Different cultivars of common beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) are widely consumed in Brazil, representing an important source of protein, carbohydrates, dietary fiber and minerals. Beyond their nutritional properties, attention has presently arisen to the bioactive compounds present in these seeds. Although the hull represents a relatively small portion of the seed, it is rich in polyphenols and some varieties may also exhibit significant amounts of anthocyanins (ANT). Health-promoting effects are related to these compounds mainly due to their antioxidant activity. 

The purpose of this study was to quantify ANT and total phenols that are present in the methanolic extract of raw violet bean seed coat and to evaluate the antioxidant activity through two different methods: Trolox Equivalent Antioxidant Capacity (TEAC) and Oxygen Radical Absorbance Capacity (ORAC). The monomeric ANT content was determined through the differential pH method and the total phenolic content by a Folin-Ciocalteu assay. ABTS and AAPH radicals were respectively utilized in TEAC and hydrophylic ORAC assays. All results were expressed in dry base. The monomeric ANT content was $6.3 \pm 0.24$ mg equivalent of cyanidin-3-glucoside/100 g of sample. Total phenolic contents was $2519.0 \pm 94.99$ mg of gallic acid equivalents/100 g of sample. The TEAC and ORAC values were respectively $10.3 \pm 0.1$ Mol Trolox equivalents (TE)/100g and $3562.6 \pm 359.5$ µMol TE/100g sample. These results suggest a high total phenolic content and a significant *in vitro* antioxidant activity in violet beans seed coat anthocyanin-rich extract. The results are expressive when compared to other grains.