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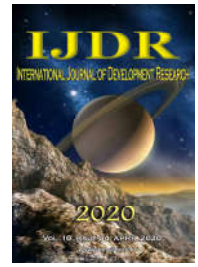
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## ANALYSIS OF INTENTIONAL LETHAL VIOLENT CRIMES IN THE PPIU AREA OF TAPANÃ IN BELÉM-PARÁ-BRAZIL

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### ABSTRACT

This work aims to analyze the rates of Intentional Lethal Violent Crimes from 2011 to 2018, in the 11th Integrated Public Security Area (IPSA) of Belém, covered by the PROPAZ Integrated Unit of Tapanã. Quantitative research was carried out, using descriptive statistics. The results point to a high number of lethal victims in the 11th IPSA, even after the implementation of the integrated unit. We concluded that the creation of the integrated unit had little impact on the reduction of intentional violent lethality in the studied area, demonstrating that the implementation of this type of program, as an isolated factor, does not imply a reduction in lethal violence.

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### INTRODUCTION

Violence in urban spaces is on the rise, as we see on a daily basis in local and national news. Violent events, sometimes simultaneous and observed daily in different spaces, where power is fiercely disputed, have generated in public security agents the need to be vigilant in order to face crime and stabilize public order (Carvalho, 1995). Carvalho (1995) highlights several factors that contribute to the increase in violence. However, the transformation of space and the dispute for power are decisive for violence to establish solid roots. It is possible to infer from the author's point of view that violence is a fact in large cities, and that, in an attempt to reduce the growing rates, modern society has been studying the phenomenon, and governments have created projects with plans and strategies for coping with this problem. In 2004, the PROPAZ project was implemented in the State of Pará, initially as a government program, seeking to align and integrate policies for children and youth, and aiming at greater effectiveness and optimization of public resources. With regard to Public Security, the PROPAZ Integrated Units (PPIU) were created and presented as an innovative model, capable of

promoting the articulation between the state public power and the community for the integration of public actions of protection and social inclusion, based on the culture of Peace and the philosophy of Community Police. In order to do so, the State and the local population should be seen as protagonists in the resolution of the conflicts that affect public security, accentuating problems related to crime and hindering the purpose of improving the quality of life of citizens (Pará, 2011). This model was put into practice in 2011, with the inauguration of the first PPIU in the state of Pará, in the Terra Firme neighborhood, Belém, replacing the previous model of police units and other decentralized public services with the PPIU, with services being offered in an integrated manner, not limited to that area only. Several municipalities in the state and other areas of the capital participated in the PPIU project, such as the 11th IPSA, implemented in 2014 (Pará, 2013). Therefore, after 6 years of the whole project's implementation, an analysis of its direct effects on the main indicators of violence is necessary to assess its effectiveness in reducing crime, and as an efficient alternative to replace traditional models with public security services provided in a decentralized manner (PROPAZ, 2013). In this sense, the objective of the research was to analyze the rates of intentional

lethal violent crimes in the 11th IPSA (Tapanã, Pratinha and São Clemente), Belém-PA, covered by the PROPAZ Integrated Unit (PPIU) of Tapanã, from 2011 to 2018, which has historically been a reference for high rates of violent lethality.

## METHODOLOGY

The present work is configured as applied research, considering that, according to Gil (2010), it deals with an investigation of local and/or regional problems, which cannot be generalized. As for the approach, it was established in a quantitative way and the objectives are exploratory in nature, since the researcher seeks to approach the context (Perovano, 2014). With regard to technical procedures, it is considered a documentary research, which uses original documents that have not received analytical treatment (Godoy, 1995). For this purpose, we sought to obtain statistical data from the Secretariat for Intelligence and Criminal Analysis (SICA) of the State of Pará from 2011 to 2018, in order to verify the rates of Intentional Lethal Violent Crimes (ILVC) before and after the implementation of the PPIU in this location. For the analysis of the data, we considered the occurrences of Intentional Lethal Violent Crimes (ILVC), including homicide, armed robbery, bodily injury followed by death, and death resulting from police intervention, in the referred area and according to the established time frame. In addition, the 2010 demographic census of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) was consulted to calculate the estimated population in each of the years studied (IBGE, 2010). The data analysis was performed using descriptive statistics, calculation of percentages, and frequency of the ILVC. It also aimed to present the number, rate and variation of the occurrences of intentional lethal violent crimes per 100 thousand inhabitants in that area. For this purpose, the rate was calculated using the following formula:

