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The social function of advocacy beyond litigation: the practice of OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) commissions in promoting citizenship and human rights.

The social function of advocacy beyond litigation: the praxis of oab commissions in promoting citizenship and human rights

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Summary

This scientific article analyzes the social function of the legal profession under the aegis of the 1988 Federal Constitution, transcending traditional contentious practice to focus on the pedagogical and preventive role played by the Commissions of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB). The research problem investigates how institutional legal practice can mitigate social vulnerabilities through legal education and community support. The general objective is to demonstrate the effectiveness of programs such as "OAB Goes to School" and commissions for the defense of women's rights in achieving active citizenship. The methodology employed is the deductive method, with bibliographic and documentary research, analyzing doctrines, legislation, and institutional reports up to the year 2021. The results indicate that the interaction between lawyers, the school environment, and social services creates a protection network that empowers society to exercise its rights, preventing conflicts and domestic violence. It can be concluded that the legal profession, by leaving its offices and entering the public community sphere, reaffirms its indispensability to the administration of justice and strengthens the democratic rule of law.

Keywords: Social Advocacy. OAB Goes to School. Citizenship. Human Rights. Maria da Penha Law.

Abstract

This scientific article analyzes the social function of advocacy under the aegis of the Federal Constitution of 1988, transcending traditional contentious action to focus on the pedagogical and preventive role played by the Commissions of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB). The research problem investigates how institutional advocacy can act in mitigating social vulnerabilities through legal education and community support. The general objective is to demonstrate the effectiveness of programs such as "OAB Goes to School" and commissions for the defense of women's rights in the realization of active citizenship. The methodology employed is the deductive method, with bibliographic and documentary research, analyzing doctrines, legislation, and institutional reports up to the year 2021. The results indicate that the interaction between lawyers, the school environment, and social services creates a protection network that instrumentalizes society for the exercise of rights, preventing conflicts and domestic violence. It is concluded that advocacy, by leaving offices and entering the community public sphere, reaffirms its indispensability to the administration of justice and strengthens the Democratic Rule of Law.

Keywords: Social Advocacy. OAB Goes to School. Citizenship. Human Rights. Maria da Penha Law.

1. Introduction

The legal profession, historically associated with resolving conflicts in courts, is undergoing a transformation. a profound redefinition in the contemporary Brazilian legal landscape, driven by The 1988 Federal Constitution elevated it to the status of an essential function of justice. This article This study proposes to analyze how this essentiality is not limited to procedural representation, but encompasses... a political and social responsibility to promote citizenship and defend human rights. In a country marked by abysmal social inequalities and widespread ignorance about



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In the realm of fundamental rights, the lawyer assumes the role of an agent of social transformation, acting outside the law. from forums and by becoming part of the community. The OAB, as a *sui generis* professional association, channels this. Its function is carried out through its thematic committees, which operate at the interface between law and reality. social.

The rationale for this study lies in the need to document and theorize about the Extrajudicial practices that strengthen the democratic rule of law. Projects that lead to... legal knowledge to schools or that provide multidisciplinary support to women victims of Violence represents the preventive face of justice. This work is structured around four main themes. Thematic areas: the constitutional basis of the social function of lawyers; analysis of the program. "OAB Goes to School" as a tool for legal literacy; specific action in combating gender-based violence and the application of the Maria da Penha Law; and, finally, the intersection between advocacy and social services in the protection of vulnerable individuals. Through a literature review, this study seeks to demonstrate that citizen advocacy is a prerequisite for the effectiveness of constitutional guarantees.

2. The indispensability of the lawyer and their social function in the constitutional order.

The 1988 Federal Constitution, in its article 133, establishes that the lawyer is indispensable to the administration of justice, and inviolable for its acts and statements in the exercise of that function. of the profession, within the limits of the law. This provision is not merely corporate, but establishes a duty. public interest that transcends the private interests of the constituents. By declaring its indispensability, the The original constituent assembly recognized that, in a complex society governed by written laws, the The average citizen needs a technical translator and a combative advocate so that equality... The objective must be achieved. The social function of the legal profession, therefore, arises from the very structure of the profession. democratic, requiring legal professionals to act not only as legal technicians, but as a guardian of public liberties and an enforcer of legality, preventing state arbitrariness and the oppression between private individuals.

