This work begins with a theoretical chapter, which addresses the concept and types of violence, followed by a literature review on the issue of violence in dating relationships in adolescence. This first part ends with a review of explanatory factors on intergenerational violence, discussed from the Theory of Social Learning, and national studies and foreign-related issue of dating relationships in adolescence.

Aim to contribute to a better understanding of the phenomenon of intergenerational violence and see the reflex of the emergence of relations of dating violence in Portuguese context, in a second period we performed a empirical study. It involved a sample of 283 secondary school students in region Oporto, both sexes and aged between 15 and 19 years. The collection of quantitative data was performed using three research instruments: Inventário de Violência Conjugal by Matos, Machado and Gonçalves (2000); Escala de Sinalização do Ambiente Natural Infantil by Sani (2003) and Escala de Crenças da Criança sobre a Violência by Sani (2003).

The results corroborate data from the literature review made in that indicate that 37.6% of the 133 subjects that currently maintain dating relationships have had at least one aggressive behavior to their partner, 57% said to have been the victim of abuse. The 237 students who remained in dating relationship in the past, 45.1% admitted having committed an abusive act with / to his / her partner 57% assume have been victims of abusive behavior in their past relationships. The same is verified in the signs of violent family behavior, once 16.3% claimed to have attended in the last year, once or twice, violent behaviors in family context. The results also indicate the existence of a statistically significative between signs of violent behavior within the family relationships and the presence of dating abuse. In what concerns to the correlation of violent behavior to the individual beliefs of the subjects it wasn’t found any statistical significant values.