

# **THE PORTUGUESE ADAPTATION OF THE NICHD FORENSIC INTERVIEW PROTOCOL: AN ANALYSIS OF SOME PSYCHOLINGUISTIC VARIABLES**

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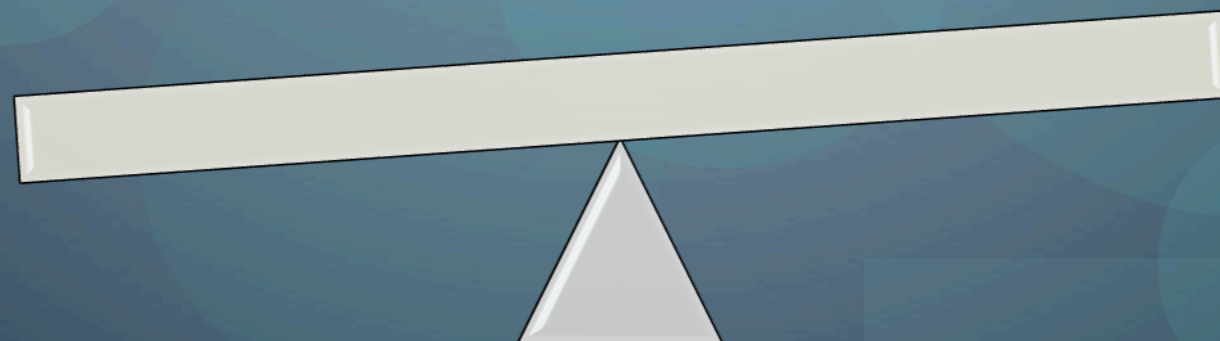
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**(3) Portuguese Catholic University**

