



CICLO

CONFERÊNCIAS 19|20

ISPA - INSTITUTO UNIVERSITÁRIO

ENTREVISTA FORENSE DE TESTEMUNHAS PARTICULARMENTE VULNERÁVEIS



**TELMA
SOUSA ALMEIDA**

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There is increasing consensus among researchers and professionals that children with disabilities are more likely to witness or experience abuse than those without disabilities. They are often seen as easy targets, not only because they may have difficulty defending themselves or reporting the abuse, but also because their accounts are frequently dismissed by the professionals conducting criminal investigations or adjudicating allegations. When children with disabilities come into contact with the legal system as either victims or witness, the primary goal is typically to obtain as much information as possible about the alleged crime via thorough investigative interviews. In many criminal investigations, physical evidence of the abuse does not exist, and the outcomes of the case rely on children's eyewitness testimony. It is thus important that professionals are able to obtain accurate and reliable reports of witnessed or experienced events from them. In addition to the learning, behavioral, social or communication difficulties, children with disabilities have a particular pattern of strengths and weaknesses in the domain of memory that can also affect their participation in legal contexts. The combination of these developmental characteristics can constitute important challenges for professionals seeking their testimony. It is critical to understand their ability to describe past experiences and identify the best ways to interview them, developing interviewing strategies that complement their unique memory and behavioural characteristics.

11 NOVEMBRO 2019

12H30 | AUDITÓRIO 1

ENTRADA LIVRE

HOST
**MANUELA
VERÍSSIMO**



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