

## SCREAMS OF SILENCE: THE INVISIBILITY OF MALTREATMENT RESULTING FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE

 <https://doi.org/10.63330/aurumpub.064-005>

**Káthia Susana Almeida<sup>1</sup>**

### Abstract

Child sexual abuse constitutes a serious violation of human rights whose consequences extend far beyond physical harm, profoundly affecting victims' psychological and social well-being. This study aimed to examine the invisibility of maltreatment arising from child sexual abuse by considering the cognitive, emotional, and behavioral consequences that compromise child and adolescent development. A qualitative, exploratory, and descriptive approach was adopted, drawing on a bibliographic and documentary review of recent scientific publications, legislation, and institutional reports. The findings indicate that child sexual abuse is a psychosocial and structural phenomenon sustained by patriarchal culture, gender inequality, and institutional neglect. Family silence and revictimization within the healthcare, justice, and social assistance systems perpetuate trauma and hinder access to the comprehensive protection guaranteed under Law No. 13,431/2017. The analysis demonstrates that effectively addressing this issue requires strengthening a humanized protection network founded on trauma-informed listening, comprehensive support, and shared social responsibility. The study concludes that breaking the cycle of silence requires recognizing child sexual abuse as a structural public issue whose prevention and redress depend on ethical commitment, intersectoral collaboration, and effective public policies.

**Keywords:** Childhood, Comprehensive Protection, Invisibility, Revictimization, Sexual Abuse.

---

<sup>1</sup> Doctoral Candidate in Sociology  
Federal University of Paraná  
E-mail: [learning.and.business@gmail.com](mailto:learning.and.business@gmail.com)  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0006-6487-274X>

### INTRODUCTION

Child sexual abuse is one of the most serious violations of human rights, producing consequences that extend beyond physical injury to affect emotional, cognitive, and social development. According to the Overview of Lethal and Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents in Brazil (2021–2023), prepared by the United Nations Children's Fund (Fundo das Nações Unidas para a Infância—UNICEF) and the Brazilian Public Security Forum (Fórum Brasileiro de Segurança Pública), 164,199 victims of rape were recorded nationwide during this period, more than 60% of whom were 13 years of age or younger (UNICEF, 2023). These figures reveal a context of profound vulnerability and structural silencing that disproportionately affects girls and adolescent girls within their own families (Brazil, 2023).

The victim's home is the primary setting in which sexual abuse occurs, accounting for more than 65% of reported cases. In most instances, the perpetrator is a family member or someone within the child's circle of trust (Brazil, 2023). This finding is particularly alarming because it highlights the complex emotional ties that sustain silence, often reinforced by feelings of guilt, shame, and fear of disrupting relationships of emotional and financial dependence. Disque 100 (Brazil's national human rights reporting hotline) recorded more than 17,500 reports of sexual violence against children and adolescents between January and April 2023 alone, demonstrating that although reporting has increased, the number of reported cases remains substantially lower than the estimated true prevalence (Brazil, 2023).

Minayo (2018) and Habigzang and Koller (2011) argue that child sexual abuse should not be understood merely as an isolated event but rather as a psychosocial and cultural phenomenon reflecting broader inequalities in gender, power, and vulnerability. Beyond the physical violation itself, sexual abuse disrupts the child's symbolic integrity, producing lasting effects on psychological development and interpersonal relationships (Freud, 1920; Ferenczi, 1990). The literature consistently identifies cognitive distortions, low self-esteem, dissociative symptoms, depression, anxiety, and, in more severe cases,

suicidal ideation among the long-term consequences of child sexual abuse (Habigzang & Koller, 2011; Ribeiro & Fonseca, 2020).

The absence of appropriate support further intensifies the suffering experienced by victims and their families, who frequently face revictimization within healthcare services, public security agencies, and the justice system. According to Minayo (2018), institutional silence—manifested through procedural delays and inadequate psychosocial support—contributes to rendering sexual abuse invisible and impedes victims' psychological recovery. In many cases, judicial proceedings themselves become another site of symbolic violence, subjecting families to prolonged bureaucratic procedures that are emotionally exhausting (Saffioti, 2015).

