

**‘Specialization in ICTs and Special Education: Psychopedagogy
of Integration’ Postgraduate Program
DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE Department of Greek
Philology in collaboration with
NCSR DEMOKRITOS Informatics and Telecommunications
Institute**

**PARENTS’ CONTRIBUTION TO THE SEX EDUCATION OF THEIR
MENTALLY DISABLED CHILDREN**

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ABSTRACT

This Master Thesis is a literature research review on the parents' contribution to the sex education of their mentally disabled children and it is being held for the needs of the Postgraduate Program entitled: «ICT Specialization and Special Education – Psycho Pedagogic of Integration». Its overall aim is to study the attitudes, perceptions and role of parents in the sex education of their mentally disabled children. First, the term “Mental Disability”, its main causes, symptoms/ comorbidities and the main features of the mentally disabled are presented. Then, there is a detailed reference to the sexuality of the mentally disabled through the passing of time and issues relevant to their sexuality and sexual needs are discussed. Furthermore, typical and deviant sex behaviors are mentioned and at the same time, the importance is stressed on the increasing danger of victimizing the particular target group of people and the conditions, causing sexual exploitation and maltreatment. Thus, the necessity of sex education (programs) for the mentally disabled is vital, since it will enable them to adapt to the society, comply with its rules and norms, avoid possible dangers and obtain the necessary skills, in order to cope with difficult situations and live with dignity. Finally, it focuses on the family's attitudes and perceptions and their essential contribution to their children's sex education. In total, 13 researches from international bibliography were recorded. The results of the study showed that the majority of parents of mentally disabled children recognized both the necessity of sex education for their children and also their essential role in it.

Key words

Mental Disability, Sexuality, Sex Education, Sex Exploitation, Family

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