**(4) Biomedical Sciences Institute "Abel Salazar" - Porto University**

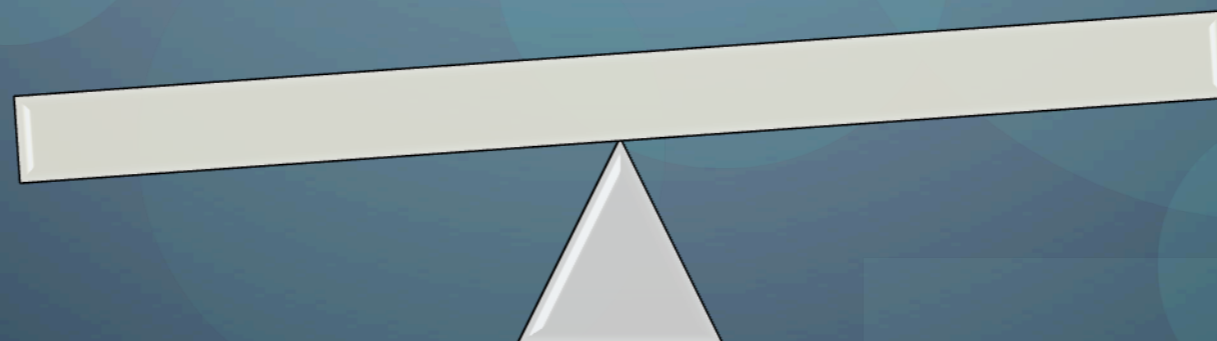
# Forensic Interview in Portugal

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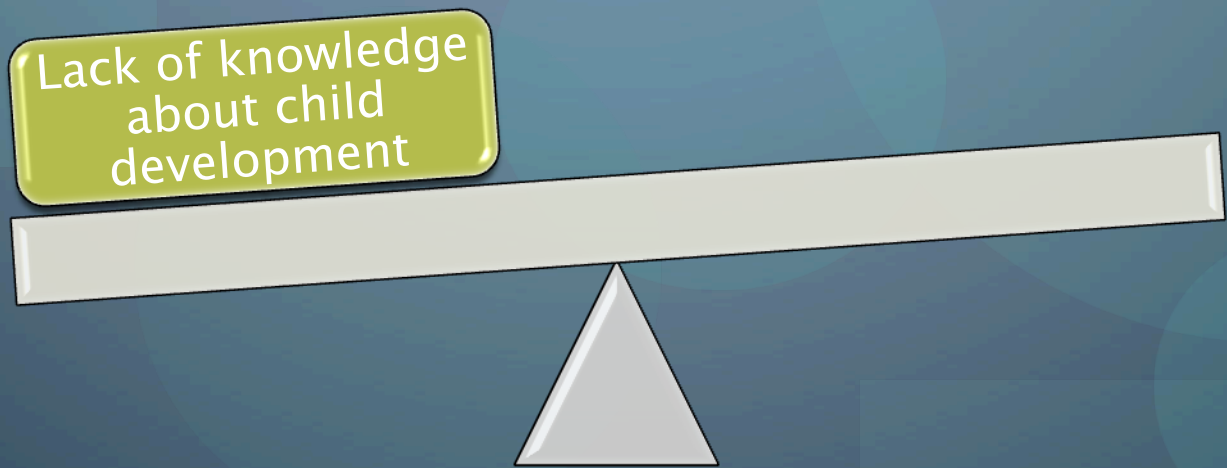
# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**



# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**



Lack of knowledge  
about child  
development

# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**

Unawareness about  
question type and  
suggestibility

Lack of knowledge  
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# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**

Bad Interviews!!!

Unawareness about  
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# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**

Bad judicial  
decisions!!!

Bad Interviews!!!

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# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**

**Answer**

Bad judicial  
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Bad Interviews!!!

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# Forensic Interview in Portugal

**Problem**

**Answer**

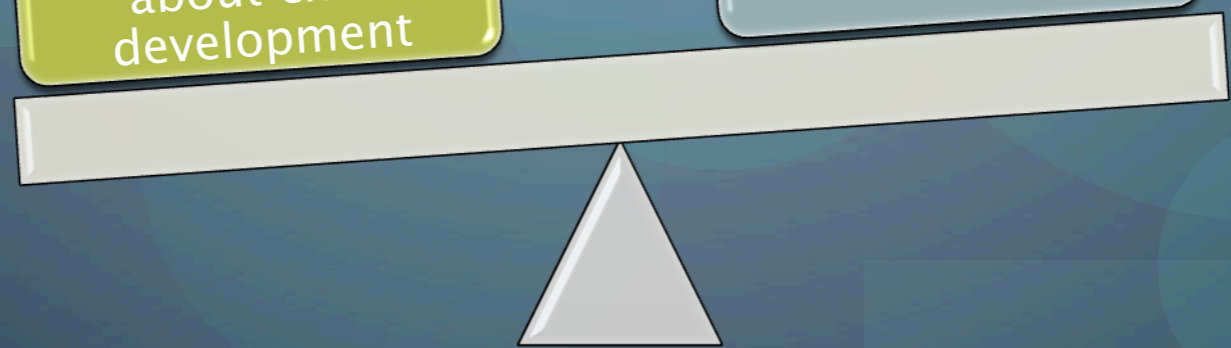
Bad judicial decisions!!!

Bad Interviews!!!

Unawareness about question type and suggestibility

Lack of knowledge about child development

NICHD Protocol



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Describe events in  
detail and to tell the  
truth

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Ground rules and expectations

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Describe events in detail and to tell the truth