Against this backdrop, the present study critically examines the invisibility of maltreatment arising from child sexual abuse by analyzing the cognitive, behavioral, emotional, and physical consequences that undermine child and adolescent development. It is grounded in the premise that silence, both within families and institutions, functions as a mechanism of social defense that conceals the severity of abuse and obstructs access to the comprehensive protection guaranteed under Law No. 13,431/2017, which established the system for safeguarding the rights of children and adolescents who are victims or witnesses of violence (Brazil, 2017).

This study adopts a qualitative approach based on a review of the scholarly literature, integrating contributions from psychology, psychoanalysis, and the social sciences to understand child sexual abuse as a structural phenomenon. Its scientific and social relevance lies in the need to break the cycle of silence by strengthening trauma-informed practice, institutional accountability, and victims' and their families' access to public policies that promote protection, recovery, and rehabilitation.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **SEXUAL ABUSE AS A PSYCHOSOCIAL AND STRUCTURAL PHENOMENON**

Child sexual abuse is a multidimensional phenomenon that reflects the convergence of

psychological, social, economic, and cultural factors deeply embedded in power structures and gender inequalities. Far from being merely an individual act of aggression, it represents a form of violence that both reflects and reproduces longstanding patterns of patriarchal domination and social silence. In this regard, Saffioti (2015) observes that "sexual violence is an instrument for maintaining gender hierarchies, functioning as a mechanism of control and subjugation over the bodies of women and children."

Understanding child sexual abuse as a structural phenomenon requires recognizing that it is not simply the result of deviant individual behavior but rather the product of a symbolic order that legitimizes inequality and objectification. As Bourdieu (1999) argues, male domination is sustained through invisible mechanisms—including habits, representations, and social practices—that generate a form of "symbolic violence" internalized by victims themselves as something natural. This internalization reinforces a collective pact of silence, perpetuating both impunity and the enduring psychological suffering associated with trauma.

The literature indicates that child sexual abuse is sustained by two interrelated dimensions: on the one hand, the patriarchal structure that underpins unequal power relations and the exploitation of vulnerable bodies; on the other, institutional neglect, reflected in fragmented public policies and delayed state responses (Minayo, 2018; UNICEF, 2023). According to Minayo (2018), the phenomenon should be understood as an expression of "the structural inequality that permeates institutions and subjectivities, reproducing practices of exclusion and neglect."

This perspective is reinforced by Almeida (2024) in her analysis of child and adolescent victimization and its psychosocial consequences. She argues that sexual abuse "cannot be reduced to an isolated traumatic event, as it becomes embedded within the victim's social experience and life history, shaping identity formation and the sense of belonging." From this perspective, child sexual abuse constitutes both a profound psychological wound and a social expression of abandonment and collective failure to protect vulnerable children.

From both legal and social perspectives, Brazil has made important advances in strengthening child protection through legislation such as Law No. 13,431/2017, which established the system for safeguarding the rights of children and adolescents who are victims or witnesses of violence (Brazil, 2017). Nevertheless, the effectiveness of this legal framework depends on coordinated action among the health, social assistance, education, and justice sectors. Studies conducted by the Brazilian Public Security Forum and UNICEF (2023) demonstrate that, despite increased reporting, substantial underreporting persists, particularly in cases where the perpetrator is a family member. In such circumstances, fear, shame, and financial dependence often prevent victims from disclosing the abuse.

Child sexual abuse must therefore be understood in all its psychosocial complexity, encompassing both the structural forces that sustain inequality and the subjective consequences of trauma. As Habigzang and Koller (2011) argue, addressing this problem requires "interdisciplinary actions that recognize the child as a developing individual and sexual abuse as a social phenomenon that demands collective responses." Breaking the silence, therefore, requires not only holding perpetrators accountable but also exposing the structures of power, exclusion, and institutional omission that enable the continued perpetuation of abuse.

From a psychosocial perspective, child sexual abuse is not merely an individual violation but also a reflection of broader social and institutional contradictions. It exposes the failure of a society that neglects childhood while perpetuating both subtle and overt forms of domination. Consequently, recognizing child sexual abuse as a structural phenomenon is essential for developing integrated public policies and fostering a culture grounded in protection, attentive listening, and meaningful support for victims.

## THE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EMOTIONAL IMPACTS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Child sexual abuse has consequences that extend far beyond the traumatic event itself, profoundly affecting the victim's psychological, emotional, and relational development. The severity and

manifestation of these effects vary according to factors such as the victim's age at the time of the abuse, the frequency of the abuse, the relationship with the perpetrator, and the quality of the family and institutional support received. Studies consistently show that child sexual abuse is among the most psychologically devastating experiences, as it engenders feelings of guilt, shame, and worthlessness that impair the individual's capacity to process and symbolically integrate the traumatic experience (Habigzang & Koller, 2011; Almeida, 2025).

