Construction of an intervention proposal to address the intimate partner violence among adolescents in Brazil

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1 Abstract

The intimate partner violence among adolescents (IPV) refers to behaviour in intimate relationships that taunt physical, sexual or psychological damage, through acts of physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse or control. Internationally, it is a phenomenon present in different cultures, social groups, ethnicities and social classes (Mumford, Taylor, Liu, & Giordano, 2018). Because of the phenomenon’s impact on the quality of life and health of those involved, its addressing needs investments in the health field, especially in Primary Health Care (PHC) (Egry et al., 2017). Other studies point out that Third Sector institutions create a relevant partnership with health services, as health-promoting spaces (Anhas, Castro-Silva, Anhas, & Castro-Silva, 2017). This study is justified by the need for cogent interventions to effectively cope with adolescent IPV. It aims: a) to construct an intervention proposal, directed at health professionals and the third sector, on coping with adolescent IPV, in the perspectives of gender and generation; b) to describe the advantages of using software for qualitative data analysis for the development of this proposal.

2 Method

This is an exploratory and descriptive study with a qualitative approach. The theoretical milestone was the Theory of Praxis Intervention of Nursing in Collective Health (TIPESC), inscribed under a materialistic, historical and dialectical worldview (Egry, 1996). The settings were the municipalities of Curitiba (PR) and São Paulo (SP), Brazil. Participants were professionals who worked in the PHC and professionals linked to the third sector of the same territories. As inclusion criteria were defined: being a professional who acts as PHC in the health care of adolescents in the municipalities of Curitiba and São Paulo, or being a professional who acts in the third sector responsible for adolescent care, both, even if indirectly. Data collection was performed through two sessions of a critical-emancipatory workshop (OTC). It is a strategy considered capable of assembling research and intervention from the steps: warming up, individual reflection, group reflection and synthesis (Fonseca, Oliveira & Fornari, 2017). The OTC’s sessions aimed to propose an intersection interventional strategy to cope with adolescent IPV. Each session was three hours long and took place between November 2016 and August 2017. In Curitiba, 25 professionals of the Health Care Sector and nine of the Third Sector took part in the project. In São Paulo, there were 10 professionals of the health care sector and 11 of the Third Sector.
Data produced were recorded, fully transcribed and analysed according to Bardin (2011) for the emergence of the empirical categories: 1-Perceptions of health care and third sector professionals for the expansion of interventions aimed at adolescent IPV and 2-The evaluation of OTC as a potent intervention in the different spaces. The WebQDA Software was used as support for the qualitative analysis of the data, due to its relevance in the analysis organization support for the of non-numerical and unstructured data (Souza, Costa, & Moreira, 2011).

In regard to the analytical approach, the data were analyzed from the analytical categories gender and generation, because it is understood that the IPV and the practices of workers from different sectors, directed at this phenomenon, are historically and socially determined and can be better comprehended in the light of gender and generation. The gender category is based on the difference between the sexes, an indispensable element of social relations (Scott, 1995). The generation defines the social place occupied by the different generational categories, such as adolescents, who suffer the impact of all the events of society (Egry, Fonseca, & Oliveira, 2013).

The project was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of the School of Nursing of the University of São Paulo and by the Ethics Committees in municipal research of Curitiba and São Paulo.

3 Results

The data analysis supported by WebQDA shows that OTC is a potent intervention in the adolescent IPV reality, due to its possibility of being implemented in different realities to face violence. In addition, the results showed that professionals consider that they need to be targets of interventions prior to the prioritization of actions directed at adolescents. With this experience, they can qualify for the development of specific action for the adolescent population enrolled in the territory of the service. Thus, a proposal for an OTC to address adolescent IPV was constructed, entitled: “Violence between adolescent intimate partners: towards intervention in reality”.

This intervention is directed at Health Care and Third Sector professionals in order to stimulate the process of shared responsibility among these services and aims to: 1- Discuss the concepts on which adolescent IPV is based, on the vision of Collective Health; 2- Get acquainted with the basic principles of participatory intervention to cope with adolescent IPV; 3- Collectively build an intervention to address adolescent IPV in the considered territory.

The contents of the proposal are related to the theoretical, philosophical and methodological framework adopted in the study and are addressed through specific active strategies during four sessions, totalizing 12 hours.

The use of the WebQDA software showed as advantages: the systematization of data and the identification of a greater documentary source used for the construction of the intervention. Furthermore, it optimized the time for data categorization, ensuring that more time was allocated to the stages of analysis and discussion.

4 Conclusion

The proposed intervention is a strategy directed at health services and the third sector, concerning professional education qualification of an emancipatory nature and as a possibility of development of a new intervention aimed at adolescents, considering the specificities of each territory where it will be developed.
The use of the WebQDA software was proved to be essential for the development of this research, since it promotes the stringency in the systematization and organization of the speeches, essential for the emergence of empirical categories and for the management of the time for the analysis process. This ensured the reliability of the data analysed in light of the gender and generation categories.

References


