



BRAZILIAN LANDLESS WORKERS MOVEMENT (MST)

**Sixth MST National Congress Report-
back**

Colonial era (1500s to 1800s): *Sesmarias*

**Independence (1822):
*Terra Devolutas and Grilagem***

HISTORY OF BRAZIL

A STORY OF LANDLESSNESS.

1500s-1888: Slavery

1850: New land Markets

1870s-1900s: European Immigration



RURAL RESISTANCE (1940-1964)

Peasant leagues, rural union organizing, literacy campaigns.



Dictatorship ('64-'84) . . .

. . . and Growth . . .



Between 1968 and 1974 the economy grew at an average yearly rate of 10 to 11 percent.

**Economic
Miracle!**

... BUT GROWTH FOR WHO? ...

While in 1960 the richest ten percent of the population received 39.6 percent of the national income, the same population received 50.9 percent of the national income by 1980.

Is this an

. . . and in **Rural** Areas?

Green Revolution!
Monoculture and Pesticides
Environmental Degradation

In 1940 less than 32 percent of population in cities, by 1991, **75** percent of Brazil's population is urban.

Urbanization and Slums (*favelas*)





POLITICAL OPENING

Late 1970s: Union Strikes, Workers Party (PT)

First Land Occupations

1979-1985 in the South



Landless Workers Movement - Founded in 1984



“Land for those that work on it!”

Brazilian Landless Workers Movement (MST)



**1.5 Million Women, Men and Children
350,000 Families with Land Rights**

BRAZILIAN CONSTITUTION OF 1988

The Brazilian constitution **requires land serve a social function.**
[Article 5, Section XXIII.]

As such, the constitution requires the Brazilian government
**"expropriate for the purpose of agrarian reform, rural
property that is not performing its social function."** [Article
184.]

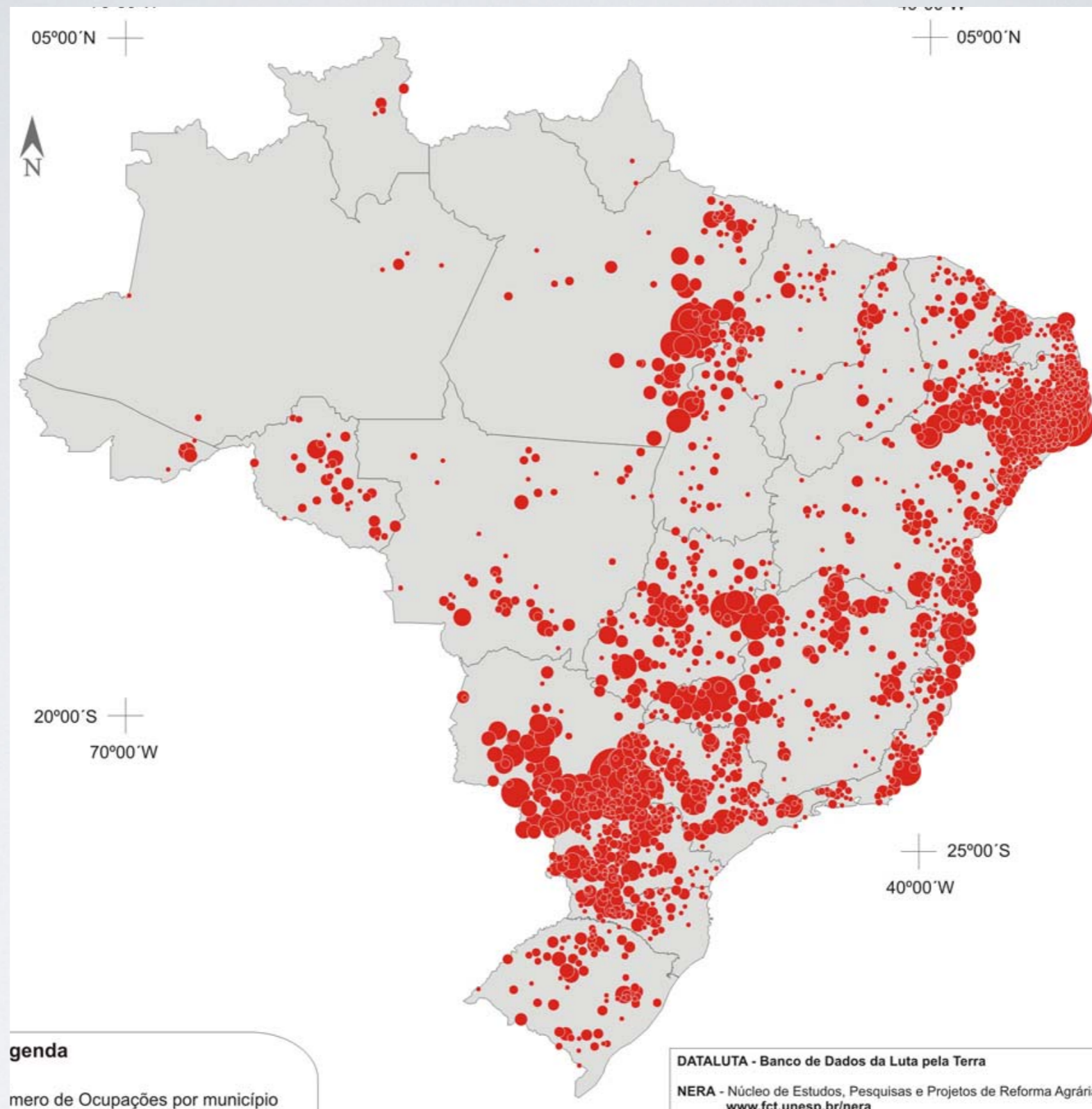
Social function is performed when rural property meets the following requirements:

Rational and adequate use.

