

## PRESENTATION

This edition of "Última Década" focuses on youth representations regarding identity, memory, and policies (gender, body, associativity, and volunteering). In her article "Young people: Social identity and memory building," GRACIELA CASTRO questions the role that dominant institutions play in memory construction, linked to key situations in recent Argentine history, and whether Argentine youth are genuinely interested in connecting with that memory. The article explores whether idealism or knowledge predominates in those discourses.

KATIA VALENZUELA FUENTES, in "Juvenile collectives: Political immaturity or assertion of other possible policies?," reflects on the different ways in which youth political participation has been understood. The article argues that the dominant discourse in social sciences has normalized the political representation system while undervaluing other political expressions present in youth.

Researchers from the Universidad Católica del Norte (Antofagasta) present a synthesis of a study on youth social representations of politics and democracy titled "Politics social representations and democracy." They suggest that the main observed effect is the rejection, by young people, of participation through institutional channels and conventional methods of political action. Moreover, these young individuals possess a novel meaning of politics that contrasts with more traditional definitions.

Mexican university students are the focus of the article "Discourse over the gender and disposition towards the difference. Exploratory study on university students in México City," by researchers from the Academy of Communication and Culture at the Universidad Autónoma de la Ciudad de México. The article presents an analysis of the discourse surrounding real and ideal gender stereotypes constructed by university students from Mexico City.

In his contribution "Transgression/transgressed bodies. Marked flesh and memory. The young and their bodily modification," RICARDO LÓPEZ VERGARA aims to comprehend and analyze the cultural practice of body modifications in Chile from a broad theoretical perspective. The article delves into the meanings associated with such bodily alterations today.

The construction of youth citizenship through associativity is discussed by ANA INÉS AROSTEGUY PÉREZ in the article "Building communitary social capital stock and civil empowerment" The article seeks to identify the characteristics that promote the formation of community social capital among organized youth in Concepción.

Closing the volume, the work "Poverty and volunteers. Critical analysis of the discourse applied to three social programmes in the city of Valparaíso" by W. DANIEL VERA ROJAS examines discourses on poverty produced by young volunteers. These discourses characterize three key themes: individual, structural, and existential.

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