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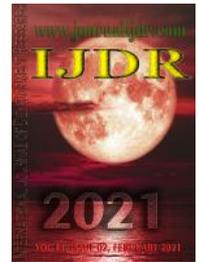
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CHARACTERIZATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN EARLY CHILDHOOD: AN ANALYSIS OF THE VICTIMIZATION OF BOYS AND GIRLS IN THE STATE OF PARÁ-BRAZIL

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ABSTRACT

The present study analyzed the characteristics of cases of sexual violence against children in the early childhood stage, which occurred from 2009 to 2018 in the state of Pará-Brazil. It was a research with a quantitative, descriptive and exploratory approach. In the analyzed period, 3,970 cases of sexual violence against children aged 0 to 6 years were reported, 69.27% of cases against girls and 30.73% against boys. The black-brown color, which constitutes the black population, stood out among boys and girls, representing 58.64% of the total registered cases. The residence represented the place of greatest notification, representing 3,339 of the total of notified cases, of which 61.74% occurred against girls and 25.65% against boys. The victim's acquaintance had the highest record, with 23.15% in relation to girls and 9.97% in relation to boys. 3,039 cases were recorded in which the aggressor was male, both against boys and against girls, however 58,11% was against girls victims and 22,31% against boys. A predominance of sexual violence against girls stands out in the data, with the indexes being higher in all variables analyzed, revealing the influence of the gender issue since the child's first years of life.

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INTRODUCTION

The child's first six years of life correspond to the phase called early childhood (Brasil, 2016). Due to the importance that this period represents for human development, several authors (Walker *et al.*, 2011; Sanchez *et al.*, 2006; Felitti *et al.*, 2019) highlight the impacts that the occurrence of violence can have for the rest of life. From violence against children to sexual violence is one of the most striking, being defined as any act, of any nature, that undermines the sexual development of children and adolescents, performed by an agent in a situation of power and of unequal sexual development, according to the definition established by the national plan to confront sexual violence against children and adolescents (Brasil, 2013). It covers a variety of behaviors and attitudes characterized as a crime, such as: rape, incest, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, pornography, pedophilia, manipulation of genitalia, breasts and anus, up to penetrative sex, imposition of intimacies, exhibitionism, games sexual acts and erotic practices not consented and imposed and "voyeurism" (obtaining sexual pleasure through observation), among others (Brasil, 2010).

The 2013 national plan to combat sexual violence against children and adolescents, conceptualizes sexual violence through two concepts: sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. In sexual abuse, the body of the child or adolescent is the object with which to practice any sexual act, without obtaining a profit, in which the abuser only wishes to satisfy his desire, and may be intra-family (when the abuse happens within the family or exists kinship relationship between those involved), and extra-family (when there is no kinship). In relation to sexual exploitation, it consists in the commercialization of the sexuality of children and adolescents, with the intention of obtaining a profit, monetary or any other type of advantage (Souza, 2017). The study of the peculiarities of the child's development in the first years of life requires a more rigorous awareness and identification process because these children are physically dependent on the adults around them. Therefore, addressing the issue of child abuse in early childhood contributes to reducing the impacts that this type of violence can generate (Fredrickson, 2019). Some advances in combating violence against children are pointed out in Brazil, such as the CPI of Child and Youth Prostitution in 1993 and 1994, in addition to the elaboration of the National Plan to Combat Sexual Violence

against Children and Youth in the year 2000. Since then, several groups and non-governmental organizations emerged that started to fight for the political confrontation of the problem (Lowenkron, 2014). With regard to advancing the theme of Early Childhood, the creation of Law No. 13,257 / 2016, referring to the Legal Framework for Early Childhood, which provides for the formulation and implementation of public policies for the age group from zero to six years of age, stands out. age and aims to overcome the segmentation of actions, increasing the effectiveness of policies aimed at children and defining intersectoral articulation strategies (Brasil, 2016). However, even in the face of advances, children and adolescents continue to be exposed to any and all types of violence, including sexual violence, which is one of the most serious manifestations of disrespect for human rights, especially when they reach individuals in a peculiar condition of development. (Gadelha, 2017). In view of this, the importance of this study is verified, as it may contribute to the elaboration of public policies aimed at protecting the integrity of children and adolescents, while seeking to demonstrate the rates of crimes involving the sexual violence of these subjects. Thus, the objective of this study is to analyze the characteristics of sexual violence against children in early childhood in order to allow the visibility and dimensioning of this phenomenon and to contribute to the awareness of the problem, as well as to the proposition of specific public policies to these guys.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

