

MOTTURA SILVIA

AA 2011-2012

SEXUALITY AND DISABILITY: THE MIDWIFE'S ROLE

Sexuality in disability is an issue of critical importance. In particular, sexual education of disabled adolescents often finds family and staff carers unprepared. The midwife is the professional taking care of the sexual health education within the community, and his/her work can't set aside the needs of the disabled population.

Through a bibliographic research on databases, scientific journals and dedicated books the author finds out points of reference for the construction of sexual education projects which are effective for disabled people. Moreover the midwife's role in this area is determined. Finally, questionnaires were given in an educational setting to teachers, remedial teachers, assistants, adolescents and their parents to find out which are the real needs, the wishes and the priorities of people living daily with disability.

Collaborating with other professionals, the midwife can contribute to the support and the sexual and emotional education of the disabled person and of his/her entourage, so that his/her competences and those of his/her family can be brought to light and set off.