

**TÍTULO DA TESE EM INGLÊS:** "The Social Work in the street teams with consumers of psychoactive substances: Model (s) of Practice (s).

**ABSTRACT**

The beginning of the 21st century is strongly marked by diverse social problems resulting from different socioeconomic phenomena that affect significant portions of society. Within the problem situations, the consumption of psychoactive substances is of the utmost importance because it affects individuals from social, economic and family conditions that are transversal to all communities, interfering with all sectors of society, from employment, education, health Public and individual.

The research work presented here "The Social Service in street teams with consumers of psychoactive substances: Model (s) of Practice (s), aims to evidence the professional experience of Social Workers in street teams.

This research intends to analyze the models of practice of the Social Assistants, with respect to the knowledge and use of the instruments and techniques, the practices developed and the professional profile required for the performance of the various functions in these contexts.

In methodological terms, we chose a descriptive study, collecting data in the universe of street teams in Portugal, through a questionnaire survey and interviews. Data were analyzed through statistical analysis and through content analysis. In general, the intervention of social workers in street teams presents a differentiation due to the more informal and tolerant attitude towards the consumers of psychoactive substances (non-punitive action), with strategies of proximity, empowerment and advocacy. It stands out for the instruments used that, although in some cases are common to those used by other professionals, are adapted taking into account the circumstances of action, as well as the low autonomy and high stigmatization of psychoactive substance users. The technical-operative procedures and the relational processes stand out, taking into account the specificities of the Social Service and the field of professional activity: the street teams.

The collected data allow to conclude that there are several models of practices that the Social Workers use, namely:

- A) Conventional model - Classic.
- B) Non-Conventional Model - Emancipatory.
- C) Street Model - Alternative / Creative.

**Keywords:** Street Teams, Risk Reduction and Harm Minimization, Instruments and strategies of social intervention and Intervention Models.