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## THE PROFILE OF INDICIATED DRUGS IN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF TERESINA: A HISTORICAL AND SPATIAL STUDY

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**Abstract:** The present study intends to present an analysis of the data collected in the context of the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina, a court specialized in crimes involving the use and trafficking of drugs in the Comarca of Teresina. The objective is, from a study on the psychosocial and legal profile of those accused of drugs in the context of Teresina, to subsidize new studies and help in understanding the problem involving young people in the context of crime and drugs, which affects all of society, which currently affects mainly small municipalities and all families, directly or indirectly. The issue of drugs involves aspects of Public Policy in the field of Public Safety, Health, Education and Employment and Income. The results presented here, propose to contribute to the effort of the whole society in the sense of facing drugs and their harmful effects.

**Keywords:** Drug Use and Trafficking. Social Profile. Prisons.

## INTRODUCTION

The interest in the study of the mentioned theme, of unpublished publication, arose from the concern of the then Management of the General Internal Affairs of Justice of the State of Piauí with the high rates of drug users, mainly in the young population. In order to carry out a diagnosis of the reality present in the problem of drugs in Piauí society, we present this work.

The study in question is the result of the analysis carried out from the data made available by the Judicial Internal Affairs of Piauí and the processes in progress in the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina, on the socioeconomic profile of the indicted for drug use and trafficking who have cases pending in that criminal court. The universe of the research was formed from data collected from the processes digitized in the period was 258, having been used for the study data

of all the processes, that is, 100% of the total of the processes filed in the period. This study is divided into four parts: Introduction, with a brief presentation of the subject addressed in the study; 2 – Teresina: History of Drugs, presenting the problem present in the capital of the State of Piauí in recent years; 3 – Data and their analysis, with the presentation of numbers from the context of drugs, regarding the profile of those accused of drug use and trafficking in the context of Teresina - Piauí. 4 – Final Considerations, with the conclusions and final presentations of the research.

## TERESINA: DRUG HISTORY

The issue of drugs in the current context is worrying and involves all segments of society and constituted powers. The study in question arises due to the vertiginous growth of the processes, involving drug dealers in Teresina, to the point of arising the need to increase the number of courts to attend to the issues involving this fact.

In the last ten years, the issue involving the use and consumption of illicit drugs has become an epidemic, promoting a race by an important part of society towards its confrontation in actions for its eradication. A study by Laranjeira et al emphasizes that “the clinical and social complications caused by drug use are now well known and considered a public health problem (LARANJEIRA: 2003, p. 13)

With regard to the types of crimes committed, among men, 29% were arrested for robbery, 20% for drug trafficking, 16% for theft and 12% for homicide. It shows a balance between crimes, with the highest incidence of theft, committed by male inmates.

## DATA ON DRUG USE AND TRAFFICKING

Among women, 59% were indicted for involvement in drug trafficking, while the

other crimes involved theft, 11%; theft 9% and homicide, 7%, as shown in Graph 1. There is a supremacy of the crime Drug Trafficking in the female prison population, being identified that women increasingly assume the role of companions in command of drug trafficking.

From the information of those indicted for drug trafficking in Teresina, from the processes that are being processed in the 7th Criminal Court of the Capital, it is evident a precariousness of the professions of the accused, both due to the absence of traditional professions, as well as the permanence of manual work, menial and low wages, with little social or financial stability.

Carvalho Filho, in his work "The prison", highlights that "the need to take advantage of the contingent of economically marginalized people, political rationalism and the moral decline of the death penalty" drive the modification of the prison system (CARVALHO FILHO, 1991: p. 45).

Alessandro Baratta, in his studies, points out that most convicts come from already marginalized social groups, already excluded from society due to the mechanisms of the labor market (BARATTA, 2002: p. 27).

In Teresina, the reality does not differ from the rest of the country, with most of the occupations indicated by prisoners indicted for drug trafficking precarious activities, without stability, with low pay and without the status of a traditional profession.

Of the occupations of the male indicted, present in Table 1, next to the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina, the professions of salesman, driver, car washer, security, flannel, mason's servant, painter, self-employed, healer, glazier stand out, packer, recycler, metallurgist, DJ micro-entrepreneur, carpenter, bartender, salesman, bricklayer, delivery man, dance teacher, cart driver, motorcycle taxi driver and stevedore.

