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## Review Article

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# Impact of Brazilian Public Policies on Violence against Women: Integrative Review

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## Summary

**Objective:** To identify in the literature review public policies and the impact on violence against women in the period of 12 years of approval of the Maria da Penha Law.

**Method:** This is a literature review study that sought in secondary sources through bibliographic survey in the databases Latin American and Caribbean Literature on Health Sciences (LILACS), Medical literature Analysis and Retrieval online (Medline), Nursing Database (BDENF) and Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), which has been published on the impact that Brazilian Public Policies violence against women in the 12-year period of the Maria da Penha Law.

**Result:** The reading of the 16,000 titles was found after reading, and 59 articles were tracked, and 47 scientific publications were excluded that did not address the theme. Sample was 12 publications that when read and analyzed in the integral, added a final sample of 7 articles related to the impact of public policies to reduce violence against women, in which the 7 articles were selected from the LILACS database, Scielo, Medline, Bdenf.

**Considerations:** The laws made it possible to gain in the protection of women's rights, favoring increased complaints, but the achievements do not suffocate the sufficiency conscious to curb aggressions. The reflection that is made of this scenario is that of a fragility in relation to the quality of management in the care of women in situations of violence. The political changes have contributed to the problem taking visibility but still needs solidified advances for better results on prevention and combat affecting.

**Keywords:** Public policies; Violence; Women; Laws

## Introduction

Physical violence means any conduct that offends integrity or body health, with intentional use of force or threat. Violence against women can appear as physical, psychological, sexual, economic and also at work, resulting in suffering, death and giving psychological, and can happen in private and public places [1]. The woman who experiences violence in her life carries visible and invisible marks causing shock in health and physical or psychological disorders, which can culminate in mental health problems, silently affecting overwhelmingly affecting women's health [2]. The aggressions suffered by women occur within the affective relationships that range from bodily injuries to subjective marks that go beyond physical marks [2].

Feminist groups have been fighting for space in society and politics, ensuring their participation in the fight against violence. Victim of inequality, women have been experiencing the most diverse forms of violence despite advances in coping policies. Since this is a public health theme, in which little has been achieved for changes in statistical indices, the study is a singular experience and that even about the looks of the women's protection secretariats, no valid and decisive result was found, which justifies the lack of a true solidified recognition in the public space for effective actions of interventions, since it is certain the impacts on the mental and reproductive health of women. Therefore, the study seeks to identify in the literature the impact that Brazilian public policies

have had on violence against women since the Maria da Penha law was approved.

## Methodology

This is a study with data collection conducted from secondary sources through a bibliographic survey based on which the literature has published on the impact that Public Policies have brought to reduce violence against women. The purpose of a research literature review is to gather knowledge on the topic studied, helping in the foundations of a meaningful study. The integrative review of the literature consists of a systematic research method, with the objective of contributing to the investigated knowledge, provides an investigation that synthesizes and allows general conclusions about a given area of study being the same theme addressed by different studies [3].

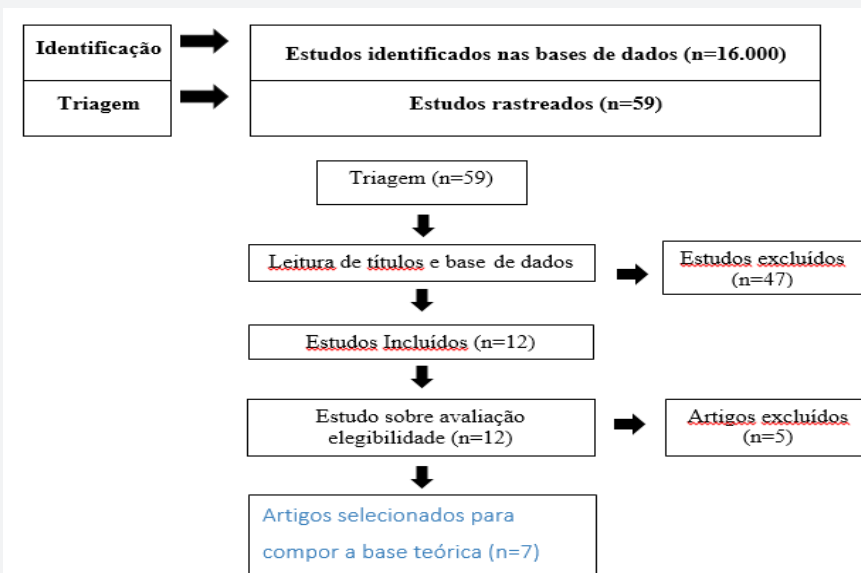
This type of review contains six steps: elaboration of the guiding question; search or sampling in the literature; data collection; critical analysis of the included studies; discussion of the results; presentation of the integrative review. The formulation of the guiding question is the most important phase of the review because it will determine which studies will be included, the means adopted for identification and the information collected from each selected study [3], so it was given through the following question: What have scientific publications evidenced about the impact public policy has brought to reduce violence against women?