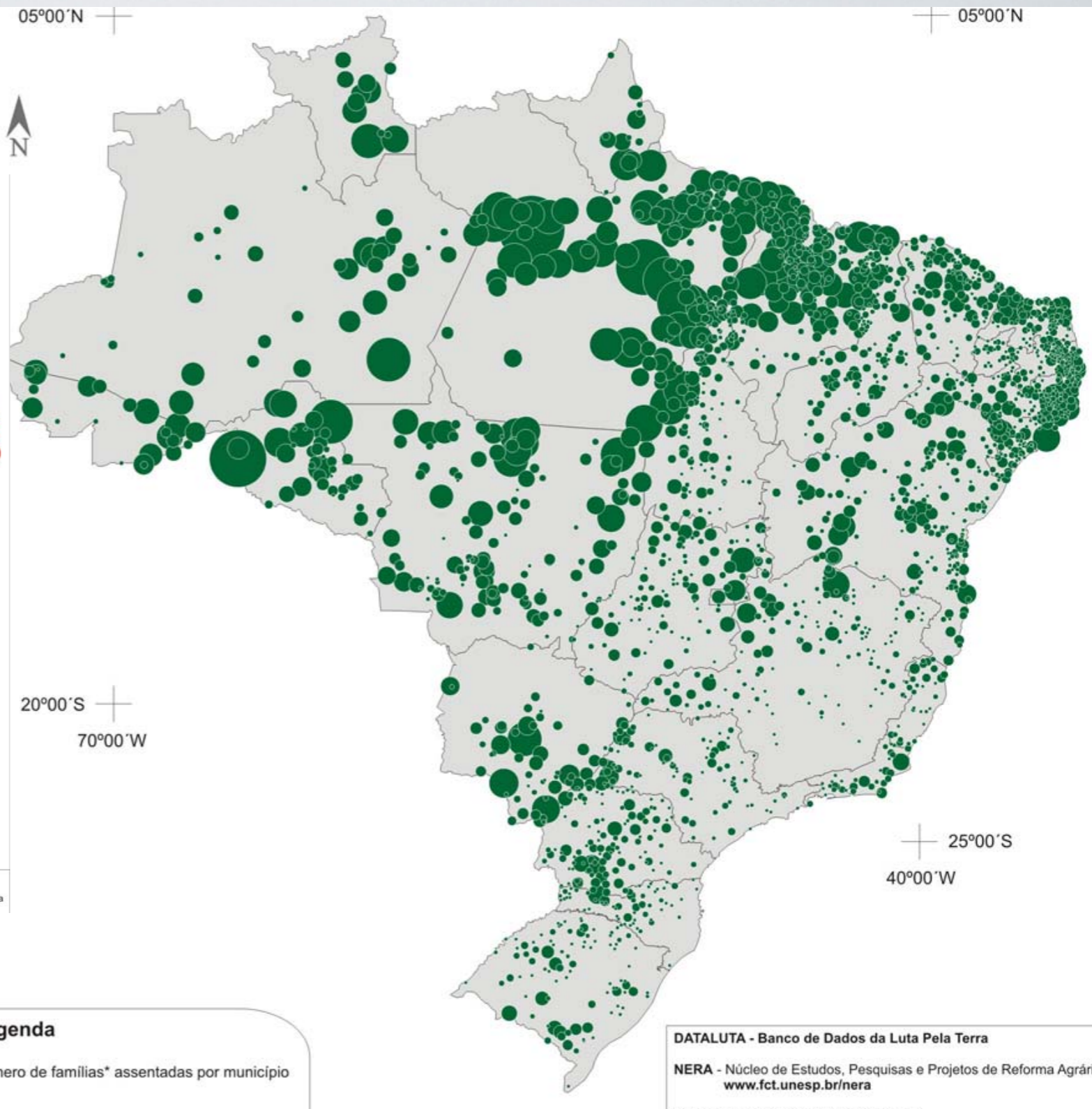
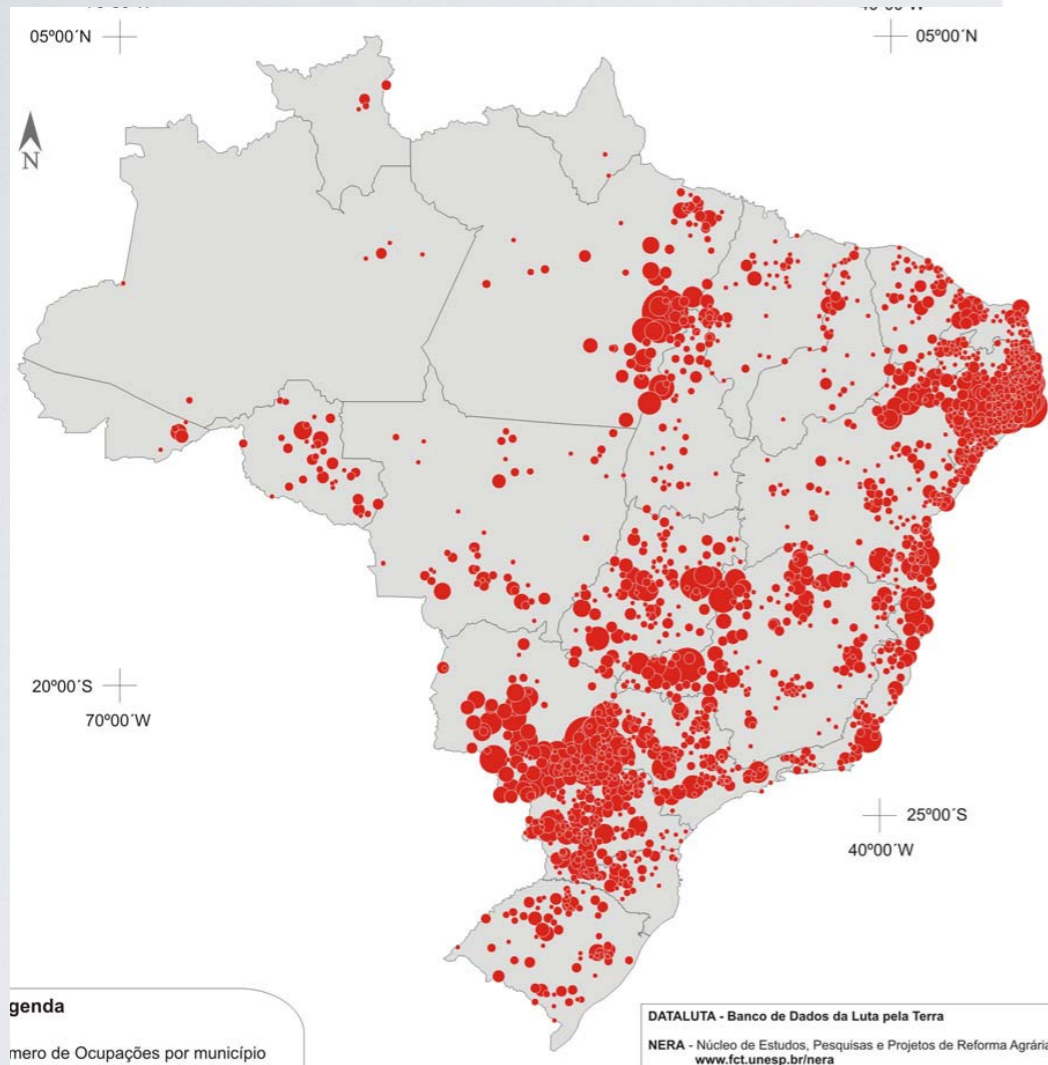
Adequate use of available natural resources and preservation of the environment.