$$\frac{ILVC_1 \times 100000}{P_{Est.1}}$$

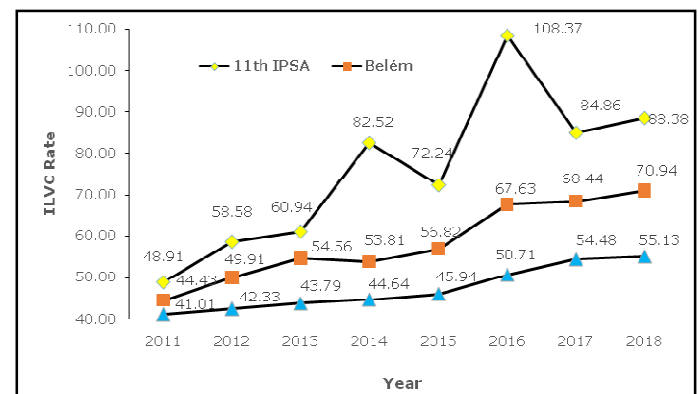
where  $ILVC_1$  is the total amount of Intentional Lethal Violent Crimes per year and  $P_{Est.1}$  expresses the estimated population of the area in each year studied. The rate variation was also calculated in the period before (2011 to 2013) and after (2015 to 2018) the construction of the PPIU of Tapanã in the area of the 11th IPSA, and a comparative analysis was made with the occurrences of ILVC in the municipality of Belém and throughout the State of Pará, with the purpose of verifying whether the presence of the PPIU, through the integrated assistance of the civil and military police and firefighters, achieved one of its objectives, which is the reduction of crime, especially regarding intentional lethal violent crimes.

## RESULTS E DISCUSSION

From the database provided by SICA, it was possible to analyze information such as the amount, rate per hundred thousand inhabitants that occurred in the 11th IPSA in the years 2011 to 2018, its variation from year to year, and the variation of this rate compared to that observed in 2014, year of inauguration of the PPIU (Table 1). According to Table 1, when analyzing the dynamics of these crimes in the area of the 11th IPSA, which comprises Tapanã, São Clemente and Pratinha neighborhoods, the time frame totaled 611 occurrences in the three locations, from 2011 to 2018. It is

worth noting that 2014 (year highlighted in Table 1) was the year when the PPIU was implemented in the 11th IPSA. However, it can be observed that in 2016 there were 110 occurrences, the highest number of victims of lethal violent crimes (ILVC) (Pará, 2019). Also, in 2012 there was an increase of 9.67 in variation in the number of victims compared to 2011, while in 2013 there was an increase of 2.36 in the variation in relation to 2012. In 2014, there was an increase jump to 21.58, compared to 2013. In consecutive years, there was an oscillation between rates. They remained, however, higher than those prior to 2014 (Pará, 2019). With the increase in the rate of victims that occurred in 2013, compared to the previous two years, we observed the need for a greater intervention of the Public Security in the studied area, in order to reduce the high values. In view of this context of violence, the state started the construction of the PPIU of Tapanã, with the objective of reducing crime rates, as mentioned by the then Assistant Secretary of Public Security, Cláudio Lima, in the announcement of the beginning of the building construction, on the official page of the Secretariat of Public Security and Social Defense (SEGUP):

A project of this size, in an area considered to be at risk, such as Tapanã, will help to ensure the well-being of the population and to combat the crime in the neighborhood and neighboring areas more vigorously (Pará, 2011). However, it is clear that, in 2015, after the implementation of the PPIU, the ILVC rate in the studied area had a slight decrease of 10.28, compared to 2014, to later grow in the following year, reaching a rate of 108.37 in 2016, with a drop to 84.86 in 2017, and a growth to 88.38 in 2018. The relationship between the rates of intentional lethal violent crimes that occurred in the 11th IPSA, an area covered by the PPIU of Tapanã, was compared to those in the Municipality of Belém and those in the State of Pará, between 2011 and 2017 (Figure 1).