This social function is reinforced by the Statute of the Legal Profession and the Brazilian Bar Association. Brazil (Law No. 8.906/1994), which in its article 2, paragraph 1, reiterates that the lawyer provides a service. public and performs a social function. Contemporary legal doctrine interprets this provision as A call for proactive action. It is not enough for a lawyer to wait for cases in their office; The social function demands a close look at the structural injustices that permeate Brazilian society. This means that the legal profession must be committed to reducing inequalities and to... defending republican values, often acting in an advisory and preventative capacity to avoid to ensure that litigation does not even occur, or to guarantee that, if it does occur, the parties are on a level playing field. regardless of their economic status.

The concept of access to justice, widely debated by modern procedural law doctrine,



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It is not limited to access to the Judiciary, but encompasses access to a just legal order.

In this context, the lawyer acts as the first judge of the case and, more importantly, as the main driving force.

providing legal information to the public. Its social function is evident when the OAB organizes...

committees to discuss topics of public interest, when issuing opinions on draft laws or

when acting as *amicus curiae* in major cases before the Supreme Federal Court. However, it is in

A capillary action, in local subsections and in direct contact with the community, that this function

Social issues take on the contours of solidarity and immediate transformation of reality.

The professional ethics of a lawyer, from the perspective of their social function, demands a detachment from...

A mercantilist view of the profession. Although law is a means of livelihood and sustenance, it cannot be...

reduced to a common business activity, as it deals with non-disposable assets of life, such as

Freedom, dignity, and a minimum standard of living. The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), in overseeing the professional practice, safeguards these rights.

so that this ethical dimension is not lost. Social action, often voluntary, through

Commissions are conclusive proof that the legal profession understands its duty to give back to society. It is through this

qualified volunteer work that technical knowledge, generally restricted to the elite, is disseminated.

Intellectual and economic benefits are democratized and brought to the most vulnerable segments of the population.

Historically, the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) has positioned itself at the forefront of democratic struggles in Brazil, since...

The resistance to the military dictatorship led up to the Diretas Já campaign and the Constituent Assembly. This

Political heritage (in the sense of *polis*) shaped the identity of the Brazilian lawyer as an agent.

The political. Today, in times of democratic normalcy, the struggle has changed its face: the enemy is no longer the

An explicit state of exception, but social exclusion, domestic violence, structural racism, and...

Misinformation. The social function of modern advocacy is, therefore, the fight for the effectiveness of rights.

already achieved on paper, but still far from the reality of millions of Brazilians who live there.

on the margins of full citizenship.

The essential role of a lawyer is also reflected in their ability to mediate and reconcile.

The culture of litigation, which overburdens the judiciary and often fails to resolve the sociological conflict.

In essence, this must be combated by a legal profession focused on social pacification. In exercising its

In a social role, the lawyer must advise their client about the advantages of self-resolution and about the...

The risks of excessive judicialization. In communities, this translates into restorative justice projects.

and extrajudicial conciliation chambers, where the lawyer acts not as a warrior, but as a

peacemaker, using negotiation techniques to resolve neighborhood, family or other disputes.

consumer rights issues before they become endless processes.

Another crucial aspect is the defense of professional prerogatives as a guarantee of citizenship.

When a lawyer defends their prerogatives of access to case files and communication with the client.

or the inviolability of the office, he is not defending a personal privilege, but the right of

Defense of the entire society. The social function of the legal profession implies ensuring that the State does not



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exceed its punitive limits. The OAB commissions that oversee the prison system, for

For example, they perform a vital social function by giving voice to those in the custody of the State.

denouncing torture, overcrowding and degrading conditions, ensuring that the sentence does not exceed deprivation of liberty and an attack on human dignity.

Public legal advocacy and the Public Defender's Office are also essential arms of this function.

social, but private and liberal legal practice, organized through the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association), has a freedom of

Unique performance and reach. The OAB's independence from the government allows it to...

Criticize inefficient public policies and propose legislative solutions. This independence is the cornerstone.

A key principle that allows lawyers to act in defense of minorities, even against the opinion of...

