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## **Sport as a Tool for Promoting Public Safety**

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### **Summary**

This study analyzes sport as a tool for promoting public safety, investigating how sports practices, especially when applied through social projects, contribute to crime prevention and the personal and social development of children and adolescents in vulnerable situations. The research, of a basic nature and with a qualitative-quantitative approach, is based on a literature review and document analysis of the Amazonas Military Police, analyzing the "Forming Citizens" Program (PFC) and the "Suçuarana Wrestling Project". The results show that sport favors the construction of social values, self-esteem, discipline, resilience, and a sense of belonging, factors that reduce the likelihood of involvement with crime. Furthermore, sports projects conducted by military police officers strengthen relationships with the community, expanding bonds of trust and contributing to more effective preventive policies. Therefore, it is concluded that sport constitutes a relevant and powerful instrument for social transformation and the promotion of peace in the community, strengthening public safety.

**Keywords:** Sport. Public safety. Crime prevention. Sports projects.

### **Abstract**

The present study analyzes sport as a tool for promoting public safety, investigating how sports practices, especially when implemented through social projects, contribute to crime prevention and to the personal and social development of children and adolescents in vulnerable situations. The research, of a basic nature and with a quali-quantitative approach, is based on a bibliographic review and document analysis of the Military Police of Amazonas, analyzing the Programa Formando Cidadão and the Projeto Suçuarana de Lutas. The results show that sport favors the construction of social values, self-esteem, discipline, resilience, and a sense of belonging, factors that reduce the likelihood of involvement in crime. Furthermore, sports projects led by military police officers strengthen the relationship with the community, expanding obligations of trust and contributing to more effective preventive policies. Thus, it is concluded that sport constitutes a relevant and powerful instrument for social transformation and the promotion of peace in the community, thereby strengthening public safety.



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Sports practices play a highly relevant social role, whether as preventive measure against violence; because they exert important beneficial psychosocial effects for the population; whether as an element of socialization, implementation of healthier standards, or even as a tool for social inclusion (Pettersen and Bastos, 2024).

According to the Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil of 1988 (Brazil, 1988), in According to article 144, public security is the duty of the State, a right and responsibility of all, and is exercised... for the preservation of public order and the safety of persons and property, under the aegis of values of citizenship and human rights. In the same legal instrument, in its article 217, it says that It is the State's duty to promote formal and informal sports practices, as a right of everyone.

Similarly, according to the International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and According to the United Nations World Sports Organization (UNESCO, 2015), in its article 1, the practice Physical education, physical activity, and sport are a fundamental right for everyone.

Therefore, this article presents sport as a tool for research. Promoting public safety, which is applied in society through social sports projects. with the aim of integrating, instilling values, and steering participants away from crime. Thus, Public safety encompasses the guarantee provided by the State of a social coexistence free from threat. of violence, allowing everyone to enjoy their rights guaranteed by the Federal Constitution (Di Piero, 2004). According to Couto and Couto (2011), social projects aim to provide Changes in the lives of its visitors, providing a fairer and more democratic social environment. According to Palhares (2012), sport is a fundamental element of human development, being It is necessary and urgent to provide children and young people at social risk with access to this. tool.

In the work of Pettersen and Batos (2024), it is presented that social inclusion is fundamental for to eradicate inequalities and open opportunities for people living in at-risk conditions and Social vulnerabilities and sport are great allies in the pursuit of equity, mobility and Social transformation. Therefore, it is evident that sport is an important means of promotion. of change in the community and that its application through social sports projects can contribute for an improvement in public safety. Since participation in sports will provide the Pro-social development, promoting a sense of belonging, and connection between people. to improve self-confidence, self-esteem, self-control and stimulate personal development (Morris et al.



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al, 2003). This creates a citizen with strong character and a lower probability of entering prison.

crime and disregarding the rules (Sanches, 2018).

Furthermore, this work also aims to study some sports projects developed.

by the Military Police of Amazonas, such as the Suçuarana Fighting Project and the sports component of the Program Forming Citizens.

Therefore, the social justification for this research lies in the fact that sport can play a role.

It plays a fundamental role in the area of public safety, functioning as a prevention tool.

to crime. Thus, one can describe how sports projects impact the community.

