



## **Virtual ethnography: need for children and adolescents to have access to sexual education**

*Virtual ethnography: the need of children and adolescents to have access to sex education*

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### **Summary**

The present work aims to present the investigation carried out on social networks, to build scientific knowledge on how the media approaches the topic related to sexual education. Using ethnography as methodological support and the description of a methodological path that used the platform: YouTube as a locus of data production. Taking into account the numerous social networking sites that currently exist, the video platform was selected as a place to search for the empirical research material. A data collection was carried out regarding sexual education for children and adolescents. Sexual education is of great importance to prevent possible acts of rape against our children and adolescents. Its priority is to inform them about their privacy and about touches that may be unpleasant for them. It is necessary to approach self-protection, consent, the difference in touches that can be invasive and the bodily integrity of children and adolescents in an appropriate way for each age group.

**Key words:**sexual education for children, importance of sexual education, sexual education for teenagers.

### **Abstract**

The present work aims to present the investigation carried out in social networks, for the construction of scientific knowledge, about how the media approaches the topic related to sex education. Having as methodological support the ethnography and the description of a methodological path that used the platform: Youtube as a locus of data production. Taking into account the numerous social networking sites that currently exist, the video platform was selected as the place to search for the empirical material of the research. A survey of data regarding the sexual education of children and adolescents was carried out. Sexual education is of great importance to prevent possible acts of rape against our children and adolescents, it is a priority to inform them about their privacy and about the touches that may be unpleasant for them. It is necessary to approach in an appropriate way for each age group about self-protection, consent, about the difference of touches that can be invasive and about the bodily integrity of children and adolescents.

**Keywords:**child sex education, importance of sex education, teenagers sex education.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Sexuality is a broad and historical concept. It is part of every human being and is represented differently depending on the culture and historical moment. Human sexuality has biological, psychological and social components and it is expressed in each human being in a particular way, in their subjectivity and, collectively, in social patterns, which are learned and apprehended during socialization. Thus, the attitudes and values, behaviors and manifestations linked to sexuality that accompany each individual since birth constitute the basic elements of the process that we call sexual education. It has an unintentional character and exists from birth, initially occurring in the family and then in other social groups. It is the way in which we construct our sexual values and moral, and consists of religious, media, literary discourses, etc. (Bortolozzi, et al, 2011).

150 In our society, sexuality has not been explored and/or discussed in such a way that people are educated to get to know it and learn that its exercise is not ugly and sinful, culminating, in this sense, in sexual miseducation.

"Not talking", in this way, facilitates the exposure of adolescents to risk situations related to the exercise of sexuality, such as unwanted pregnancy, contagion of sexually transmitted infections and psychological and emotional trauma resulting from the experience of frustrating sexuality (Gonçalves, et al , 2013).

Studies on sexual education, in the family and school context, are of fundamental importance, as they aim to reflect how it is conducted and worked on in the family and at school. The relevance of studies around the theme "sexuality" is based on the contribution of information that can help parents and educators in the development of sexual education



contextualizing and contemporary. Identifying the limitations of parents and teachers for adequate sexual education can contribute to improving this process (CHAVES et al., 2004). Thus, this work, through a literature review, aimed to address the impasses and challenges in the development of sexual education by parents and educators, as well as discuss the value of sexual education in the training of young people. (Gonçalves, et al, 2013).

According to Souza (1991), sexual education consists of offering conditions for people to assume their bodies and their sexuality with positive attitudes, free from fear, prejudice, guilt, shame, blocks or taboos. So with this we can see the need to address the issue for children and adolescents, so that they grow up safe and knowing the limits they can impose, knowing that something is wrong, that it is going against their consent, that touching her body is against her and that this hurts her bodily integrity, making it necessary for her to seek help knowing that something is wrong.

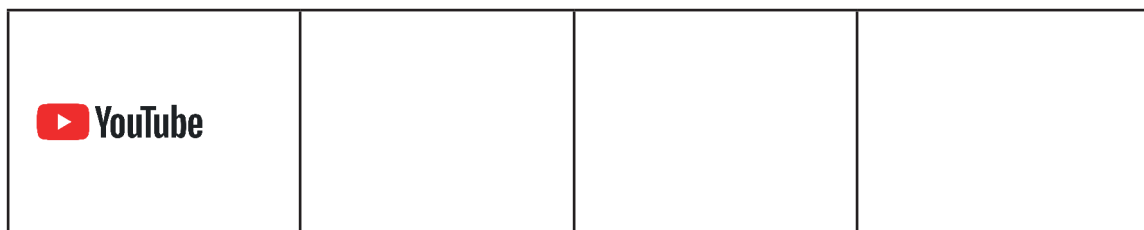
## 2 METHODOLOGY

This is a qualitative study based on virtual ethnographic research as an investigation method. Data collection took place through the researcher's immersion in social networks and the research was carried out between January and March 2022. (NEERGAARD; OLESEN; ANDERSEN; et al.2009; HINE, 2000).