Compliance with the provisions which regulate labor relations.

Exploitation which favors the well-being of the owners and workers.



Numbers of Land Occupations (1988-2011)



Agrarian Reform Settlements

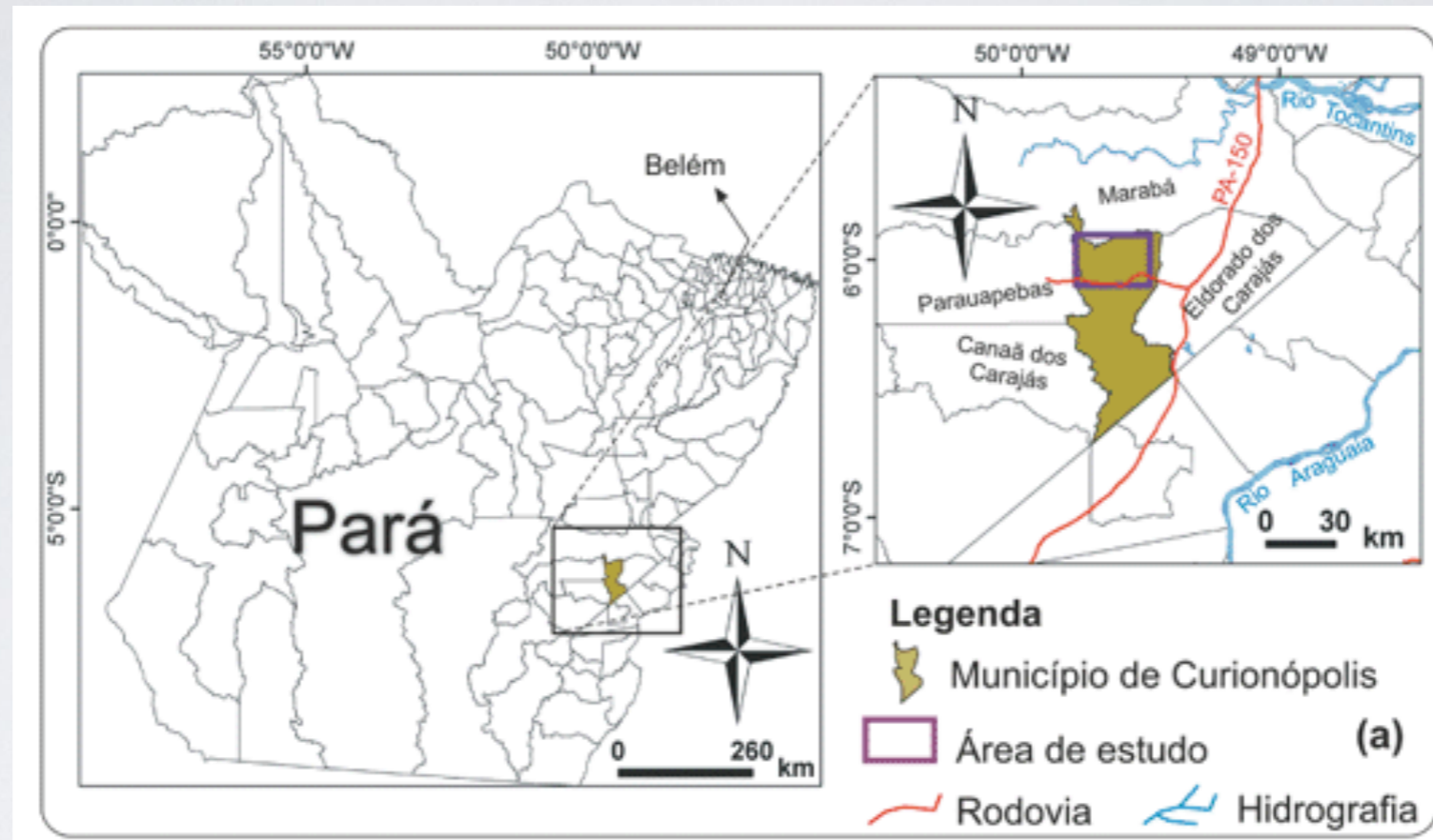
THE PRICE OF RESISTANCE

Since the country's re-democratization in 1985, **1,742** people – mostly peasant activists – have been murdered in Brazil as a result of agrarian conflicts.

Less than 3% of these cases were ever brought to trial, and barely 14 of the rural elite, who the hired gunmen to carry out such crimes have been condemned by the courts.

The massacre at Eldorado de Carajás, which occurred on **April 17, 1996**, is one of the most egregious example of impunity.

APRIL 17, 1996



The number of marchers had swelled to about 1,500. The march occupied and blocked PA-150 in Eldorado de Carajás with the intention of pressuring the state and federal governments to implement agrarian reform.

