

**Deux communautés
portugaises
en Amérique du Nord
et leur rapport à la nouvelle
société « globale »**

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Outline:

1. Presentation
2. Context
3. Methodology
4. Results
5. Discussion and Questions



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"Le plurilinguisme dans le développement durable, la dimension cachée"



1. Presentation

Language Contact in a Context of Migration

- ⇒ **Language Practices**: changing in forms / **Language Contact** situation (Mixed and Hybrid practices).
- ⇒ The social relevance of the “**Norm of Prestige**” (school, family)
- ⇒ **Language Policies** (state vs. communities, families, individuals)
- ⇒ Implications in terms of **Identity** construction (Representations, Imaginaries, Symbols, Discourses)
- ⇒ **Social changes** : changing the *social status* for the languages ‘in contact’.
- ⇒ From **Stigmatization** to a **Promotion** based on **Ideologies** about the “purity” of the language and its “historicity”.

2. Context

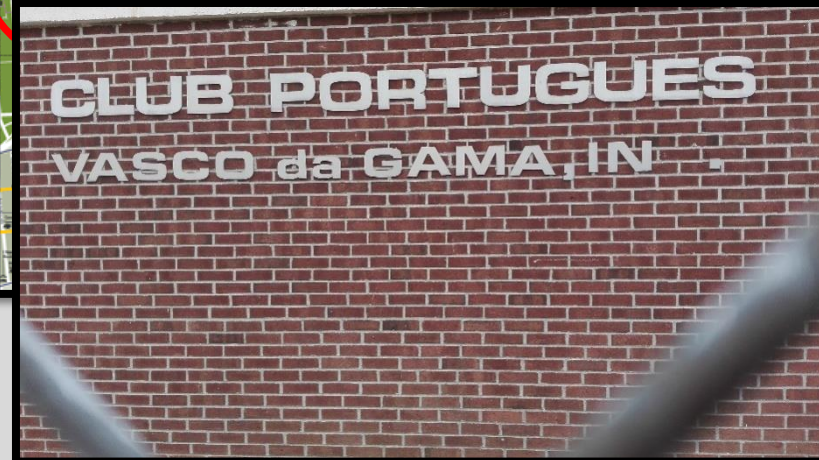
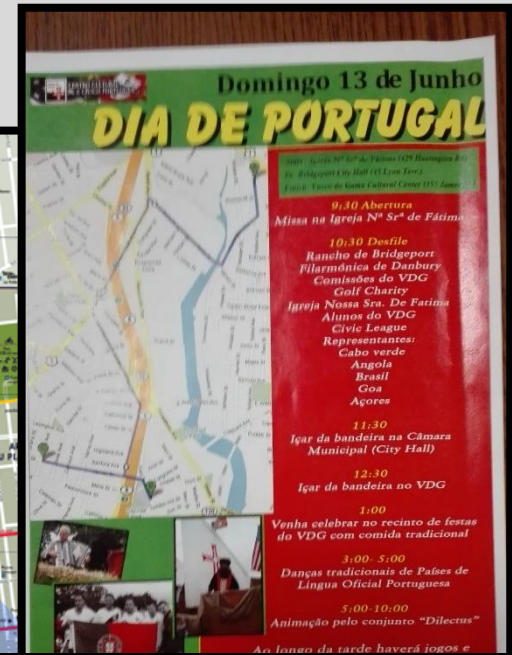
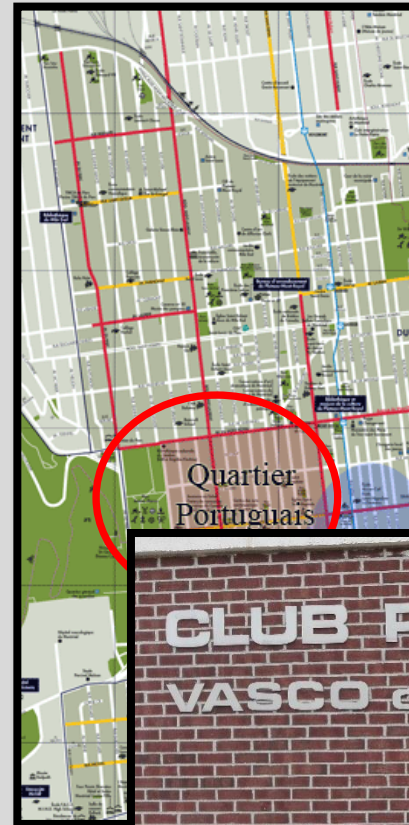
The Portuguese Communities in Montreal and Bridgeport

Montreal:

- Particular Context :
“*Double Majorité*”
- Multiculturalism Policies
- Heritage Languages Prog.