As the authors Ignácio, Myskiw and Boehl (2022) state, sport is important for the acquisition of

knowledge and physical, mental and social development of practitioners, and also argues that this practice

It helps to distance oneself from daily risks and adversities such as crime, trafficking, drugs, and violence.

among others (Ihnácio, Myskiw, Boehl, 2022). Also, for Sanches (2018) sport contributes to

socialization, transmission of ethical values, engagement, respect for rules, planning for the future,

Among other things, this contributes to the formation of a citizen with good character, reducing the chance...

of this involves committing crimes and violating rules (Sanches, 2018).

Furthermore, according to UNESCO, in the International Charter of Physical Education, the Activity

Physical Education and Sport (UNESCO, 2015), in its article 2, discusses physical education, physical activity and sport.

They can contribute to well-being and social skills by establishing and strengthening bonds with...

community and relationships with family, friends, and colleagues, creating a sense of belonging.

and acceptance, developing positive social behaviors and bringing together people from different backgrounds.

social, cultural, and economic contexts in the pursuit of common goals and interests. In the same

The document, as stated in Article 9, outlines what security and risk management seeks to eliminate through practice.

from sports to harmful social behaviors such as discrimination, racism, homophobia, exploitation

sexual, trafficking, violence, among others.

The institutional justification lies in the fact that the Military Police of Amazonas develops projects.

sports initiatives, such as the "Forming Citizens" Program and the "Suçuarana Wrestling Project," aimed at promoting

of peace, strengthening the relationship between the police institution and the community, and promoting security.

public. According to UNESCO (2015), sport can play an important role in

Development of security, in peace and in post-conflict situations. Initiatives that promote the

Sports for peace should aim to eradicate poverty and strengthen democracy.

of human rights, security and non-violence, dialogue and conflict resolution, of

tolerance and non-discrimination, social inclusion, gender equality, among others.

(UNESCO, 2015).



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The academic rationale for this research is to conduct a scientific approach to the projects. sports programs developed by the Military Police of Amazonas. This will promote scientific study. of these projects, given the scarcity of research related to these activities.

The overall objective of this work is to describe how sports practice projects They contribute to crime prevention and the promotion of public safety. Also, they bring for the study some sports projects developed within the scope of the Military Police of Amazonas, which are managed and implemented by military police officers, analyzing their impact on security. community. Specific objectives include: describing how sport can play a role in community development. personal and social development of the individual; discuss how social sports projects can contribute to promoting... public safety; discuss the projects developed by the Military Police of Amazonas.

Therefore, the study sought to understand how sport contributes to the promotion of public safety. Therefore, the following hypothesis is put forward: sport applied through Social projects contribute to crime prevention and serve as a promotional tool. of public safety, guaranteeing the constitutional rights of the citizen. Given that, as cited in According to work by Roson, Bastos, Almeida and Ferreira (2022), sport can keep people occupied. to provide positive mentors, fulfill the need to take risks, reduce boredom, stress and idle time. Furthermore, the increase in crime may be linked to the growth of factions. criminal, as young people decide to join these groups to satisfy their need for Approval, belonging, and self-esteem. Thus, removing young people from this social conflict is a policy. to combat crime (Roson, Bastos, Almeida, Ferreira, 2022).

As a methodology, this is basic research, since it is a research of scientific knowledge without an immediate application. The approach adopted in this work was qualitative. Quantitative. These approaches are used to seek an understanding of how the phenomenon of practice... Sports can contribute to public safety, with its objectives being observed through... Understanding and interpreting information from sports projects developed by the Police. Military of Amazonas. This research is entirely theoretical. The research technique used was... bibliographical research, since it consisted of gathering published texts and documents. on the subject. The research methods were bibliographic and documentary. Bibliographic, because... analyzed the largest possible amount of publicly available literature on the subject. Documentary, therefore. Information from documents related to the Suçuarana de Luta sports projects was also analyzed. The "Forming Citizens" program. The research methods were bibliographic and documentary. It was... The deductive and dialectical methodology was used. Deductive, because it is an extension research project. generalized, aiming at the analysis of the specific case after the general overview. Dialectical, therefore. studied the theses and antitheses that have as their main element sport as a tool of



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public safety. The data analysis was based on content analysis, as it sought to understand and to interpret the meaning of the contents of previously published works on the subject.