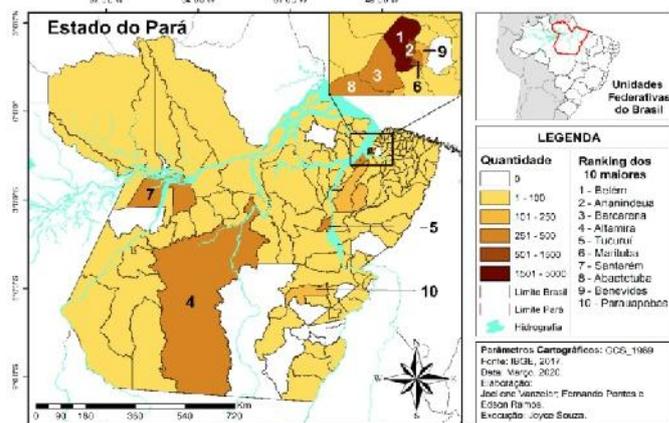
This is a documentary type research, with a quantitative, descriptive and exploratory approach, in which the occurrences of cases of sexual violence against children aged zero to six years in the state of Pará were analyzed and recorded in the database. of the Sistema de Informação de Agravos de Notificação (SINAN) in the period from 2009 to 2018. The information in the database was collected through the research project entitled "Violence against children and adolescents: indicators and coping strategies" developed at the Faculty of Psychology of the Federal University of Pará. The data were made available by the Department of Epidemiological Surveillance of the Secretariat of Public Health in the state of Pará. The time frame was defined in order to demonstrate the data recorded over the 10-year period, considering the creation of SINAN in 2009 and the last year of consolidated data (2018). The object of this study represents a total of 3,970 cases of sexual violence against children in early childhood recorded in the database in question and reported in Belém do Pará from 2009 to 2018. The instrument used to notify cases of violence is the notification form provided by the Ministry of Health, which classifies the types of violence in physical violence, psychological / moral violence, sexual violence, financial / economic violence, neglect / abandonment, torture, human trafficking, child labor, legal intervention and other types. However, of these types, data on cases of sexual violence were demonstrated in particular because it represented the highest occurrences reported in the analyzed period. The variables in this study were defined according to the notification form and divided into four categories: 1. Individual notification data: Sex and race of the victim; 2. Occurrence data: Location of the event; 3. Data on the perpetrator of the violence: Sex and relationship with the victim.

First, for data analysis, the statistical technique called descriptive data analysis was used, with graphs presentation. Graphical methods have found increasing use due to their strong visual appeal, and it is usually easier to understand the message of a graph than that embedded in tables or numerical summaries (Bussab and Morettin, 2017). In order to verify associations or similarities between qualitative variables or categorized continuous variables, a statistical analysis called Correspondence Analysis (CA) was applied, which is an interdependence technique whose main characteristic is the reduction of data to be analyzed by the researcher with minimal loss information, transforming the rows and columns of the tables into corresponding units, which facilitates the joint representation of the data, where this correspondence is fundamental for the construction of the graphs (Fávero et al., 2009). The correspondence analysis was

performed with the aid of the Statistica application, version 6.0. In all tests, $\alpha = 5\%$ ($p < 0.05$) was set to reject the null hypothesis. To perform the Correspondence Analysis, variables related to Children were categorized as follows: (i) Sex: Male and Female; (ii) Age group: 0 to 3 years; 4 to 7 years and 8 to 11 years; (iii) Race / Color: Black-Brown; White; Yellow and Indigenous; (iv) Location of the event: School; Collective Housing; Residence and Others (Virtual Environment; Boat; Guardian Council; Nursery; Inside the Car; Farm; Hospital; Igarapé; Church; Forest; Motel; Nanny's Residence; Mother's Residence; Residence of a relative (Uncle (a), Brother (ã), Grandfather (Ó); Cousin (a)); Residence of the Father; Residence of the Neighbor (a); Residence of the Friend (a); Site and etc.); (v) Type of Relationship with the Author: Mother; Dad; Brother (ã); Stepfather; Known; Unknown; Father and Mother and Mother and Stepfather; (vi) Gender of the Author: Male; Female and Both.

RESULTS

In the period from 2009 to 2018, 3,970 cases of sexual violence against children aged zero to six years were reported in Pará, according to data recorded by SINAN. Of the total records, 1,879 cases occurred in the municipality of Belém, capital of the state of Pará and 542 cases occurred in the municipality of Ananindeua, located in the metropolitan region of Belém, and together they represent 60.98% of the cases throughout the state (Figure 1).