THE MASSACRE



At about 4 PM, 155 state military police from two brigades surrounded the MST on the highway and began to fire tear-gas as well as live ammunition from rifles and machine guns.

Nineteen landless were killed instantly, two died later from injuries and 69 were wounded.

RED APRIL!



Occupation on April 17, 2011



**What is the
MST Congress?**



What is the MST Congress?



What is the MST Congress?



What is the MST Congress?



What is the MST Congress?





**What is the MST
Congress?**

What is the MST Congress?





Comité MS
DELEGADA

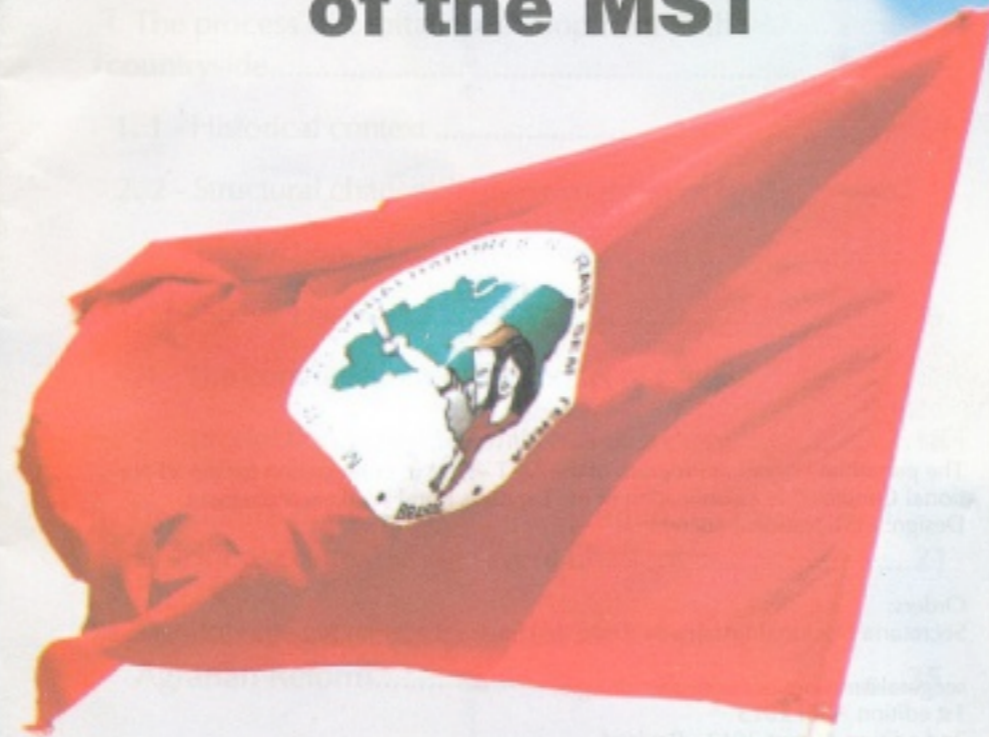
SO NOS TODOS SOMOS
DELEGADA
MS

MS ♀



Sixth National MST Congress,
February 2014

Agrarian Program of the MST



Struggle, Build People's Agrarian Reform!