Taking into account the numerous social networking sites that currently exist, YouTube was selected as a place to search for the empirical research material. A data collection was carried out regarding sexual education for children and adolescents.

For the searches, it was necessary to select descriptors such as: #sexualeducationofchildren, #importanceofsexualeducation, #adolescentsexual education, and without selection filters for each search. As shown in figure 1.

Figure 1: organization chart of searches on social networks.



The figure shows a table with four columns. The first column contains the YouTube logo. The other three columns are empty.

			
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Source: YouTube, 2021

For data analysis, 6 publications for each keyword were used, the number of views, the number of likes, the number of shares and the results of each search were organized in Excel spreadsheets and graphs.

According to ethical guidelines, approval by an ethics committee was not necessary, as this was research carried out on social networks with data open to the public.

### 2.1 SELECTION OF SAMPLES FOR ANALYSIS

From the data obtained, we created a variable to evaluate the 6 videos for each relevant keyword, coming from reliable pages, from all searches with the descriptors and the criteria used were: number of views, number of likes, number of shares. The posts were then organized into a ranking of interactions from which information regarding sexual education for children and adolescents was selected. According to the data collected for each descriptor researched on the social networks used, ten posts were selected that had relevant information, focusing the research in relation to the number of views, likes,

comments on the YouTube social network, none of the searches carried out presented all the interaction rankings selected in the search, such as, Video/poster title, views, publication date, views, likes, comments.

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Only videos from verified news channels or certified professionals were used

## 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

You can see in the organization chart below that even filtering searches for more recent years, there are many old videos, which shows that it is an old and necessary discussion, in addition, there are few views, some videos have no comments, few likes, data shown in table 1.

**TABLE 1: DESCRIPTION OF RELEVANT POSTS ABOUT THE SUBJECTS OF THE VIDEOS**

Network Social	Title of video/poster	Date in Publication		Likes	Comments	Link
YouTube	<b>two</b> DAY NAC I ONAL D AND COMBAT TO ABUSE AND	18.05.2021	1,498	46	1	<a href="https://youtu .">https://youtu .</a>
YouTube		08/27/2021	553	22	7	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube	<b>4</b> SBT FOR (29.09.21) - A	07/29/2021	64	1	The comments they are disabled	<a href="https://youtu . be / M t 6 _ P6sa0ws">https://youtu . be / M t 6 _ P6sa0ws</a>
YouTube		04.06.2021	272,258	9,600	235	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube		08.08.2021	332	10	0	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube		07/30/2021	491	31	1	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube		03.09.2021	421	10	3	<a href="https://youtu . be / C el 4 _ h0UG5s">https://youtu . be / C el 4 _ h0UG5s</a>
YouTube	<b>9</b> HEALTH SEXUAL AND	13.07.2021	1,578	66	two	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube	<b>10</b> AS TO SPEAK IN SEX WITH	04/08/2021	1,188	52	two	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube	<b>11</b> W V	07/29/2021	341	16	1	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube		14.05.2021	6,791	216	12	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube		12.05.2021	346	11	1	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube	<b>14</b> A	03.04.2019	44,884	3,300	77	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>
YouTube	<b>15</b> LET'S GO TO SPEAK ABOUT EDUCATION SEXUAL?	07/24/2019	2,272	117	9	<a href="https://youtu . be/">https://youtu . be/</a>

YouTube	16 TO BE YOUNG TODAY : EDUCATION AND M	09/23/2016	90,568	1,400	The comments they are deactivated.	https://youtu . be/
YouTube		06.02.2021	2,904	84	3	https://youtu . be/
YouTube		02.05.2019	1997	80	two	https://youtu .
YouTube		02/11/2020	172,575	6,400	1,481	https://youtu . be / K 7 r JI H 0 _ K G w
YouTube		29.09.2014	5,392	113	4	https://youtu . be/
YouTube		29.09.2014	1,550	47	1	https://youtu . be/

To evaluate the content posted on the YouTube video platform, we initially analyzed the recurring terms in the post titles. From this analysis, we built a word cloud with the most used ones in order to analyze the content related to sexual education for children and adolescents. Keywords: sexual education for children, importance of sexual education, sexual education for adolescents

Regarding the analysis of publications on YouTube, it was observed that the information disseminated about sexual education for children and adolescents was always very relevant and positive. Some from debates with celebrities in reporting environments, and others being addressed by professionals in the field of psychology. It was observed that the viewing rate of psychology professionals, who would have more insight on the subject, was lower compared to when approached by celebrities, seeing that the influence and visibility factor of people greatly interferes with the viewing and reach of the topic. It is inferred, therefore, that the need to approach the topic seeks to bring knowledge to children and adolescents to know the limits of possible acts of violation on their bodies. Quoted below in figure 2, figure 3.

