

ABSTRACTS

Fanny Tabak and the first steps of Science, Technology and Gender Studies in Brazil

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Abstract

In this article we rescue the life and work of the Brazilian intellectual Fanny Tabak, in order to highlight her pioneering contributions on the field of Science, Technology and Gender Studies in Latin America. The article includes a review of her main works articulated to a reading of her personal and political life. The information on her personal career comes from an interview with the author that was done in 2013. Her work is relevant once Tabak belongs to the first generation of Latin-American scholars that build local readings on the relationship between science, technology and society; and criticizing their hierarchical structures. Through the 1970s she dedicated herself to write the first publications pointing gender inequalities in the Brazilian academic space, and was also an important voice for women rights in local and international political arenas. Her critical approach to these inequalities have inspired other feminist generations opening the doors for academic / activists efforts aimed to change androcentric patterns of modern s&t in our territory.

KEYWORDS: FEMINISM — S&T — FANNY TABAK — LATIN AMERICA

Sociotechnical trajectory of the relationships between extractivism and sustainable development: the case of La Colosa in Colombia

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Abstract

The Large-scale Mining labelled as *sustainable mining*, is today one of the most visible faces of something that several authors call the re-invention of *development* and its promise of progress for Latin America. Even though in the region this kind of projects has been systematically criticized because of their environmental, cultural and geopolitical consequences we face a phenomenon in which *development* is being re-invented. The re-invention is associated with a set of speeches, practices and artifacts that have been called *sustainable development*. That set of heterogeneous elements can be tracked down by using a socio-technical perspective in order to analyze them.

Using the case study of *La Colosa*, a gold Large-Scale Mining in exploration phase, on Cajamarca (Tolima, Colombia), this paper explains the relationships between sustainable development, extractivism, and their environmental, economic and social implications.

KEYWORDS: EXTRACTIVISM — SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT — MINING — SOCIAL STUDIES OF TECHNOLOGY — COLOMBIA

Between organisms and artefacts: the qualification of foods produced by family farmers

Gabriela Schiavoni

Abstract

This article focuses on the qualification process of food production originate from the family farms. Foods are conceptualized as stabilized mixes

of nature and culture; the industrialization transform them in technical objects whose massive circulation hinges for being linked with the laboratory. Qualification process represents a general agreement and then the permanence of the object in evaluation is required. We describe the path of two products of our study region, the yerba mate and the manioc, shaped as industrial objects from the last XIX century. Finally, we analyse the circulation of fresh food produced by small farmers at the province of Misiones, in the northeast of Argentina. This productive and trade configuration, which arose by the end of XX century, show a weak conexión with technosciences and a limited degree of institutionalization, bringing up the issue of alternatives forms of food qualification.

KEYWORDS: FOODS – TECHNOSCIENCES – FAMILY FARMING – QUALITY

The Illusion Machine. Rurbanity, socio-technical intervention and conditions of vulnerability

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Abstract

This paper analyses a case of actors under conditions of vulnerability, who are embraced by an illusion that turns them into protagonist. They are *rurban* actors, garbage workers, invited through a municipal policy to replace their traditional carts and horses with three-wheelers to make their work easier. Before assuming there is an intentionality to be unveiled, the aim is to show how illusion and development are related, juxtaposed, and naturalized. And how, in the modern whirl, their path does not stop to think about their implications or, from its core, to think about and evaluate how their protagonists experience it.

This article starts whit a brief discussion of what does it mean to promote development in the current modern context, and what is the role of communication in driving it from illusions. Then, the case analyzed, located in the city of Río Cuarto, Córdoba, Argentina, is presented. Finally, as a conclusion, a discussion is put forward about whether illusions, development, and modernity can hold alternative scenarios in which “adapting” or

“pursuing other paths” allow the inclusion of the voices and experiences of the most vulnerable.

KEYWORDS: RURBANITY — COMMUNICATION — ILLUSIONS — SOCIO-
TECHNICAL INTERVENTION