## **2. Sport as a tool for the personal and social development of the individual.**

It is widely known that sport carries many educational values, providing Benefits in the physical, social, and psychological development of practitioners. Since the early days of In civilization, sports are a fundamental pillar of human culture, and throughout the years, they They have evolved to become a powerful mechanism in the education and personal development of individuals (Reverdito, et al., 2017).

In the view of Batista and Queiros (2015), sport is one of the most fundamental activities in The formation of a citizen. Its benefits contribute to improving health and developing skills. social and provide healthy competition (Barboza, 2023).

According to Gambarotta (2016), sport plays a fundamental role in the formation of a citizen. contributing to physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development. This tool It provides several benefits that help shape personality, enhance skills, and to promote a healthy lifestyle (Barboza, 2023).

According to Sanches and Rubio (2011), sport can be considered one of the social phenomena. of the greatest impact worldwide, causing people and countries to compete against each other, At the same time, it unites people in a way that few activities can. Similarly, the Sport is one of the most efficient tools in the development of children and young people, as it provides opportunities various health benefits for the practitioner, developing several values that may be applied in other spheres of an individual's life (Sanches and Rubio, 2011). Furthermore, the practice Sport can be a robust tool for promoting social inclusion, equality and social responsibility (Blazquez, 2016).

According to Ruiz and Cabrera (2004), in their literature review, the practice of sports is shown to be... It can work on various values such as tolerance, integration, solidarity, cooperation, autonomy, participation and equality. Along the same lines, Gutierrez (2004) points out that sport works Values such as victory and power, fair play, expression of feelings, camaraderie, and skill. Also, Carreras (2006) discusses several values facilitated by sports practice, among them These include responsibility, sincerity, dialogue, self-esteem, creativity, peace, friendship, and respect. justice, a sense of sharing, and cooperation.

Furthermore, Capitanio (2003) strengthens the discussion by arguing that sport, when adopted From an educational perspective, it can become a powerful tool for developing holistic skills and...



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Critique of the human being. The researcher explains that the activity can go far beyond technical application. and tactics of the sport, which may prioritize aspects such as cooperation, participation, solidarity and creativity of the practitioners. Along the same lines, Batista and Queiros (2015) say that the Sport provides opportunities to learn social skills such as teamwork, respect, Cooperation and leadership. These factors help develop mutual respect and understanding among the... people, regardless of their cultural, ethnic or social backgrounds (Reverdito et al., 2017).

Given the importance of the topic, the Ayrton Senna Institute created the Education through Sport Program. in the year 1995, which aims at the integral human development of children and young people. According to information on the Ayrton Senna Institute website (2022), the sport, in addition to promoting development of socio-emotional skills (such as respect, persistence and collaboration), It also plays a role in cognitive development (such as attention, memory, and reasoning). The results of The programs lead to the recognition of sport as a tool for the integral development of new generations, preparing these practitioners to face challenges in the personal sphere, professional and social (Sanches and Rubio, 2011).

In Tubino's view (1996), sport is a practice that contributes to the integral development of individual, not only in relation to physical development, but also to psychological functions. (emotions), and in social functions (relationships with the environment). Furthermore, Tubino (1996) highlights that the practice Sports are relevant in the early stages of child development, but it is also a protocol. A permanent effect that will last a lifetime, bringing benefits over time.

Also, the ability to overcome adversity is another positive aspect developed by sports, given that the practice of sports presents various situations considered risky and, therefore, It encourages the individual to create internal and external resources to overcome these barriers (Sanches, 2009). Corroborating, according to Grotberg (2002), through the difficulties experienced during practice In sports, the participant seeks to find and develop internal and external mechanisms to face challenges. the adversities imposed by the sport, developing the process related to the concept of Resilience, which is the human capacity to face, overcome, and become stronger through experience. adversities. Along the same lines, Galatti et al. (2017) state that sports practice increases the self-confidence, self-esteem, and motivation, allowing practitioners to feel capable of to achieve their goals and face life's challenges. Furthermore, Barboza (2023) contributes by saying In sports, character is built, and the challenges faced help to develop it. Resilience, determination, and self-confidence. Therefore, the ability to overcome obstacles, to work. With vigor, persevering in the face of adversity are fundamental lessons for shaping character. of the human being (Santana; Dias and Oliveira, 2017).