For women indicted for drug trafficking

in Teresina, the professions indicated are: maid, self-employed, salesperson, general service assistant, manicurist, cook, cleaner, hairdresser, seamstress, salesperson, self-employed, bag handler, waitress.

There is also evidence of a tendency towards occupations or sub-professions that involve night activities, as is the case of DJ, bartender, flannel, dance teacher, motorcycle taxi driver, security guard (men) and waitress and cook (women).

That is, there is a predominance of precarious professional activities, with little need for professional and technical training, without a rigid employment relationship and low remuneration.

The absence of traditional professions is a gap that deserves studies and investigations, with indications that prison is a space for the popular classes, especially when such an event is related to drug trafficking and consumption.

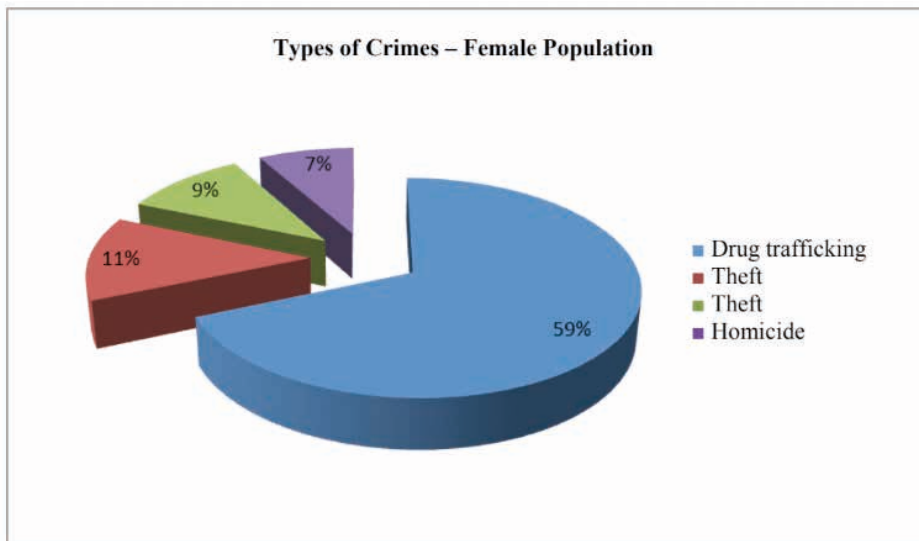
The data in Graph 2 show that 76% of those who have cases being processed by the 7th Court are men (192) and 24% are women (61), with a tendency for the female audience to grow.

The male presence involved with drug use and trafficking has always been above the female audience, constituting a hegemony. However, data point to a growth of the female audience in the context of processes involving drug use.

Women appear in the statistics mainly involved with their partners, when they assume functions in their absence.

The female audience has been growing in recent years, to the point of presenting itself as a highlight of reports involving drug use and trafficking within the scope of the State Judiciary of Piauí.

Of the processes analyzed, it appears that 53% of prisoners framed for the crime of drug use or trafficking are in the 20-29 age group, that is, the vast majority of prisoners for drug



Graphic 1– Types of Crimes – Female Population – Teresina 2013

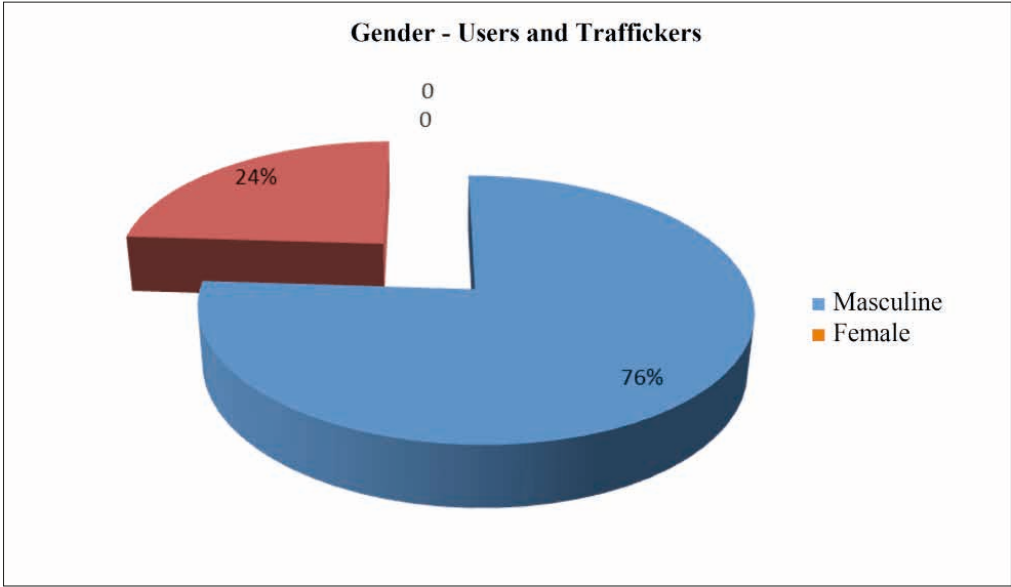
Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the Secretariat of Citizenship (PIAUÍ: 2013b)