Bridgeport, CT:

- English-only context
- Close to other communities in New England, NJ and NY
- Decline of the ethnic district (*Hollow*)



2. Context

Montreal

- since **1950s**
- **Origin:** from Azores, Madeira, Central and North Portugal
- around 60,000 members (Statistics, 2016)
- **Education: *Missão Santa Cruz* and *Lusitania***
 - Primary and Secondary (6-18)
 - 300 Students (2018)
 - Saturdays, from 9 am to 2 pm
 - Language, Cult., History, etc.

Bridgeport

- since **1920s / 1940s**
- **Origin:** mainly from *Trás-os-Montes*
- around 19,000 members (US Census, 2015)
- **Education: *Escola Vasco da Gama***
 - Only primary School (6-13)
 - 57 Students (2018)
 - Mondays & Wednesday, from 6 to 7.30 pm
 - Portuguese Language only

3. Methodology

Ethnographic Approach:

- Questionnaires, Interviews, Observations
- Fieldworks in **Montreal** (2011 ; 2014 ; 2018),
Bridgeport (2018).

Main Focuses:

- Language Practices – Language Contact / Erosion of the forms
- Imaginaires and Representations – Discourse on Identity / Epilinguistic Discourses

4. Results



→ The Norm of Prestige is promoted within local institutions

Florbela (41 – 2G, MTL) : “*o meu (português) é que tá tatata...”*

→ The importance given to the local ‘community’ school:

Paulo (37 – 2G, BPT) : “*em casa dos meus pais é português, com a minha esposa (também de origem) é mais o inglês... na Escola portuguesa é onde aprendi a falar e a escrever, até o 6º ano, também aprendi a história. A Escola é essencial... **you know**, era uma obrigação”.*

4. Results



→ The promotion of Portuguese as an international language, a tool for the future:

Clarissa (12 – 3G, BPT) : *“o português é uma língua internacional”* .

Jaime (16 – 3G, MTL): *“o português é a sétima língua mais falada no mundo e a terceira no mundo ocidental, e com as ex-colónias: Angola, Moçambique, e o Brasil, que daqui a 20 ou 30 anos serão superpotências, o português será uma grande língua do futuro”*.



4. Results



→ Language Policy within the family (agency):

Elizabeth(31 – 2G, MTL) : *“com o meu marido sempre tentamos de falar com a nossa filha em português, mas é difícil”.*

→ Language and Representations of Identity:

Jaime (16 – 3G, MTL) : *“sento sinto-me um bocadinho mais diferente eu. Aqui eu sou mais luso-canadiano sim sou canadiano, participo na sociedade canadiana mas vou sempre fazer referência ao Portugal, sempre... para mim uma pessoa não pode esquecer as suas raízes...”.*



4. Results



→ Symbols given to language to build a ‘collective’ identity:

Fernando (52 – 1G, BPT):

“uma mixtura que não sabe muito bem”

Vítor (58 – 1G, MTL):

“é utilizamos la do isso portanto é primordial a língua portuguesa tanto escrita como falada para mim é isso é sagrado é bíblia para mim é bíblia”

An aerial photograph of a city skyline across a body of water. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The city buildings are silhouetted against the light sky. A prominent building has the name 'MOLSON' visible on its facade.

Thank You

Merci

Gracias

Gramazè

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An aerial photograph of a city with a suspension bridge. The sky is clear and blue. The city buildings are densely packed, and a large suspension bridge spans across a body of water in the background.

Obrigado

Multumesc

Dziękuję

Grazie