Within the psychoanalytic tradition, Freud (1920) was among the first to recognize the disruptive nature of sexual trauma by describing the compulsive return of painful memories and the inability of the pleasure principle to contain the death drive. According to Freud, trauma leaves the individual marked by an overwhelming excitation that cannot be symbolically processed, later re-emerging as symptoms, nightmares, or compulsive repetition. Ferenczi (1990) further developed this understanding through his concept of the "confusion of tongues" between the adult and the child, arguing that sexual abuse involves not only physical violation but also the collapse of the affective code governing the adult-child relationship. In this traumatic process, the adult's desires are imposed upon the child's vulnerability and innocence.

From a psychological perspective, the immediate consequences of child sexual abuse may include anxiety, sleep disturbances, social withdrawal, and regressive behaviors. In the medium and long term, victims are at increased risk of developing depression, dissociative disorders, and suicidal ideation (Ribeiro & Fonseca, 2020). Psychological suffering emerges as an attempt to give symbolic meaning to the violence endured—a struggle to make sense of what is otherwise unbearable. As Almeida (2025) observes, "suicidal ideation during adolescence is frequently associated with unresolved sexual trauma, which disrupts the continuity of the self and gives rise to a profound experience of helplessness."

The literature further demonstrates that exposure to sexual abuse during childhood profoundly disrupts cognitive and emotional functioning. Victimized children are more likely to develop cognitive distortions, persistent fear, and difficulties with emotional regulation (Habigzang & Koller, 2011). Caruth

(1996) argues that trauma is characterized by a delayed process of psychological integration, since the event cannot be fully comprehended when it occurs and later returns in the form of intrusive memories or psychological symptoms. This perspective helps explain why survivors of child sexual abuse frequently experience dissociative symptoms, traumatic re-experiencing, and self-destructive behaviors as attempts to regain control over their own bodies.

These consequences extend beyond psychological functioning, affecting academic performance, social relationships, and family life. Minayo (2018) emphasizes that when child sexual abuse is not identified and addressed early, it significantly compromises emotional development and the child's ability to interact with the surrounding social environment. The absence of effective public policies and an integrated interdisciplinary system of care further increases victims' vulnerability, exposing them to revictimization and social isolation.

Moreover, the emotional impact of sexual abuse varies according to gender, socioeconomic conditions, and family dynamics. In many cases, the silence imposed by shame and fear reinforces the internalization of guilt and the belief that the victim bears some responsibility for what occurred. This process of internalizing violence is highlighted by Saffioti (2015), who argues that patriarchal culture legitimizes male power over vulnerable bodies, thereby rendering violence a structurally accepted social practice.

Understanding the psychological and emotional consequences of child sexual abuse therefore requires an interdisciplinary perspective that brings together psychology, psychoanalysis, and public policy. Skilled, trauma-informed listening, ongoing emotional support, and sustained therapeutic intervention are essential to rebuilding victims' self-esteem and restoring their sense of trust. Breaking the cycle of silence and revictimization is, therefore, a collective responsibility that requires coordinated action among researchers, institutions, policymakers, and civil society.

### SILENCE, REVICTIMIZATION, AND THE ROLE OF THE PROTECTION NETWORK

Silence is one of the most enduring and destructive consequences of child sexual abuse. It manifests not merely as an inability to speak, but as the product of a social structure that normalizes violence and delegitimizes the victim's voice. Children who experience sexual abuse are confronted not only with physical and psychological trauma but also with misunderstanding, fear, and symbolic abandonment, all of which perpetuate their suffering. As Orlandi (2017) argues, "silence is not the absence of meaning, but rather a mode of signification that simultaneously reveals and conceals oppression and social prohibition."

This imposed silence, often mistaken for a form of protection, also constitutes an expression of symbolic violence (Bourdieu, 1999). By silencing the victim, society reinforces the perpetrator's power and perpetuates structural inequalities based on gender and age. Saffioti (2015) contends that patriarchal culture reinforces mechanisms of domination that shift responsibility onto the victim while diminishing collective accountability. In the context of child sexual abuse, silence becomes a mechanism through which impunity and revictimization are sustained, preventing victims' suffering from being recognized as both legitimate and socially shared.