Ground rules and expectations

Relaxed, supportive environment for children

# NICHD Protocol

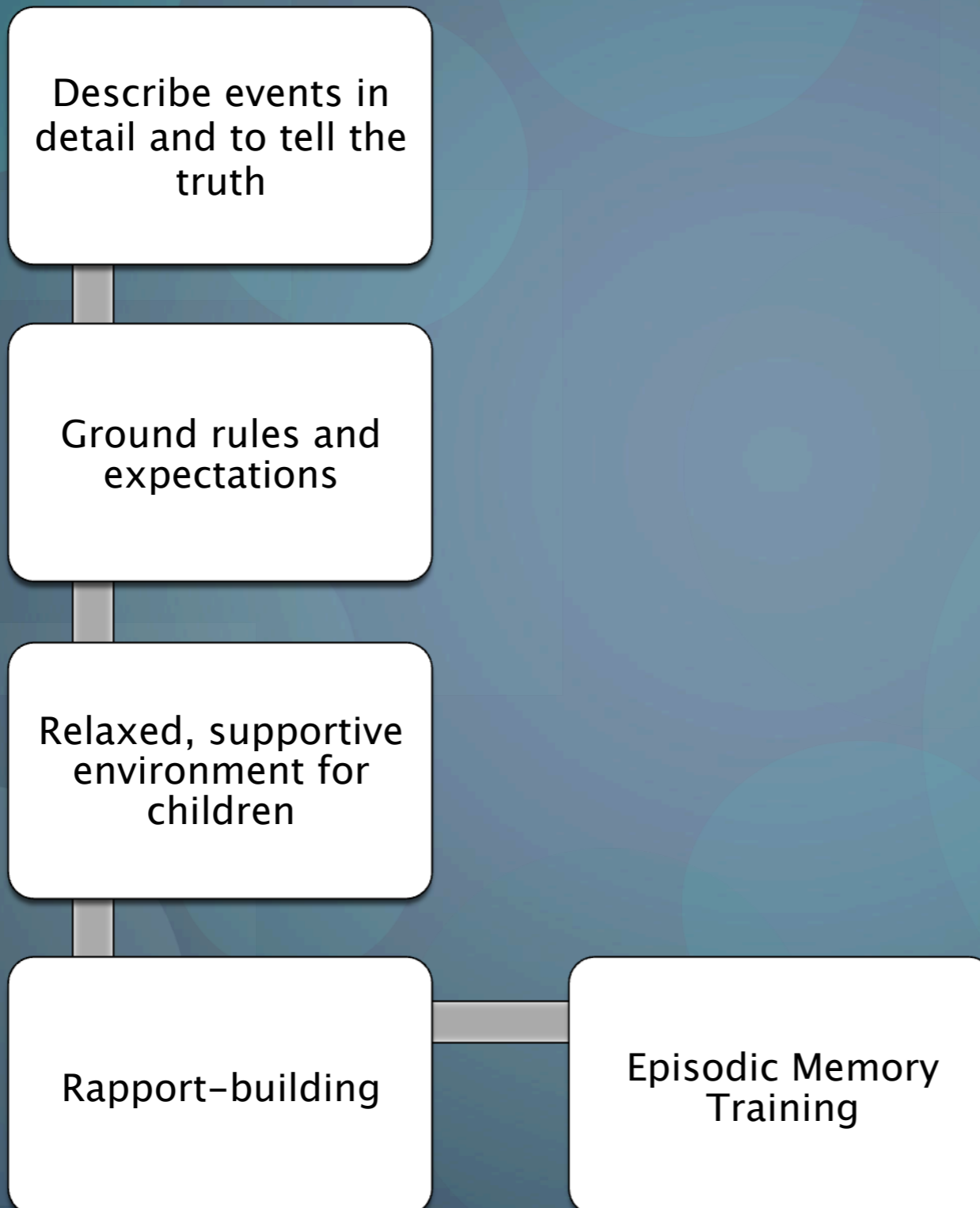
Describe events in detail and to tell the truth