Another aspect developed through sports is self-awareness. This aspect is... related to resilience, and can be considered a protective factor, a concept that...





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refers to aspects that positively contribute to the individual development of the human being.

(Trombeta, 2000). Furthermore, for the author, it is essential that the individual has the capacity to know.

Your strengths and limitations so that you can adjust your expectations and avoid frustration.

establishing goals based on their realistic possibilities. Sanches and Rubio (2011) reinforce that the

Sports activities help children, young people, and adults discover and recognize their qualities.

and weaknesses to be improved, helping to enhance athletic and personal performance. For

According to Barboza (2023), athletes learn to set goals, work together, and cope.

with defeat and with victory. These skills are applied to aspects of daily life,

being incorporated into the study and work environment (Santana; Dias and Oliveira, 2017).

According to Weinberg and Gould (2001), the sporting experience activates adaptation mechanisms.

Psychological effects such as forgetting everyday problems, an increased sense of control, and feelings of...

Competence and self-efficacy, positive social interactions, and improved self-awareness and self-esteem.

According to Barboza (2023), another important factor developed by sport is the social aspect, because

It provides interaction with other people and teamwork. Participation in a group

In sports, its members learn to collaborate, communicate, respect differences, and value...

The combined effort of the team. Sport fosters socialization, the building of friendships, and...

Group integration, strengthening aspects of interpersonal relationships (Galatti et al., 2019).

Another factor provided by the sporting environment is competition, which

Practitioners may face various challenges and adversities, putting their emotional aspect at risk.

test. Healthy competition can help an individual develop important skills.

Skills such as conflict resolution, self-confidence and self-esteem, as well as valuing effort.

Individual and teamwork with respect for one's opponent (Barboza, 2023). Furthermore, according to the author,

Sport promotes fundamental values such as discipline, respect for rules, and ethics, which are key factors.

essential for the formation of a solid character and civic consciousness.

From a cognitive standpoint, sport provides significant transformations, enhancing the

concentration, memory, quick decision-making and problem-solving skills (Barboza,

2023). For Gambarotta (2016), sports practice requires neural skills, strategies and capacity

to analyze and interpret stimuli in real time. Therefore, sport is a valuable tool.

for the formation of healthy, balanced people prepared for life's challenges (Scaglia,

2017).

Therefore, based on studies presented by various authors over the years, it is evident.

that sport is a powerful and effective tool in the personal and social development of the individual.

This tool contributes to the formation of a citizen's character, providing skills such as...

Respect for others, acceptance of cultural differences, a culture of peace, and conflict resolution.

honesty, sense of social belonging, resilience, overcoming difficulties, fulfilling responsibilities.



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rules, self-awareness, power over one's decisions and attitudes, among others. With these attributes well In developed countries, citizens are less likely to enter the world of crime and commit acts of vandalism. of violence and breaking laws. Therefore, sport can be an important tool for Promoting public safety in society.

### **3. The Role of Social Sports Projects in Promoting Public Safety**

The context of Brazil's economic growth has been shaped by income distribution. disproportionate and due to social inequality, causing social exclusion. (Correia, 2008). Tabares (2006) conceptualizes sport as an important mediator of human development and, therefore, It is used in various governmental and non-governmental actions to meet needs. of socially excluded groups. Public policies developed in Brazil have been characterized through actions focused and aimed at children and adolescents in situations of risk or social vulnerability. (Hecktheuer, Silva and Silva, 2009).

Regarding the definition of a project, Correia (2008) states that a project is a set of activities. concrete, coordinated, and interrelated, with specific and objective guidelines for solving a specific problem. The author also points out that the project should follow certain characteristics. with a defined duration; use of technical, financial and material resources and achieving the goals planned. Furthermore, the implementation of a social project requires a fundamental tool: the Partnership. For a social project to become effective and achieve its desired impact, it depends on support. from the community, in addition to resources to avoid being limited by a reduced budget and hindering its reach. of the activity (Correia, 2008).

According to Soares et al. (2006), a social project is defined as a network of human associations that It will be improved as relationships between members are strengthened. For the author, partnerships These factors contribute to both financial and social investment. Therefore, sport, aligned with social policy, By bringing together government and society, it can become a valuable mechanism for social inclusion. But in order to have political power and be present in social projects, it needs awareness. of its importance and occupy a prominent place in the government (Azevedo and Barros, 2004).