Source: Sistema de Informação de Agravos de Notificação (SINAN). Adapted by the authors.

Figure 1. Map illustrating the number of children aged 0 to 6 years, victims of sexual violence in the state of Pará, in the period from 2009 to 2018, by municipality

In addition, of the total records, 2,750 cases occurred against girls, corresponding to 69.27% of the cases, and 1,220 against boys, representing 30.73% of the reported cases. As for the race variable, 3,568 reported cases were found, of which the black-brown race stood out among boys and girls, representing 58.64% of the total registered cases (Table 1). With regard to the location of the fact, the residence is observed as the place with the highest notification of sexual violence in early childhood, representing 3,339 of the total cases reported in relation to the other locations. Of the total recorded, 61.74% occurred against girls and 25.65% against boys. The type of relationship between the aggressor and the victim, the victim's acquaintance, had the highest record, corresponding to 1,319 reported cases, of which 23.15% were for girls and 9.97% were for boys. It is also important to note that the father of the girl victim appears as the second most notified, but in relation to the boy victim the mother appears as the second most notified (Table 1). With regard to the perpetrator of violence against children in early childhood, 3,039 cases were recorded in which the aggressor was male, both against boys and girls. However, of these registered cases, 58.11% were against girls victims and 22.31% in relation to boys (Table 1). Regarding the results of the application of correspondence analysis, the values of the descriptive level (p) were lower than the significance level of 0.05 (5%) and of the Beta Criterion (β) greater

Table 1. Percentage of Children from 0 to 6 years old, Victims of Sexual Violence in the State of Pará, Brazil, in the period from 2009 to 2018, by Sex, Age, Age Group; Race / Color; Place of the Fact; Type of Relationship with the Author (s) and Gender of the Author (a).

Variable	Category	Percent		
		Victim's Sex		Total
		Female	Male	
Child's Age	<1	0,20	0,03	0,23
	1	5,67	2,72	8,39
	2	8,66	3,98	12,64
	3	12,42	4,63	17,05
	4	13,05	5,64	18,69
	5	14,81	6,83	21,64
	6	14,46	6,90	21,36
Race/Color	Total	69,27	30,73	100,00
	Black-Brown	58,64	26,93	85,57
	White	10,12	3,67	13,79
	Indigenous	0,28	0,08	0,36
	Yellow	0,22	0,06	0,28
Fact Location	Total	69,26	30,74	100,00
	Residence	61,74	25,65	87,39
	School	1,75	1,26	3,01
	Collective Housing	0,21	0,18	0,39
	Others*	5,18	4,03	9,21
Relationship Type	Total	68,88	31,12	100,00
	Acquaintances	23,15	9,97	33,12
	Father	10,25	3,54	13,79
	Stepfather	8,32	1,97	10,29
	Mother	5,06	4,78	9,84
	Unknown	5,64	1,92	7,56
	FatherandMother	1,97	1,62	3,59
	Brother	1,44	0,61	2,05
	Motherand Stepfather	0,61	0,38	0,99
	Others	13,13	5,64	18,77
Sex of the aggressor	Total	69,57	30,43	100,00
	Male	58,11	22,31	80,42
	Female	7,94	6,03	13,97
	both	3,33	2,28	5,61
	Total	69,38	30,62	100,00

Grade: *Others (Virtual Environment; Boat; Guardian Council; Day Care; Inside the Car; Farm; Hospital; Igarapé; Church; Forest; Motel; Babysitter's Residence; Mother's Residence; Residence of a relative (Uncle (a), Brother (ã), Grandfather (Ó); Cousin (a)); Residence of the Father; Residence of the Neighbor (a); Residence of the Friend (a); Site and etc.). **Source:** Sistema de Informação de Agravos de Notificação (SINAN). Adapted by the authors.

Table 2. Statistics Resulting from the Application of the Correspondence Analysis Technique to the variables: Gender of the Child from 0 to 6 years old Victim of Sexual Violence in the State of Pará and Age of the Victim; Victim's Age Group; Race / Color of the Victim; Place of the Fact; Type of Victim's Relationship with the Author and Gender of the Author, in the period from 2009 to 2018

Variables	²		% inertia	P
Victim's Sex versus Victim's Age (years)	22,77	6,85	100	0,001
Victim vs. Race Sex	16,83	7,98	100	0,001
Victim's Sex vs. Fact Location	113,34	63,70	100	0,000
Victim's Sex versus Author Relationship	329,12	113,53	100	0,000
Gender of the Victim versus Gender of the Author	150,63	105,10	100	0,000

Nota: ²: Chi-square value; ¹: Beta Criterion value; p: Descriptive Level.

