

## Children in the welcoming house in the prisional context: a look at growth and development

### Infância na casa de acolhimento no contexto prisional: um olhar sobre o crescimento e desenvolvimento

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**Resumo | Objetivo:** Avaliar o crescimento e desenvolvimento nos aspectos, psicomotores e cognitivos nas crianças filhas de mães em situação de prisão que vivem em uma creche. **Método:** Estudo de campo de caráter descritivo e abordagem qualitativa. Participaram da pesquisa 09 crianças da casa de acolhimento Nova Semente, extensão do complexo Penitenciário Lemos de Brito alocado na cidade de Salvador – BA no mês de maio de 2016. **Resultados:** Entre as crianças, 54,6% eram do sexo feminino e 63,6% estavam na faixa etária entre 24 a 72 meses. Percebeu-se que todas as crianças apresentaram estatura adequada para a idade. Assim como, 100% apresentaram percentil nutricional dentro da normalidade. Algumas crianças encontravam-se com o desenvolvimento afetado, revelado pelo atraso na leitura, contagem de numerais, identificação de cores, além do atraso social. **Conclusão:** Esses resultados mostram a necessidade da atuação da equipe multidisciplinar que assistem essas crianças para promoverem estratégias que aprimorem a assistência frente o seu desenvolvimento.

**Descritores:** Desenvolvimento infantil; Prisões; criança.

**Abstract | Objective:** To evaluate the growth and development in the psychomotor and cognitive aspects in the children of pregnant mothers living in a day care center. **Method:** descriptive field study and qualitative approach. The participants were 09 children of the host home New Seed, complex extension Lemos Brito Penitentiary allocated in the city of Salvador - BA in May 2016. **Results:** Among the children, 54.6% were female and 63.6% were aged between 24 to 72 months. It was noticed that all the children had adequate height for age. As well as, 100% had nutritional percentile normal. Some children were affected with the development, revealed the delay in reading, numerals count, color identification, in addition to social backwardness. **Conclusion:** These results show the need for health professionals who assist these children promote strategies that enhance its development assistance front.

**Keywords:** Child development; Prisons; Child.

## Introduction

The Brazilian female population has been increasing notably in the prison context. According to the Infopen data, between 2000 and 2014, there growth of 567% of this public, making it the fifth largest female prison population in the (Ministry of Justice, 2014). These data still show that the majority of these women during the fertile period, and consequently leads to an increase in the number of children in the prison.

Before society and the authorities the reality of children in the context of is a controversial issue. The offspring of women in prison have always faced serious difficulties with regard to the structure, to the cognitive and affective partner within the the prison environment. The increase in the number of children in the prison system generates consequences of several orders, among them the weakening of the bond of the binomial (Bruscato, 2011).

Childhood is characterized by a stage of life which goes from birth to adolescence, and which, according to the anatomical, physiological characteristics and psychic, is divided into three stages: first infancy, zero to three years; second childhood, three to seven years; and third childhood, from seven years to puberty.

Following the promulgation of Law 9,046 of May 18, 1995, it is the right of the mothers deprived of their freedom, conditions to enable them to remain with their children during the first 6 months of breast-feeding. After this period, the separation of the mother-child binomial, but the child has three possibilities to be addressed: shelter institution, as a substitute family (which can be your extended family) or nursery and / or day care center (Stella et al., 2010). The gift article will restrict the latter option.

According to the Federal Constitution (article 208) and Statute of the Child and Adolescent - ECA (article 54) It is the right of the child from 0 to 6 years in kindergarten and preschool (Law No. 9.394, 1996). subdivided as follows: nurseries for children up to 3 years old and children's preschools

from 4 to 6 years. According to the characteristics of the group of children from 0 to 3 years old, there separation between nurseries and maternal. Thus, activities should be separated by age, creating a stimulating environment. The document Ministry of Justice reaffirms that child prisoner between 0 and 6 years old will be for the aforementioned institutions, according to the range age. And, it was from the adoption of n. Law 11,942, of May 28, 2009 that the creation of the host house to house and provide assistance these children.

The Law on the Guidelines and Bases of Education that early childhood education is the first step of basic education and aims to development of the child up to 6 years of age, in its physical, psychological, intellectual aspects social, complementing the action of the family and community (Law No. 9,394, 1996).

The Ministry of Education defines day care centers and pre-schools as non-domestic institutional spaces which may be public or private, which educate and care for children from 0 to 6 years daytime, full-time or regulated and supervised by of the education system and under control Social.

In the context of experiencing an environment strange, with people never seen before and far from the the family, it is known that these factors interfere with both in growth and in the development of child. With regard to the growth process, It is understood that there are two types of if they are embryonic to the process of growth, they are: the intrinsic (genetic) and extrinsic (environmental), among which are emphasized food, health, hygiene, housing and comprehensive care the child, who act by accelerating or decreasing process (Ministry of Health, 2002).

