People without identity documents go unrecognized by modern states and therefore cannot access the rights, benefits, and services that they provide. Significant numbers of Brazilians still lack the necessary documentation to enjoy citizenship. Yet since the late 1990s a federal campaign has sought to increase the numbers of Brazilians who possess identity documents. This presentation by Dr. Wendy Hunter explores why so many Brazilians have lacked documentation and what explains the federal mobilization underway to address the problem.

Dr. Wendy Hunter, from the University of Texas, Austin, studies Comparative Politics with an emphasis on Latin American affairs. She has done in-depth work on the military in Brazil and the Southern Cone, as well as research on social policy issues in Latin America. She has also done extensive research on left parties in Latin America.

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