Male	Female
	Maid
Car washer	Housekeeper
Car watcher	Manicure
Bricklayer assistant	Cook
Seller	Hairdresser
Freelancer	Dressmaker
Motorcycle taxi driver	Artisan
Painter	Freelancer
Mechanic	Seller
Tire repairer	Waitress
Delivery assistant	Retailer
Teamster	

Source: General Department of Justice - Piauí 2013

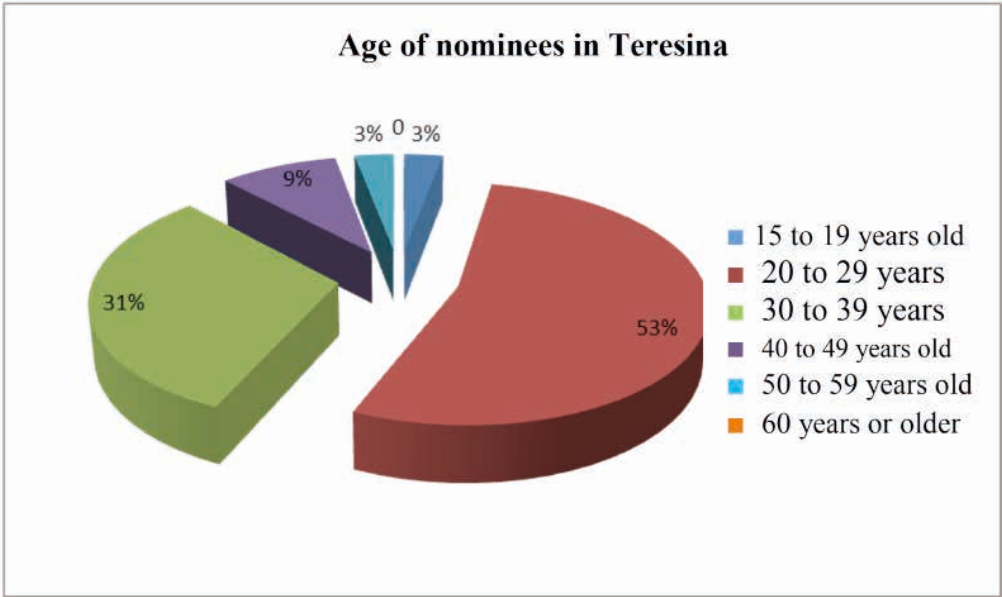
Table 1– Occupation/Employment of Persons Indicted in Trafficking in Teresina

Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the General Justice Department (Piauí: 2013)



Graph 2- Distribution of Users and Traffickers by Sex in Teresina

Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the Internal Affairs Department of Justice (Piauí: 2013)



Graph 3- Age of those indicted for Use and Trafficking in Teresina

Source: Elaboração dos autores a partir de Dados Corregedoria Geral da Justiça (PIAUÍ: 2013)

trafficking are young (115), in contrast to 3.5% of those arrested for trafficking, over 50 (8). A large presence of young people working in the trade and use of illicit drugs is evident, leading to the belief that those who get involved with drugs do not age. The research shows a greater need for government action in the sense of protection and special attention to victims, especially the youngest.

The data show that a majority (64%) of those indicted for drug use and trafficking, with cases being processed at the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina, declare themselves to be single (118), 11% married (21) and 8% in a stable relationship (14), thus presenting a drawing of young, single, male drug dealers in Teresina.

These indices indicate the profile of the research public: Young, single male. According to studies by Marcondes (2002, p.13), the reasons that lead this public of young people and adolescents to their first contacts with drugs are curiosity, pleasure, the temptation of the forbidden, rebelliousness, insecurity, the search for changing states of mind, conscience, influence of the group, escape and attempt to solve problems (MARCONDES, 2002).

