



XII National Meeting of Research in Science Education (XII ENPEC)

LETTER FROM THE CITY OF NATAL, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil

At the closing plenary session of the XII National Meeting of Research in Science Education (XII ENPEC) held from June 25 to 28, 2019 in the city of Natal, the Brazilian Association of Research in Science Education (ABRAPEC), urgently ratifies the position that Education and Science are social constructions and, therefore, politically committed and aligned with democracy and social justice. Valuing the diversity of the Brazilian people enriches us and, therefore, cannot fail to be increasingly taken into consideration, above all, in the face of the challenges of overcoming the immense inequalities and asymmetries of power of Brazilian society, which is structurally racist, sexist, homophobic, plutocratic and excluding.

We also express our opposition to the setbacks and dismantling of public policies in Education and Science, highlighting the urgency of strengthening scientific production committed to society as a whole, and especially to the popular classes, groups historically marginalized and oppressed, including millions of students and teachers, as well as the entire educational community. Science should be attentive to and in tune with the earth's marginalized and the world's poor, as Paulo Freire would say. In reaffirming his legacy, we reiterate the centrality of the transforming commitment of Education.

We reaffirm the strategic value of public education, in schools and universities, as the space for the exercise of the emancipatory future project of our country. In this way, we express the urgency of sustaining the mission of ABRAPEC and the themes of the XII ENPEC: DIFFERENCE, SOCIAL JUSTICE and DEMOCRACY.

We reiterate that difference is a force that unites us. We value the senses, allowing us to look at unachieved possibilities, while recovering utopian visions and the right to dream as a human right. Our dream is of a pluralist society that is diverse and socially and environmentally just. We are certain that science is a historical and social enterprise that joins many struggles for a future, where many other worlds are possible.

NATAL, RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE, NORTHEAST BRAZIL, SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE, PERIPHERY OF THE WORLD, JUNE 28, 2019.