Furthermore, in a socio-cultural approach, Heckteuer (2012) says that social projects They are everywhere in the community, and the format of these projects as a tool for action on Social problems have been widespread in the country. The author also defines the population. Brazilian society is seen as a "project-oriented society," which seeks mechanisms and strategies to... From a pedagogical standpoint, apply tools for social salvation and relate to the way everyone is. affected. These different ways of solving social problems have been shaping up as





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social projects that serve as a reference for what is called "project-based societies"

(Hecktheuer, 2012). Furthermore, according to the same author, a pedagogy applies to the way of acting of projects, which organizes and justifies actions as acceptable. The thinker states that projects Social sports belong to this class of strategies related to the mechanism of action of change over others.

Another point to be addressed is the community benefits generated by the projects. According to Neto, Dantas and Maia (2015), sport is a mechanism for socialization and inclusion. And this is evident in the increasing number of social sports projects aimed at the population vulnerable. In their studies, the authors concluded that social inclusion comes first in benefits provided to participants, accompanied by socialization.

According to Neto et al. (2015), changes are created through sports projects. Positive behavioral effects such as improved self-esteem, self-confidence, and autonomy. Thus, the Social sports projects have been implemented in vulnerable regions with imbalances financial, due to the existence of content in sports that generates different behaviors consolidating this behavior for life. With this, improvements are shown in... coexistence, at school and at home (Neto, Dantas and Maia, 2015).

Therefore, social sports projects are a tool that encourages an increase in self-esteem, and this leads the individual to experience events that generate reconstruction in their identity, strengthening their personal and professional development (Monteiro et al., 2022).

According to Azevedo (2009), sport, when included in a social program, is developed in a way Systematized and guided by a professional, it helps in learning about personal limits individuals, implementing values that foster social transformation.

According to Steigleder et al. (2018), a social sports program with the objective of improving The lives of its participants focus on promoting solidarity and reflection in order to propose... Collective actions, such as teamwork, a sense of solidarity, and consequently, results in reducing the rate of violence.

According to Viana and Lovisolo (2011), the social sports project is relevant in The development of children and young people in the population, in which sport plays a key role of socialization, working on social values such as friendship, solidarity and companionship, which They are essential for overcoming social problems.

Furthermore, social sports projects strengthen the values of respect and commitment. They are social and provide a safe environment for practitioners, influencing social transformation of those involved and the people they interact with (Monteiro et al., 2022).

Furthermore, according to Monteiro et al. (2022), the work carried out by a social sports project is essential for citizens to reframe problems, rebuild their image, and improve their capacity.



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of resilience. Also, according to the authors, a coherent sports project provides an environment safe, which encourages resilient individuals to continue with their lives, contributing to an improved quality of life. better quality of life and a lower propensity for crime.

Complementing this, according to Zaluar (1994), based on his observation and evaluation of social projects, concludes that young participants in social projects can form an identity. A positive personal environment, based on self-esteem and self-confidence. Without these social pillars, rebellion erupts. in rampant violence and unmotivated aggression (Zaluar, 1994).

As Ladeira and Rocha (2009) explain, social sports projects contribute to the civic education of the individual, improving their social values, character, and attitudes. With this, these Projects influence the distancing of practitioners from the world of crime and, consequently, have positive impact on public safety.

Another important point for discussion is the connection that social sports projects can have. to have relationships with public safety professionals. These projects can be directed and coordinated. and applied by military police officers, offering a more technical and effective approach to deter the Citizens should combat crime and, in doing so, promote local public safety.

The direct involvement of military police officers in teaching sports strengthens the bond between the police and the community. community, increasing the population's level of trust and acting preventively in crime. In this way, it provides a means of developing policing methodology. community through the social sports project.

Given this, and entering the field of community policing, Bohn (2015) says that the proposal The key to the community policing methodology is truly the approach and integration of the community. with the police, with the aim of reducing the barrier between the population and the police and overcoming the hostility that exists in this social relationship. Furthermore, according to the author, community policing divides the responsibility to the population to act in the implementation of public policies aimed at security. Therefore, community policing stems from a modern philosophy of work and action. police officer (Bohn, 2015).