The social function, in this sense, is either the majority or against the interests of those in power.

counter-majoritarian and guarantor of rights, ensuring that fundamental rights are not suppressed by

political expediency or economic pressure.

The academic training of lawyers, however, still lacks a greater focus on this.

social dimension. Law schools, often focused on legal dogmatism and the social dimension.

Preparation for competitive exams sometimes fails to awaken in students an awareness of their transformative role. It is

the role of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), through the Higher School of Advocacy (ESA) and the commissions of...

young lawyers, fill this gap by mentoring new professionals so that they understand that

Career success is not measured solely by fees received, but by the positive impact.

generated in society and by maintaining the integrity of the justice system.

Finally, the social function of the legal profession is a dynamic concept that adapts to new circumstances.

Technological and social realities. With the advent of the internet and social networks, the lawyer becomes...

They also have the responsibility to combat legal *fake news*, clarifying matters for the public.

Your rights amidst a sea of misinformation. Preventive digital advocacy, the protection of

Data protection and the defense of rights online are the new frontiers of this social function. Whether in the physical world

Whether virtual or not, the lawyer remains the indispensable link between abstract law and concrete life.

being the guarantor of the constitutional promises of freedom, equality and justice for all.

3. Legal literacy and the "OAB goes to school" project

The "OAB Goes to School" project represents one of the most emblematic initiatives of the function.

The social role of lawyers, materializing the concept of active citizenship through education. The objective

The primary goal of this program is not to train "mini-lawyers," but rather to promote legal literacy.

basic education for children and adolescents, allowing them to understand the structure of the State in which

They live, their fundamental rights and, crucially, their civic duties. The premise is that...

The Federal Constitution should not be an esoteric document, known only to jurists, but a

A practical guide to life in society, accessible to everyone from school age onwards. By bringing lawyers



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With volunteers in the classrooms, the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) breaks down the walls that separate legal knowledge from... everyday reality for young people.

The project methodology generally involves lectures, discussion groups, and simulations of... juries, addressing cross-cutting themes such as bullying, consumer rights, family law, and drugs. and the functioning of the three branches of government. This dialogical approach is fundamental, because Law, when Taught in a dogmatic and top-down manner, it tends to be uninteresting to young audiences. Lawyers on the committees, trained in forensic oratory, need to adapt their language. translating complex concepts such as "due process of law" or "human dignity" into concrete situations of school and community life, making Law a tangible tool for problem solving and harmonious coexistence.

One of the central focuses of "OAB Goes to School" is the prevention of violence and crime. juvenile. When explaining the legal consequences of offenses, as well as the rights provided for in Under the Statute of Children and Adolescents (ECA), lawyers work to deconstruct myths and... Guidance on life choices. Often, young people in vulnerable situations lack this knowledge. that certain behaviors are classified as crimes or infractions, or is unaware of the mechanisms of The protection that the State offers if someone is a victim of domestic violence or abuse. The lawyer in The school acts as a beacon, illuminating legal and institutional paths that are often... invisible to the school community.

The presence of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) in schools also strengthens the authority of teachers and school administration. democratic education. By addressing topics such as respect, tolerance, and pluralism of ideas — Fundamental principles of the Constitution — lawyers reinforce values that are essential to the pedagogical environment. Furthermore, the project serves as support for educators, who often... Sometimes they feel unprepared to deal with issues that involve complex legal implications. such as cyberbullying, the use of images on social media, or family conflicts that spill over into the family. classroom. The partnership between Law and Pedagogy enriches the school curriculum and prepares the student for adult life.

The project's impact extends beyond the students, reaching their families as well. The knowledge acquired by the student in the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) lecture is often taken home. generating a multiplier effect. When a teenager learns about consumer rights Or regarding the Maria da Penha Law at school, it becomes a vector of information within its core. familiar, often empowering their parents to seek their rights or to identify situations of abuse. This phenomenon of "reverse education" is one of the most powerful consequences of Legal literacy promoted by the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) because it disseminates information to homes that, otherwise, They would never have contact with a lawyer in a preventative manner.

In the current political context, the "OAB Goes to School" program plays a vital role in education.



