ABSTRACT

The topic of the thesis is intimacy and sexuality among clients of residential aged care. The theoretical framework of the thesis is based on the concepts of Quality of Life and Active Aging, and a Person-Centered Approach provides the ethical framework. Sexuality is presented as one of the key aspects of being human, and a wide range of its meanings are explored, arguing for its timeless relevance regardless of a person's age.

Although intimacy and sexuality in old age remain a societal taboo, staff in residential aged care are frequently confronted with them in their work. The aim of the thesis is to describe the perception of intimacy and sexuality among the clients of these services from the perspective of the staff, using interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA).

Key words: Active Ageing, interpretative phenomenological analysis, Person-Centered Approach, Quality of Life, residential aged care, sexuality of the elderly