The guideline presented by the National Secretariat of Public Security (2015) establishes that Local community policing should aim to solve the daily problems of that community. population. Therefore, according to Santos and Isayama (2014), the police officer's behavior should consist of actions focused on the human aspect, breaking with the custom of the punitive and repressive model, so that, To meet the needs of the community.

Furthermore, in the philosophy of community policing, the police officer has the opportunity to act. as a social educator. The community police officer is a pedagogue of citizenship, being a full and legitimized educator (Balestreri, 1998). In the same vein, Luiz (2008) states that the military police officer one needs to be an educator-police officer-military officer, because when choosing this career, one believes that the essence of



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Police activity is preventative, and caring, preventing, and protecting is entirely educational.

The pedagogical sphere of military police action, exercising the role of police officer-educator, is the guiding principle of... community policing (Duarte, 2013).

According to Stolnik and Bayley (2006), when reporting on the role of the military police officer, they state that the police officers They should go beyond the role of those who only police; they could teach moral values to the society and, with that, implement the educational function within a modern application of policing.

Furthermore, social sports projects are effective as a tool for... Promoting public safety. Some states in the federation already use this tool to intervene. to improve public safety by acting preventively against crime.

Santos and Isayama (2014) conducted a study on the "Fica Vivo" program which was Implemented in the state of Minas Gerais, in the city of Belo Horizonte and its metropolitan region. According to The authors present in their work that the program was developed as a prevention policy. social action against crime, offering sports, cultural and leisure activities to young people who lived in regions with high homicide rates. Santos and Isayama (2014) explain that the program guarantees the rights in favor of citizen emancipation, seeking the effective reduction of youth mortality with Learning about social peace and community organization for resolving everyday conflicts.

The program's motto is to move away from the notion of death and towards the preservation of life and going forth. from a culture of violence to a culture of peace (Santos and Isayama, 2014). Thus, the authors They explain that "Fica Vivo" enables a dual social intervention, blending the intervention Strategic and social protection; the former acts repressively and the latter preventively. Therefore, Santos and Isayama (2014) conclude that the program controls, prevents, and reduces homicides. in areas that have a high death rate.

Furthermore, according to Teixeira (2015), in the Pacifying Police Units (UPPs) in Rio de In January, it is very common for military police officers to conduct social and sports projects in the community. The author argues that this action is typical of the type of policing proposed by the UPPs, as it improves the... Community policing, enhancing the social repertoire, which aims at action. preventive measures through activities that seek to reduce the number of people involved with the crime. In his research, Teixeira (2015) followed two social projects developed in different areas of the city, which were led by military police officers from the UPPs of that region. locality. In the first one, as the author reports, it was a project with jiu-jitsu classes for children, taught by a military police officer, encouraged by his commander, in the building itself. UPP. In the accounts, the police officer initially appears with a combative police mentality, with prejudice of the favela residents. As their interaction with the children of the community progresses increasing, promoted by the social project classes, a transformation of thought occurs in



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military police officer and he observes that he can combat crime preventively, exercising

Influences on those children so that in their youth or adulthood they do not turn to crime.

Another sports project cited by Teixeira (2015) is also run by a military police officer.

who teaches gymnastics to the community. According to reports presented in the author's work,

The military police officer states that the project helps in building closer relationships with the local population and facilitates...

influence of the military police on the citizen, facilitating the obtaining of information about the

community.

Buski and Silva (2022) present in their work the strategy used by the Military Police.

The Paraná Military Police (PMPR) aims to bring the corporation closer to society through sports. According to the authors,

The PMPR organizes sporting events with the goal of fostering community integration.

military police, generating a positive reflection on the corporation's image before society. For

According to the authors, these sporting events have an impact on the state's public safety, mainly

with regard to children, who find in sport a way to combat frustrations, leaving

Most of the time, this leads to involvement in crime, especially drug trafficking. Like Buski and Silva.

(2022) report in their research, the Military Police of Paraná holds several events during the year,

in various modalities such as: races for adults and children; martial arts; shooting tournament;

Swimming tournament, encompassing various sports disciplines in several municipalities of the state.

As a result, an improvement in the image and public empathy towards the Military Police is observed, which

It strengthens the community policing method, bringing benefits to the lives of citizens, and this fact...

This creates yet another reason for individuals not to be corrupted by crime and drugs (Buski and Silva, 2022).

