



**Title:** Does violence beget violence? Victim-offender overlap in Spanish adolescents

**Acronym:** V-O

**Project leader:** Noemí Pereda

**Host organisation:** Universitat de Barcelona

**Main purpose of the project:**

The present study aims to analyze the prevalence of childhood victimization and adolescent criminal offending trajectories in a representative sample of Spanish youth aged 14–17, potentially leading to new intervention strategies to address these societal problems.

**Design/methodology/approach:**

The study follows a cross-sectional design. The sample will be randomly recruited from secondary education centers. Victimization and offending will be assessed using an adapted version of the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire. Following a multilevel approach (individual–holistic), a comprehensive set of potential risk factors and confounders will be captured.

**Potential results:**

This project will broaden our understanding of how juvenile victimization and violence perpetration overlap, and thus should help stakeholders develop policies, practices, and programs that are more adjusted to the needs of adolescent victims and offenders based on their experiences.

**Social relevance of the research:**

Addressing juvenile victimization and offending using the unpacked typologies or classes emerging from this study would greatly facilitate the development of more effective prevention and treatment programs for victims and offenders in Spain.

**Originality/value of the project:**

Adopting a victim-offender overlap framework means going beyond the ‘victims only’ or ‘perpetrators only’ paradigm by implementing a comprehensive approach that will help to unpack and better understand violent behavior as well as to shed light on the underlying mechanisms involved and their relationship.