

## ***Press Release OPINIÃO PÚBLICA, vol.15, nº1 , 2009 June***

In an article about research methodology, the authors Maria Teresa G. Alves and José Francisco Soares debate some approaches to use the Socioeconomic Level index and present a methodology using the Item Response Theory in order to express the variations among families. Using a 2005 survey on education, the authors analyse the SES scale built on information on education, occupation and income.

In an article about political behavior, researchers demonstrate the impact the being a Family Grant Program (Bolsa Familia) beneficiary in vote choice for President in 2006 and in the Lula's government evaluation. Based on the Brazilian national survey associated to the 2008 America's Barometer, the authors Elaine Lício, Lucio Rennó e Henrique Castro show that being a recipient of the Program affects the vote for Lula in 2006 and his administration's evaluations.

The *Data essay – Trends* show information about the American election of 2008, highlighting the main questions and issues that have oriented the voter decision for president. Data come from the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research- University of Connecticut, and indicate that the economic situation and the Iraq war had critical role in the choice for Obama as President of United States.

“Measuring socioeconomic status in applied social science research: an application to data from an educational survey”. Maria Teresa Gonzaga Alves e José Francisco Soares, p.1-30.



“‘Bolsa Família’ Program and vote choice in the Brazilian 2006 Presidential Elections: in search of the missing link”. Elaine Lício, Lucio R. Rennó, Henrique Carlos de O. Castro, p.31-54.

*Data Report- ‘Tendências’, “The 2008 american presidential election and the expectations with the elected president Barack Obama”, p.247-272.*