

Systematic mapping of the discussion about the multifacets of language in the deconstruction of binarism in the Amazon



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ABSTRACT

Given the need to understand the phenomenon of binarism in the Amazon and how current research is inserted into the discourses created in this context,

there was interest in this investigation. Thus, the PICOC methodology and the use of the Parsifal online tool were used, which guided the research paths. The aim was then to find out whether research connects binarism in the Amazon with the use of discourses via language in the educational context. Thus, the main references used were the articles selected in the databases, namely RIUFPA and Scielo, which allowed us to predict that, despite the discussions raised in the last five years, the relationship is not made directly and there is a need to delve deeper into gender themes and the construction of binarism related to decolonial epistemologies when using discourses.

Keywords: Amazon, Decoloniality, Binarism, Systematic mapping.

1 INTRODUCTION

The construction of gender³ in the Amazon was consolidated and is still in force today through the colonizer's discourse from a binary perspective of separation of man and woman with assumptions of power and subordination of the body that does not concern Amerindian thought, but the Western vision. According to Gontijo (2021), the impacts of colonization fall on the gender binary that generates a kind of coloniality of affections and desires imposed on native peoples.

This dichotomy has occurred through discourses over time and has its records in several areas, which are of interest here in the educational field with emphasis on language, as it is one of the crucial factors even for the domination of a people. This occurred in Brazil and in the Amazonian context, making invisible not only the use of indigenous languages, but also their organization as a social, economic and cultural class, where it caused identity damage to the ethnic diversity that permeates gender issues, an important agenda to be discussed in the identity construction of native peoples.

The assumptions of colonization were based on the Christian logic, with colonization mainly through the missions of the Jesuits, a vision that remains in society spreading the sexist and lgbtphobic trail whose prejudice still dominates and extends under other religious manifestations and the gender



identities of individuals, despite the consideration that Brazil is a secular country.

Thus, the interest of this research was to understand where the use of language as a contributing factor to the dismantling of the idea of binarism in the Amazon, especially in an educational context. And it aimed to identify in the discussions on the theme: a) to identify the means for resistance through education that emancipates via language/discourse; b) Analyze the discussion of the theme and whether it occurs by researchers today in the Amazonian context; c) Understand the bias of decolonial discourse as a tool that acts on binarism.

In order to consider what is being discussed about the theme, it was of interest to build a state of the art, where the tool for the quantification and qualification of the works used was the Parsifal website, which allows filtering articles of specific form using inclusion and exclusion criteria that guided the research and will be described. The methodology used was the PICOC, which allows the analysis of the following factors: population, intervention, comparison, results and context.

Thus, the selection of relevant works for the research questions and their objectives was followed, which aimed to answer: 1. What is the role of education and language in the conception of discourses? 2. Is there a discussion about binarism in the Amazon today? and 3. What is the role of education discourses in the conception of binarism in the Amazon?

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

We started this research from the assumption that indigenous peoples were framed in a pattern imposed by European dominators, denying their freedoms and identities, producing a widespread image as submissive and subjugated. This integration almost caused the disappearance of the native peoples and the annulment of their cultural diversity. The written knowledge they have about their realities was not constructed by them, as well as their gender identity, but was made by other subjects unrelated to their context.

Regarding the tools of domination, it is known that discourse and language are linked to colonial rule in Brazil. In this way, Portugal's discursive dominance took place through the junction of different ethnic peoples, who had their own linguistic trunks, hindering communication and organization.

According to Assis *et al.* (2012, p. 66) The Portuguese "tried to mix different dialectal groups so as not to understand each other, in order to, through ethnic and linguistic diversity, prevent them from uniting. Gontijo (2021), on the other hand, argues that despite the cultural diversity of indigenous peoples, there do not seem to be many studies discussing the theme of gender in studies on indigenous peoples.

In this way, the problem then passes through other paths, where language resides as a discourse and political tool, the same one that was used to colonize, now via transgression inaugurating new meanings, strategies and faces to continue the struggle for rights.



With regard to educational documents, which lead to language and discourse, therefore ideological constructs, those that govern teaching and learning, such as the National Common Curriculum Base (BNCC), the term genre in this text is mentioned 320 times, but only to refer to textual genre of discourse, digital, oral, multisemiotic and others.