The People's Agrarian Reform

“This type of agrarian reform now depends on a consolidated alliance between the peasants and all urban workers. Alone the landless will never achieve People’s Agrarian Reform.”



Role of US Delegation



Role of US Delegation



Role of US Delegation



Visits to an MST Encampment, a pre-Settlement, and a Settlement

Visits to an MST Encampment, a pre- Settlement, and a Settlement C



Visits to an MST Encampment, a pre- Settlement, and a Settlement C





An MST Encampment Ocupar, Resistir, Produzir!









MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment



MST Encampment









MST Encampment



MST Encampment

Pre-Settlement





Pre-Settlement

Pre-Settlement









MST Settlement



MST Settlement









**The Dream
Settlement..**



CULTURE





Click here for video at <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2014/04/25/18754784.php#18754796>

CULTURE





CULTURE

CULTURES of STRUGGLE





CULTURES of STRUGGLE

Click here for Video at <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2014/04/25/18754784.php#18754797>



CULTURES of STRUGGLE

CULTURES of STRUGGLE



SECTORS

- EDUCATION (1988)
- FORMATION (1989)
- FRONT OF THE MASSES (1989)
- FINANCES (1989)
- PROJECTS (1989) (STATE + NATIONAL)
- PRODUCTION, COOPERATION + **ENVIRONMENT** (1992)
- INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (1993) (NAT'L LEVEL)
- HUMAN RIGHTS ^(LAW) (1995) (STATE + NAT'L)
- COMMUNICATION (1997)
- HEALTH (1998)
- CULTURE (2000)
- GENDER (2000)
- YOUTH COLLECTIVE (2006)

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The MST and the State





**The MST and the State
(ex-President Lula and President Dilma
Rousseff, “supporting” the MST)**

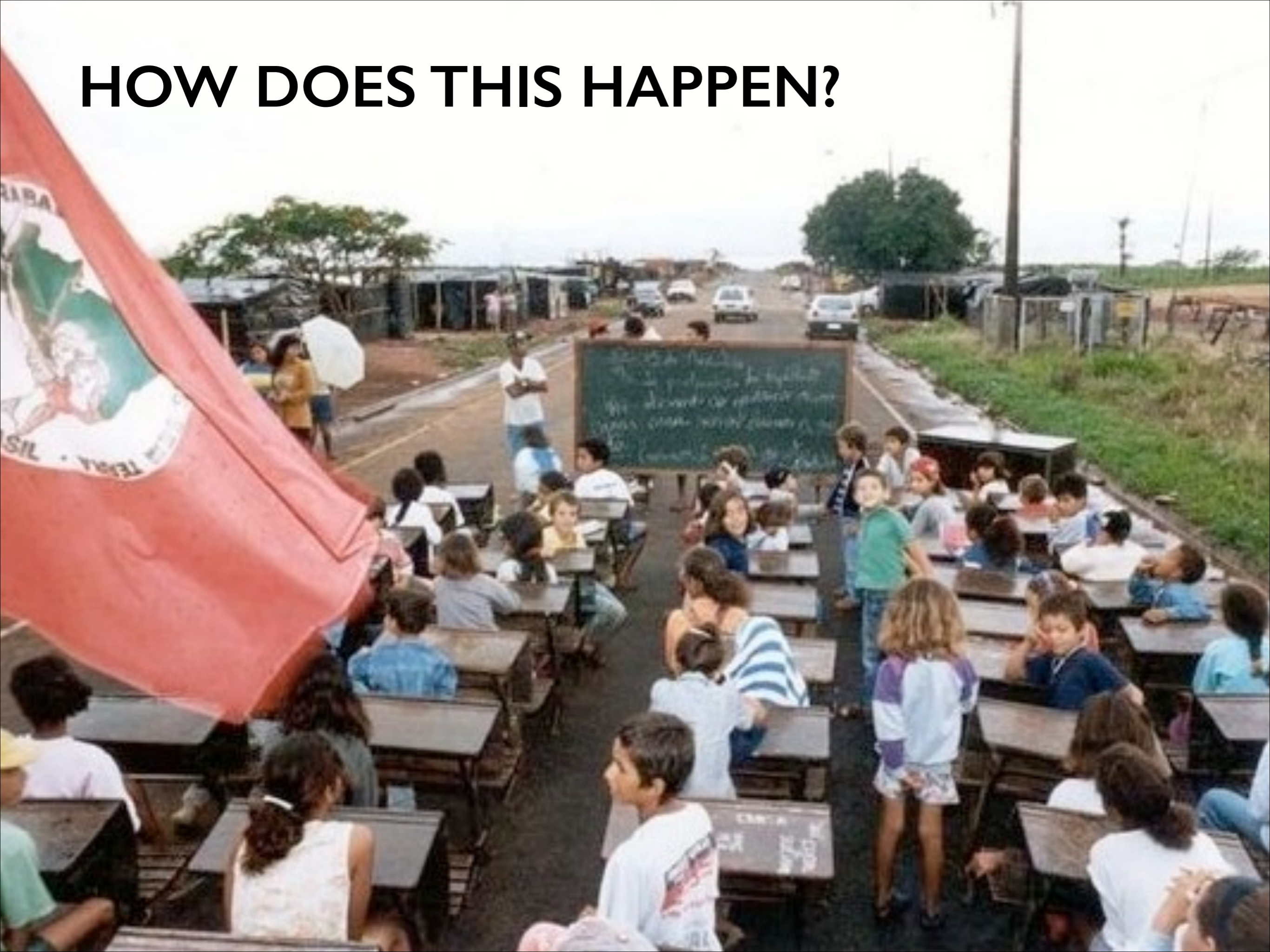
“The first question to be clear on is the political nature of the MST. Some think of us as a big NGO or union, and some think of us as a political party. Our political nature has a lot of these elements, but we are a social movement. And our political nature is to negotiate with the government and to demand what our base needs; **we have a responsibility to our base . . .**”

