

Millions of Brazilians have no identification document | National Newspaper

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May 17,
2020



Among Brazilians who are in urgent need of financial assistance, there are millions who cannot afford it. Officially, they don't exist.

Reporter: Camila, have you ever been to school?

Camila: No, I was never able to go to school.

Reporter: Health services, do you have access?

Camila: Neither.

Reporter: Do you have any documents?

Camila: Nothing. None.

Reporter: Do you have any proof that you exist?

Camila: No. Just by mouth.

Camila da Silva, unemployed, cannot prove who she is. She has been trying to get her birth certificate for two years. It fails because her mother was also not registered.

"My dream is to be able to work, to be able to go to school, to be able to exist for society", he says.

Millions of Brazilians were not registered when they were born.

Without a birth certificate, they do not have an identity card and CPF. Nor do they have access to public services such as health and education or to government assistance programs.

The last IBGE data is from 2015. It estimated that three million people lived in this situation. At 29, Cleiton has been fighting for ten years to exist. And now he also wants to have his name on his son's birth certificate.

"He's registered, but without my name, I need my birth certificate to put my name on my son's certificate," he says.

Iohana has tried a late birth registration since 2015. She has never been to school and is unable to consult at SUS. Nor can it receive emergency aid of R \$ 600 from the federal government.

"I have three children. Sometimes children ask for something and don't have it. Missing indoors. I have a little shop, I live on the help of people ", says the freelance Iohana Almeida da Silva.

"They are really non-citizens. They pass the margin of any kind of action by the state. They do not have the basic record, which is the birth certificate. This is the beginning of a trajectory, the subject will be informal for life, will be unprotected for life, which in a pandemic situation is life-threatening ", explains FGV economist Marcelo Neri.

"I have the strength, I have the courage, but it is difficult, because when you get there, you get no because you don't have your document", says Iohana.

All Brazilians who appeared in the report try to prove in court that they exist. In Rio, the State Secretariat for Social Development and Human Rights takes action to try to eradicate the lack of birth registration and provide access to basic documentation.