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of informed voters. By explaining how the electoral system works, the importance of voting and Regarding the functions of each political office, lawyers contribute to the qualification of the debate. Democratic. Political education, devoid of partisanship and focused on the functioning of... institutions, it is the only effective vaccine against populism and manipulation. The project teaches young people to to oversee public power, to understand the legislative process, and to value democracy as the only way. An acceptable system, creating a culture of participation and civic responsibility.

Social inclusion is another pillar of the project. The OAB commissions frequently bring these [problems/issues]. Lectures for public schools in peripheral regions, where the presence of the State is often... felt only through the police. The arrival of lawyers willing to talk, advise and listen, Without charging fees, it changes the perception these young people have of justice. They stop seeing the law. They begin to see it not only as an instrument of punishment but also as an instrument of guarantee and protection. This paradigm shift is essential for building a sense of belonging and to reduce the gap between legal Brazil and real Brazil.

The challenges to the full implementation of the project are still significant. The lack of The mandatory inclusion of legal subjects in the basic curriculum means that these initiatives depend on entirely dependent on volunteer work and the goodwill of school administrations. Furthermore, the training... The role of lawyers in children's and youth education is a point that requires constant attention from committees. It's not enough to know the law; you need to know how to communicate the law to those outside the field. A The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) has invested in guides, visual materials, and training to standardize and improve quality. These interventions ensure that the message is received clearly and accurately.

Interdisciplinarity is, once again, the key to success. "The OAB Goes to School" It works best when integrated with other actions within the protection network, involving psychologists, Social workers and the Child Protective Services. The lawyer can identify, during a lecture, signs violation of rights and needs to know how to correctly refer these cases to the appropriate authorities. competent, without exceeding their educational role. This sensitivity to working in a network is what It distinguishes an isolated action from an effective institutional policy for the promotion of human rights.

It can be concluded that "OAB Goes to School" is the embodiment of preventive legal practice in its... in the noblest way. By planting the seed of legality and justice in the minds of young people, the OAB is Investing in the country's future and the sustainability of the legal system itself. A society that Knowing your rights leads to less and better litigation, greater respect for others, and the building of fairer relationships. The lawyer who participates in this project is not just donating their time; they are exercising their profession. Advocacy in its fullest sense, defending the Constitution in the area where it is most needed: the mind. of future generations.



4. Advocacy in the defense of women: the Maria da Penha Law and prevention.

Violence against women constitutes one of the most serious violations of human rights. persistent and deeply rooted in Brazilian society, requiring legal action that goes far beyond the norm. In addition to criminal procedural technique. Law No. 11.340/2006, known as the Maria da Penha Law, It represented a paradigmatic milestone in recognizing domestic violence not only as a It is not a private problem, but a matter of public order and state responsibility. Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) committees focused on women lawyers and combating gender violence take on... In this scenario, a leading role in the dissemination, interpretation, and effective application of this legal instrument, acting both in technical defense and in cultural awareness.

The work of the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) committees begins with welcoming and attentive listening. Often, women who are victims of violence arrive at the justice system in a fragile, uninformed, and... afraid. The lawyer who works in this area needs to have a keen sensitivity to Understanding the cycle of violence, which involves phases of tension, explosion, and "honeymoon." The legal profession A humanized approach is essential so that the victim does not give up on reporting the crime and understands that... Emergency protective measures are your right and an effective tool for preserving life. OAB committees frequently organize service drives and partnerships with police stations. The woman's role is to ensure that this initial contact is both technical and empathetic.

One of the crucial aspects of legal practice is deconstructing the idea that violence It is only physical. The Maria da Penha Law innovated by classifying psychological, moral, and patrimonial violence as specific forms of violence. and sexual. The OAB's educational role is fundamental in explaining this to society and to the victims themselves. that financial control, constant humiliation, emotional blackmail, and withholding of Documents are also punishable forms of domestic violence. The lectures given by Committees in community centers, churches, and businesses aim precisely to clarify these types of issues. criminal laws, allowing women to identify abusive relationships before they escalate to... femicide.

The legal profession also plays a supervisory role in public policies for the protection of women. The OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) commissions monitor the structure of shelters and the effectiveness of the care provided. in specialized police stations and the speed of the Domestic Violence Courts. When the State Failing to protect a woman who had already reported her abuser, the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) intervenes by demanding action. responsibilities and proposing improvements to the service flow. This institutional advocacy is a A form of political *advocacy*, lobbying the Executive and Legislative branches for budgets. appropriate laws, either stricter or more intelligent, are needed to combat impunity.

