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Introductory note

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychology is a multidisciplinary scientific journal that aims to publish the results of new research and interventions in psychology and related sciences, in these age groups. It serves as a dissemination vehicle of research and practice on several current subjects of high relevance in the scientific areas related to Child and Adolescent Psychology. It is a forum to meet and discuss experience, ideas and research, fundamental to the professional development of psychologists, teachers, researchers and other professionals, as well as students.

The Journal involves and integrates various approaches and theoretical frameworks, focusing mainly on an ecological and developmental perspective. We seek original articles, review articles, articles of applied research, letters to the editor, comments, and also case studies in the areas of Health Psychology, Clinical, Education, Work and Organizations, Criminal and other disciplines that work with or are involved with child and adolescent psychosocial development.

Assuming itself as a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary Journal, it promotes diversity, internationality and quality, which is reflected in the acceptance of article topics and approaches associated to different lines of research and intervention.

We accept papers in four languages: Portuguese, Spanish, English and French.

The Journal also envisages work on intervention, if properly justified and evaluated, as well as space for summaries of master's thesis and doctoral programs.

To promote and maintain the quality of scientific articles and other contributions, we have a scientific advisory board of national and international researchers who are specialized directly or indirectly in Child and Adolescent Psychology and related areas. The Scientific Council will hold a blind peer review on the submitted papers and give its opinion.

This journal is officially published by the Institute of Psychology and Educational Sciences/Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Universidade Lusíada in Lisbon and by Research Center Psychology for the Development (CIPD). It has a biannual publication, publishing generic issues and, periodically, theme issues.

The Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychology may be purchased by subscription, and will establish an exchange system with a large number of national and international journals.

Up until now, the Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychology had the “number” as the organizer of all contributions/articles. However, the most consensual organization for scientific journals has two levels: the “set of articles published in a year – Volume” and “set of articles grouped in the same edited product – Number”. This way, the set of articles published through out a year is called Volume, and the set of articles published in a certain moment of the year has a certain number. The distribution that each journal makes of all the articles in a year defines its periodicity. Therefore, there are annual journals (with all the articles edited in one moment of the year), semiannual (published every 6 months), every four months (quarterly), every trimester, every two months and monthly.

The adopted organization has implications in terms of the contributions, even for their citation. With the aim of aligning its organization with the one used by most of the scientific journals of our scientific area, the Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychology is adopting the Volume and Number typology.

Since this is the fourth year that the Journal is published, the Volume of the year 2015 is Volume 6. Due to the fact that it is a semiannual Journal, the set of articles published in the 1st semester will be part of Number 1 and the set of articles published in the 2nd semester will be part of number 2.

The present issue of the Journal is a result of the communications presented at the V International Congress of Child and Adolescent Psychology by national and international relevant researchers. The presented works are organized into Opening Debate, Empirical Studies, Case Studies and Essays and Projects. This way, they present the richness and multidisciplinary character of research and intervention in the areas of neuropsychology and associated areas.

We consider this to be an important contribution for knowledge and practical implications in these areas.