**Figure 2: Teenager who attended the lecture on sexual education, thereby obtaining information about abuse and reporting his cousin for rape in Ceará**

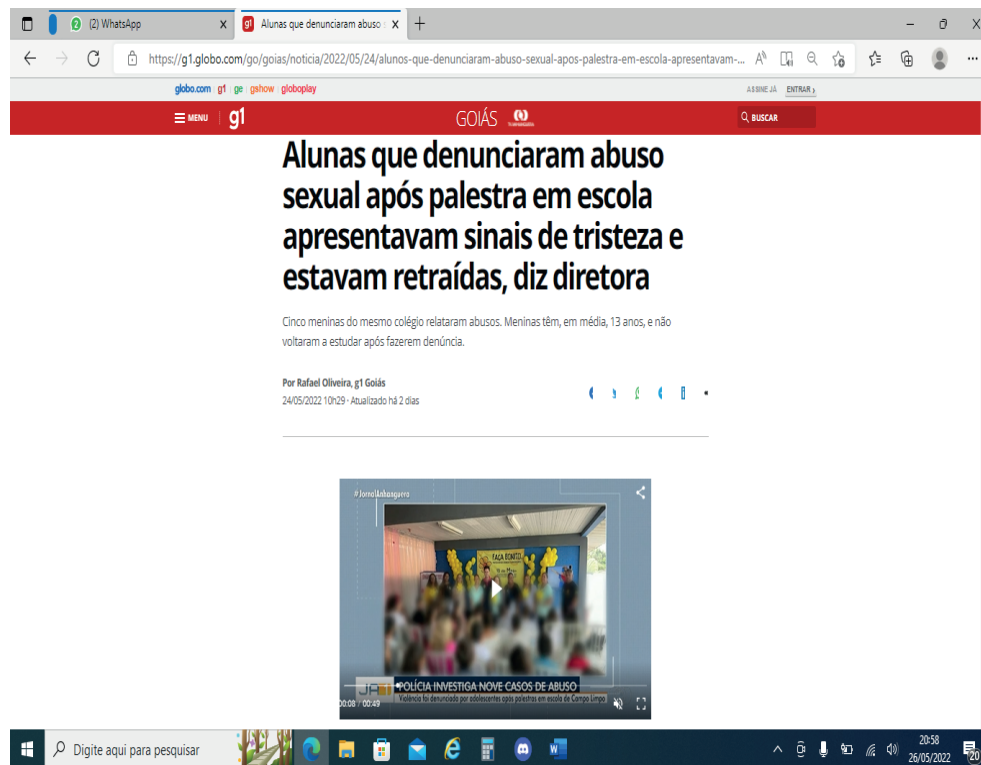


153 Source: O DIÁRIO DO NORDESTE, 2022.

In the interior of Ceará, a 23-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of rape of a vulnerable woman against his cousin. The victim, who is currently 16 years old, attended a lecture on sexual education at a Specialized Social Assistance Reference Center, which allowed the young woman to report the abuser and begin investigations (Diário do Nordeste, 2022).

The rape took place over at least 2 years, the suspect took advantage of the close relationship he had with the victim's family, and was investigated by the Acaraú Regional Police Station, finding sufficient information for arrest

Figure 3: Students who reported sexual abuse after a lecture at school showed signs of sadness and were withdrawn, says the director. Five girls from the same school reported abuse. Girls are, on average, 13 years old, and did not return to school after reporting it.



Source: G1 Goiás, 2022.

The students who reported suffering sexual abuse after attending a lecture on the subject at Colégio Estadual Rui Barbosa, in Campo Limpo de Goiás, already showed signs of sadness and had been withdrawn for a few months, according to the director, Paula Augusta do Nascimento.

All girls, who are, on average, 13 years old, attend the 8th year of elementary school. They did not return to studying after the complaint, made last Friday (20). The change in the students' behavior was noticed by the principal a few months ago.

Initially, she thought it was because of the coronavirus pandemic, which caused social isolation for around 2 years before classes returned in person.

The lectures on Raising Awareness against Abuse and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents took place between Monday (16) and Friday (20). The event was organized jointly by municipal schools and the state college. "It is important to talk about the subject in schools. Every day, children and teenagers suffer abuse and are unaware that they are victims. They think it is only when there is penetration, but there are other forms of abuse. Therefore, the importance of talking about sexual education and breaking taboos", said the director of Instituto Family, Samuel Rolindo. Samuel also said that people who want to report any type of sexual abuse can call Dial 100 or the institute itself, by phone: (62) 9.9579-9760.

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

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With the news examples in the figures, it can be seen that the perpetrators of the crime are always people who have easy access to the victims. Talking about sexual education brings benefits to the recognition of sexual violence, both for victims and for family members who seek to protect their children. The analysis of publications on YouTube about the importance of sexual education reveals how necessary it is to have access to information, in addition to helping children and adolescents understand what constitutes a pleasant and consensual touch, as well as invasive and uncomfortable ones, in addition to showing what intimacy is. , privacy, self-protection, consent, bodily integrity. Parental support is essential at this time, trying to understand signs and talking about sexuality is important at home too, sexual abuse causes psychological damage and deserves to be an urgent topic of conversation.



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