With regard to sexuality, it is confirmed that the term is only mentioned in the eighth-grade curriculum, and only once involves non-biological issues in competence (EF08CI11), "Selecting arguments that highlight the multiple dimensions of human sexuality (biological, sociocultural, affective and ethical)", shows that the curricular basis does not cover the discussion. (BRASIL, Ministry of Education, 2018, p. 349).

Thus, this search for alterity in the relationships between subjects goes through the pedagogy of resistance and education that understands free individuals and recognizes the other, where, Ramos (2022) points out, there is a need to recognize the other as a free subject for ethical relations and when this understanding does not occur, the other is as a victim trapped in the system that suffocates him in the totality of his existence.

Therefore, it is understood the importance of this theme as a lever for other research and to identify the discourses that are being used and if there is work in this direction, because the need to reinforce even due to the lack of information in the documents that govern education, which form individuals, is already identified. Thus, we propose to make a systematic mapping about the multifacets of language and thus denote how the deconstruction of binarism in the Amazon has been discussed in academic productions today.

3 METHODOLOGY

This academic production followed the work methodology known as Systematic Mapping, which is based on the production of data through evidence, and after having it in contact the researcher can compare the data, observe what has been raised on a given subject and from that generate new hypotheses from the map of results found.

For Eco and Sebeok (2008) the initial step for systematic mapping is abduction, for them "[...] the procedure of adopting a hypothesis or a proposition which would lead to a prediction of what would appear to be surprising facts [...]". Thus, the methodology used in this work approached systematic mapping, since we aim to map, quantify and qualify the works on the theme of Binarism in the Amazon. To this end, we used Parsifal, an online tool designed to assist researchers in conducting systematic literature reviews, RSL, also known as State of the Art.

As a strategy to refine the data found, we used the problem in question, which is: to understand at what stage is scientific research in relation to the theme of binarism in the Amazon? Or even if there is recent research on the subject.



In this sense, in order to select the studies to be mapped, we used the following platforms as a database: *Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO)* and the Institutional Repository of the Federal University of Pará - RIUFPA.

Also as a selection method, focusing on the refinement of the works already published, we will use keywords based on the theme of this work, which is structured from axes that distinctly reflect scientific productions. From these paths, a search string was established, which serves as a categorizer of the keywords, listed here as in the example: "traditional communities" OR "traditional communities" AND "binarism in the amazon" OR "binarism in the amazon". It should be noted that at this stage we made use of PICOC, a strategy through which it is possible to construct questions of different natures, in order to assist us in the research question that we actually want to specify as a focus.

In this way, we arrive at the keywords and synonyms used for the search, as evidenced in the following table:

Table 1- Search words and corresponding terms (synonyms)

Keywords	Synonyms
Amazon	Amazonia
Cultural Binarism	-
Traditional communities	Traditional Community
Mapping	Cartography
Binarism in the Amazon	Binarism, Amazonia

Source: The Authors (2023)

In addition, in order to act as a resource for selecting the searches for the works, as it facilitates understanding, and so that there is not a very extensive production, this refinement of the productions is subdivided by means of the following criteria:

Table 2 – Criteria

Inclusion Criteria (IC)	Exclusion Criteria (EC)
CI 1- Research on discourse and binarism	EC 1 - Duplicate works
CI 2- Papers that discuss binarism in Amazon	EC 2-Works before 2018
CI 3- Current studies that discuss the Thematic	CE 3- Research that does not discuss the thematic
CI 4- Papers in Portuguese or Spanish	