Bucher, in his studies on Drugs and drug addiction in Brazil, points out that it is during the transition to adult life that the progressive separation of parents occurs and the young person is linked to groups, with the aim of seeking his own identity (BUCHER, 1992).

It can be seen, by reading the table above, that 62% of the prisoners indicted for Drug Use or Trafficking, with lawsuits pending at the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina, concluded or even completed elementary school (94), and that only 21% attended or are attending high school (32) and that only 1% (two prisoners) have higher education (2).

Trafficking is present in all neighborhoods of Teresina, evidencing the presence of

drugs throughout the city, characterizing a dispersion regarding the issue in question, with the need for the presence of the State throughout the city.

Teresina has a dispersion of the studied event, with the presence in practically all neighborhoods, all zones, regarding those indicted for Use and Trafficking of drugs, with emphasis on the neighborhoods Dirceu, Primavera, São Joaquim and Santo Antônio.

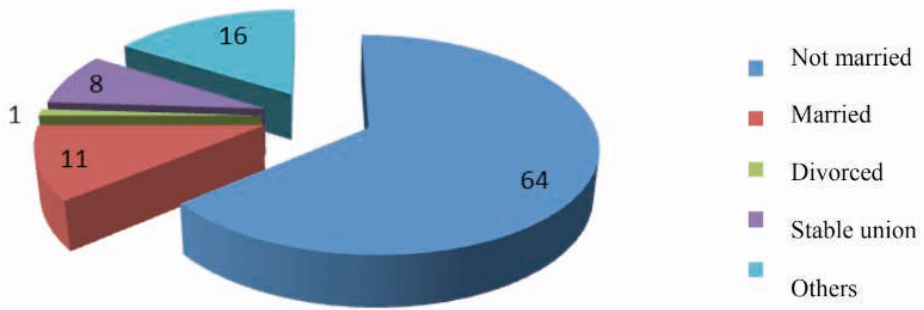
It is worth noting that the data recorded here are obtained together with the processes in progress at the 7th Criminal Court, and may somehow differ from the reality of the facts, as there is still no more solid statistical monitoring history.

This table shows the traffickers' movement, identifying the dynamics of the neighborhoods where the trafficker lives, the neighborhood where the criminal act takes place (popularly called "boca de fumo") and the place where the accused was arrested.

With the crossings between residential neighborhoods, neighborhoods where the crime occurred and neighborhoods where arrests occur, shown in Chart 3, some data appear at first sight:

- a) The neighborhoods Dirceu Arcoverde, Primavera, São Joaquim and Parque Santo Antonio appear with the highest rates with regard to the housing of those accused of drug use and trafficking, identified from the processes in progress at the 7th Criminal Court of Teresina;
- b) Centro, Dirceu, Redenção and Bairro São Joaquim stand out in relation to criminal facts involving drug trafficking in the municipality of Teresina;
- c) The neighborhoods Redenção, Centro, Dirceu, Parque Alvorada and Parque Santo Antonio are identified as the neighborhoods where most arrests involving drug trafficking occur in the city of Teresina;

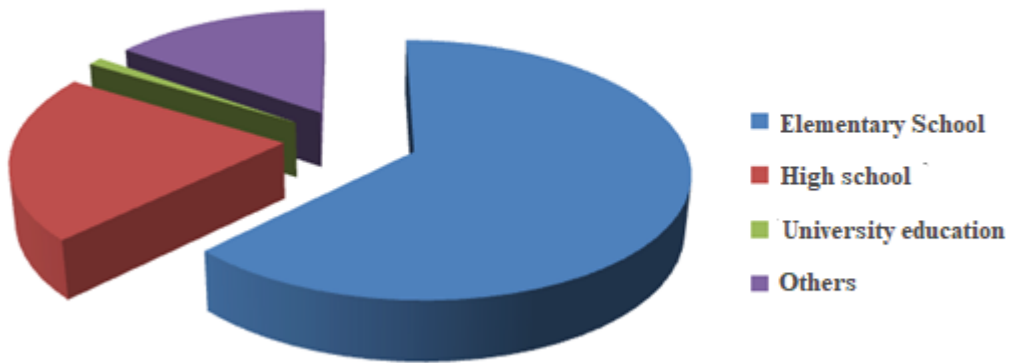
### MARITAL STATUS OF THE DEFENDANT



Graph 4- Marital Status of the Defendant for Use and Trafficking of Drugs

Source: Elaboração dos autores a partir de Dados Corregedoria Geral da Justiça (Piauí: 2013)