Ground rules and expectations

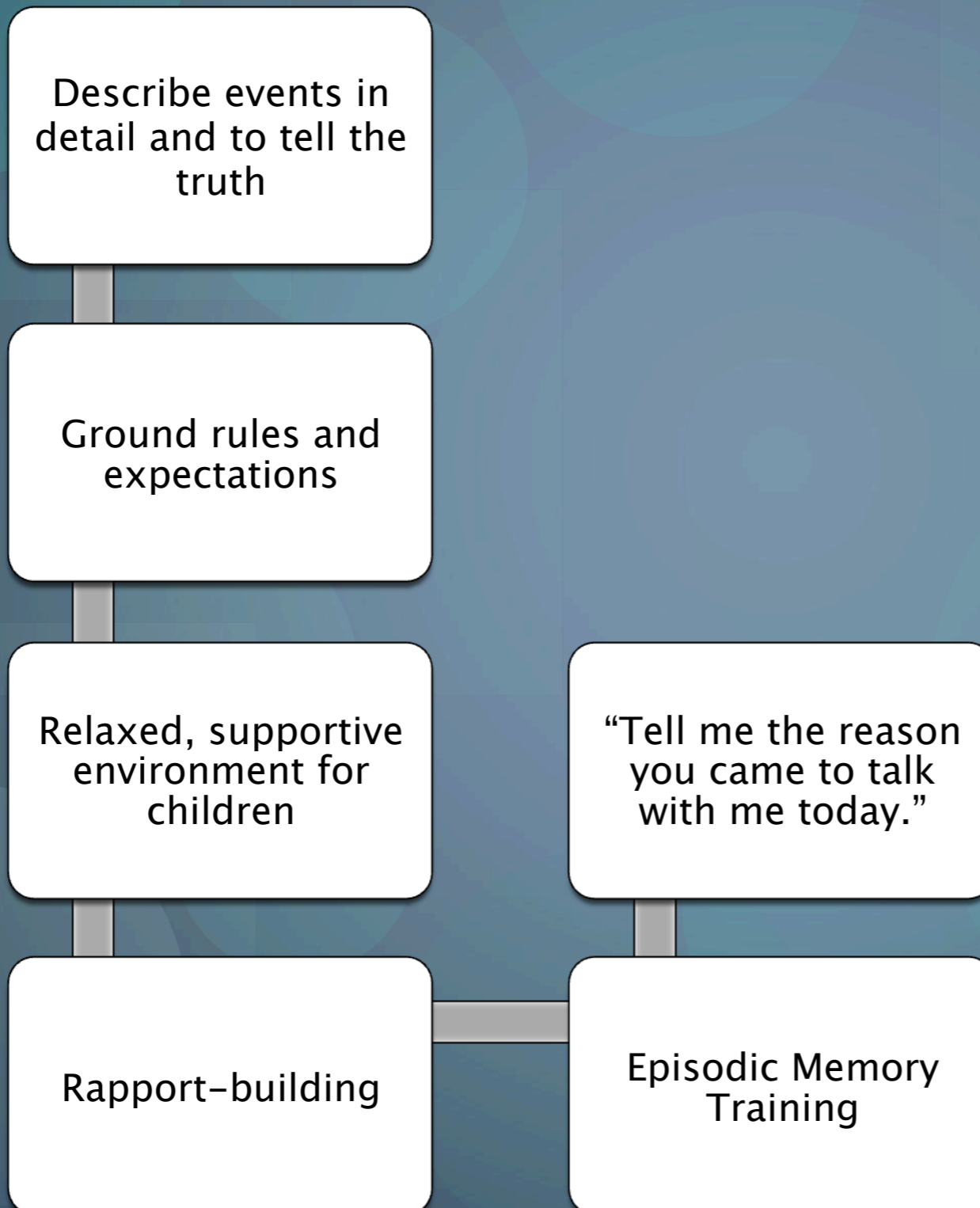
Relaxed, supportive environment for children

