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ABSTRACT

MENEZES, Palloma Valle. *Between the "crossfire" and the "minefield": an ethnography of the "pacification" process of Rio de Janeiro's favelas*. 2015.

At the end of 2008, a new form of policing in Rio de Janeiro favelas profoundly changed the routine and sociability of its residents. This mode of policing was called Pacifying Police Unit (Unidade de Polícia Pacificadora, UPP). The main objective of this dissertation is to analyze this project's impacts on and consequences for the lives of residents of "pacified" territories. Based on more than four years of ethnographic fieldwork in the first two "pacified" favelas, namely Santa Marta and Cidade de Deus (City of God), I take the UPP as a problematic object that is constantly inquired by those who have been directly affected by it. The dissertation is, in this sense, a study that focuses on the inquiries of those who lived the UPP as a problem. In conclusion, I argue that one of the main consequences of the UPP implementation was a change in the phenomenology of inhabiting the favela, a change that occurred mainly through the emergence of what I call a "minefield" regime. I argue that the environment of these favelas after "pacification" began to be characterized by the coexistence with intensive fluctuations and creative arrangements between the old logic of the "crossfire", based on the constant fear of shootouts, and the logic of the "minefield", based on a constant monitoring of the environment and fear of possible "contamination" generated by the contact between residents, police and drug traffickers who now share the same territory 24 hours a day.

Keywords: violence, drug traffic, pacification, favelas, Rio de Janeiro.