make things happen) and their translation work, that is, to list and associate interests, objects, stories, ideas, human and non-human, with the purpose of stabilizing the notion of 'sports talent', including as a scientific fact, to the point of making connections disappear (punctualizing them), so that it can produce its political and practical effects, especially in the institutions of the grassroots categories of the high-performance sport. As an empirical field produced in the research, the author, ethnography in controversies and critical situations, followed actors in Government Programs, especially those whose performances took place in relations with a Sports Club in Porto Alegre.</p>
<p>Daniel Giordani Vasques (2018) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: The purpose of the work was to understand how the Brazilian Anti-Doping Control Authority (ABCD) was constituted with the status of National Secretariat within the scope of the Ministry of Sports based on commitments made in 2009 by the Government to hold the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: In Brazil, from 2009 onwards, a State apparatus was created – the Brazilian Authority for Doping Control (ABCD) – so that the anti-doping system was widely applied and, thus, the results of the sporting events that took place, especially the Games Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, could be legitimized, which would happen if the country was 'in compliance' with the protocols of the <i>World Anti-Doping Agency</i> (WADA). The author carried out an ethnographic study following actors (actants) in their work of constituting and performing 'conformity', doing so from the perspective of actor-network theory (Bruno Latour). Using notions linked to the sociology of associations, he investigated how political actors circulated along a chain of interests. The descriptive work (not explanatory) was developed based on 3 sources of controversies-cases (the creation and functioning of the ABCD; the approval of the Brazilian Anti-Doping Code; and the creation and functioning of the Anti-Doping Court of Justice) and the imperatives that each one of them places the trajectory of establishing the institutional anti-doping apparatus as a Public Sports Policy.</p>
<p>Luis Felipe Silveira (2020) Ph.D. thesis defended in the Postgraduate Program in Human Movement Sciences at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul [Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul] (UFRGS)</p>	<p>Purpose/Period: The work aimed to investigate, based on a multi-situated ethnography carried out between 2016 and 2019, the processes of extinction of the Porto Alegre Municipal Department of Sport, Recreation and Leisure and the struggles so that projects and trajectories made sense in the context of a PPEL.</p> <p>Institutional dimension approach: The ethnographic research studied processes of invisibility and disinvestment of public 'sports' services in the municipal administrative structure of Porto Alegre, experienced by teachers and civil servants, especially since the extinction of the Municipal Secretariat in 2017. The construction of ethnography is guided by a process of institutional change that had been occurring for more than a decade, but which became more accentuated in 2017. To this end, it begins to study projects (collective projects and collective projects) and the political practices of mediators (career employees, public servants and workers engaged in commission and outsourced positions). These notions of projects and mediators are sought in the field of anthropology of political practices. The multi-situated ethnographic work developed, despite institutional trajectories, analyzes and interprets the construction of invisibility and emptying of a folder that 'only caused problems' (placing it in its 'nowhere') and the struggles of teachers/ and servants (mediators) so that their trajectories and projects had meaning and that a sports policy continued to exist.</p>

Source: Prepared by the authors

When we look at these ethnographic studies, the notion that there is a concern to study 'in' PPELs and not about them, from the perspective of living with people in the institutional spaces where Policy actions take place on a daily basis, becomes quite clear. In addition to remaining in places, they point to the importance of following people, ideas, artifacts (human and non-human) in their flows, taking into account the implications of multi-locality in the construction of research objects and, therefore, of institution of Politics itself. This anthropological perception made it possible to understand the transience and limitations in implementing PPELs, as well as thinking about other forms of democratic participation.

As we have already announced above, these studies, implied by ethnographic studies, raise questions or notions that seem familiar in PPELs, which function as types of 'black boxes', but which require problematization and investigation. This was carried out regarding the notions of 'participation', 'doping' and 'anti-doping', 'sports talent' and 'projects', seeking understandings based on the ethnographic experience that can be constructed, that is, ethnographic situations and what they enabled in the process of constructing a textualization that makes a production intelligible for the scientific community in the area.

The strangeness of these familiar notions emerges from the investigative experience 'in' PPELs, as issues emerging from the field and which become relevant due to their effects on the constitution of Policies, in our case, in the institutional dimensions. These are works that seek to distance themselves from normative and prescriptive institutional analyses, highlighting the heterogeneity of the production of meanings, taking seriously the ways in which people in action perform (associate heterogeneous elements) to justify their positions in public arenas.

Final Considerations

The initial objective of this work – concerned with developing investigations and not doing so without knowing the possibilities present – was to systematize a reflection on possible theoretical-conceptual approaches to investigate institutional trajectories put into action in analyzes of continuities/changes in PPELs. Based on what we were able to show in the previous sections, we organized our experiences and learning, derived from relationships with the selected and mobilized works, into 4 emerging approaches (critical conjunctural responses to social issues; socio-historical relations of power and meanings; models of public policy analysis; and ethnography from an anthropological perspective), here demarcated more to identify and demarcate relevant investigative movements than to impose 'straitjackets' for any study.

Very well. But what do these approaches tell us? Initially, keeping in mind the provocations and concerns that have existed for more than a decade about the intensification of analyzes and production of knowledge (LINHALES; PEREIRA FILHO, 1999; HÚNGARO *et al.*, 2009; STAREPRAVO, NUNES, MARCHI JÚNIOR, 2009; STAREPRAVO, 2011; MALINA *et al.*, 2015; MENDES, 2013, 2017; FORELL; MAYBORODA, 2017; ATHAYDE *et al.*, 2020), what it seems is that there are elements to say or, at least, to bet that, in the field of PPELs, there have been theoretical-conceptual and methodological movements to deepen the debates, which occurs from different approaches, which does not mean that a work can bring two or more at the same time. We recognize the possibilities, depending on the demands of each study, of operating in/with different investigative movements, as long as there is coherence in these processes.

After identifying the emerging approaches in Brazil and recognizing their relevance in terms of advancement movements in the consolidation of analyzes and

knowledge production, we return to our question about the possibilities of investigating the institutional dimension of PPELs (how it has been done and how to do it). Considering what we've learned in this analytical-reflective path, we understand that the links with certain approaches or the mobilization of different ones in the same study depend on the question we want to answer, with there not being, *a priori*, one theoretical-methodological movement more appropriate than another. We are now at the same point in a contemporary debate around the three approaches of the new institutionalism (historical; sociological; rational choice) for the study of/in institutions in the field of political science and public policy. Therefore, we follow the same line as Théret (2003), that it is possible not to abandon the possibility of an average position and, therefore, to adopt an interdisciplinary perspective in relation to these three approaches and the heterogeneity of ideas that permeate them, but at the same time maintain theoretical-methodological vigilance in relation to the types of questions and objectives that we intend to investigate.

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