-Joao Paulo Rodrigues, National MST Leader

“When we interact with the state and government, we are still a social movement. **Why do we not break with the state or government? ...**The NGOs can say that they do not receive money from the state, the NGOs can do this, but our movement cannot do this because we have a social base that has rights, and those rights are the responsibility of the government.”

-Joao Paulo Rodrigues, National MST Leader

HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?



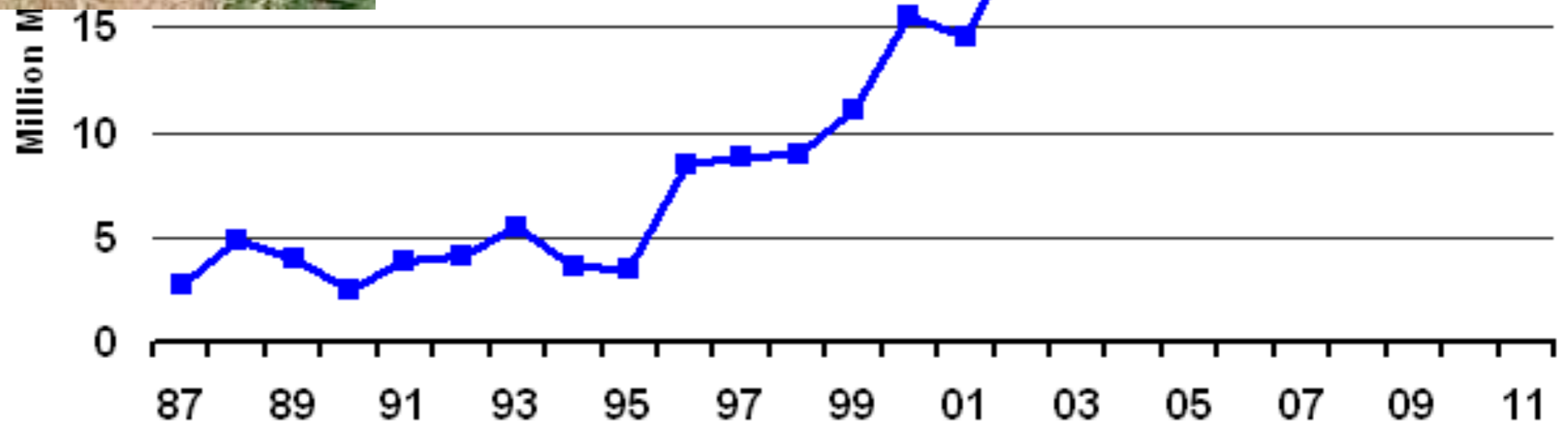
MST and the State



MST supports Worker's Party in 2003, 2007, and 2010.



Brazil Soybean - Exports



Most



report



the MST and the State

MST activist Vanderlúcia with President Dilma during the launching of a new educational program for the countryside; Senator Kátia Abreu, agribusiness supporter, sits behind them.



Gender and Sexuality



Gender and Sexuality



Gender and Sexuality

Women Radicalize the MST!



Gender and Sexuality





Gender and Sexuality

Sem Terra LGBT lutam por uma sociedade sem preconceitos

19 de fevereiro de 2014



*Por Joana Tavares**

Da Página do MST

Fotos: Joka Madruga, Oliver Kornblihtt e Pilar Oliva

Talles Reis, mineiro hoje em Pernambuco, pretende casar no papel com Rogério Castro e adotar uma criança em 2014. Mariana Arantes e sua esposa já concretizaram o sonho e vão ter um filho por fertilização in vitro.

Jarbas, Nilton, Lucas, Naiara, Lucas, Talles e Mariana são militantes do MST. Atuam em diferentes frentes do Movimento e contam que não tiveram grandes problemas em viver sua sexualidade dentro da organização.

“Muita gente no MST tem essa opção. As relações no Movimento são mais próximas, aí a gente acaba se descobrindo mais e se aceitando também, né? A vivência no MST permite a gente ter uma aceitação melhor, tanto pessoal quanto coletiva”, acredita Nilton, que atua na secretaria estadual do Paraná.

Mariana achou que enfrentaria mais preconceito, especialmente na base. “Mas em todos os lugares onde moramos, assentamentos e acampamentos, a relação foi ótima”, conta. “Muita gente torceu por nós e apoiou nossa união”, lembra Rogério, que conheceu Talles quando ele atuava no escritório do MST no Rio de Janeiro.

“Eu nunca me senti discriminado dentro do Movimento, mas já peguei muita piadinha machista, homofóbica, que também são atitudes preconceituosas. Essas piadas são gerais, mas te atingem. E isso é muito comum”, afirma Talles, que milita há 14 anos no MST.

