History of logic in Latin America: the case of Ayda Ignez Arruda

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ARTICLE

History of logic in Latin America: the case of Ayda Ignez Arruda

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ABSTRACT
Ayda Ignez Arruda (1936–1983) was a key figure in the development of the Brazilian school of Paraconsistent logic and the first person to write a historical survey of the field. Despite her importance, the only paper entirely devoted to her works is Da Costa and De Alcântara’s “The Scientific Work of Ayda I. Arruda”. In this paper, after offering motivation for an investigation of Arruda’s work, on the basis of biographical and bibliographical research we present her intellectual development and the originality of her contributions in a new light. With this newly articulated survey of Arruda’s thought, we hope to lay the groundwork for future research on her legacy and thus contribute to a new, more inclusive narrative of the history of the analytic tradition in Latin America.

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1. Logic and analytic philosophy in Latin America: what about the women?

Systematic research recovering the neglected history of women philosophers in Latin America is relatively rare – a notable exception is Ana Miriam Wuensch’s panorama, which shows through many examples that women have been doing philosophy in the continent for centuries (Wuensch, “Acerca da existência de pensadoras no Brasil e na América Latina”).

Explanations for this state of affairs should start by considering contextual specificities such as Latin America’s colonial history, its enduring social inequalities

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Recent examples of specific research on Brazilian women philosophers are Paulo Margutti’s book on Nísia Floresta (1810–1885) – the first feminist Brazilian writer and a philosopher of education – the chapter dedicated to her in the second volume of the História da Filosofia no Brasil, 412–524 and Secco and Pugliese, “Teaching Nísia Floresta” on the philosophical arguments found in her 1852 Opúsculo humanitário.

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