Resilience promoting factors in school setting in an atrisk group of portuguese adolescents Mariana Abreu and Maria Raúl Lobo Xavier

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The bioecological perspective assumes that human development is a function of interactional processes between individuals and contexts and happens with progressively complexity in different contexts during significant periods of time or even across the life time. Adolescents develop at school with their relationships with peers, teachers and all actors involved in the educative community. Resilience is a phenomenon that involves a well succeeded adaptation to the contexts in spite of serious threats to development (Masten, 1994). According to Fergus and Zimmerman (2005) resilience is not a quality or a trait of personality which is always present in adolescent's lives but it is expressed across the lives depending on the contexts people move in. We discuss and try to understand the resilience phenomenon in a population of at-risk adolescents who have gone through several stressful life events (risk factors).