

Brazilians Rally Against 'Sexist' de facto President Temer



Brasilia, May 16 (RHC)-- The controversial de facto President of Brazil, Michel Temer, angered Brazilians with misogynistic comments and denial of the lack of diversity in his government.

Protesters took to the streets, banging pots and pans in at least five Brazilian cities on Sunday evening to express outrage over his bizarre comments in an interview with Globo TV that laid bare his sexist and neo-liberal plans for the South American country.

Demonstrators in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, San Salvador, Belo Horizonte, and Porto Alegre shouted slogans including "Temer coup-monger" and "Out with Temer" against the newly-installed conservative leader, the newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo reported.

In the interview, Temer, who has come under serious fire for appointing a cabinet of all white men for the first time since the last dictatorship, announced that he will put his own wife, Marcela Temer, in charge of women's programs in his government -- but only if and when President Dilma Rousseff is officially impeached.

In another sign that gender issues are likely to be sidelined under the de facto government, Temer bizarrely referred to women as "representatives from the female world," a comment that garnered widespread mockery on social media. In his first day in office, Temer eliminated the Ministry of Women

and Ministry of Racial Equality along with four other ministries, ostensibly in the name of austerity.

Temer's appearance marked his first interview since he was installed last week in the country's top office following a Senate vote last week to suspend President Dilma Rousseff and make her face an impeachment trial over accusations of manipulated budget accounts.

One of the most controversial moves proposed by the Temer government in welfare reform, which could see cuts to popular social programs introduced by Rousseff and her predecessor former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

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