Editorial

Polisemies and identities of food and human eating

The various meanings of the human experience of relating to nature through the human biological, mental, emotional and spiritual body reveals polysemy and identities that have shaped cultures of peoples, nations and societies over food and eating.

The displacements in search of survival left marks and indelible trajectories of resistance and miscegenation and created food cultural heritage. The cuisine, derived from the individual and collective representation of the domestication of ways of life, has contributed to the construction of ethnic, economic, social, historical, and symbolic-cultural references of food.

The polysemy of concepts of eating in the contemporary human experience reflects the ways of human beings living with nature and has been constituted as a modern construct of critical analysis of the meanings of eating as indemnity expressions and power relations.

The traditional food of Latin America has preserved culinary dishes, such as the Creole food culture and the consumption of beans and rice in Brazil. These culinary habits are a form of expression of resistance from a decolonial perspective. This process experienced through tensions in the interests of the global food market, has contributed to promote collective and individual stigma and iatrogenic behavior.

Therefore, the relationship between need and pleasure contributes to shaping the construction of the food culture from the meanings between abundance and dietary rationality, and among corporeality and its power relations. Dealing with these issues constitute a challenge of the present time.

One of the consequences from the relations presented above is the advent of the overweight and obesity pandemic in the world which has stimulated studies and
research on various approaches. It was also revealed the importance of bringing together several dimensions of understanding and therapeutics that incorporate eating as an expression of humanistic ethics as a way to be traced to the advent of emancipatory public actions, programs and policies.

During this journal edition, we present several sources of studies and research to translate the contemporary food environment and its challenges, such as historical reports and institutional documents on the promotion of adequate and healthy food.

We hope that this edition useful in reaching new milestones in your own research.

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