

STATISTICS EDUCATION IN EVENING HIGH SCHOOL FROM A FIELD RESEARCH PRACTICE

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INTRODUCTION

The poster to be presented is based on a field research practical activity developed with an evening secondary class in a public school located in the countryside of Rio Grande do Sul. This activity is part of a professional master's research developed for the Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ensino de Matemática, from UFRGS (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil). The main objective is to stimulate the learning of statistical concepts through research practice with residents of the city where the school is located. All the procedure included the students as the main characters, having the teacher as a mediator.

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Statistics education in Math classes in High School is usually limited to the understanding of concepts, interpretation of tables and graphs, as well as calculating of arithmetic mean and measures of dispersion. Little emphasis is given to the research process and data from the reality. This activity meant to put students in touch with the whole research process, from the development of research questions to sample selection, interviews and, finally, compilation, analysis and presentation of the collected data.

Three classes a week concerning the subject Seminário Integrado were spent to organize the research. The students themselves developed the research tool, including questions that were made during regular classes. The data collection was based on a simple random sample selected from the residential addresses in the city. To conduct the interviews, the students visited the residents in their free time. At the end, the results were selected and presented to the school community.

CONCLUSION

Teaching Statistics based on a practical activity allows a broad understanding of the process of collecting and analyzing research data. The students were able to experience and understand the steps to organize a quantitative research, including finding solutions to all the problems that arose during the research.

It is important to note that the activity was carried out with evening High School students from a public school. These students work during the day and study in the evenings, having spent much of their free time to conduct the research.

The students' motivation to carry out a significant activity to the community where they live was invaluable. We suggest carrying out more similar activities so as to qualify the Statistics learning in High School and engage students in their communities.