Revictimization occurs primarily when victims who seek help are subjected to inappropriate interviewing procedures, repeated recounting of traumatic experiences, and moral judgment. The shortage of professionals adequately trained in trauma-informed interviewing, combined with the fragmentation of public services, often transforms the protection network itself into another setting in which violence is experienced. Habigzang and Koller (2011) emphasize that "the lack of coordination among health, education, social assistance, and justice policies perpetuates institutional neglect and reinforces the cycle of suffering and silence experienced by victims."

In a recent study, Almeida (2024) argues that the fear and psychological distress experienced by child and adolescent victims are intensified by the lack of continuous therapeutic support and the slow pace of judicial proceedings. According to the author, "the initial trauma is often compounded by the

institutional network's inability to provide empathetic listening, trauma-informed support, and long-term psychological care." This perspective is consistent with Winnicott's (1975) assertion that a child's emotional recovery depends upon the presence of a reliable and supportive environment capable of facilitating the symbolic reconstruction of the self after trauma.

In Brazil, Law No. 13,431/2017 established the system for safeguarding the rights of children and adolescents who are victims or witnesses of violence, introducing procedures such as the Special Testimony (*depoimento especial*) and the Protected Interview (*escuta protegida*). Although this legal framework represents a significant advance in the protection of child victims, its effective implementation continues to face challenges related to professional training, service overload, and the shortage of long-term psychosocial support (Brazil, 2017; Minayo, 2018). According to UNICEF (2023), public policies aimed at combating child sexual abuse in Brazil still lack effective coordination across different levels of government, thereby undermining the provision of comprehensive care.

Preventing revictimization therefore requires an integrated, human-centered protection network founded on active listening, confidentiality, and comprehensive support. The effectiveness of such a network depends on an ethical and political commitment that extends beyond institutional bureaucracy and recognizes psychological suffering as a matter of public concern. In this regard, Minayo (2018) argues that comprehensive protection can only be achieved when professionals working in healthcare, education, justice, and social assistance collaborate in an integrated manner while taking into account the unique circumstances and life history of each victim.

Addressing silence and revictimization therefore requires more than punitive measures. It calls for a fundamental shift in the social paradigm—one that places the victim's voice, dignity, and recovery at its center. Victims must be recognized as rights-holders rather than merely as objects of investigation. Building an effective protection network therefore represents not only a means of breaking the cycle of invisibility but also a concrete opportunity to help victims reconstruct and reclaim meaning from their traumatic experiences.

## METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a qualitative, exploratory, and descriptive research design based on a bibliographic and documentary review of national and international scholarly literature addressing child sexual abuse from psychological, psychoanalytic, and social perspectives. This methodological approach was chosen because it enables a comprehensive understanding of both the subjective meanings and the structural dimensions of the phenomenon, while acknowledging the symbolic, cultural, and institutional factors that shape it (Gil, 2014; Minayo, 2018).

According to Gil (2014), bibliographic research is particularly appropriate when the objective is to "analyze and discuss existing theoretical interpretations of a given problem, identifying relationships, contradictions, and gaps within the literature." Accordingly, the theoretical corpus was compiled from books, peer-reviewed articles indexed in databases such as SciELO, PubMed, and PePSIC, as well as institutional publications issued by the Brazilian Public Security Forum, UNICEF, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Human Rights and Citizenship. The review encompasses publications produced between 2010 and 2024.

The study also draws upon recent scholarly publications published in peer-reviewed journals, including Almeida's (2025) contributions to the field of child and adolescent sexual abuse and mental health, published in *Lattice: revista científica multidisciplinar* [Lattice: Multidisciplinary Scientific Journal]. These previous studies provided both the conceptual and empirical foundation for developing the analytical framework adopted in this article, making it possible to identify convergences among psychological trauma, emotional consequences, and the fragility of existing child protection policies.

To ensure methodological rigor, all sources were selected according to their scientific relevance, currency, and credibility, with priority given to institutionally endorsed studies and publications appearing in recognized scholarly journals and specialized academic books. Triangulation of the literature was employed to strengthen the consistency of the analysis, minimize potential bias, and ensure theoretical

plurality—an essential requirement for understanding a phenomenon of such human and social complexity.