Source: Sistema de Informação de Agravos de Notificação (SINAN). Adapted by the authors.

than or equal to 3, indicating that both the variables and their categories are dependent (Table 2). In addition, it can be seen that the sum of the percentages of inertia indicates that more than 70% of the information was returned by the CA. In this way, all the assumptions for using the Correspondence Analysis technique are satisfied. In Table 3, it can be seen that there is a relationship of victimization of female children aged <1 year and 3 years; of races / white color; location of the fact of residence; the aggressors being the father, the stepfather and the unknown, with the author of male violence. The victimization of male children, on the other hand, is related to the victims' ages of 1, 5 and 6 years; race / black-brown color; at school, collective housing and others; the aggressors being mother, father and mother, mother and stepfather and others; with the perpetrator of violence of the female sex or of both sexes.

DISCUSSION

Through the results of the present study, it was found that the records of sexual violence against children in early childhood in the state of Pará in the analyzed period totaled 3,970 reported cases of sexual

violence against children in early childhood, with 2,421 cases occurring only in the municipalities of Belém and Ananindeua, representing 60.98% of cases occurring across the state. The high number of notifications of cases of violence in these cities can be attributed to the greater population concentration in this area, as Belém is the capital of the state of Pará and Ananindeua is located in the metropolitan region of Belém and, therefore, concentrates a greater quantity and diversity of institutions and equipment in the service network, which is scarcer in other municipalities (Silva and Hage, 2017). Likewise, a study carried out in Belém do Pará, in the period from 2009 to 2011, highlighted sexual violence as the most reported among the types of violence analyzed, presenting the percentages of 40.5%; 44.3% and 41.8% in the referred years, respectively (Rocha *et al.*, 2017). The results of this study also showed that of the total notifications of sexual violence in early childhood, 2,750 of the cases were against girls (69.27%) and 1,220 against boys (30.73%) corroborating with several studies on the subject (Rocha *et al.*, 2017; Fonseca *et al.*, 2012; Apostolic *et al.*, 2012). The Epistemological Bulletin, edited by the Health Surveillance Secretariat of the Ministry of Health in 2018, also ratifies the data presented so that a study on sexual violence against

children and adolescents in Brazil in the years 2011 to 2017, showed that 43,034 (74,2%) of the victims of sexual violence were female and 14,996 (25.8%) male (Brasil, 2018). In a study carried out in 2009 in Curitiba, capital of the state of Paraná-Brazil, a study was carried out that characterized violence against children, in the period from 2004 to 2008. Among the registered cases of sexual violence, girls were victims in 81,2% of the total number of cases, revealing a strong relationship between this type of violence and issues related to gender determination, which is a key category for the analysis of violence against women and girls (Fonseca *et al.*, 2012; Apostolic *et al.*, 2012).

Table 3: Residues and Confidence Levels (in parentheses), Resulting from the Application of the Correspondence Analysis Technique to the variables: Gender of the Child from 0 to 6 years old Victim of Sexual Violence in the State of Pará and Age of the Victim; Victim's Age Group; Race / Color of the Victim; Place of the Fact; Type of Victim's Relationship with the Author and Gender of the Author, in the period from 2009 to 2018

Variable	Category	Victim's Sex	
		Female	Male
Child's Age	<1	1,22(77,94)*	-1,84(0,00)
	1	-0,65(0,00)	0,97(66,81)**
	2	-0,35(0,00)	0,52(39,73)
	3	1,92(94,55)*	-2,89(0,00)
	4	0,31(24,13)	-0,46(0,00)
	5	-0,50(0,00)	0,75(54,61)**
Race/Color	6	-0,96(0,00)	1,44(84,97)*
	Black-Brown	-0,85(0,00)	1,26(79,38)*
	White	1,90(94,31)*	-2,85(0,00)
	Indigenous	0,59(44,28)	-0,88(0,00)
Fact Location	Yellow	0,72(52,69)**	-1,07(0,00)
	Residence	2,11(96,50)*	-3,13(0,00)
	School	-2,35(0,00)	3,49(99,95)*
	Collective Housing	-1,32(0,00)	1,97(95,06)*
Relationship Type	Others ¹	-4,86(0,00)	7,22(100,00)*
	Acquaintances	0,48(36,54)	-0,71(0,00)
	Father	2,45(98,57)*	-3,68(0,00)
	Stepfather	4,86(100,00)*	-7,29(0,00)
	Mother	-7,33(0,00)	11,00(100,00)*
	Unknown	1,91(94,41)*	-2,87(0,00)
	FatherandMother	-3,56(0,00)	5,34(100,00)*
	Brother	0,21(16,34)	-0,31(0,00)
	Motherand	-1,00(0,00)	1,51(86,86)*
	Stepfather		
	Others	-0,52(0,00)	0,78(56,37)**
Sex of the aggressor	Male	3,27(99,89)*	-4,92(0,00)
	Female	-5,90(0,00)	8,86(100,00)*
	Ambos	-3,01(0,00)	4,52(100,00)*