The search in the literature was carried out in the following databases: Latin American and Caribbean Literature on Health Sciences (LILACS), Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval online (Medline), Nursing Database (BDENF) and Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO). The databases were accessed through the Virtual Health Library (VHL). Being used the descriptors and their combinations in the Portuguese language "Brazilian Public Policies" and "violence against women". This search includes the

search in journals and references described in the selected studies. The inclusion criterion were articles published in Portuguese in the form of articles in national journals portrayed the theme referring to integrative review and articles published by and indexed in these databases in the last 12 years. Exclusion criteria were theses, books, editorials, articles that did not respond to the question guiding the themes and duplicate publications. In the third stage it was the definition of the information to be extracted from the selected studies contemplating the identification of the article, year, objective, type methodology, result and conclusion. In the fourth stage, the information analysis was performed, which consists of the evaluation of the cataloged data that based on the incidence of the content and the characteristics present in the selected studies [3]. In the fifth stage presentation of the results, the information of each study that was most relevant to the review. In the sixth stage it was in the presentation of the main results obtained that in turn were analyzed according to the theme of this study.

## Results

Data collection was performed from August to October 2018 in databases: BDENF, LILACS, MEDLINE, SCIELO, obtaining 16,000 articles from several journals indexed in the most diverse databases, and only 7 are part of scielo's databases, MEDLINE, LILACS and BDENF and which is related to the theme under study. After reading the 16,000 titles. Fifty-nine articles were tracked, of which 47 scientific publications were excluded that did not address the theme, which were duplicate articles and that were not available at the time and soon after a new reading was performed in full of the articles. Sample was 12 publications that when read and analyzed in the integral, added a final sample of 7 articles related to the impact of public policies to reduce violence against women, and the 7 articles were selected from the LILACS database, Scielo, Medline, Bdenf (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Selection of scientific publications in databases, according to the criteria established for the study.

We cataloged the journals that met the inclusion criteria, went through reading and selection, which went to meet the objective and answering the guiding question. The presentation of the data occurred after analysis of the articles, which were presented in a table that reveals the appropriate specifications of the articles.

Regarding the year of publication, an article was found in 2011, an article in 2014, two articles published in 2015, an article in 2016, one article in 2017 and one in 2018 (Table 1) presents a synthesis of the studies included in this review.

**Table 1:** Research instrument.

Article	Year	Objective	Method	Main Results	Database	Evidencia Level
Contribution of a study center in the consolidation Public Policy for women	2011	Report the experience of origin and development of a center of study in women's health whose actions go beyond the biological issues of women's health	Experience report	Historically Brazil has been seeking to align movements in defense of women's rights and empowerment, as well as agreeing with other countries for prevention, punishment and eradication against women.	BDENF	Level V
Assistance to women in the face of sexual violence and public health policies: Integrative review	2018	Analyze evidence on scientific production regarding assistance to women in situations of sexual violence	Integrative review	The attention service to women victims violence, experienced dichotomous moments of advances and setbacks, but public policies in the country had an adequate participation in the care and information about women's rights, but is still far from the that is expected for policy of slowing down violence against women	LILACS	Level IV
Public policies for women's protection: health care assessment of victims of sexual violence	2017	Assess public policies, women's protection legislation and health care for victims of sexual violence	Exploratory and descriptive study	There was a growing concern of the government in reducing the frequency and injuries of violence. However, public policies cannot achieve the expected effect, observed in the numerous existing laws that do not achieve the expected result	LILACS	Level VI
Analysis of the effectiveness of the Maria da Penha Law and the Municipal Councils of Women in combating domestic and family violence in Brazil	2016	Assess the effectiveness of the Maria da Penha Law in reducing rape and attempted rape between 2005 and 2013, and also verifying the influence of the Municipal Councils of Women in reducing cases of violence against women, for the years 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013	Descriptive analytical	In the year of implementation there was a reduction in cases in all states. The Maria da Penha law was an important advance against women's violence contributing to increased complaints.	LILACS	Level IV
Public policies and violence against women: the reality of southwestern Goiás	2015	Investigate the implementation of public policies aimed at combating violence against women in Social Assistance institutions (Specialized Reference Center for Social Assistance) and Public Security (Specialized Policewomen's Service) from southwestern Goiás.	Qualitative research, content analysis	The existence of public policies in some parts of the state only exist on paper and elsewhere in implementation process. The author notes that public policies for prevention and chartering are not yet deeply articulated.	LILACS	Level VI