Talles, que já passou pelo Paraná, pela Escola Nacional Florestan Fernandes, Rio de Janeiro e Pernambuco, explica que agora não decide mais as coisas sozinho, e precisa da opinião e aprovação de Rogério. “Acho que para os casais acaba sendo mais fácil, tem mais respeito”, pontua Rogério.

Leia mais:

"Congresso mostra a força e potencial político da Reforma Agrária Popular", afirma Conceição
Privatização dos assentamentos aumentaria a concentração de terra, afirma dirigente

Jarbas e Nilton também relatam que foram apoiados na decisão de morar juntos. “Por ser um movimento camponês, a





Youth and the MST

Click here for Video at <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2014/04/25/18754784.php#18754803>



Youth and the MST



Youth and the MST



Youth and the MST



Youth and the MST

The MST and EDUCATION:

**Informal Education
(Meetings, Settlements, Struggle)**

**Non-Formal Education
(Political Training, Activist Leadership)**

**Formal Education
(State-sanctioned)**

Florestan Fernandes National School



MST and Education

Activist's Perspective on the Role of Schools

“Education is always connected to the maintenance of the economic model. In this sense, schools in our society are capitalist schools, because the system needs this ideological tool to support itself. Whatever struggle against this economic model, whatever type of counter-hegemonic work, is also going to need education, and it has to be constructed within this hegemonic space. To dispute hegemony you have to fight within it for other principles.”

-MST Education Activist in Pernambuco
(Interview in July, 2011)

Concrete MST Victories in the Public Educational Sphere:

Elementary Schools	1,800
Elementary School Teachers	8,000
Students in K-12	250,000
Adult Learners	20,000
Adult Educators	2,000
Infant Educators	500
Graduates from Teacher Certification Courses (high school level)	1,2000
Graduates from Cooperative Administration Courses (high school level)	1,300
Graduates of health and nursing classes	200
Students in Cuba to be doctors	120
Partnerships with Public Universities	60
Number of graduates from Bachelor Degree Programs**	14,000
Publications on MST Pedagogy	63 books
National and International Prizes in Education	5

*Information comes from the edited volume by Miguel Carter, *Combatendo a Desigualdade Social: O MST e A Reforma Agrária no Brasil*, p. 311

**Information from bachelor degree programs comes from the head of the Program for Education in Areas of Agrarian Reform (PRONERA)



14,000 Students from areas of Agrarian Reform have graduated from Bachelor and Post-Bachelor Degree Programs between 1998 and 2010

Examples of Curricular Proposals:

- Schools in rural communities, with curriculum that values the countryside and agrarian struggles (Freire);
- Moving beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries;
- Manual and intellectual labor (Pistrak);
- Agro-ecological learning in the curriculum;





Examples of Organizational Proposals:

- Schools as spaces of non-hierarchical democratic governance;
- Assemblies of parents, teachers, community members and students that determine the mission statement and goals of the their school;
- Student collectives forming the organizational base of the school (Makarenko).

Sem Terrinha meet the Brazilian State

MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO



Sem Terrinha meet the Brazilian State



Sem Terrinha meet the Brazilian State





PARTEA CONSTRUI
CENTRA ACADEMIA POPULARA

Sem Terrinha meet the Brazilian State



MST MARCH

15,000 Person March through the Capital





Diversity of Tactics and Ideologies







Prisons and Police



Prisons and Police



CONFERÊNCIA MUNDIAL POR JUSTIÇA CLIMÁTICA,
SUSTENTABILIDADE E CONTRA O AQUECIMENTO GLOBAL
(19-22 DE ABRIL DE 2009 - SÃO PAULO - SP)
www.conferenciaparis2009.org.br

VI Congresso
Nacional do MST
DELEGADO(A)
Thomaz Bonalor
S.P. - Santos

Plenária de Articulação Nacional
DO MOVIMENTO DOS TRABALHADORES
E TRABALHADORAS DO CAMPO - MTC
Por justiça social em defesa da permanência na terra
Rumo ao Projeto Popular de Agricultura Camponesa





The MST and Urban Movements



MST Urban Occupation



MST Urban Occupation



MST Urban Occupation



MST Urban Occupation



MST Urban Occupation



MST Urban Occupation



Free Transportation and Urban Movements

Race and Interest in Black Riders





BRASIL DE FATO

Uma visão popular do Brasil e do mundo

“Nos Estados Unidos, a cada 28 horas um negro é morto”, afirma membro dos Black Riders

Shango Abiola é membro dos Black Riders, a nova geração dos Panteras Negras, e esteve no Brasil para participar do VI Congresso do MST

26/02/2014

Por José Coutinho Júnior e Manuela Hernandez

Especial para o Brasil de Fato

de Brasília (DF)

Em entrevista para o Brasil de Fato, ele analisa a luta dos negros nos Estados Unidos, a importância da educação para um movimento social e o papel de controle exercido pela chegada de Obama ao poder:

Como e por que os Black Riders foram fundados?

Os Black Riders são a nova geração dos Black Panthers, que em 1966 tinha o propósito de organizar a comunidade operária negra como catalisadora para terminar globalmente com a opressão capitalista.

Os Riders foram fundados em 1996, na Escola de Treinamento de Jovens (YTS, sigla em inglês), onde jovens negros que faziam parte de gangues de rua aprenderam sua história, e entenderam que as gangues foram criadas pelos programas de contra-inteligência dos EUA com o objetivo de fracionar o movimento negro.