Rapport-building

# NICHD Protocol

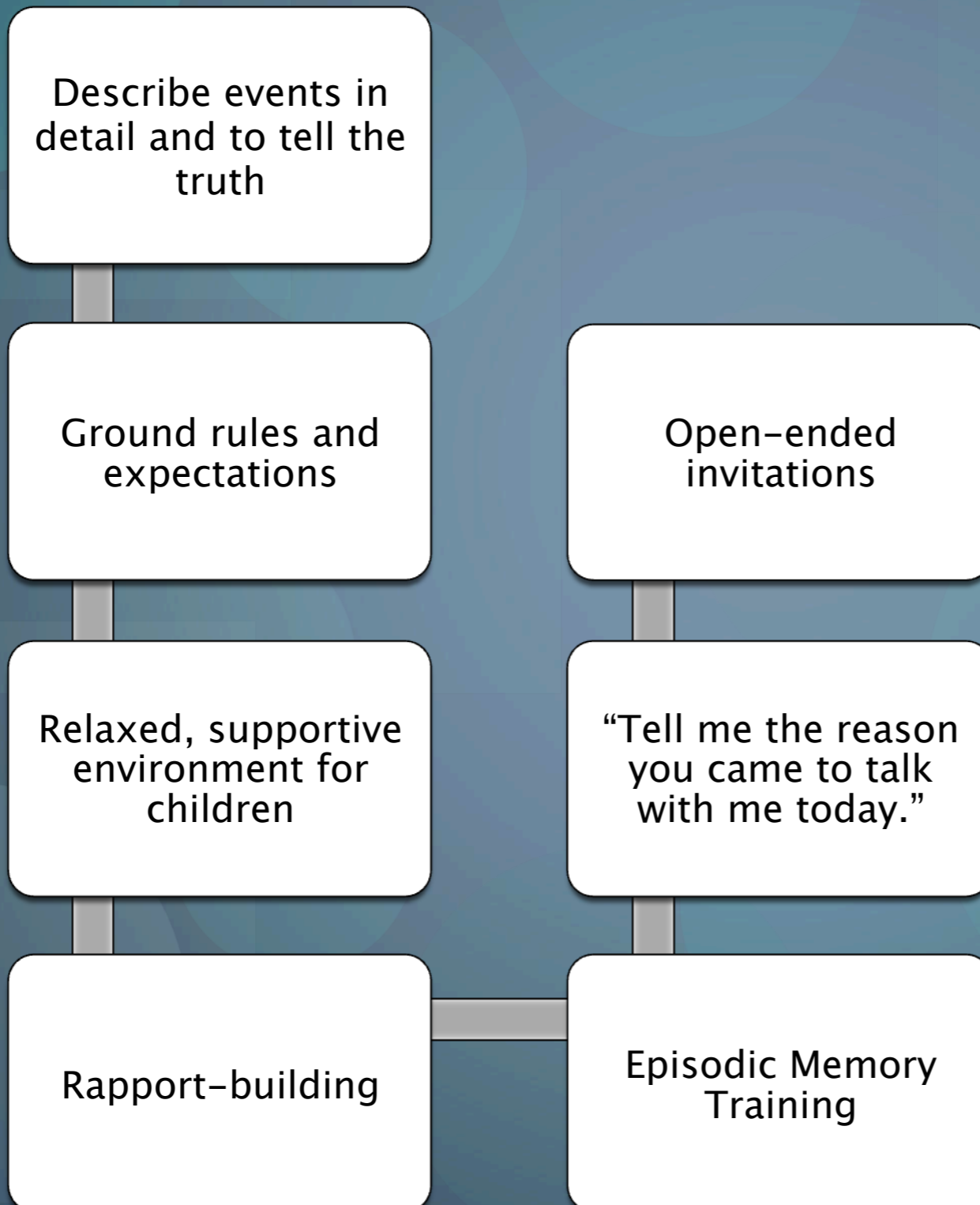


# NICHD Protocol

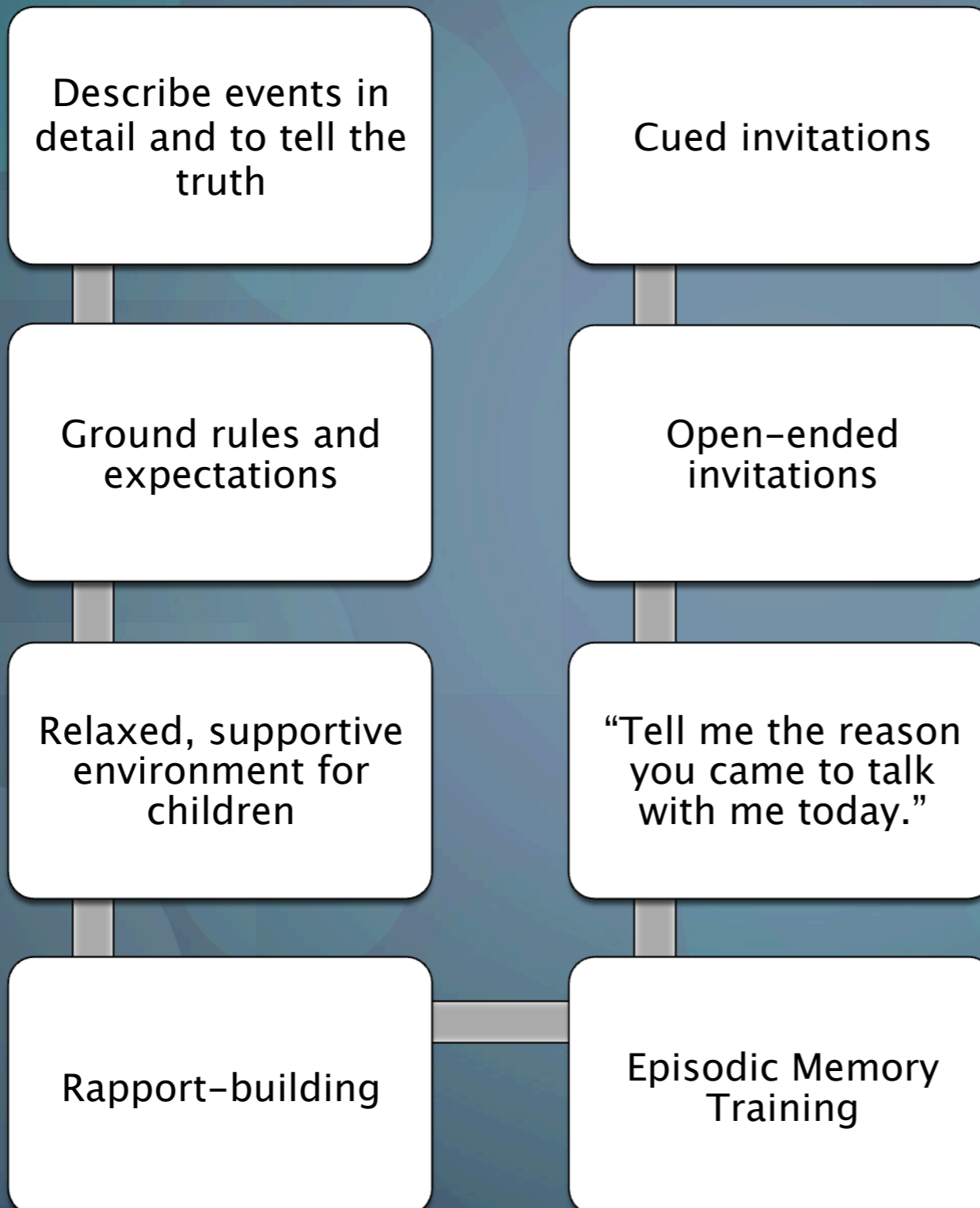




# NICHD Protocol



# NICHD Protocol



# NICHD Protocol



# NICHD Protocol



# NICHD Protocol



# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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Tell

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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Fala



