An analytical reflection on the Brazilian linguistic production on Language Policy

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As it is widely known, Brazil is a country with continental dimensions that shelters a diversity of languages. Some are spoken concomitantly to Portuguese; others, through Portuguese. In addition to Portuguese, which functions as both the national language of State and the mother tongue of most Brazilian speakers (this distinction between national and mother tongue interests us), it is estimated that more than 180 indigenous languages are practiced throughout the territory, not to mention the language of European, African, Asian immigrants who came to inhabit the country for different reasons.

This profusion of languages and speakers has always demanded the attention of linguists, especially those interested in understanding the specific configuration of the language policy in this complex space of enunciation. Among the several theoretical-epistemological positions that supported studies and researches on Language Policy in Brazil, there is the materialist one, which can be observed, above all, in the works carried out in the area of Discourse Analysis, History of Linguistical Ideas and Semantics of Enunciation. In the field of Brazilian science, these three linguistic disciplines interact intimately with one another, since they mobilize more or less common concepts and authors, such as "discourse", "discursive formation", "event", "enunciation", "history", "political", as they were conceived by Michel Pêcheux and his team, in France, and Eni Orlandi and Eduardo Guimarães and their team, in Brazil.

The present work aims to analyze the main theoritical advances of Brazilian linguistic science regarding the issue of language policy. More specifically, we will analyze the theoretical advances arising from the mobilization of the materialist position in language studies. To cite some of these advances, we can mention the formulation of the concepts "Brazilian language", "imaginary/fluid language", "space of enunciation" and "speaker".

Our methodology will consist in observing social-historical conditions of production of this conceptual domain, putting in relation the institutions, the theories and the questions in debate at a certain moment of the Brazilian scientific production on Language Policy.

We hope, therefore, to make a significant contribution to the purposes of the DGfS Workshop, which is to discuss different theoretical and methodological approaches to deal critically with the issues concerning language and politics.

References: Guimarães, E. (2018). Semântica: enunciação e sentido. Campinas: Pontes. Orlandi, E. (Org.). Política Linguística no Brasil. (2007). Campinas: Pontes. Orlandi, E. (2009). Língua Brasileira e outras histórias. Campinas: Editora RG. Pêcheux, M. (1975). Les vérités de la Palice. Linguistique, sémantique, philosophie. Paris: Maspero. Pêcheux, M. (2011). Análise de discurso: Michel Pêcheux. Campinas: Pontes Editores.

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