Muitos dos líderes dessas gangues eram assassinados, porque a juventude lutava entre si por não ter consciência política, o que nós chamávamos de tribalismo. A partir daí, criou-se uma união por meio dos Riders.

Como é a vida dos negros nos EUA? É difícil para um movimento como os Riders organizar as pessoas?

É uma luta dura. Tem muita propaganda na mídia, por meio do consumo ou de programas, que passam a imagem de que



Internationalism



Internationalism



Internationalize the Struggle, Internationalize the Hope!

Click here for VIdeo at <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2014/04/25/18754784.php#18754799>

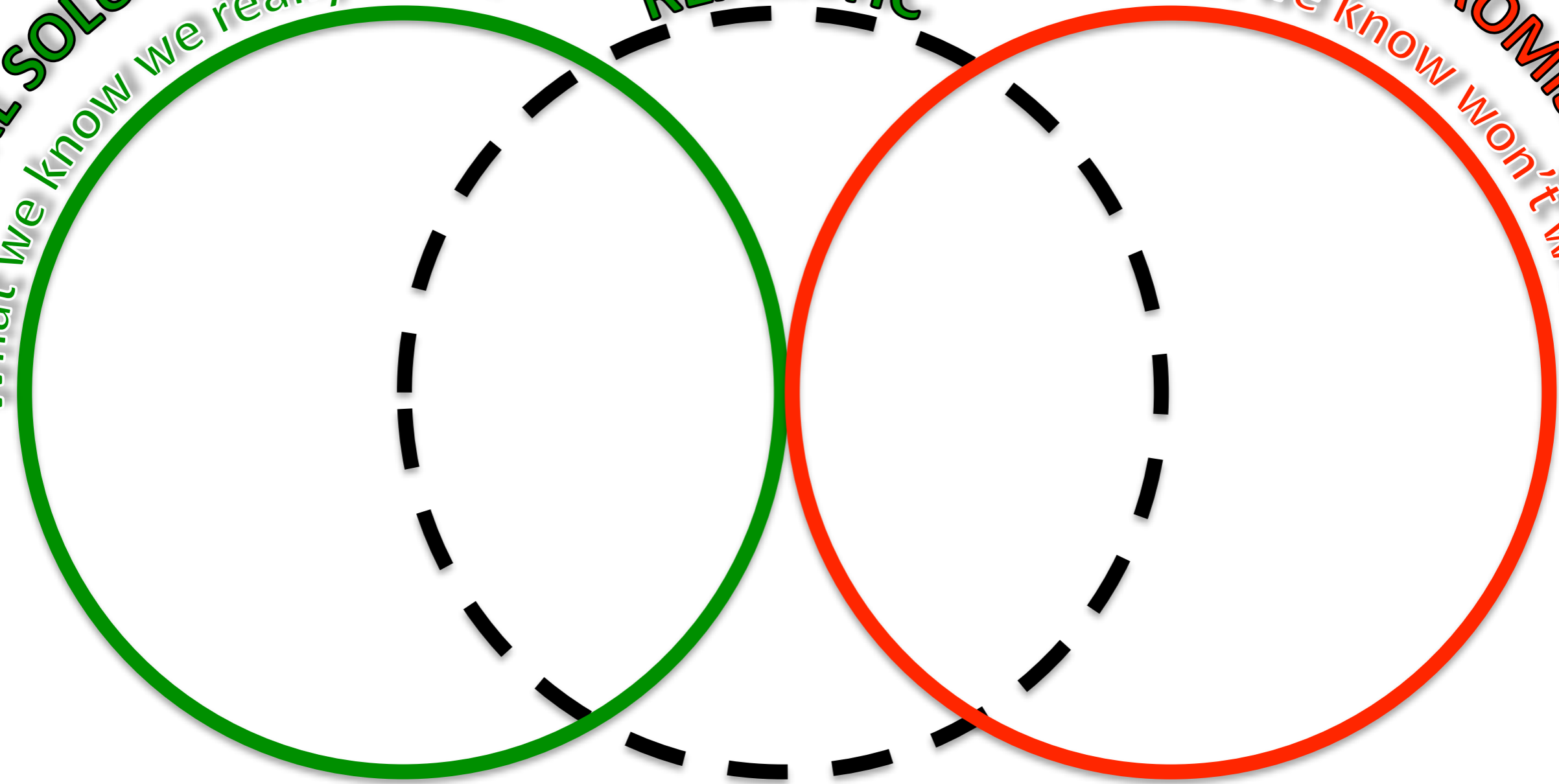
What can U.S.
movements learn
from the MST?



REAL SOLUTIONS:
What we know we really need.

**POLITICALLY
REALISTIC**

FALSE PROMISES:
What we know won't work.



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**ROOT CAUSE
REMEDIES**
Decentralized
Diversified
Democratized
Reduce and
Redistribute
Resources
**Resilience Based
Organizing**

Expanding
**concentration,
control and erosion**
of "seed," "soil,"
and "story."
-of-
Land, Labor,
Language and
Life Itself.

CREATE

CODIFY

GOVERN

OPPOSE

EXPOSE

SECTORS

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BRASIL



**Friends of the MST Committee Meeting
(Post Congress)**



NEXT STEPS?