Tell

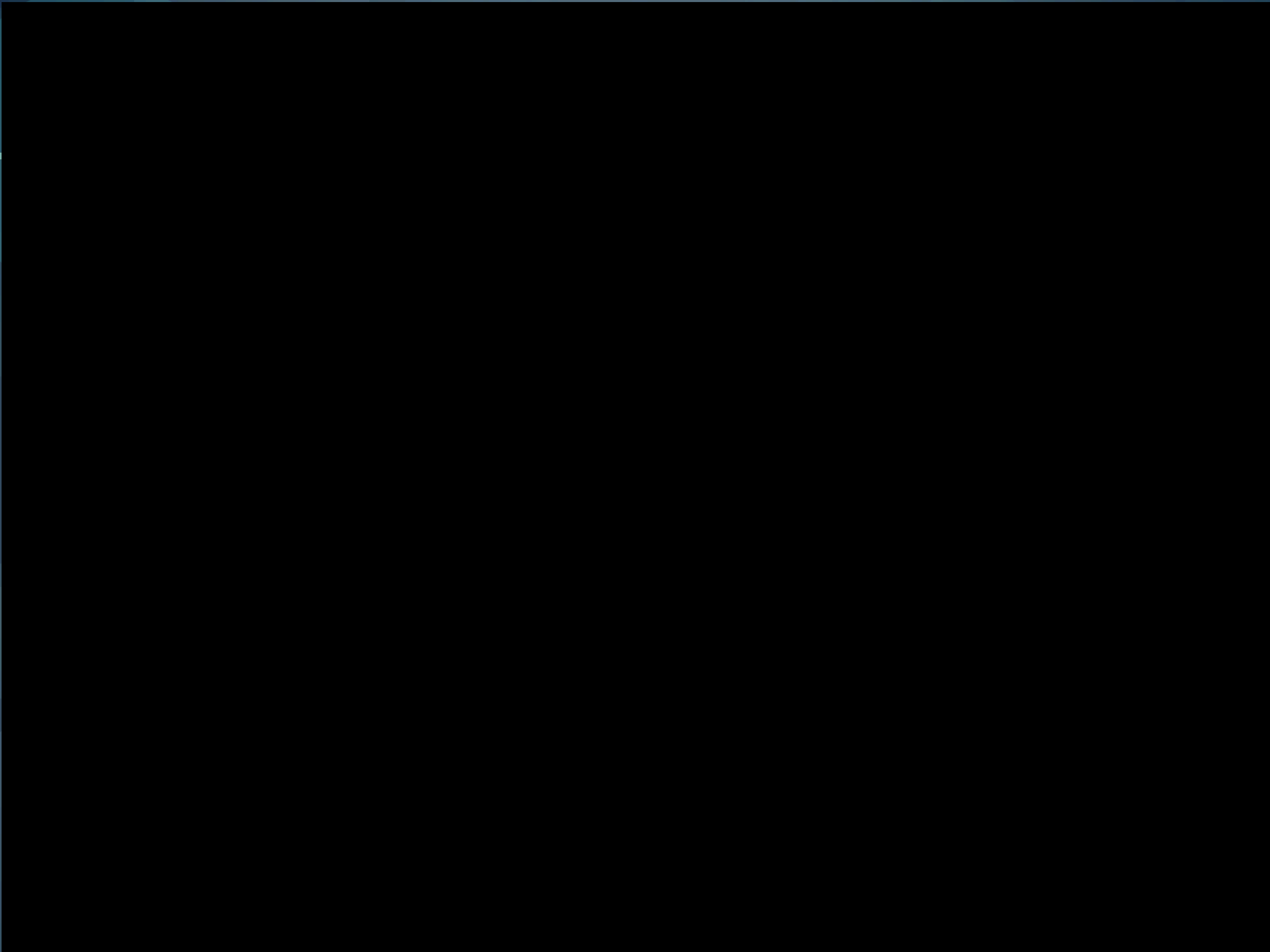


# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version



# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version





# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

- SAMPLE (N = 109)
- Gender: Female 53 (48,6%); Male 56 (51,4%)
- Age: Min. = 4; Max = 15 (M=9,17; SD=3,18)
- Group 1 (4 Y) = 12 (11%); Group 2 (5–6 Y) = 8 (7,3%); Group 3 (7–9 Y) = 41 (37,6%); Group 4 (10–12 Y) = 29 (26,6%); Group 5 (13–15 Y) = 19 (17,4%)