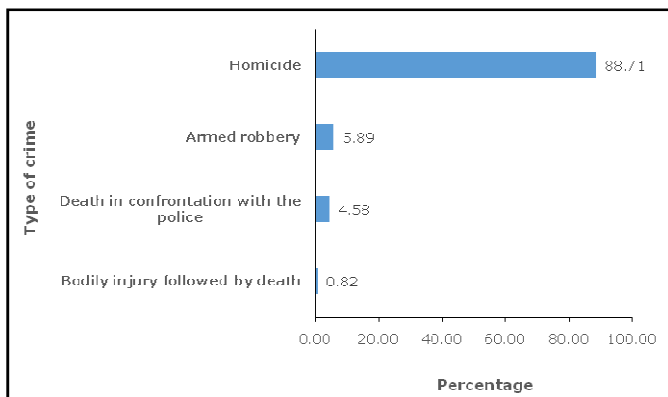


Source: Prepared by the authors based on information from the Assistant Secretariat for Intelligence and Criminal Analysis (Sept. 2019).

**Figure 1. Evolution of the ILVC rate per 100 thousand inhabitants, in the 11th IPSA, in Belém and in the State of Pará, from 2011 to 2018**

Judging by Figure 1, in 2011 the ILVC rate per 100 thousand inhabitants in the 11th IPSA was of 48.91, 44.43 in the municipality of Belém and 41.01 in the State of Pará. In 2012, rates are reported to have risen in the three regions, with 58.58, 49.91 and 4.33 respectively, an aspect also observed in the following years, revealing an upward trend in the three studied zones (Pará, 2019). However, it is noted that in the 11th IPSA, this upward trend is higher, presenting, successively, ILVC rates higher than the ones of Belém and the State as a whole, thus revealing the need for a differentiated intervention by the public security system in the studied area. Therefore, the

implementation of the PPIU program, which took place in 2014, the year in which this trend continued, is justified. Also according to Figure 1, after the following year of implementation there was a slight drop in the ILVC rate in the 11th IPSA, compared to the previous year. However, the area's tendency to present higher numbers than those observed in Belém and in the State remained. After the first year of implementation (2015), there was an increase in the area's ILVC rate in 2016, surpassing all the years of the analyzed series, reaching 108.37, while in Belém the rate was 67.63, and in the State, 50.71. According to Lima and Bueno (2017) the Brazilian capital that presented the highest ILVC rate in 2016 was Aracajú (capital of the State of Sergipe) with 66.7, a number much lower than that registered in the same year in the area of the 11th IPSA, according to the study. In 2017, the ILVC rates of the 11th IPSA dropped to 84.86, value below that of 2016 and above that of 2014, the year in which PPIU was implemented, which was 82.52. Regarding the rates of the other areas studied, in Belém, for example, there was a slight drop to 68.44, and in Pará the rate rose to 54.48 in 2017 (Pará, 2019).



Source: Prepared by the authors based on information from the Assistant Secretariat for Intelligence and Criminal Analysis (Sept. 2019).

**Figure 2. Percentage of Homicide, Armed robbery, Death in confrontation with the Police and Bodily injury followed by death, in the 11th AISP, from 2011 to 2018**

In this sense, we observe that there is a tendency for the 11th IPSA to present a higher ILVC rate than the municipality and the state in which it is inserted. In addition, due to the fact that their data are also included in the data of these areas, it can be said that the ILVC rate of the 11th IPSA has acted as a driving factor for the increase in the same rate in Belém and in the State. The formation of the neighborhoods that make up the 11th IPSA has a pattern of territorial occupation that follows a logic of informality, spontaneous and disorderly occupations, defined by Freitas (2007) as a precarious appropriation of urban spaces, very present in Brazilian cities. These neighborhoods have long suffered from the results of the omission of public administration actions, bringing the local population closer to the various forms of violence. By analyzing the ILVC numbers, it appears that the installation of the PPIU of Tapanã in 2014 was not a sufficient measure to modify this dynamic established in that territory. According to Chagas (2014), violence appears in cities as a result of the concentrated urbanization process, a phenomenon that represents significant importance in the dynamics of urban space, generating new territorialities. Therefore, accelerated urbanization has major impacts, such as the disorderly growth of violence. This phenomenon is observed mainly in areas with greater peripherization of the urban space, regions