Another task of the Paraná Military Police, according to Buski and Silva (2022), is carried out by

The Center for Physical Education and Sports (CEFID), which has a good physical structure for practice.

physical activity facilities such as a sports gym, running track, weight room, martial arts room,

The indoor cycling studio and CrossFit room offer a variety of activities for the public.

civil. Thus, it brings the citizen closer to the police, strengthening social interaction.

In light of the above, it is evident that social sports projects are a tool

powerful for strengthening the community's social interaction with the police officer, improving the methodology

The effectiveness of community policing leads to increased citizen trust.

public security institutions, increasing the credibility and effectiveness of the agents' actions. This

This phenomenon allows military police officers to have greater influence over people, especially children.

and young people, being able to contribute to the consolidation of their character, guide their social conduct and

To advise on the future. Thus, it forms a strong citizen with less chance of going through hardship.

of the crime.

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Consequently, it becomes clear that social sports projects, especially those directed and Measures applied by military police contribute to the promotion of public safety, since they deter crime. It guides those who engage in crime towards a dignified and upright life, based on moral values. and social.

#### **4. Projects Developed by the Military Police of Amazonas**

The Military Police of Amazonas develops several social projects that utilize sports. as a mechanism for social intervention and promotion of public safety. With this, these programs They help in the holistic development of the citizen, contributing to the strengthening of their character and, thus, distancing oneself from crime and drugs.

The programs developed by the Military Police of Amazonas are the Training Program Citizen (PFC) and the Suçuarana de Lutas Project, which will be explored in more detail in this topic.

##### **4.1 – Citizen Development Program (PFC)**

According to the PFC Internal Regulations, the program was created on December 3rd. Founded in 1997 to assist socially vulnerable adolescents in Amazonas, offering opportunities to benefit from public policies in health, education, sports, leisure, civic actions and professionals.

The program has several objectives, among them are: removing teenagers from the streets. situation of personal and social risk; offer greater support to at-risk adolescents in the periphery; To develop health care and hygiene habits; to provide sports and recreational activities. for physical and mental development; to provide opportunities for entry, re-entry, retention, and success. school; encourage family interaction; develop artistic activities; promote initiation professional training with the aim of insertion into the formal job market; referring adolescents to provide services in the community when necessary (PFC - Internal Regulations, 1997).

Furthermore, as stated in the program's Internal Regulations, the purpose of the project is to offer to the participating teenagers a proposal for coexistence and educational action that will assist in their holistic development, preparing for the exercise of citizenship.

According to Chagas (2018), the PFC was created based on the philosophy of community policing, that its operation is geared towards serving adolescents in vulnerable situations, utilizing policies in the areas of health, education, sports, leisure, professional training, among others. Thus, It facilitates interaction between the Military Police and the local community.



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In Chagas's work (2018), the author presents that adherence to the program increased when Over the years, the dropout rate was 1.6% in 2014, and decreased in 2015 and 2016. to -9.45% and -9.34%, respectively. This means that the project is able to attract its target audience. being an effective tool for influencing a larger number of citizens.

In an interview conducted by Chagas (2018) with the project coordinator at the time, he says the program does not exclude teenagers who exhibit inappropriate behavior, because On the contrary, the project aims to help these young people who are entering the world of drugs. Therefore, the author... It concludes that these young people are in the program voluntarily and not because they were forced by anyone, and that this This facilitates the exchange of knowledge between the police officers/supervisors and these young people.

In interviews conducted by Chagas (2018) with the program's instructor staff, It shows that the work strengthens a culture of non-violence and exemplifies the case of a young person in conflict. with the law that was able to adopt a change in behavior in their routine and daily life of his family, showing his father that the violence he was committing was harming the entire family.

Also, Chagas (2018) includes interviews with students from the program and shows that the Teenagers point to the direct interaction with military police officers as a distinguishing feature of the PFC. guiding them about their future. Chagas (2018) presents that in the year 2017, 10 students were sent to serve in the armed forces (7 in the Brazilian Army, 2 in the Brazilian Navy and 1 in the Brazilian Air Force) and 8 more students were referred to other jobs.

Therefore, it becomes clear that the social other can be influenced by various actors, and in the PFC this... The author is represented by the military police officer who, by generating critical thinking in teenagers through from the comparison of their life reality (Chagas, 2018).