Nota: **Moderately significant probabilities because 50% \times 100 70%.

*Strongly significant probabilities because \times 100 70%.

¹ Others (Virtual Environment; Boat; Guardianship Council; Day Care; Inside the Car; Farm; Hospital; Igarapé; Church; Forest; Motel; Nanny's Residence; Mother's Residence; Residence of a relative (Uncle, Brother), Grandfather (O); Cousin (a)); Residence of the Father; Residence of the Neighbor (a); Residence of the Friend (a); Site and etc.).

Source: Sistema de Informação de Agravos de Notificação (SINAN). Adapted by the authors.

Thus, there are cultural characteristics of a patriarchal society, in which they contribute to the gender issue in victims of sexual violence, since sexual violence against female children is closely linked to gender violence, in which women are seen as a sexual object and in a position of inequality in relation to men, also contributing to make children and adolescents more vulnerable in this context, when considering sexual violence, as this type of violence occurs since childhood, in which adults figure as dominators and children as dominated, in a hierarchy that begins with the head of the family and ends with the most fragile of their children, usually daughters (Rocha *et al.*, 2017; Duarte and Arboleda, 1997; Oliveira, 2006; Saffioti, 2004). Furthermore, discussing gender to explain and understand violence against women and children is to work with the recognition that, in the hierarchy of powers present in society, women and children have always occupied inferior and disadvantaged social positions, suffering social injustice. due to the historically constructed and naturalized inequalities (Egry *et al.*, 2013). Regarding the victim's color / race variable, black-brown was predominant with 58.64% of

the total registered cases of violence against boys and girls in Pará. However, considering that the majority of the population in the state of Pará declares itself black / brown (IBGE, 2010), most victims are expected to be of that color / race, but specific studies need to be analyzed in order to explore the topic with greater conviction. The victim's residence presented itself as the place of greatest notification of sexual violence in early childhood, representing 87.39% in relation to the other places where sexual violence occurred, of which 61.74% occurred against girls and 25.65% against boys. A similar study carried out in Minas Gerais in 2016 dealt with sexual violence against children and adolescents, where it concluded that sexual violence mainly affects women and children, with the first being affected on public roads and children in the home with a known aggressor (Kataguirí, Given these data, it is important to discuss the residence as a home space, which should be safe and harmonious for the child, but contradictorily presents itself as a place where violence can be practiced silently over the years. years by relatives and acquaintances of the victims (Marques, *et al.*, 2008; Pelisoli *et al.*, 2010).

Continuing on this theme, according to data from the Epidemiological Bulletin of the Health Surveillance Secretariat of the Ministry of Health (2020), more than 60% of complaints of violations of rights occur at home and at school, which are spaces where they should be of protection for the children. Considering that the family nucleus is permeated by unequal power relations, one can consider the child's residence as a determinant of violence, so that, when talking about violence against children, one is talking about a phenomenon determined by unequal relations of generation related to submission and domination, since childhood (Fonseca *et al.*, 2012). In addition, sexual violence practiced in nearby locations, such as the neighborhood or the home of relatives, is most often not reported. Such violence leaves "affective wounds" in the child that are not healed, since the act is performed by someone the child trusts (Romaro and Capitão, 2007, p. 157). Regarding the record of the type of relationship between the aggressor and the victim, the victim's acquaintance had the highest record, corresponding to 1,319 reported cases, of which 23.15% were for girls and 9.97% were for boys. It is also important to note that the father of the girl victim appears as the second most notified, but in relation to the boy victim the mother appears as the second most notified. The known of the victim as the greatest aggressor reveals that there is an easiness in approaching the victims through the relationship of trust acquired by him, who uses this condition to approach and thus trigger the process of violence, and this approach is often performed seductively or with the use of physical force (Veloso, 2015). Not only in Brazil, but in the world, there is not a recent concern with the figure of the aggressor who is known to the victim. To illustrate this, it is important to recall the case of Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old girl who was raped and murdered by her neighbor on July 29, 1994, in a city in the state of New Jersey (USA). The crime had great national repercussion and there were several reports of cases of child sexual violence in the country that triggered the creation of a foundation for the prevention of sexual crimes against children and, consequently, the Megan Law. The main issue discussed to draft the law was the fact that the child was raped and killed by an acquaintance of the family who went to live in front of the child's home without the family knowing, causing panic in the community (Rodrigues, 2017). In this context, the child takes a submissive position and is unable to fully understand the real nature of this relationship in the context of so many others that he maintains with his parents and / or caregivers. In turn, the abuser uses the dominated person's trust and dependence in order to seize his sexuality (Penso *et al.*, 2009).