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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- 3 Conditions:
  - Diz-me ... = 39 (35,8%)
  - Fala-me... = 35 (32,1%)
  - Conta-me... = 35 (32,1%)

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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- H1: we expect that the condition “conta-me” obtain higher values in “Suppositions” than the other two conditions
- H2: we expect that the condition “conta-me” obtain higher values in “Errors” than the other two conditions
- H3: we don’t expect differences determined by the sex of the subjects
- H4: we expect to obtain more accurate information, and less “suppositions”, in the higher age groups

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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- “Correct” – accurate information identified by the subjects
- “Errors” – not accurate information (e.g. “... and the girl make dirty the mom’s dress with blood”)
- “Suppositions” – information related but not present in scene (e.g. moral judgements)

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

Video segments	Sum
the child seated	11
eating chocolate	95
the woman calls	57
the child leaves the chocolate	3
comes down	3
goes to the woman	5
the woman crouches	0
the woman turns her back to the child	3
asks to zip the dress	80
the child tries to zip	7
doesn't achieve that and cleans her hands with the dress	82
zips	29
the woman turns to the child and kisses her	9
the woman goes to the door and turns around	26
they say goodbye to each other	3
the child smiles	2
hides her hands	3



# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

Errors	Sum
Towel	2
Skirt	1
Suit	3
Buttons	1
Coat, sweater, robe	5
cookies, candy	3
child hurts herself	1
the mom shows up	4
blood in the back	1
the mom didn't have any cloth	1
<b>Suppositions</b>	
On propose	3
Mother	103
hided and pretend that nothing happened	2
mother goes to a party	2
mother goes to work	1
the girl was very greedy	2
was eating hided	3

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

## H1 e H2

	Condition	n	Mean (SD)
Errors (Total)	Diz-me	39	,36 (,54)
	Fala-me	35	,14 (,36)
	Conta-me	35	,20 (,41)
	N	109	
Correct (Total)	Diz-me	39	3,97 (1,65)
	Fala-me	35	3,85 (1,11)
	Conta-me	35	3,57 (1,42)
	N	109	
Suppositions (Total)	Diz-me	39	1,05 (,56)
	Fala-me	35	1,14 (,45)
	Conta-me	35	1,09 (,48)
	N	109	

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

- One-Way Anova (Correct; Error; Suppositions)
  - Correct – no significant differences between the 3 conditions (“diz-me”; “conta-me”; “fala-me”)
  - Suppositions – no significant differences between the 3 conditions (“diz-me”; “conta-me”; “fala-me”)
  - Errors – no significant differences between the 3 conditions (“diz-me”; “conta-me”; “fala-me”)

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

## H3

### T Student for Errors by Sex

Sex	N	Mean(SD)	Std. Error Mean	t	sig
Female	53	,15(,361)	,050	-2,026	,05
Male	56	,32(,508)	,068		

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

## H4 Anova one-way to Errors, Correct and Suppositions by Age

Age	Errors total	Correct Total	Suppositions Total
	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)
4 years old (n=12)	,42 (,515)	3,08 (1,73)	,92 (,289)
5 e 6 years old (n=8)	,25 (,463)	2,63 (1,408)	,75 (,463)
7–9 years old (n=41)	,22 (,475)	3,93 (1,191)	1,02 (,273)
10–12 years old (n=29)	,21 (,412)	4,04 (1,201)	1,21 (,559)
13–15 years old (n=19)	,21 (,419)	4,16 (1,675)	1,32 (,671)
F	,536	2,915 (p<.05)	3,302 (p<.01)
df	4	4	4

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

- Discussion:
  - “Diz-me” is suggest to be the condition that elicited less information
  - “Fala-me” and “Conta-me” seems to be the best prompts to use in the Portuguese version
  - The need of use these prompts with the full protocol
- Limitations:
  - Child as an observer
  - Immediate recall

# NICHD Protocol – Portuguese version

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- More than a mere translation
  - Be sure of the underlying cognitive processes
  - At the same time maintain fluency and adaptation to spoken Portuguese