

## PORTUGUESE ADAPTATION OF THE SEXUAL SENSATION SEEKING SCALE WITHIN COLLEGE STUDENTS

Maria José Santos<sup>a</sup>, Elisabete Ferreira<sup>b</sup>, Manuela Ferreira<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro/ ESEnfVR.

<sup>b</sup>Faculdade de Psicologia e Ciências da Educação da Universidade do Porto. Portugal. <sup>c</sup>Escola Superior de Saúde de Viseu. Portugal.

Contact details: mjsantos@utad.pt

**Background:** The most current version of Sexual Sensation Seeking Scale (SSSS) had been used to measure de “propensity to attain optimal levels of sexual excitement and to engage in novel sexual experiences” (Kalichman & Rompa, 1995). It is an 11-item assessing sensation seeking specifically related sexual interests and activities. It is a psychometric instrument to assess the disposition to take sexual risky behaviors, including risks related to the acquisition of sexually transmitted infections.

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to examine the psychometric properties of SSSS within a sample of heterosexual college students.

**Methods:** After consensual translation by experts, the SSSS was administered to 223 college students, with mean age of 21 (M = 20.91, SD = 3.09) years. The scale reliability (internal consistency and item-to-total correlations) construct validity and concurrent validity were evaluated.

**Results:** The SSSS Portuguese version had good internal consistency (Cronbach's alpha = 0.84) for the total scale. Factor analysis showed a one-factor structure, as observed in the original version, explaining 42.01% of the total variance. The majority of the items had factor loadings on their respective domains of at least 0.30, except for item 8. The scores on the SSSS ranged between 11 and 39 (M = 22.37; SD = 6.37). There were significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) in scores of male (M = 27.51, SD = 5.10) and female participants (M = 19.98, SD = 5.40).

**Conclusions:** The properties of the SSSS Portuguese version demonstrate its value for measuring college student's perception to sexual sensation seeking. The results confirm the structure and psychometric characteristics of the original version, reflecting values acceptable fidelity and validity.

## THE PARENTAL ROLE IN CHILD SEXUALITY

Elsa Almeida<sup>a</sup>, Manuel Cordeiro<sup>b</sup>, Tânia Teixeira<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Centro Hospitalar Tondela - Viseu. <sup>b</sup>Centro Hospitalar do Baixo Vouga - Unidade de Aveiro. <sup>c</sup>Centro de Saúde de Tondela. Portugal.

Contact details: enf.manuel@gmail.com

Although sexuality is at present a topic widely discussed, aspect of sexuality Child is an area little studied and poorly known his experience from the point of view of parents. While nurses skilled in Paediatrics and Child Health in order to obtain knowledge that will allow us to collaborate and support the role of parents, we decided to study the perception that parents have of Child Sexuality and strategies at their disposal to address this issue with their children. A qualitative methodology of phenomenological nature as it was intended to explore the experiences of parents in their life contexts. The sample consists of nine parents of children aged between 6-10 years, enrolled in a group of Scouts. According to the interviews, we found that the majority of parents recognize the existence of infantile sexuality, there are however two who doubt or affirm their non-existence. Doubts children about sexuality concern mainly with questions of the biological, psycho-emotional and social. We found that is predominantly parents felt peaceful, when addressing this issue with their children, as well as satisfaction for being requested by them. In terms of strategies, reveals that parents usually wait for the children to question on the topic of sexuality and use dialogue, with the help of books or

analogies. In parents view, the gender identity of the children, face the male role is evident in issues of strength and liking football, while the female is recognized in liking for clothing, adornments and makeup. Parents reported that the source of information that children seek begins in the family and continues in school, then going to the media. They also consider that the responsibility to teach their children about this issue it is of the family, then the school and church.

## PEER EDUCATION NATIONAL PROJECT. PORTUGUESE FOUNDATION “THE COMMUNITY AGAINST AIDS”. YOUNG VOLUNTEERS’ PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

Filomena Aguiar<sup>a</sup>, Paula Costa<sup>a</sup>, Gabriela Fonseca<sup>a</sup>, Geraldina Bettencourt<sup>a</sup>, Marta Mateus<sup>a</sup>, Vanda Delgado<sup>a</sup>, Isabel Chagas<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Fundação Portuguesa “A Comunidade Contra a SIDA”.

<sup>b</sup>Instituto de Educação da Universidade de Lisboa. Portugal.

Contact details: caojlisboa@gmail.com

**Introduction:** Peer Education is a methodology used in health promotion, disease prevention and risk behavior. The Peer Education National Project (PENP) relies on the valuable contribution of volunteers from different university programs. These volunteers receive both scientific and pedagogical training in order to work with students of the project partner schools.

**Goals:** To characterize the volunteers, identify their motives and initial expectations, and evaluate the pedagogical training program they received under the PENP.

**Methods:** 56 young volunteers answered to two questionnaires: the “Satisfaction Questionnaire” and the “Initial Questionnaire-AIB” (AIB - Academic Intervention Brigades) in the school year 2012/2013.

**Results:** Most PENP volunteers were 18-22 years old and were enrolled in university programs of Medicine, Psychology and Communication. Regarding the pedagogical training they were submitted they emphasized the interest, the utility, and the organization of the project as well as the strategies used by the teachers who supervised the training program. Volunteers also enhanced as affordances the “climate of total openness”, and “the high level of interaction among volunteers and supervisors”. In which concerns the motives for joining the PENP they pointed out, among other reasons, “to help youngsters to access information about how to prevent HIV and other STDs”, “to participate in volunteer projects”, “to achieve personal and professional enhancement”, “to be part of an interesting project”, and “to contribute to behavior and mentality change”.

**Conclusions:** Results emphasized the relevance of the volunteers’ pedagogical training program in achieving the PNEP goals and highlighted the strengths of this program for future editions.

## PARTICIPATORY AND ACTION-ORIENTED LEARNING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION COMPETENCE IN SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Cristina Rodrigues<sup>a</sup>, Teresa Vilaça<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Agrupamento de Escolas de Freixo. <sup>b</sup>University of Minho. Portugal.

Contact details: crismr25@gmail.com

**Introduction:** Action-oriented projects in sexuality education are innovative methodological approaches on the development of the student action competence.

**Objectives:** To analyze the effect of an action-oriented teaching methodology on the development of action competence in sexuality education, implemented in groups of different genders or mixed gender groups.