It is customary to speak of development in a peculiarity between physical, cognitive and, and psychosocial, in order to facilitate the the study of human development. But, it is known that such concepts are interconnected and influence each other during the life of the person (Ministry of Health, 2002).

It was hypothesized that children in the context of prisons have their growth and development

impaired, mainly due to the distancing the family and the difficulty of the professionals who are able to meet and meet the needs of the of all children.

The importance of carrying out the study is because child growth and development significant impact on the future of children. The following question was therefore raised: How is growth and development in prison?

Therefore, the overall objective of this article is to: the growth and development in its multiples psychomotor and cognitive aspects of children daughters of mothers in prison who live in in a day care. And, as specific objectives: Characterize the profile of these children and compare the development of these children with the literature.

## Methods

Field study, descriptive character and approach qualitative study carried out in the host Seed, extension of the Penitentiary Complex Lemos of Brito allocated in the city of Salvador - BA.

The population was composed of 09 children who resided in this institution during the period of the survey. The target population consisted of children the following inclusion criteria: be in the range of 6 months to 9 years and are carriers of diseases that compromise their growth and development. All the children criteria.

Data collection was carried out in May of 2016 using a semi-structured instrument by means of an interview, based on the manual of the Ministry of Health. data was performed in a descriptive way, presented by means of tables and reasons in literature.

For the bibliographic survey, the use of Virtual Health Library - VHL. The following descriptors in Portuguese: child institutionalized, growth and development, presidio. All articles were accessed on whole.

After contact established with those responsible of the institution, it was explained in detail the project, individuals interested in participating in registered as volunteers to the extent that they consent and formalized the intention through of the Free and Informed Assent Term - TALE.

The research is a major project cutout titled: "Be born and grow behind bars: a look at the child and the adolescent in the prison context ". This research was submitted through the Brazil and approved by the Research Ethics Committee - CEP / UNEB CAAE: 49996915.4.0000.0057 for the their development through the number opinion 1,333,685.

Because it is a research involving beings human beings, it is in accordance with Resolution No. 466/12 of the National Health Council. requested authorization from the institution responsible for these children, guaranteeing their autonomy through Free and informed Consent Term (TCLE).

The data collection took place through an interview half structured. Eight types of forms, drawn up in accordance with the age of the child, according to the basic, n ° 33 - Child health: growth and development. The child only responded the correspondent with your age group. The were divided as follows: Children 6 to 9 months, > 9 to 12 months, > 12 to 15 months, > 15 months to 2 years, > 2 to 3 years, > 3 to 4 years, > 4 to 6 years, > 6 to 9 years. They are all composed of the child's identification data: Sex, age, anthropometric data: weight, height, BMI and differ for questions about characteristics development related to the development of according to the age group.

The empirical material was analyzed according to the perspective of Bardin's content analysis that consists of a set of analysis techniques of the communications using systematic procedures and description objectives of message content (Bardin, 2011). The following steps were used: pre-analysis, material exploration, results and coding. In general terms, in content analysis, researchers establish categories and then count the incidents in each category. In this way, by counting of the use of words, content analysis can validate their findings at the same time as measures (Silverman, 2009).

## Results and discussion

### Children's profile

A total of 09 sheltered children were aged from 6 months to 9 years, who did not have that affected its growth and development. THE Table 1 shows two predominant characteristics: (55.6%) and the age range between 24 and 72 months (66.7%).

**Table 1.** Characterization of children as to sex and age. Salvador-Ba, 2016.

	<b>N=09</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>SEX</b>		
Female	5	55,6
Male	4	44,4
<b>AGE</b>		
6 to 12 months	0	0
12 to 24 months	1	11,1
> 24 months to 72 months	6	66,7
7 to 9 years	2	22,2

### Growth assessment

Child growth is assessed by following the parameters of body enlargement, stature. Thus, to evaluate the growth in children from 24 months onwards, it is necessary to measure, relate and monitor weight and height (Ministry of Health, 2002).

According to table 2, it can be seen that all the children (100%) were of the appropriate weight for age, different from the study with institutionalized children in Fortaleza-Ba, who showed children with low weight and overweight (Chaves, Lima, Mendonça, Custódio, & Matias, 2013).

**Table 2.** Children's characterization of the weight / age percentile. Salvador-Ba, 2016.

weight / age	<b>N=09</b>	<b>%</b>
< Percentile 0,1	0	0
0,1 < Percentile < 1	0	0
3 < Percentile < 10	0	0
3 < Percentile < 97	09	100
>Percentile 97	0	0

Studies in the field of epidemiology related to nutritional status reveal that greater attention to weight and the body mass index (Araújo, Hallal, Nader, Menezes, & Victora, 2008). Currently in Brazil, the height represents a more important parameter in the epidemiological framework of malnutrition (Romani & Lira, 2004).

