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Land Prices, Concentration and Sustainability: a Relational Analysis from Morrinhos, Goiás Scenary Between the Years of 2019 and 2021

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Abstract

Land, whatever the society, has always been associated with immanent, material and immaterial values. In ancient Mesopotamia, land was associated to life and fertility, a source of food. As cultivation practices have been improved, allowing correction in a given region, allowing human population to stay permanently at some area. Initially collectively and then individually, a land came to have owners. Today, land cannot be limited to a single function, as it is synonymous with food on the table, sacred territory for traditional populations, place of life and, also, of economic power. In this last perspective, the owners started to have rights over their lands and the conflicts over their ownership or property are constant. In Brazil, it was no different, conflicts started with a sixteenth-century pose system, initiating an uncontrolled land concentration in the country. In 1850, the Agrarian Law presented the first land reform plan, however, to this day, it has not yet been carried out. Turning to looking at the reality of the municipality of Morrinhos, in midwestern Brazil, around the 18th century, there was a disorderly occupation amid a lack of land legislation, which was regularized with each approved land law, consolidating the latifundios and monoculture in the region. Due to the characteristics of geographic relief and soil, which makes the land conducive to the cultivation of soy and livestock, the economic value of the land is increasing in the municipality. Given this context, this research seeks to assess whether the rise in land prices, in the last 3 years, has accentuated inequality and land concentration in Morrinhos, going against sustainable development. It starts from the hypothesis that the land concentration in Brazil favours the intensive and unsustainable use of land and natural resources, increasing social inequality. In a qualitative approach, supported by the inductive method, bibliographic and documentary research and indirect analysis of data on market values and land concentration in Morrinhos were carried out, correlating them. Data is being collected at the local registry office and at the city hall. It is also intended to compare such data with sustainability indicators, demonstrating the relationships graphically.

Keywords: Environment, Rural Development, sustainability