

Complaints are multiplying fast!

My friends!

Complaints are multiplying fast in relation to the deficits of the Brazilian Inclusion Act and many people have been writing me to get some opinion. And I, Alex Garcia, reply to them:

Our laws will always be in doubt. They will always be questioned why? Because all of them are in the opposite direction of development.

To understand what is the “opposite direction of development” try to answer these questions: “How can inclusion be developed for all” without observing individualities? The correct development is from the parts to the whole and not the contrary. The “for all” actually would be the sum of individualities. Thus, the Laws in Brazil are in the opposite direction because they forget the parts, they forget the individualities. Of course! People are the ones who forget. This carelessness is premeditated in order to keep the power, the control and inequality, to keep the privileges and to keep people as cattle“.

I have written the following to the legislators and Senators:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Here writes to you Alex Garcia – a deafblind person and a person with Rare disease. I have received the article " Into force for two months, the Inclusion Law can be adjusted" which talks about adjustments in the Brazilian Inclusion Act also known as The Statute of Persons with disabilities and I would like to question, collaborate, request and suggest.

1- The Brazilian Inclusion Act does not enjoin more specific matters. There are persons with extremely specific disabilities and the Brazilian Inclusion Act might exclude (or has already done it) these people. One example of this are deafblind persons;

2- It was highlighted that the Brazilian Inclusion Act is in accordance with the Convention. No. The Act is not in total accordance with the Convention exactly because of the lack of aspects and specific legal regulations;

3- The Convention, in its article 24 deals with the right for education enjoins which specificity to deafblind persons. Assurance that the education of persons, specially blind, deaf or deafblind children is delivered in the languages, modes and communication means more appropriate to the individuals and in environments which maximize their academic and social development;

4- I highlight that in 2015 I sent to advisors of Senator Romário a Bill (the draft) that I myself wrote to Senator Romário and his staff analyze. In this Bill I

describe the specificities and necessities of a deafblind person. This Bill (draft) could become a Law tailored to deafblind persons;

5- So far I haven't received any reply in relation to the Bill(draft) from Senator Romário and his advisors;

6- I highlight that I participated of the Drafting of the Convention as a member of the International League on Disability and of the South Project. We wrote about deafblindness in the article 24 - Education. My colleagues (deafblind persons from many countries) and I dedicated lots of attention to article 24 because it describes very clearly the word "deafblind";

7- It can be said that deafblindness exists in Brazil for more than 50 years and that, unfortunately, the full development of deafblind persons is inexistent. It's rare to see a deafblind person who can fully develop in Brazil;

8- We, deafblind persons, need a very specific Law, a national Policy, similar to the legal protection that persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder have - Law 12.764/2012.

Attention:

9- In Brazil, what has destroyed and keep destroying the lives of persons with disabilities is the "act of hierarchizing the human being" I.e. some people are "worth" more than others, so people with most frequent and less complex disabilities have their rights clearly described and more accessible. However, persons with "less frequent and more complex disabilities" still have their rights ignored and highly inaccessible. This happens every day-everybody knows it-although the laws emphasize that they are "for all". "The act of hierarchizing the human being" was an intensively discussed theme by the International League and the South project. And exactly to combat this "act of hierarchizing" which is in the article 24, specific aspects of deafblind persons.

We hope that someday Brazil can pay attention to us, deafblind persons, as human beings. I say farewell for now and I am at your disposal.

Alex Garcia – Deafblind Person.

When the truth is evident, facts speak for themselves!

My friends!

These kind of things are the ones that kill our hopes. In this message, I'll give you recent examples and I will argue about this aspect:

1st example: there is a Bill about unilateral hearing loss in the Senate.

2nd example: A Project recognizes person with monocular vision as a person with disability.

These two examples can be used to develop some reflexions concerning our reality- the reality of deafblind persons.

Deafblind people have been in Brazil since the 60s (to specify a date) in a situation one million times worse than unilateral hearing loss and persons with monocular vision and we still have got nothing! Only God can comfort us, but Does God exist?

Am I against unilateral hearing loss and monocular vision?

No, no. I am in favor of them. If a person feels “the barriers” and those are related to this person’s condition, so this person must keep fighting for the rights!

So, what is my contradiction?

My contradiction lies in the fact that our policies are developed, “reach” and are and are widely, directly and more effectively intended for persons with less complexity, more frequent persons and for persons with more complexity. To persons with less complexity there is only pain and suffering, for them there is only “bark up the wrong tree”, there is only eternal hopes (but our bodies are not eternal), there is only exclusion left. Well, all the people with more complexity, the less frequent people, and their families know about everything I have just said. So wrote Agatha Christie: “When the truth is evident, facts speak for themselves”. And is like this that I question our supposedly inclusive for all laws.

Alex Garcia – Deafblind Person.