In the year 2024, according to data provided by the current PFC coordinator, the The program serves 215 students aged between 12 and 17 years old, divided into 6 locations in the city of Manaus. The sports practiced are jiu-jitsu, capoeira, judo, and soccer.

Thus, in light of the above, it is clear that the "Forming Citizens" Program utilizes sports. as one of the strategies to intervene in the personal and social development of adolescents from at-risk areas, Taking advantage of the military police officer's ability to shape citizens. This strengthens the bonds of interaction between the student, their family, and the military police officer, providing an opportunity for the student to have a influence to guide this young person throughout their life, and, consequently, reduce the risk of this The student is entering the world of crime and drugs.

Furthermore, this program fulfills the constitutional role of the military police, which is to act as A preventive approach to avoid crime, strengthening the development of community policing. Therefore, sport is used as one of the tools to promote safety. public.





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#### **4.2 – Suçuarana Fighting Project**

According to information available on the website of the Amazonas State Public Security Secretariat (SSP-AM), in 2021, the Suçuarana de Luta Project was created in 2017 by military police officers from AM. Eastern Area Policing Command (CPA Leste) and the 30th CICOM, with the objective of preventing Violence is combated through the promotion of sports. This project works by providing Jiu-Jitsu classes. Judo is offered to children and young people aged 7 to 16.

According to data from SSP-AM (2021), the project headquarters are located in the Jorge Teixeira neighborhood. in the city of Manaus, with the aim of offering an option to young people in the neighborhood, where there is a high rate of crime linked to drug trafficking. Classes are held at night so that they don't has conflict with the students' school routine, which is monitored by the project and serves as A tool to strengthen the relationship with the caregivers of the participants.

Furthermore, as stated in an interview on the SSP-AM website (2021), the creator and professor of Regarding the project, Corporal D. Alan of the Military Police states that the aim of the project is to safeguard children. who live on the outskirts of the city in a situation of social vulnerability. Also, the military police officer says that the The project's main areas of focus are combating drug trafficking and the rate of robberies. steering practitioners away from involvement with crime.

In the same article from SSP-AM, an interview was conducted with one of the participants, a student. a 13-year-old girl stated that the Suçuarana Project brings a lot of discipline and she thinks that was What changed your life the most?

Therefore, it becomes clear that the sports project can be used as a tool for promoting public safety, as it allows the military police officer to contribute to the training of The student's character, guiding them away from the path of crime. In addition to facilitating... The police officer's approach to the practitioner's family contributes to fostering a closer relationship. community relations with the Military Police and, consequently, improve community policing.

#### **FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Therefore, the present work analyzed the contribution of sport, especially as applied by social projects for crime prevention and the promotion of public safety, explaining the projects developed by the Military Police of Amazonas. The results demonstrated that the sport It is an effective tool in the personal and social development of the individual, capable of fostering... development of socio-emotional skills and essential values for civic life, such as Discipline; self-control; cooperation; resilience and respect for social norms.



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Thus, it was confirmed that social sports projects act as an instrument of crime prevention and promotion of public safety. The evidence analyzed left Of course, practicing sports helps in building positive identities and in reducing... risk behaviors and the strengthening of community ties, which are aspects fundamental for keeping children and adolescents away from violent dynamics and risks. social.

An analysis of the projects developed by the Military Police of Amazonas, the Program Forming Citizens and the Suçuarana de Lutas Project revealed that these initiatives strengthen the Integration between the institution and the community, improving community policing. In these In these projects, the military police officer acts as a social educator, conflict mediator, and role model for values. ethical, reinforcing the preventive role of the Military Police and promoting public safety in this area. community.

Thus, it can be concluded that sport integrated into social projects is configured as a A relevant tool for promoting public safety, as it strengthens social peace and coexistence. community involvement and the building of life trajectories away from crime.

Looking to the future, further scientific studies on the subject are recommended. The subject matter, primarily, concerns the social projects developed by the Military Police of Amazonas. Given the scarcity of published studies and data on the projects of the Military Police of Amazonas This was a factor that made it difficult to more accurately measure the impact of these projects on state public safety indicators. Also, from an institutional point of view and From a governmental standpoint, it is pertinent to expand and promote the social sports projects of the Military Police. from Amazonas, implementing adequate resources, structure and professional incentives for the Military police officers involved.

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