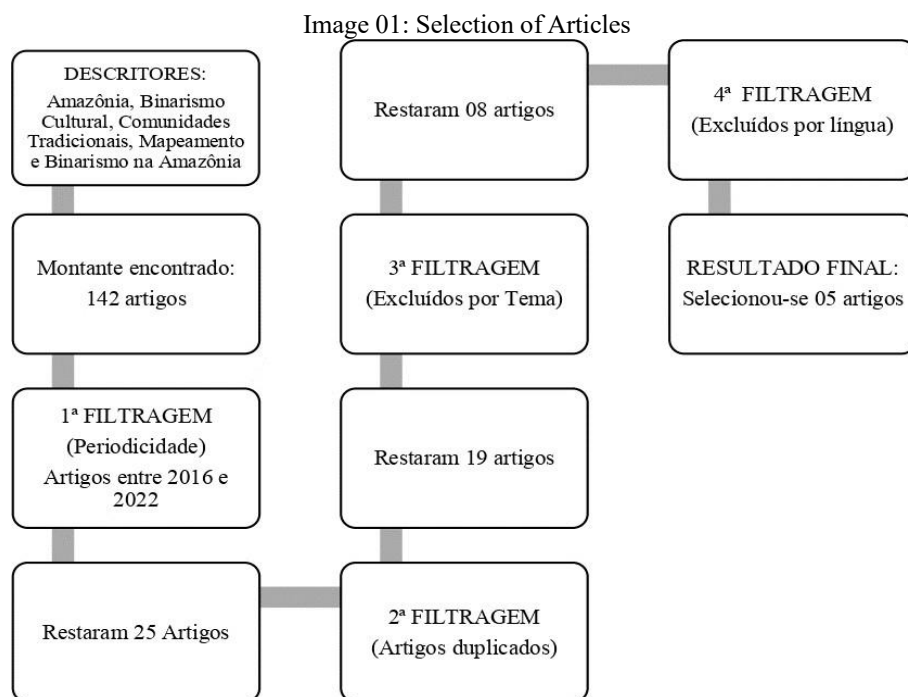
Source: The Authors (2023)

It is worth noting that the works observed on the platforms were analyzed through the relevance of the theme exposed and in relation to the studies of this research, so those that did not add up and



were discrepant were eliminated, not accepted by the researchers.

In summary, first the literature was searched through the search strings through *Scielo* and RIUFPA, totaling a total of 142 articles, this number dropped to 25 articles after using the date filter (works between 2016 and 2022) within the sites. The date was set this way because some websites only allow you to search between specific time periods and intervals. After this moment, the IC and CE were applied, where 06 studies were excluded because they were duplicates, 11 works because they did not address the binary in the Amazon, and 3 because they were not in the target languages. Thus, subtracting an amount of 25 articles and resulting in 05 articles with relevant themes of interest to researchers, as we can see in the following figure:



Source: The Authors (2023)

We observed that one of the works was not written material despite being in the RIUFPA article repository, but the importance of the video for the work was noted and it was decided to keep it as one of the sources.

4 DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

From the refinement made by the search whose method used was the PICOC within the Parsifal platform, and after the filter within the defined inclusion and exclusion criteria, we arrived at the five articles presented in the following table.



Table 3 - Selected articles

Title	Authorship	Local	Year
Mary's Oral Powers on the Thresholds of Taperaçu - Campo.	Fernando Alves da Silva Júnior and Aline Costa da Silva.	Nova Amazon Magazine	2017
Odivelities: cultural binarism in construction Identity in city Amazon site.	Joseph Guilherme Fernandes dos Santos and Rodinell Aquino Palha.	New NAEA Notebooks	2021
Breaking gender and sexuality binaries: rehearsing a non-binary education.	Roney Polato of Castro and Neilton of the Goularth Kings.	Interdisciplinary journal Margins	2017
From Southern Epistemologies to a New Southern Ethos: Traditional Communities and responsibility environmental.	Jelson R. de Oliveira.	Transformation Journal	2022
The Web of Peoples and the University: Agroecology, Insurgent Traditional Knowledge, and Epistemic Decolonization	Spensy Kmitta Pimentel and Paulo Dimas Rocha de Menezes.	ANPPAS-Environment and Society Magazine	2022

