



## PhD in Psychology

Research Area: Clinical and Health Psychology - Forensic/Justice

**Title:** Incapable of Resistance: Sexual Abuse of Person with Disability

Divided into three studies, this project is part of the "Sexual Assault" research line of ISPA - Instituto Universitário. It is intended to deepen the knowledge about cognitions and behaviors of sexual aggressors of persons incapable of resistance, relating them to other types of sexual violence and the general population. In Study I, individuals sentenced to effective prison sentences ( $N \cong 100$ ) in the Judicial District of Lisbon will be evaluated through a semi-structured interview and psychometry to assess legitimating beliefs, attitudes and coping strategies. In Study II, the cognitive functioning of inmates and the level of risk / protection of violence (general and sexual) will be analyzed. Study III, aims to compare the perspective of the aggressors assessed and the general population through focus groups ( $N = 100$ ) on sexuality and disability. It is intended that this research contributes in order to better adjust the intervention areas to be developed with this type of aggressors.

**Keywords:** Sexual assault, beliefs, attitudes, coping

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**Start Year:** 2014