Statistics and Judicial System. The use of statistics as a tool for the protection of human rights: the case of the Public Ministry of Defence of the City of Buenos Aires

The Public Ministry of the Defence of Buenos Aires City has as one of its main tasks the defence of the human rights of the people it attends regardless of their charges, resources, gender or nationality. Special attention requires the situation of people detained during the commission of a crime, for which the PMD created a special office, the Directorate of Attention to Persons Deprived of Liberty.

The objective of this presentation is to share the experience of how the use of statistics in a public Directorate can contribute to the defence of human rights and the achievement of the goals defined by the institution. It also seeks to point out the importance and need for interdisciplinary work between areas such as Statistics, Sociology and Law.

The methodological strategy is as follows: a) a brief description of the judicial processes related to the detention of people in Buenos Aires City and some antecedents of institutional violence are presented b) Examples of the use of statistics are given to account for irregularities in these processes c) Some conclusions are presented considering the scope and limitations of the use of statistics as an input for the protection of human rights.

Demonstrating how statistics can contribute to guarantee human rights of people deprived of their liberty in general, and of vulnerable groups such as migrants, trans people or informal workers in particular, hopes to be a contribution to the dissemination of the idea of "Statistical Science for a Better World"

Finally, knowledge will be produced that will allow us to continue insisting on the need to improve public statistics as a basis for decision-making in the judiciary field.

Key words: use of statistics – interdisciplinary work – crime statistics – Buenos Aires City – official statistics