From an ethical standpoint, the study complies with the principles established by Resolution No. 510/2016 of the Brazilian National Health Council, which governs research in the Human and Social Sciences in Brazil, ensuring the integrity of the sources, appropriate citation practices, and transparency in the use of secondary data (Brazil, 2016). No primary empirical data were collected, thereby avoiding any exposure of research participants or breach of confidentiality.

In summary, the methodology is grounded in an interdisciplinary perspective that integrates Psychology, Psychoanalysis, Sociology, and Public Health to examine child sexual abuse as both a subjective experience and a structural social phenomenon. The theoretical rigor and critical analysis of the literature made it possible to develop a coherent and integrated analytical framework capable of informing public policies and psychosocial intervention strategies aimed at preventing abuse and improving care for victims.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The findings of this study, derived from the bibliographic and documentary review, underscore the persistence of child sexual abuse as a structural phenomenon rooted in gender inequality, institutional neglect, and the social normalization of silence. An analysis of data published by UNICEF (2023) and the Brazilian Public Security Forum confirms a scenario of extreme vulnerability: more than 60% of rape victims in Brazil are 13 years of age or younger, and in 65% of reported cases the perpetrator is a member of the victim's family or household. These figures reinforce the understanding that child sexual abuse cannot be viewed as a series of isolated incidents but rather as the expression of a pattern of symbolic domination that sustains patriarchal hierarchies and the control of vulnerable bodies (Saffioti, 2015; Bourdieu, 1999).

From a psychosocial perspective, the findings indicate that the trauma resulting from child sexual abuse becomes deeply embedded in the victim's subjectivity, giving rise to long-term emotional, cognitive, and behavioral impairments. According to Habigzang and Koller (2011), sexual abuse compromises psychological development and the individual's capacity for symbolic processing, leading to symptoms such as anxiety, depression, dissociation, and suicidal ideation. This conclusion is further supported by Almeida's (2025) studies, which identify a direct association between child sexual victimization and suicidal ideation among adolescents, particularly in contexts where family and therapeutic support are lacking. Psychological suffering thus emerges not merely as a consequence of the abusive act itself, but also as the product of social neglect and the absence of effective public policies.

From a psychoanalytic perspective, the findings reaffirm the theoretical contributions of Freud (1920) and Ferenczi (1990) regarding the traumatic nature of sexual abuse. Sexual trauma overwhelms the mind's capacity for symbolic processing, returning in the form of compulsive repetition and psychosomatic symptoms. Ferenczi's (1990) concept of the "confusion of tongues" vividly illustrates the devastating inversion of emotional roles between adult and child—a process that interrupts emotional maturation and undermines the child's fundamental sense of trust and belonging. From this perspective, child sexual abuse represents far more than a physical assault; it destroys the symbolic space within which the individual's identity is formed.

The findings also demonstrate that silence constitutes one of the most effective mechanisms through which child sexual abuse is perpetuated. According to Orlandi (2017), silence is not simply the absence of speech but a form of social meaning-making that simultaneously reveals prohibition and oppression. This understanding aligns with Bourdieu's (1999) concept of symbolic violence, whereby domination operates invisibly by normalizing practices and discourses that delegitimize the victim's voice. In cases of intrafamilial sexual abuse, fear of retaliation and feelings of shame become mechanisms of power that protect the perpetrator while keeping the victim in a state of emotional submission.

Institutional revictimization emerged as one of the most critical issues identified in the analysis. Despite the legal advances introduced by Law No. 13,431/2017, which established procedures such as the Protected Interview and Special Testimony, significant shortcomings remain in professional training and in the coordination among the healthcare, education, justice, and social assistance sectors. Studies by Minayo (2018) and UNICEF (2023) indicate that fragmented services and the absence of integrated protocols contribute to the repetition of psychological suffering and undermine victims' trust in public institutions. Inadequate interviewing practices, lengthy judicial proceedings, and insufficient psychosocial support ultimately transform the protection network itself into yet another setting of symbolic violence.

The interdisciplinary analysis further demonstrates that addressing child sexual abuse requires a fundamental ethical and social shift in perspective. An exclusive emphasis on punishing perpetrators is insufficient given the complexity of the phenomenon. What is needed is the development of an integrated, human-centered protection network that prioritizes comprehensive support, long-term therapeutic care, and institutional accountability. Winnicott (1975) argues that a child's emotional well-being depends on the presence of a "good enough" environment in which the broken bond of trust can be symbolically restored. This perspective is consistent with the principles of comprehensive protection established by the Statute of the Child and Adolescent (Estatuto da Criança e do Adolescente—ECA) and reinforced by more recent legislation, both of which require an ethical commitment from society as a whole to listening, protection, and care.

