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**SOCIALS
REPRESENTATIONS OF
“THE JUSTICE AND
PEACE LAW”
IN THE SEMANA’S
MAGAZINE**

INTRODUCTION

The Justice and Peace Law, approved by the Colombian Congress on 21 June, aims to regulate the current demobilization of paramilitaries — and technically members of the guerrilla — by granting "demobilized" to impose appropriate penalties on them and to guarantee the victims just reparation.

So, the process is lacking in effective mechanisms for justice and in its inability to ensure that paramilitary members actually cease violent activities.

In this sense, any legal framework for the demobilization of members of illegal armed groups, be they paramilitaries or guerrillas, must respect victims' right to truth, justice and reparation, tackle the endemic problem of impunity, ensure that combatants are not reintegrated into the conflict, and include measures to bring to justice all those responsible for supporting the illegal armed groups militarily and financially, including members of the security forces; because in Colombia, remedies for gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law include the victim's right to the following as provided for under international law: equal and effective access to justice; adequate, effective and prompt reparation for harm suffered; access to relevant information concerning violations and reparation mechanisms.

In this context, it's important to know the social representations that construct the Semana's magazine in order to analyse the impact of the press during the period "the colombian transitional justice". For this, the investigation finds through methods and support in the referring theoreticians to describe the cognitive dimension of the Semana's magazine on the justice and peace law. These representations are interpreted through formalizations that are satisfied segmenting in graphical forms (codes), corpus of the news, considered as continuation of separated occurrences, to each other, by means of several delimited characters.

OBJECTIVES

GENERAL

To know the social representations that constructs the Semana's magazine on the justice and peace law and its actors.

OBJECTIVES

SPECIFICS

- • To identify the theory, concept and methodology fundament of transitional justice.
- • To know the development and applicability of Transitional Justice in Colombia.
- • To study the laws and the decrees that have been regulated the matter.
- • To identify the social representations on the justice and peace law and its actors reveals in the informative speeches of the proposed news.

METHODOLOGIC ASPECTS

The selected methodology was framed within the procesual approach, since this approach rests in qualitative postulates and privileges the social thing analysis, the culture and the social interactions.

It is as well as this investigation is constructed from a heuristic model, inspired mainly by the technique of Grize, Vérges and Silem (1987), whom recognize determining social spaces: the practice, the ideology and the cultural interpretation.

In this sense, Grize, Vergés and Silem proposed and validated a process to analyze the resulting discursive material. One treats in a first view to locate and analyzes the category system used by the people, permitting in this way define the whole representation content.

After this, in a second view, extract the organizing elements of this content.

From a significant coefficient between the two classifications allows there to confirm or to reinforce the hypothesis that one is in the presence of organizing elements of the representation. The congruency of the both criterion (frequency and rank), constitutes an indicator of the centralidad of the element.

More in detail: A) As far as the practice, according to Belo (1987) this speech by itself, its story is organized through the person live. B) The ideology, it is an instance that expresses the social thought front the relations of being able institutional in the circulating speeches of the society and that is knowledge source as well. C)The cultural matrix of interpretation are located in the collective historical memory and it is transmitted by a formal set system or informal (school, family, church, associations, among others) giving an historical connotation to the forms of social thought, updating them, even though their production conditions disappear when they out of context themselves of the political and social dynamics that gave origin him.

As a result of the previous act, for the boarding of the social representations of the justice and peace law, it was decided to choose the triangulation method: with the intention, to complement and/or to deepen with respect diverse points of views, to a same investigation topic, the triangulation was methodologic (documentary analysis, analysis of the written speech and observation); sources (primary and secondary information); and of results cuantitatives.

This way, the social representations of the justice and peace law were processed from general categories or scopes of interpretation, These were: cultural matrix, which represent a species of collective memory, from which they reflect on which the Law of Justice and Peace gives reduced prison sentences to the perpetradores in comparison with the punishments that formal justice imposes; in addition, the one of Justice and equal Peace to impunity and from which they appear marks of ideology, since with the Law of Justice and Peace the victims' rights are violated and the international human rights law and international humanitarian law, too; politician, respect to the incredulity towards that the demobilization of members of illegal armed groups must respect victims' right to truth, justice and reparation and cultural and social practice that is generated from own conditions of the context and has to do.

CONCLUSIONS

- The social representations of the Justice and Peace Law in Semana's magazine are multidimensional and they have been expressed in the political, economic, ideological and social dimensions.

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- In the social thing: from this dimension the Justice and Peace Law is pronounced for the paramilitary heads obtain slight penalties in exchange for anything. The Justice Law and Peace represents itself as a forgiveness and forgetfulness law that benefits clearly to the perpetrators, violating for this way, international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

The Justice and Peace Law leaves of side the responsibility of the state agents authors of crimes against the International Right. This perpetuates the conflict and undermines the efforts of the National and International Community.

Also, the Justice and Peace Law not clearly encourage the achievement of collective agreements between the Government and the illegal armed groups to ensure that the latter definitively agree to cease their attacks, abandon their weapons, avoid armed conflict and effectively dismantle their illegal structures.

Thus, there is strong evidence that paramilitary structures have remained intact after "demobilization", that human rights violations are still being committed by paramilitaries in areas where they have supposedly demobilized, that many demobilized paramilitaries are being "recycled", mainly as paid military informants, and that collusion between the paramilitaries and sectors of the security forces is continuing

In the politician: The Justice and Peace Law is deeply flawed and will only serve to strengthen the already chronic problem of impunity in Colombia. So, the national community, not want to support any demobilization of illegal armed groups until the the Colombian government has legal guarantees in place to ensure that any members of these groups responsible for human rights abuses are brought to justice. Such guarantees are part of the international obligations to truth, justice and reparation to which the Colombian State is a party.

In the economic thing: It seems clearly that it is not going to have but symbolic repairs. Also, the Justice and Peace Law could be a gigantic operation of washing of assets.

In the ideological thing: Without the truth, justice and reparation it will be impossible to fully dismantle the structures that have supported paramilitary violence for so many years. The Justice and Peace Law clearly disregards these fundamental principles. Supporters of the law argue that a compromise must be made between peace and justice. But the dichotomy between peace and justice is a false one.