

Edna Raquel Hogemann
*Associated Professor -Federal University
of the State of Rio de Janeiro/Brazil*

The force of nonviolence in Brazilian public policy: an analysis of the network for attending to women in situations of violence

This report examines the application of nonviolence principles—as theorized by Judith Butler—in the context of Brazilian public policies aimed at combating violence against women. The study focuses on the Network for Attending to Women in Situations of Violence, an integrated service system that brings together specialized actions from health, justice, social assistance, and public security sectors. According to Butler’s framework, nonviolence is not merely the absence of physical aggression; rather, it is an ethical-political practice rooted in the recognition of human interdependence and a collective commitment to resist systemic domination.

The theoretical basis for this report is found in Judith Butler’s *A Força da Não Violência: Um Vínculo Ético-Político* [1]. Butler challenges conventional notions of violence, urging us to reinterpret nonviolence as an active, collective resistance that continuously fosters social bonds. In her view, violence is not confined solely to overt acts of physical harm but also attacks the interdependent ties that uphold social life.

In Brazil, a comprehensive public policy initiative—known as the Network for Attending to Women in Situations of Violence—has been developed to effectively confront and mitigate the pervasive issue of domestic and family violence. This network is a multifaceted institutional arrangement that seeks to offer a full spectrum of support services to women who find themselves in vulnerable and dangerous environments.

At the core of this initiative is an emphasis on integrating various specialized services to create a unified system of care. Key components of the network include specialized police units that are trained to deal sensitively with cases of domestic abuse and understand the unique challenges faced by women in violent situations. These dedicated units are adept at both preventing further violence and providing immediate intervention when necessary. Combined with these units, reference centers are established to serve as critical hubs for information and assistance. They provide women with guidance on how to access legal, medical, and psychological support, ensuring that every aspect of a victim’s needs is addressed in a coordinated manner.

In addition to these services, the network also comprises shelters that function as safe havens for abused women. These shelters offer not only temporary refuge but also a supportive environment where victims can begin the process of rebuilding their lives. Many of these facilities, such as the Casa da Mulher Brasileira, are designed to deliver integrated services under one roof. They provide a comprehensive suite of offerings, including legal advice, psychological counseling, healthcare, and social assistance, all aimed at empowering women and interrupting the cycle of abuse. This integrated model is essential for addressing the

multifaceted nature of domestic violence, which often requires a simultaneous response on several fronts.

The design of the Network for Attending to Women in Situations of Violence is heavily influenced by the principles of nonviolence as articulated by contemporary theorists. Rather than focusing solely on punitive measures, this policy framework prioritizes an integrated and humanized approach that seeks to address the underlying causes of violence. By embedding support services within a unified system, the network fosters an environment of social interdependence where women are not isolated but are instead connected with a community of support professionals and resources. This connection is crucial, as it reinforces the idea that individual well-being is inextricably linked with collective resilience—a perspective that mirrors the nonviolence ethic of emphasizing relational and communal bonds over isolated, individualistic responses.

Additionally, this institutional arrangement is designed to be flexible and responsive to the needs of its users. It recognizes that the impact of domestic violence extends far beyond physical injuries, often affecting the emotional, legal, and social dimensions of a victim's life. Therefore, the network is structured to address each of these dimensions, offering not just immediate crisis intervention but also long-term support that enables women to regain control over their lives. This holistic, human-centered strategy sets the network apart from traditional approaches that often concentrate solely on law enforcement or judicial punishment.

The Network for Attending to Women in Situations of Violence represents a critical evolution in Brazil's public policy landscape. By combining specialized police efforts, robust reference centers, secure shelters, and integrated facilities such as the Casa da Mulher Brasileira, the network embodies an approach to nonviolence that prioritizes social interdependence and collective care [2, p. 35]. Its integrated, empathetic design not only offers immediate protection and support to abused women but also lays the groundwork for a broader cultural shift towards a more inclusive and resilient society.

Critically, the network's structure reinforces Butler's argument that a genuine nonviolence practice must extend beyond punitive measures. It fosters an environment where services collaborate to provide comprehensive support, effectively countering the isolation often experienced by victims. Through this multi-agency framework, the policy not only protects lives but also challenges the prevailing individualistic and retributive models of state intervention. In doing so, it cultivates a public space in which vulnerable women are recognized, their lives are valued, and their right to collective mourning and social inclusion is upheld [3, p. 15].

Despite ongoing challenges such as regional disparities, limited resources, and the need for continuous professional training, the network has demonstrated significant potential in reducing the impact of domestic violence. Future strategies should emphasize the decentralization of services, the adoption of digital technologies for wider accessibility, and the strengthening of partnerships between state agencies and civil society organizations. Such measures would further embed the nonviolent ethos into the fabric of public policy and contribute to more equitable and sustainable social relations.

In conclusion, the Network for Attending to Women in Situations of Violence exemplifies how Butler's principles of nonviolence - grounded in the notion of interdependence - can inform and transform public policies. By integrating

comprehensive support services and prioritizing collective care over retributive practices, this policy offers a promising pathway toward protecting lives and reinforcing the social bonds necessary for a truly democratic society.

References:

- [1, p. 25] – BUTLER, Judith. *A Força da Não Violência: Um Vínculo Ético-Político*. São Paulo: Boitempo, 2021.
- [2, p. 40] – Rede de Atendimento às Mulheres em Situação de Violência. Official document, Brazil.
- [3, p. 15] – BARBOSA, Estefânia Maria de Queiroz; SILVEIRA, Raquel Dias da. Políticas contra a Discriminação de Gênero. *Revista de Direito Administrativo & Constitucional*, 2011.
- [4, p. 178] – FERREIRA, Ada Cristina. “Quadros que falam: A dialogue between Judith Butler and Gloria Anzaldúa on the ethics of nonviolence and facing precarious life.” *Revista de Filosofia Instauratio Magna*, v. 1, n. 3, 2021, p. 178–207.
- [5, p. 30] – CEJIL & CLADEM. *O Caso Maria da Penha: Legado e Implicações*

UDC 340

Sıla Türk

*PhD Student Kastamonu University,
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Department of Philosophy, Kastamonu, Türkiye*

Truth, freedom and algorithmic power in the post-truth age: an assessment from the perspective of foucault and actor network theory

Abstract

Traditionally, truth has long been regarded as a universal and objective category. However, in the post-truth era, it is seen that truth is shaped by beliefs, emotions and identities rather than being an objective reality. In this study, Michel Foucault's views on the relationship between knowledge and power and the Actor Network Theory (ANT) perspective are used to analyze the transformation in the post-truth era's conception of truth and freedom. It is shown that digital technologies invisibly manipulate individual choices and perceptions, especially through algorithms. It is argued that freedom is not only the right to choose, but also the way an individual perceives options. In this context, it is argued that freedom in the contemporary world needs to be rethought within technological actors and networks.

Introduction

This study focuses on the question of whether social media, which is indispensable for all of us in recent years, and the algorithms used by social media in the background, create a problem of freedom in our democratic or individual choices. Algorithms reinforce users' cognitive and social biases, making them vulnerable to manipulation. Platforms such as Facebook and Google have gone from being a neutral intermediary to becoming an important player that can