Sexual violence against women in Brazil: achievements and challenges of the health sector in the 2000s	2014	Analyze and reflect on the main policies and public actions produced or instituted in the Brazilian health sector throughout the 2000s and that contributed to the confrontation of sexual violence against women in Brazil, considering advances and difficulties encountered.	Documentary research	Lack of maturing to understand the coping with sexual violence. Observed by the author that there are still lack of political decisions to make operationality of services and coping strategies.	LILACS	Level IV
Implementation of health care for sexual violence against women in two Brazilian capitals	2015	Analyze the implementation of health care to this demand in two Brazilian capitals.	Documentary research	The service has a specific outline in each municipality, there is a difference between the implementation process of health care actions for women. The result of this design allows public policies to consolidate female citizenship through institutional strategies.	Scielo	Level VI

## Discussion

### Alignments the policies public no combat a violence against woman

This theme was these 5 articles analyzed, the what corresponded 71% of the total. the violence against woman is seen as problem of health public by fact of risks and aggravations of health mental and physical, in what the woman USA the service of health by power heal your problems. Second lander Dahl (2011) the maturing of theme led a creation of conventions and discussion the policies, like this as a preparation of policy national attention to health of woman, emphasizing an attempt of the country for align as recommendations international aiming a guarantee of rights of woman. The laws ranking a violence against a woman as a violation of rights human before a same, so needing of guarantee of the same. Achievements as national plan, policies public, search ensure but citizenship and consequently the empowerment feminine [4]. A discussion in institution of teaching favors a training professional suitable a act no process of preparation, application, monitoring and evaluation of projects and actions for strengthen a research of the genre, violence against woman and empowerment feminine [4]. No study of Balogun, Lara, Nascimento, Barbieri (2018), the visibility social violence sexual started to be discussed a leave of creation of the Maria da Penha law, which contributed for curb a violence domestic and familiar against the woman, establishing changes in determination crimes and procedures cops and legal. Same with the advances the study presented services what presented environments appropriate for service and professionals trained, however is far than be ideal. concludes the author what still exists gaps between the guidance of the ministry of health and the reality of services of health [5].

In 2011 a definition of policy national coping to violence against women establishing concepts, principles, guidelines and actions of prevention and combat to violence [6]. The decree 7,958, 2013 establishes guidelines for service as victims of violence sexual by

professionals of security public and network of service to their still provides assistance of professionals of health, so mandatory and integral, aiming the control and treatment of aggravations physical and psychic arising of violence [6]. As policies public of protection to woman comes being developed to long of years favoring the improvement of legislation of enframement of violence against a woman, however without much change no scenario statistical. to Souza; Souza the process of enframement of violence still is in stage of implementation in area of study, which is a hinders for the professionals for service of health. this difficulty also it's seen in area of psychology, in what still lack support scientific what guides the service. As policy public of prevention of violence against a woman, still no are properly deployed. such situations view to scenario public of little evolution, while some it's topping other still are short than if need change in relationship to enframement of violence. Lack leadership and awareness to a fight against a aggression a mulher, demonstrates-it's a need of people what know respect as differences and what aponte paths what take a woman to your empowerment [7].

### Political advances in the implementation of laws

The Maria da Penha law favored the creation of administrative and judicial structures, which came as a result of the struggle of feminists, and today is the main policy of combating violence counts women, with a broad character as the ways of practicing violence. The law acts as a protection of women's rights, and thus feel safe when searching for specialized services, reducing sub notations [8]. The same author comments that the law allowed a gain in the protection of women's rights, favoring the increase of complaints, characterizing severe measures and acting in the discouragement of criminal action. The diversity of Brazilian states causes some to have an evolution in relation to the assistance of women victims of violence and others do not, this may be related to the stage that is recognized by the problem in the political cycle. The reflection that is made of this scenario is that of a fragility in relation to the quality of management in the care of women in situations of violence. This

is a theme that should be included in vocational training, for the preparation of assistance that recognizes and intervenes effectively in combating violence [9].

### Final Considerations

Violence against women has always been present in the history of humanity, but recently became a central theme for the world. Advances were made by the struggle for people's rights, consolidated in the creation of citizenship and human rights. When thinking about violence against women, it is observed that progress has been made with the Maria da Penha Law, which comes as a divider so that the achievements would not stop, but it was not enough to stop the aggressions, mainly because the aggressor lives under the same roof. Feminist movements played an important role in the construction of policies that favored women's empowerment. The political changes contributed to the problem taking visibility when reported cases allowed epidemiological dimensioning and the creation of public policies voted on prevention. Time has made progress, but it was not enough to combat it, as it requires much more than has already been done today, there needs to be government efforts to address violence against women. It is necessary to integrate powers to implement these public policies that still need better articulation with the care network as training of health professionals for the recognition of violence and humanized care.

### Acknowledgement

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### Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest.

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