In summary, the findings indicate that the invisibility of the maltreatment arising from child sexual abuse is not accidental but rather the expression of a social structure that privileges silence over truth. The discussion demonstrates that only by recognizing child sexual abuse as a psychosocial and structural phenomenon will it be possible to break the cycle of impunity and promote effective strategies for prevention, victim support, and reparation. Trauma-informed listening and the strengthening of integrated protection networks therefore emerge as essential conditions for transforming victims' silenced cries into voices that are socially acknowledged and institutionally supported.

## CONCLUSION

This study has demonstrated that child sexual abuse constitutes one of the most serious manifestations of social and gender inequality in Brazil, operating through both symbolic mechanisms and institutional practices. The analysis indicates that it is a psychosocial and structural phenomenon sustained by power relations, silence, and institutional neglect that extend far beyond the individual act of abuse, exposing systemic shortcomings in child protection and victim-centered responses. The literature review further reveals that, although Brazil has established a robust legal framework—including Law No. 13,431/2017, which guarantees the right to the Protected Interview—the effective implementation of these legal safeguards continues to be hindered by fragmented public policies and insufficient coordination among the health, education, social assistance, and justice sectors.

From a psychological perspective, the findings demonstrate that child sexual abuse leaves profound and lasting marks on victims' emotional and psychological development, manifesting in anxiety, depression, dissociative symptoms, and, in many cases, suicidal ideation. Sexual trauma disrupts the individual's capacity for symbolic processing and fragments the continuity of the self, making sustained therapeutic intervention essential for rebuilding trust and restoring emotional autonomy. However, the lack of adequate institutional support frequently transforms the pursuit of justice into a further source of suffering, characterized by revictimization and continued invisibility.

The interdisciplinary analysis also demonstrates that effectively addressing child sexual abuse requires far more than punitive legal measures. It demands the consolidation of a human-centered, integrated protection network capable of coordinating the efforts of government institutions and civil society around trauma-informed listening, comprehensive support, and the psychosocial rehabilitation of victims. A child's emotional recovery depends upon the availability of a sufficiently supportive environment that fosters safety, restores trust, and rebuilds a sense of belonging. Within this context, responsibility for protecting children extends beyond families and public institutions to society as a

whole, making collective accountability essential to breaking the cycle of silence, neglect, and revictimization.

In conclusion, child sexual abuse constitutes a profound public and societal challenge whose eradication requires the ethical, political, and social commitment of the entire community. Recognizing it as a structural phenomenon entails exposing the symbolic foundations that sustain oppression, as well as confronting the subtle forms of domination that perpetuate silence and institutional omission. Breaking the silence ultimately means affirming victims' right to be heard, protected, and provided with meaningful redress, transforming their long-silenced suffering into a catalyst for social, legal, and institutional action in pursuit of a culture grounded in care, respect, and human dignity.

## REFERENCES

- Almeida, Káthia Susana. A Interdisciplinaridade no currículo escolar e sua influência na formação escolar [Interdisciplinarity in the School Curriculum and Its Influence on Educational Development]. *Lattice: revista científica multidisciplinar* [Lattice: Multidisciplinary Scientific Journal], [S. l.], v. 2, n. 2, 2024. Available at: <https://ojs.editorasim.com/latticemultidisciplinar/article/view/26>
- Almeida, Káthia Susana. A Psicologia do medo e do estresse do público infantojuvenil em situação de violência sexual [The Psychology of Fear and Stress Among Children and Adolescents Experiencing Sexual Abuse]. *Lattice: revista científica multidisciplinar* [Lattice: Multidisciplinary Scientific Journal], [S. l.], v. 3, n. 2, 2025. Available at: <https://ojs.editorasim.com/latticemultidisciplinar/article/view/64>
- Almeida, Káthia Susana. Abuso Sexual e Ideação Suicida na Adolescência [Sexual Abuse and Suicidal Ideation in Adolescence]. *Lattice: revista científica multidisciplinar* [Lattice: Multidisciplinary Scientific Journal], [S. l.], v. 3, n. 2, 2025. Available at: <https://ojs.editorasim.com/latticemultidisciplinar/article/view/40>

