

## **Abstract**

This bachelor's thesis examines the relationship between mother and daughter in the 1981 novel *Silence* (O Silêncio) by contemporary author Teolinda Gersão. The novel, particularly appreciated for its timelessness, seeks to highlight the problems of Portugal at the time through two generations of women and to emphasize the importance of communication between people who, after the Carnation Revolution, did not know what to do with the freedom they had gained. The protagonists enter the world of men, but their inability to communicate prevents them from becoming part of it. Their fates mirror and depend on each other. The fate of the mother will give strength to the daughter to find her voice so that she can change her life and be free. The aim of this thesis is to analyse the mother-daughter relationship in the novel from different points of view, the main ones being: family, two Portuguese generations of women and love, intimacy in relation to men.

## **Key words**

mother; daughter; feminism; Portuguese novel; freedom; patriarchy