

Violence Has Emptied Brazil's Stadiums. Average Attendance Is 20%.

Contributed by Marcela Rebelo
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Brazilian Minister of Sports, Agnelo Queiroz, says that if integrated action is taken against violence in soccer stadiums, it would be possible to double attendance.

He points out that at the moment the average is for stadiums to be only 20% full for soccer games. "We should be able to fill up around 50% of a stadium if we stop the violence," he says.

Queiroz also emphasizes the increase in revenue. For example, another US\$ 37 million could be taken in during the Brazilian soccer championship, he observed.

"Our objective is to show that peace in the soccer stadium is possible." It can also be profitable, he says.

This week the Minister received a package of proposed measures by the Peace in Sports commission. Some of the proposals will be tested in São Paulo stadiums beginning in March.

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