



Adolescence and violence: perspectives through social representations

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ABSTRACT

As part of human development, we can understand adolescence as a phase in which several biopsychosocial changes occur. At this stage, there is still greater exposure to situations that pose a risk to health and life, including violence. Through this study, we sought to identify, from the adolescents' perspective, what they understood about violence in their daily lives, especially regarding gender issues. For this, a descriptive study was carried out, with a qualitative approach, based on the theoretical framework of social representations. 14 teenage women, aged 11 and 18, participated, with the participation of one who recognizes herself as a transsexual woman. The data was collected through the Google Meet platform, between the months of June and August 2021. Individual interviews and focus groups were used for collection. In the data analysis stage, Bardin's Content Analysis was used, from which the following thematic categories emerged: a) perceptions about violence against women; b) perceptions about violence against black women; and c) perceptions about violence against women from sexual and gender minorities. It is concluded that several social representations of violence were addressed, regarding sexual and gender minorities,

especially regarding black women, and, thus, the adolescents were able to reinterpret the reality experienced in their daily lives, presenting new representations or reaffirming their values, while different positions shared socially in groups on the topic of violence can be presented. It is also considered that the adolescents were able to verbalize about the violence witnessed, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a long way to go in deconstructing patriarchal, misogynistic, racist and LGBTQIA+phobic culture, as these are structured and institutionalized issues in Brazil and the world with historically constructed conceptions about adolescent women.

BIOGRAPHY

Geisilane Silva completed her specialization in adolescent health in the multidisciplinary residency modality, at the age of 24 years from Federal University of São João del-Rei, Brazil. She is currently a public servant in a municipality in Minas Gerais, Brazil, where she is a psychologist and reference technician at a CAPS - Psychosocial Care Center. He has experience working in several multidisciplinary teams and his publications are within the area of social psychology and mental health.



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