- Almeida, Káthia Susana. Violência sexual, delinquência juvenil e prejuízos psicossociais: impactos da vitimização na infância e adolescência [Sexual Abuse, Juvenile Delinquency, and Psychosocial Harm: The Impacts of Victimization During Childhood and Adolescence]. *Lattice: revista científica multidisciplinar* [Lattice: Multidisciplinary Scientific Journal], [S. l.], v. 3, n. 3, 2025. DOI: 10.70579/pl.v2i3.93. Available at: <https://ojs.editorasim.com/latticemultidisciplinar/issue/view/6>
- Bourdieu, Pierre. *A dominação masculina* [Masculine Domination]. 2nd ed. Rio de Janeiro: Bertrand Brasil, 1999.
- Brasil. *Lei nº 13.431, de 4 de abril de 2017*. Estabelece o sistema de garantia de direitos da criança e do adolescente vítima ou testemunha de violência [Law No. 13,431 of April 4, 2017. Establishes the System for Guaranteeing the Rights of Children and Adolescents Who Are Victims or Witnesses of Violence]. Diário Oficial da União, Brasília, DF, Apr. 5, 2017. Available at: [https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil\\_03/\\_ato2015-2018/2017/lei/113431.htm](https://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/_ato2015-2018/2017/lei/113431.htm)
- Brasil. Ministério da Saúde. Secretaria de Vigilância em Saúde e Ambiente. Notificações de violência sexual contra crianças e adolescentes no Brasil, 2015–2021 [Notifications of Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents in Brazil, 2015–2021]. *Boletim Epidemiológico*, Brasília, v. 54, n. 8, 2023.
- Brasil. Ministério dos Direitos Humanos e da Cidadania. *Disque 100 registra mais de 17,5 mil violações sexuais contra crianças e adolescentes nos quatro primeiros meses de 2023: relatório institucional* [Disque 100 Records More Than 17,500 Sexual Violations Against Children and Adolescents During the First Four Months of 2023: Institutional Report]. Brasília: MDHC, 2023.
- Caruth, Cathy. *Unclaimed Experience: Trauma, Narrative and History*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996.

- Ferenczi, Sándor. Confusão de línguas entre os adultos e a criança [Confusion of Tongues Between Adults and the Child]. In: Ferenczi, S. *Escritos psicanalíticos* [Psychoanalytic Writings]. São Paulo: Martins Fontes, 1990.
- Freud, Sigmund. *Além do princípio do prazer* [Beyond the Pleasure Principle]. Rio de Janeiro: Imago, 1996 [1920].
- Habigzang, L. F.; Koller, S. H. *Violência sexual: avaliação e intervenção clínica* [Sexual Violence: Assessment and Clinical Intervention]. Porto Alegre: Artmed, 2011.
- Minayo, Maria Cecília de Souza. *Violência e saúde* [Violence and Health]. 2nd ed. Rio de Janeiro: Fiocruz, 2018.
- Orlandi, Eni P. *As formas do silêncio: no movimento dos sentidos* [The Forms of Silence: In the Movement of Meaning]. 6th ed. Campinas: Editora da Unicamp, 2017.
- Ribeiro, Camila A.; Fonseca, Rosane C. Trauma e subjetividade: os impactos psíquicos da violência sexual na infância [Trauma and Subjectivity: The Psychological Impacts of Child Sexual Abuse]. *Fractal: Revista de Psicologia*, v. 32, n. 2, pp. 143–156, 2020. DOI: 10.22409/1984-0292/v32i2/5940.
- Saffioti, Heleieth I. B. *Gênero, patriarcado e violência* [Gender, Patriarchy and Violence]. 2nd ed. São Paulo: Fundação Perseu Abramo, 2015.
- UNICEF. *Panorama da violência letal e sexual contra crianças e adolescentes no Brasil (2021–2023)* [Overview of Lethal and Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents in Brazil (2021–2023)]. São Paulo: UNICEF; Fórum Brasileiro de Segurança Pública, 2023. Available at: <https://www.unicef.org/brazil/relatorios/panorama-da-violencia-letal-e-sexual-contra-criancas-e-adolescentes-no-brasil-2021-2023>
- Winnicott, Donald W. *O ambiente e os processos de maturação* [The Maturation Processes and the Facilitating Environment]. Porto Alegre: Artes Médicas, 1975.