In procedural matters, combative advocacy is necessary to avoid the revictimization of the plaintiff. woman during the judicial process. Unfortunately, it is still common for the aggressor's defense, or even Judges and prosecutors with a patriarchal viewpoint attempt to discredit the victim by questioning her...



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Moral conduct or personal choices, in a clear inversion of values. The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) has been acting firmly, including through the Ethics and Discipline Tribunal, to curb defense strategies that...

violate the dignity of women, ensuring that the trial focuses on the criminal acts and not on their lives.

private victim. The CNJ Protocol for Judgment with a Gender Perspective is a tool

which the legal profession must master and demand be applied.

Intersectionality is a concept that should permeate the practice of law in these areas.

commissions. Domestic violence disproportionately affects Black, poor, and

peripheral areas. The OAB's social advocacy needs to pay close attention to these specificities.

understanding that access to justice for a middle-class white woman is different from access

for a Black woman from the favela. The OAB's community actions should prioritize the most marginalized territories.

vulnerable populations, bringing legal information to places where the State often does not reach. The partnership with

The inclusion of women in community leadership is strategic so that legal language can be translated into the...

local reality.

Another battlefield is gender-based political violence and institutional violence. The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB),

By defending the prerogatives of female lawyers, she is also fighting sexism.

Structural. When a female lawyer is disrespected in a hearing because she is a woman, or when she has...

With her prerogatives as a pregnant woman violated, the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) acts corporately, but with a social impact.

broad, signaling that disrespect towards women will not be tolerated in any sphere of power.

Strengthening the role of women lawyers is, indirectly, strengthening all women, because

ensures that there will be empowered and prepared professionals to defend the women's cause in the

courts.

Preventive education provided by the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) committees should also reach men.

Reflective groups for men who perpetrate violence are provided for by law, and legal counsel can and should intervene.

To encourage this practice. Punishment alone, without re-educating the offender, often does not prevent it.

Recidivism. A lawyer working in the area of family and domestic violence must have a systemic view.

that breaking the cycle of violence requires a change in the aggressor's mindset. The OAB (Brazilian Bar Association)

It can promote discussions about toxic masculinity and responsible fatherhood, contributing to a

A culture of peace in family relationships.

Free or *pro bono* legal assistance for women in vulnerable situations is

one of the most direct ways of exercising the social function. Although the Public Defender's Office has this

The assignment, however, often lacks the structure to handle the demand. Court-appointed lawyers and agreements...

The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) and the State are filling this gap, ensuring that no woman is prevented from seeking her rights.

Rights due to lack of money. Legal guidance on divorce, child custody, and alimony.

Alimony and the division of assets are inseparable from protection against violence, because dependency

Economic hardship is one of the main factors that keeps women in the cycle of abuse.



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In short, the OAB's performance in applying the Maria da Penha Law is a clear example on how law can be an instrument of liberation. By combining rigorous legal technique in defending legal processes through political and educational action in society, lawyers contribute... decisively for the necessary cultural change. The eradication of violence against women is not achieved solely through convictions, but through the building of awareness. A collective effort to respect human dignity, a task in which the Brazilian legal profession is, and must continue to be, involved. deeply engaged.

5. The intersection between advocacy and social work in the community.

The complexity of contemporary social problems demands an approach that transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries. The legal profession, when exercised in its social function. The community finds in Social Services an indispensable partner. The intersection between these two Areas of knowledge are fundamental to guaranteeing the full realization of rights, as the legal demand for A vulnerable citizen rarely comes in isolation; they are almost always the tip of the iceberg of a context of social exclusion, economic hardship, and family breakdown. The OAB Commissions that Those working in underprivileged communities understand that delivering a legal solution without considering the Social support is often an ineffective measure.

The joint effort begins with the screening and diagnosis of the case. While the lawyer The social worker identifies the violation of the norm and the appropriate legal procedural remedy; they analyze the... socioeconomic context, family support networks, and the individual's basic needs. By For example, in a repossession action that threatens to displace a community, the lawyer The fight for the suspension of the injunction and for the right to housing is taking place in court, while social services are mapping the situation. Families are supported, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities are identified, and coordination is established with public authorities. Alternative housing options and inclusion in income transfer programs. This synergistic approach. It enhances results and humanizes the judicial process.

