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Abstracts

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THE ANTISOCIAL PHENOMENON AMONG PORTUGUESE STUDENTS: TOWARDS HEALTHIER SOCIAL BEHAVIOURS

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Introduction: The complexity of antisocial behaviour in adolescence is widely acknowledged by developmental psychology. Antisocial behaviours are particularly prevalent during this stage, making it crucial to identify variables that potentially influence deviancy in this specific developmental moment.

Objective: The aim of our research was to study and understand what types of behaviours are displayed by adolescents and their relation with several dimensions of personality, social skills, self-concept, family environment, socioeconomic status, age and gender.

Methods: A sample of 490 Portuguese students from the Coimbra region (Portugal) between the 5th and 12th grades filled, in classroom, a sociodemographic questionnaire and the Portuguese versions of Youth Self-Report; Social Skills Questionnaire – Student Form; Family Environment Scale; Piers-Harris Children’s Self-Concept Scale-2; and Eysenck Personality Questionnaire-J. Parents were asked to fill the Child Behaviour Checklist and a socio-demographic questionnaire.

Results: Our results show significant differences between individuals who reported and did not report antisocial conducts in several dimensions of personality, self-concept, social skills, and family environment. Furthermore, some of those dimensions were found to predict the scores obtained in YSR’s and CBCL’s factors related to antisocial behaviour.

Conclusions: Our research presents great value for understanding this challenging phenomenon, providing significant results and explaining important amounts of variance while addressing multiple sets of variables. Therefore, due to its broad scope and approach this study provides an important contribute for designing and implementing intervention programs that can promote healthier social behaviours in adolescence.

Descriptors: development, adolescence, antisocial, behaviour.

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THE INCIDENCE OF FALLS IN INSTITUTIONALIZED ELDERLY

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Introduction: The characteristics of the institutionalized elderly, as age and physical disability, increase significantly the probability of falling, as well as their severity when they occur. For this reason, it is crucial to understand and study the occurrence of this phenomenon in elderly.

Objective: To determine the incidence of the phenomenon falls in institutionalized elderly and the prevalence of the risk of falling, by applying an assessment instrument. This study was developed in two nursing homes in Oporto, being organized in two stages: first, we identified the incidence of the phenomenon of falls, by a retrospective analysis to institutional records for the period of one year, in one of those nursing homes. Second, we applied the instrument of risk assessment of falls - Hendrich II Fall Risk Model (HIIFRM).

Results: it was reported that 46% of the elderly have fallen in the last year (from September 2011 to 2012); an average there was more than two falls in the elderly ($X=2.2; \pm 1.8$), and the fall was at least one and a maximum of 9. By applying the HIIFRM to 111 elderly, 47% are at high risk of falling. We analyzed the most significant risk factor is the administration of benzodiazepines, that is present in 41%.

Conclusions: According to this, it appears that the incidence of this phenomenon, in the sample, is competing with international data. However, these figures are nonetheless worrisome, given the impact that falls represent the quality of life of elderly.

Descriptors: Falls; Elderly; Nursing Homes; Quality of Life; Risk Factor.

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