Regarding height / age, it was observed that all children were the age group. As well as, 100% present percentile of nutritional normality. In this way, it is noticeable that the host family provides adequate assistance in the face of the growth of these children.

**Table 3.** Characterization of the children as percentile height / age and weight / height percentile. Salvador-Ba, 2016.

	N=09	%
<b>Stature/age</b>		
< percentile 3	0	0
3 < percentile < 97	09	100%
<b>weight/stature</b>		
< percentile 3	0	0
3 < percentile <97	09	100%
> or equal percentile 97	0	0

## Evaluation of development

Usually we talk about development in a way between physical, cognitive and behavioral psycho-social, as a way of facilitating the study development. But it should be pointed out that these aspects are interconnected and are influenced mutually during the life of the individual (Ministry of Health, 2002).

The only child at age 2 knew the name complete. With regard to the identification of objects herself correctly identified all objects presented to you. When observed, perceptible that she knows how to run and climb stairs. Pronounce phrases and reports also like phrases with the other children.

During the first two years, a development is the most important affective development, characterized in attachment, which is the basic affective bond. The child establishes the bond with people who interact with it privileged form, with characteristics of conduits, mental representations and feelings (Ministry of Health, 2002).

All children aged 3 to 3 years and 11 months can not count from 1 to 10. They reported who like to play with the other children. They identify the colors, except one that did not know do the identification correctly.

The process of learning the child involves the context in which it is inserted (Barbosa, 2017). And if development is to number, factors such as, individual experience ideas and exchanges of information, interfere in the learning the score.

This reality in the prison context is quite limited, because its organization and the quantitative children do not allow each child to be achieved in a complete way, with a view to development. The process of building definition and numerical capacity of the child is gradual, exclusive and varies from one to the other (Barbosa, 2017).

Children from 4 to 6 years old when proposed tell or make up a story, only 2 knew how to count. Two children in this range do not speak clearly and comprehensibly. When questioned about having friends, all reported having friends of both sexes, only one reported having only female friends and said the following "Only in my mother's house" (K.P.P).

A study with caregivers revealed that in the theory the day care centers aim to assist the child in their entirety, however, in practice the assistance is aimed only at the survival aspects of physics, forgetting social development and intellectual (Magalhães, Costa, & Cavalcante, 2011).

Children aged 7 to 9 years when questioned about what is most interesting: your school friends or day care activities referred to the day care activities. When we propose to speak about themselves, they reported the following: "I have five brothers, I like to ride my bike. and skates "(A.V.P.S.). In this report, the child refers members of the family, the brothers, to speak about you.

The family is the basis of social construction. The family is then considered one of the most influential groups of human development and main source of

health (Quintino, 2005). But, when it does not consist of a unit of experience, learning and creativity, may become a disease factor (Hasson & Meleiro, 2003).

The report by K.P.S shows that children face situations of aggression and affective attachment within of day care. How KPS brings in your speech:

“I like helping the aunts ... I help ... Auntie I can wash the dishes? I feel good. “

“I do not like people getting beat up. Ah! I do not like people cursing me. I do not like to get hit by F. “

As far as physical aggression is concerned, studies that these children tend to be aggressive, for which is a consequence of abandonment and institutionalized (Oliveira & Próchno, 2010). In the study with caregivers of an institution, revealed that 71.57% of the children presented aggressive behavior with colleagues and adults (Magalhães, Costa, & Cavalcante, 2011).

Regarding the affective attachment that these children for others, showing zeal, as if they were brother, could also be observed in the study of Alexandre and Vieira, with institutionalized children in which they expressed concern about the others (Alexandre & Vieira, 2004). The fact of living together, sharing toys, bedroom, clothes and affection allow them to consider that the another is his brother. Santos states that there is no institution of quality and ideal that can fulfill the affective emptiness of institutionalized children (Santos, 2000).

Issues related to family, aggression physical and affective attachment, interfere directly in the social, cognitive and affective development of children.

### Final considerations

It was possible to perceive in this research, children living in the household on the basis of what the Ministry of The evaluated children were all with adequate size compared to other children who experience the experience of and compared to children living with in the family context.

However, with regard to child development all children presented their development committed, which was revealed in the delay in develop reading, counting numerals, identification of colors, in addition to social backwardness.

In view of this, it is necessary that the health promote an improvement in caredevelopment of these children, especially nursing, focusing on their disabilities and strategies to combat them, as development creates in the future of these children.

Therefore, it is necessary to carry out university extension to work with the questions about cognitive development and socialization of these children, thus favoring its full development. Thus, it is suggested that other studies on the subject be encouraged with the aim of contributing to for the improvement of the care of a child who experiences its growth and development in the context of social vulnerability of the prison universe.

### Competing interests

No financial, legal or political competing interests with third parties (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) were disclosed for any aspect of the submitted work (including but not limited to grants, data monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation, statistical analysis, etc.).

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