Nowadays, in sociological theory in general and political sociology in particular, there is an increasing awareness that the nature of the relation between authority and solidarity that used to thrive in national societies is undergoing radical changes. One of the expressions of such awareness is the well known debate on the realignment of state, market and society in contemporary life. If the ways of relating authority and solidarity are no longer the same, it might be considered that other visions of the world, other values, are emerging over contemporary history. In this sense, the general interest of my work is to operate a cultural point of view analyzing the particular changes of the relationship between authority and solidarity in contemporary Brazil. The empirical phenomenon on which I concentrate to this purpose is that of the nongovernmental organization’s empowerment. The main objective of this research is to identify and analyze the values which are related to NGOs activities in this country. I intend to identify the evaluative relations that have become hegemonic in current representations of such NGOs, analyzing their meaning variations along the last 30 years. The intensification of global processes, the transformations of nation states, and the emergence of new macro political actors are all general problems of sociological theory that assume singular conditions when confronted to the great variety of cultural-historical contexts all over the world. In the NGOs case, analysts are always emphasizing the fact that their multiplication and empowerment are sustained by varying patterns of social relations in the whole world. In this sense, to understand the legitimacy of Brazilian NGOs, I intend to analyze the world conceptions and to draw the profile of evaluative relations which confer meaning to this particular social phenomenon.