

SOPRAVVIVENZA DEI DIALETTI VENETI IN BRASILE: IL CASO DI SANTA TERESA, STATO DI ESPIRITO SANTO

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Studi Italiani di Linguistica Teorica e Applicata, XLVIII, 1 (2019), pp. 171-188

ABSTRACT

This article aims to present preliminary results of a research project that intends to document the variety of Veneto that is spoken in Santa Teresa, Brazil, using a variationist sociolinguistic approach. It has two main goals: first, to examine the differences in the maintenance of Northern Italian dialects in both the urban and rural areas of Santa Teresa; and second, to illustrate some phonetic-phonological characteristics of the Veneto dialect spoken in Santa Teresa. The data collection followed the methodology used in Nagy et al.'s (2011) *Heritage Language Variation and Change* in Toronto Project (HLVC). The results indicated that the Northern Italian dialects survived more in the rural areas than in the urban areas of Santa Teresa. Furthermore, the findings also confirmed that the Northern Italian variety spoken in the rural areas of Santa Teresa presents phonetic-phonological characteristics of the Veneto dialect.