Popular advocacy groups and the Human Rights commissions of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) frequently carry out... Joint efforts in partnership with universities and NGOs that offer multidisciplinary services. In these At events, citizens can resolve pending civil documentation issues (legal matters) and, at the same time... In due course, you will be referred to the CRAS (Social Assistance Reference Center) for updating your Single Registry. This integration facilitates access to citizenship, as it eliminates bureaucracy and... The citizen's pilgrimage through various public bodies. The lawyer acts here as a facilitator of the... access to social rights, using their knowledge of administrative intricacies to unlock benefits that are vital for the community's livelihood.

In the area of Family and Inheritance Law, the intersection with Social Work is even more pronounced. Obviously. Cases involving custody, adoption, parental alienation, and the legal incapacitation of minors depend on...



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Deeply versed in psychosocial reports. The lawyer who understands the language and methodology.

Social Services can better guide its processes by formulating more relevant questions and

building defensive arguments based on the factual reality revealed by social studies. The OAB, in turn

Promoting joint events with the Social Work and Psychology councils fosters this culture.

Interdisciplinary, enabling the lawyer to have a more holistic view of family conflict.

The protection of highly vulnerable groups, such as the homeless population, immigrants and

refugees require this hybrid approach. Often, the immediate need is not a judicial process,

but obtaining documents for access to the SUS (Brazilian public healthcare system) or enrolling children in school. The lawyer

It operates in the administrative sphere, demanding compliance with the law, while social assistance works

in welcoming and cultural integration. The OAB commissions dedicated to these themes function as

Bridges between this invisible population and the formal structure of the State, guaranteeing dignity.

The right of every human being to be respected regardless of an individual's origin or social status.

In the prison system and in the execution of sentences, the partnership between lawyers and social workers is...

vital for rehabilitation. The lawyer works on parole and conditional release.

and in criminal review, guaranteeing freedom. Social services act in contact with the prisoner's family,

in preparing to leave and in the search for work and educational opportunities. Without this support

In society, the freedom gained by the lawyer often results in recidivism, as the ex-convict

The prison system finds its doors closed. The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), through its community councils,

It encourages projects that combine legal defense with social support for former inmates.

The issue of mental health and substance abuse also illustrates the need for this collaboration.

Compulsory or involuntary hospitalization is an extreme legal measure that must be monitored.

Close monitoring by lawyers to prevent abuse and unlawful deprivation of liberty. However, the real solution

For someone with substance abuse problems, the path involves the psychosocial care network. The lawyer should work in this area.

working together with health and social care teams to ensure that hospitalization is the last resort.

and that the treatment be humane and effective. Advocacy in the healthcare field is not just

to obtain court orders for medications, but to guarantee the full right to health, which includes the

social support for the patient.

Community conflict mediation is another fertile ground for this cooperation. In favelas

and communities where the presence of the State is conflictive, the resolution of disputes between neighbors or

Family disputes can be resolved out of court using mediation techniques. The lawyer contributes...

The legal security of the agreement, while the social professional contributes an understanding of the dynamics.

Community-based justice and the building of trust. This community justice, supported by the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB),

It reduces local violence and empowers the community to manage its own conflicts peacefully.

and autonomous.

The role of lawyers in overseeing social welfare policies is also relevant.



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The Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) can and should demand the effectiveness of the Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS), denouncing the dismantling of public facilities, the lack of professionals, or the misappropriation of funds. Defending the social rights enshrined in Article 6 of the Constitution requires vigilant legal representation, which Utilize public civil action and other collective instruments to guarantee the minimum subsistence level. That this be ensured for all Brazilians. The lawyer thus acts as the legal defender of the policies. social.

Finally, legal training needs to increasingly incorporate social sensitivity.

Human Rights Clinics and Model Offices at universities, often coordinated These laboratories, run by members of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB), teach students that the law does not operate in a vacuum. By working side-by-side with Social Work students, the future lawyer learns to listen, to not to morally judge poverty and to understand that justice is a collective construct. This intersection It strengthens democracy because it creates a network of technical and human solidarity capable of confronting the... Harshest social realities with competence and compassion.