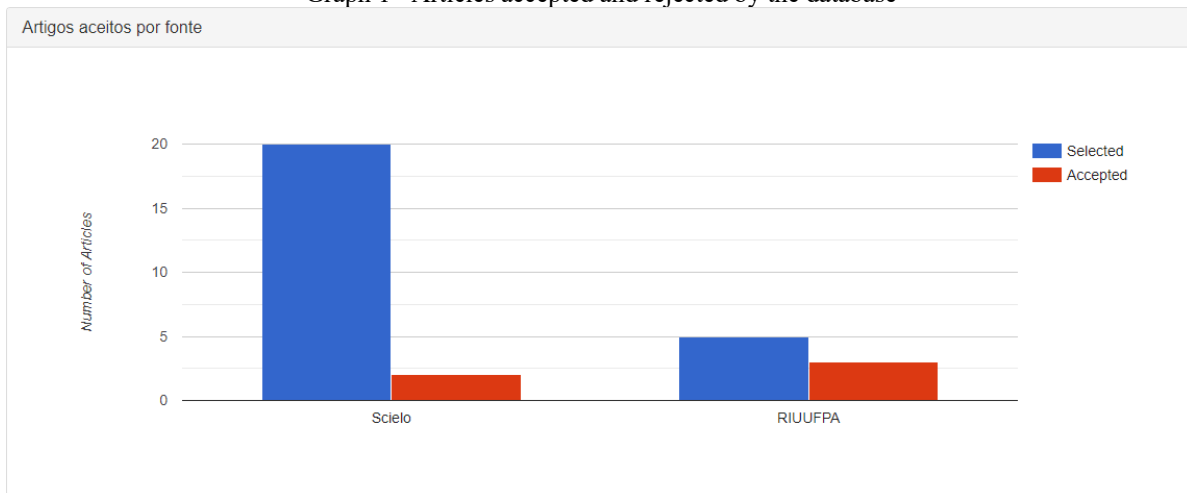
Source: The Authors (2023)

Thus, of the selected articles, two were published in 2017; one in 2021; and three are works from 2022. And, as for the theme, four works talk about binarism in the context of the Amazon, while the other two talk about discourse and epistemic decolonization. On the other hand, the media (video on youtube), The oral poetics of Maria in the thresholds of Taperaçu-Campo, talks about a shaman whose identity is Maria do Bairro, fleeing from heteronormativity. Therefore, we will incite discussion based on what has been found about the topic and necessary correlations.

As for the selection of these remaining articles for the research, 3 are from the RIUFPA website and 2 are from *Scielo*. The five are represented in the following graph, showing the percentage of accepted and rejected according to the two search sites used in the systematic mapping.



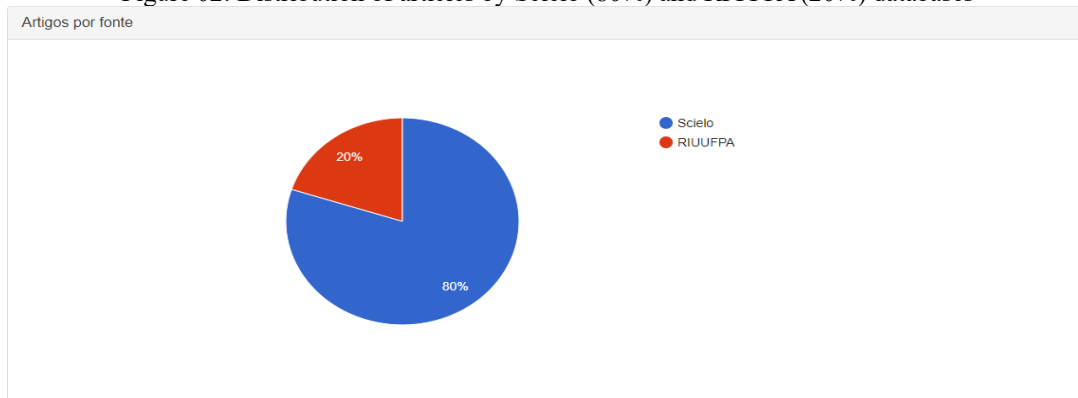
Graph 1 - Articles accepted and rejected by the database



Source: The Authors (2023)

Regarding the distribution of the databases, we noticed that *Scielo* had a higher percentage of accepted articles, since this search platform excels in the variety of publications aiming at a multiplicity of academic works, so there are more articles collected on the research theme. This does not happen in the RIUFPA, since these are institutional repositories restricted to the productions of the entities of the Federal University of Pará. As seen in the image below:

Figure 02: Distribution of articles by Scielo (80%) and RIUFPA (20%) databases



Source: The Authors (2023)

Throughout the selection and reading of the articles, it was possible to notice where each one had a direct or partial impact on the topic discussed. Regarding, for example, the issue of binarism, three papers go directly into the subject, and only two focus on the issue of binarism and gender within the Amazonian context. More precisely, one article deals with the issue, the other being the video.