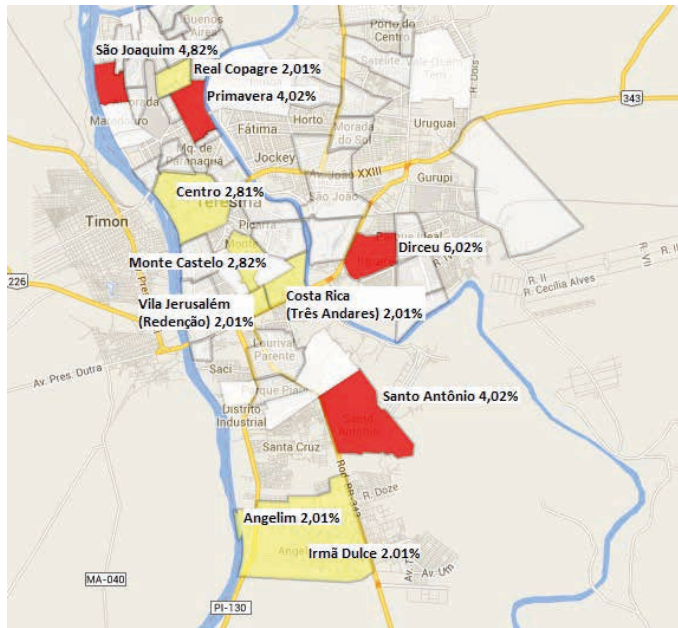
### SCHOLARUTY



Graph 5- Schooling of those indicted for Drug Use and Trafficking

Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the General Justice Department (Piauí: 2013)





Graph 6 - Neighborhood where the person accused of drug use or trafficking lives - Teresina

Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the General Justice Department (PIAUÍ: 2013)

## General Framework

RESIDENTIAL PLACE OF DRUG DEALER		LOCATION OF THE CRIMINAL FACT		PRISON PLACE	
DIRCEU	6,02	Dirceu	6,32	Dirceu	5,77
Primavera	4,02	Satélite	2,32	São Pedro	5,77
São Joaquim	4,82	São Joaquim	6,32	Parque Alvorada	5,77
Santo Antonio	4,02	Monte Horebe	3,16	Santo Antonio	5,77
Monte Castelo	2,82	Monte Castelo	3,68	Nova Teresina	3,85
Angelim	2,01	Redenção	5,79	REDENÇÃO	15,38
Centro	2,81	CENTRO	6,84	Centro	11,52
Irmã Dulce	2,01	Real Copagre	3,16	Parque Mão Santa	3,85
Costa Rica	2,01	Costa Rica	2,63		
Vila Jerusalém	2,01	Vila Jerusalém	3,16	Vila Jerusalém	3,85

Source: Internal Affairs of Justice - Piauí 2013

Table 2 - Relationship between the place of residence, the place of the criminal act and the arrest of the trafficker

Source: Elaboration of the authors based on Data from the General Justice Department (Piauí: 2013)



d) Centro, Dirceu, Vila Jerusalem and Real Copagre appear in the three intersections with a high incidence of housing, criminal acts and arrests, involving drug use and trafficking.

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The profile of drug dealers in Piauí is characterized by being young, brown and with little education, with precarious professions. There is a predominance of males in prisons involving drug trafficking (76%), but there is a sharp growth of females in issues involving use, trafficking and reception of drugs in the municipality of Teresina (24%), confirming the national trend of the presence of women in drug crimes. In addition, drug trafficking is the predominant reason for arrests among women (59%).

Over 20% of arrests in Teresina are due to Drug Use or Trafficking. Young people predominate in prisons when it comes to

drug trafficking, with about 56% of the prison population under 29 years old, motivated by drug trafficking. Because of such youth, singles predominate (53%) among those arrested for the crime of drug trafficking.

Low level of schooling among inmates, confirming the trend of lack of opportunities and public actions for access and permanence in school, as established in the Federal Constitution regarding the State's responsibility regarding access to Education.

Prevalence of arrests in homes, where the criminal act occurs, with 88.46% of the cases studied.

Trafficking is present in all neighborhoods of Teresina, making it difficult to accurately map the presence of places where drugs predominate, characterizing a deliberate spraying, with the aim of hindering State action in the fight and eradication of drugs in our capital.

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