6. Conclusion

The argumentative trajectory developed throughout this article has shown that the legal profession, In the context of the Brazilian democratic rule of law, it cannot be understood solely as a liberal profession geared towards profit or cold procedural technique. The 1988 Constitution, in granting The lawyer's status as indispensable to the administration of justice has imposed upon him an ethical and political duty. to act as an agent of social transformation. The analysis of the praxis of the OAB Commissions demonstrated that this social function is exercised in a vibrant and necessary way through educational projects, Prevention and assistance, which take citizenship beyond forums and courts, reaching the heart. from the communities and schools.

The "OAB Goes to School" project has proven to be a powerful empowerment tool. juvenile and primary prevention. By promoting legal literacy, the legal profession invests in training. of a generation more aware of its rights and duties, capable of dialogue, and of overseeing public power. and to resolve conflicts peacefully. It has been demonstrated that knowledge of the law is an antidote. against vulnerability; young people who are familiar with the Statute of Children and Adolescents (ECA) and the Constitution are better protected against Abuses and more likely to exercise active and responsible citizenship. Preventive advocacy, in this In this case, it addresses the root of social problems before they become crime statistics.

Regarding the defense of women's rights and the application of the Maria da Penha Law, the research He highlighted the irreplaceable role of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) in cultural change and in combating gender violence. The role of the committees is not limited to providing technical defense in legal proceedings, but also includes welcoming... Humanized, multidisciplinary guidance, and oversight of public policies. Social advocacy. It functions as a shield for the victim and as a spear against impunity and sexism.



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structural, ensuring that protective legislation has real effectiveness in women's daily lives.

Brazilian women, especially the most vulnerable.

The intersection between Law and Social Work has emerged as a key point for the effectiveness of legal protection in underprivileged communities. The analysis proved that the complexity of Social exclusion in Brazil requires an integrated approach, where the lawyer works together with... Social workers and psychologists are needed to offer comprehensive solutions. For justice to be effective, it needs... to guarantee not only legal victory, but also the dignity of life, access to housing, health, and... assistance. By promoting this interdisciplinarity, the OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) shows that Law should serve life. and not the other way around.

It can be concluded, therefore, that the social function of the legal profession is the element that legitimizes the profession. before society. Without this public and supportive dimension, the legal profession risks becoming... an elitist activity disconnected from the suffering of the people. The OAB commissions, formed Mostly composed of volunteer lawyers, they are living proof that the legal profession is... willing to fulfill her oath to defend the Constitution and social justice. The work carried out The work of these professionals, often anonymous and silent, is fundamental to maintaining peace. social and for building a more just and equal country.

The future of the legal profession inevitably depends on deepening this social function. In an increasingly technological and unequal world, the "citizen lawyer" will be the one capable of... To humanize relationships, to mediate conflicts, and to translate justice for all. The OAB (Brazilian Bar Association) must continue. to strengthen its committees by investing in training its members to meet new demands. social issues and ensuring that the defense of human rights is always the institution's top priority. The legal profession is not just a career; it's a cause, and its greatest cause is the unconditional defense of... dignity of the human person.

The importance of continued studies on this topic is highlighted, especially Monitoring quantitative and qualitative data on the long-term impact of these social projects. It is necessary to measure how the presence of the Brazilian Bar Association (OAB) in schools affects local violence rates or how Preventive legal support reduces femicide in certain regions. Legal science needs... to examine this data in order to improve institutional policies. Advocacy based on Social evidence will be the next step in making the social function even more efficient and transformative.

Finally, this article reaffirms that advocacy beyond litigation is not a lesser form of advocacy or secondary; on the contrary, it is advocacy in its highest expression of nobility. In educating, preventing And by welcoming, the lawyer anticipates justice and strengthens democracy. The praxis of the OAB Commissions. In promoting citizenship and human rights, it is a beacon of hope and a model of... Social responsibility that should be replicated, expanded, and valued by the entire legal community.

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And by Brazilian society. Wherever a right is violated or citizenship is denied, there it must be present.

The legal profession, fulfilling its constitutional and historical mission.

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