characterized mainly by latent poverty and social disorganization, as is the case of Tapanã, Pratinha and São Clemente neighborhoods (Chagas, 2014). In this scenario, the link between the absence of state power and precariousness, vulnerability to crime and high rates of violent deaths is a manifestation of the violence perceived in the 11th IPSA. Corroborating this understanding, Chagas (2014) points out that the precariousness of neighborhoods in the city linked to a chronological absence of state actions culminates in the establishment of relationships that have marked the space-time through violence. According to Beato Filho (1999), the difficulties in understanding the causes of violence lie in the variation of crimes and their broad conceptualization. The range of events and phenomena under the concept of violence creates embarrassments for the formulation of public policies, as it would be necessary to identify risk factors that are different in each situation.

This is certainly a factor that hinders the identification of the causes of crime and the formulation of effective public policies to combat and prevent the social problems generated by violence. This issue is easily perceived in the area of the 11th IPSA, as it is evident the precariousness of the state's action, which, in most cases, uses as its main – if not the only – way to combat and/or control violence and crime the intensification of police actions (Pará, 2019). The PPIU Project, despite having some social services to serve the community, demonstrates that there is fragility in the presence of the State with regard to actions such as urban planning and quality public policies and, therefore, under these conditions, other space-territorial agents tend to be present in these areas, such as those who promote violent crime (Raffestin, 1993). For a better understanding of this tendency of growth of the ILVC rate in the 11th IPSA in a higher amount than in the other areas, it is necessary to study the four types of crimes that integrate the concept of ILVC in this same historical series. Thus, Figure 2 analyzes the dynamics of the crimes that make up the ILVC, separately, from 2011 to 2018 (Figure 2). According to the percentage observed in Figure 2, death occurrence is mostly due to homicide, with 88.71% of cases, the second largest being armed robbery with 5.89%, followed by death in confrontation with the police, with 4.58% (Pará, 2019). Analyzing Figure 2, we realize that the high homicide rate in the area has driven the growth of ILVC, since it corresponds to almost 90% of cases. This high homicide rate may be related to drug trafficking and the dispute for power in the territories that are under the influence of illicit businesses, which contribute to the spread of violence, and an increased sense of insecurity in the community within the area served by the PPIU, in which the forms of violence coexist.

### Final Considerations

This study aimed to analyze the rates of Intentional Lethal Violent Crimes (ILVC) in the territorial service area of the PROPАЗ Integrated Unit of Tapanã (PPIU – Tapanã), in the 11th Public Security Area of Belém (IPSA). The results point to a high number of victims of lethal violence in the neighborhood, showing that the integrated unit, as proposed by the government, had a minor impact in reducing intentional violent lethality. In view of this and in the analyzed time series, homicide proved to be the type of crime that makes up the majority of the ILVC rate, occurring with a greater incidence in the area of the 11th IPSA. Therefore, we may conclude that several circumstances present in the region

studied corroborate this high number of deaths, such as drug trafficking and organized crime, conflicts motivated by the dispute over the territory, failures in poverty reduction, unemployment among young people, lack of infrastructure in the locality and social inequalities. The ILVC (intentional homicide, bodily injury followed by death, death in confrontation with the police and armed robbery) are the result of a serious problem that gained strength with the process of spatial occupation that occurred without criteria, planning or preventive strategies. The space of the 11th IPSA was gradually occupied by people coming from the countryside of Pará and other states, seeking better living conditions for themselves and their families. Such space, even without infrastructure, was occupied, modified and expanded, giving rise to a new territory and the establishment of a new dynamic in a context of constant violence, boosting the growth of the ILVC rate. This research did not intend to comprehensively address the issue of the impacts of the PPIU Project in the 11th IPSA, but to show that under the prism of reducing violent crime, it did not achieve the expected results. However, we hope that the discussion presented here will contribute to the understanding of the impacts of the project's implementation, helping to improve it, and to stimulate new research on the topic.

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