In general, the perpetrators of violence are those who should protect them or who have a close relationship with the victims: fathers, mothers, stepfathers and other family members, but according to data from the Epidemiological Bulletin of the Health Surveillance Secretariat of the Ministry of Health. Health in July 2020, more than 60% of complaints of violation of rights occur at home and at school, spaces that should be places of protection (Brasil, 2020). With regard to the sex of the perpetrator of violence against children in early childhood, 3,039 cases were recorded in which the aggressor was

male, 528 cases of female aggressor and 212 cases of aggressors of both sexes, both against boys as against girls. However, of these registered cases, 58.11% were male aggressors against girls victims and 22.31% in relation to boys. A similar study pointed to the same reality, as in 98.78% of the cases, the aggressors were male, and 1.22% were female. In this sense, the prevalence of males over females among sexual aggressors is related to the stereotypes created in relation to female sexuality (Sanderson, 2005). On the subject, in the most diverse cultures, women, since girls, are educated to respond to the needs of men and not to their own. In addition, the belief prevails that men have strong sexual needs and cannot control themselves, and should be satisfied by women (Penso *et al.*, 2009).

CONCLUSION

This study presented the characteristics of cases of sexual violence against children in the early childhood stage, which occurred from January 2009 to July 2018 in the state of Pará-Brazil. From the results, it can be inferred that there are many common variables that reveal that sexual violence has similarities, regardless of where it occurs. As can be seen in the results section, there are many common aspects found in the different articles, such as: the age and sex of the victim, the relationship with the alleged perpetrator of the violence. In view of the results, it was observed that in the analyzed period 3,970 cases of sexual violence against children aged zero to six years occurred in Pará, 69.27% of the cases against girls and 30.73% against boys. The black-brown race stood out among boys and girls, representing 58.64% of the total registered cases. The residence represented the place of highest notification of sexual violence in early childhood, representing 3,339 of the total of reported cases, of which 61.74% occurred against girls and 25.65% against boys. The victim's acquaintance had the highest record, corresponding to 1,319 reported cases, of which 23.15% in relation to girls and 9.97% in relation to boys. 3,039 cases were recorded in which the aggressor was male, both against boys and against girls, however 58,11% was against girls victims and 22,31% against boys. By correspondence analysis, it was observed that there is a relationship of victimization of female children aged <1 year and 3 years; of races / white color; location of the fact of residence; the aggressors being the father, the stepfather and the unknown, with the author of male violence. The victimization of male children, on the other hand, is related to the victims' ages of 1, 5 and 6 years; race / black-brown color; at school, collective housing and others; the aggressors being mother, father and mother, mother and stepfather and others; with the perpetrator of violence of the female sex or of both sexes. The results pointed to the predominance of sexual violence against girls, and it was possible to verify that in all the variables analyzed, the rates were higher, revealing the influence of the gender issue since the child's first years of life. Despite the limitations of the study, due to its descriptive and exploratory nature, as well as the underreporting of this type of injury, the study of the theme of sexual violence in early childhood made it possible to understand how this social problem is present in the lives of many children, mainly girls. Thus, it is essential to create support, protection and promotion networks to prevent sexual violence against children involving various areas such as public security, law and health. It is noteworthy that this theme is quite complex and reveals the suffering of those who experience this type of violence, especially children in early childhood. Thus, this intellectual effort is necessary in order to contribute to scientific research on the topic in the state of Pará. Therefore, in addition to this study, a qualitative research on the perception of professionals who work directly is necessary with children in early childhood in order to analyze the speech and experience of these subjects with the theme.

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