Thus, the other texts discuss decolonial epistemologies and one of them discusses binarism in education in a broad context. From this, we can already notice the lack of research that involves the issue of binarism specifically in the Amazonian context, but that these, not being research that inaugurate the discussion, continue and begin to emerge in the years studied.



The text by Castro and Reis (2017) problematizes the binary included in the educational context and cites binarism as a matter of power over the other in a kind of dichotomy of exclusion and exclusivity of knowledge in the classroom that correlate to other contexts. By inserting the binary relation, then, one works with a duality in any context that dictates where power and submission are situated; the accepted and the unaccepted.

According to the authors, the question remains as to why dualisms should be used in the grammatical analysis of the world? Therefore, the proposed question that passes through the experiences of education in and around the classroom is based on the issue of dualities, interpretations and exclusions of other ways of thinking that escape duality, but do not take the problematic of discourse to the extreme. We might think that this is still an open question in this debate.

It is necessary to analyze the discourse constructed about binarism within the historical contexts of individuals, and within the locus of research, which is the Amazon. In this sense, Oliveira (2022) discusses an ethos of the South and the importance of confronting knowledge, taking into account the knowledge denied throughout Western history. The decolonization and decentralization of this knowledge is the starting point for understanding the dual divisions that include binarism, including as a tool of control.

Still on Western epistemologies, Oliveira (2022 apud, Jonas 2013), believes that the epistemological problem expresses a misunderstanding of nature and life, which resulted in a consequence of environmental destruction. Thus, the colonizing ethos was oriented towards the destruction of natures, lives and the subjectivities of individuals.

Regarding the issues of binarism in the Amazon raised by Fernandes and Palha (2021), the clear objectification of the authors in systematizing this plot in identity relations through access to the cultural ancestors of a certain city in the interior of the Amazon is observed, for this the authors make use of oral history reports as a source of data collection in order to materialize cultural nostalgia and thus configure binarism through composition in São Caetano de Odivelas-PA.

Thus, the discussion raised by the aforementioned authors results in apparent dichotomies, in the frequency and constancy of the intergenerational and intergroup binarism since it listened to culture makers, personalities of the city and made a context before and after that involved local politics as a marker of these anthropic processes. In addition, we perceive the characterization of binarism only in relation to artistic and cultural events as constituents of local cultural hegemony.

Contrary to the works usually addressed in an RSL, we have the figuration of an academic production in audiovisual format selected here, *The Oral Poetics of Mary in the Thresholds of Taperaçu-campo*, in which we have a mythical dive into the threshold experiences with the Amazonian mythopoetic, which guide from the real narratives to the use of metaphysical and wonderful elements in the exemplification of their contexts. In this particular case, the Amazonian cultural binary is drawn



through the oral narratives of the character Maria do Bairro, a shaman, healer and transmitter of ancestral knowledge. Thus, it is worth emphasizing the importance of deconstructing the cultural binarism, and properly of the discourse through the linguistic field, a human-environment comparison, since in the case of a relational issue, the Amazonian binary is intertwined inside or outside the great civilizational centers and also enters the vast Amerindian universe of the Amazonian peoples in the (de)construction of their own identities.

5 CONCLUSION

After the systematic mapping, it was possible to notice that the PICOC methodology used was very useful for the study of the results and the online tool Parsifal can be useful regarding the defined inclusion and exclusion criteria that helped to delimit the specific moment of the studies, the theme and the interest of the articles to be included in the research.

Regarding what was found on the subject, it was noted that studies on binarism in the Amazon and decolonial epistemologies have been discussed in recent years in a still in-depth way when it comes to discourses on binarism in the Amazonian context. Despite being a topic of interest, there are more separate relationships and, in this sense, it is urgent to deepen this theme when it also involves the field of education.

In this way, through this systematic mapping, we have the possibility of deepening the studies about the multifacets of language in the deconstruction of binarism in the Amazon, in order to make this theme increasingly viable, which needs greater academic studies and attention to researchers in education, given the degree of social relevance that it imposes.



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