

Role of child care in creating inclusive communities and access for all [1]

Author: van Rhijn, T., Underwood, K., Frankel, E., Lero, D. S., Spalding, K., Janus, M., Friendly, M., & Haché, A.

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Abstract

To inform the development of an inclusive national child care system for all families and children, we examine the institutional interactions of 127 Canadian families with disabled children. Our analysis demonstrates that families participated in numerous early-years services, but 79.5% experienced exclusion. Using an institutional ethnography lens, we illustrate that exclusion occurs through policy and regulations families confront to gain entry, maintain enrolment, and contend with professional meta-texts. Key rights-based, economic, and inclusion policy considerations are provided. Our research and policy considerations recognize not only the importance of inclusion in child care but also the role of child care in creating inclusive communities.

Afin de servir de base à la mise en place d'un système national et inclusif de services de garde d'enfants pour toutes les familles et tous les enfants, le présent document examine les interactions institutionnelles de 127 familles canadiennes ayant des enfants handicapés. Notre analyse démontre que les familles ont participé à de nombreux services pour la petite enfance, mais que 79,5 % d'entre elles ont vécu l'exclusion. Dans la perspective de l'ethnographie institutionnelle, nous illustrons que l'exclusion se produit dans le cadre des politiques et des règlements auxquels doivent se conformer les familles pour être admises, maintenir l'inscription et composer avec des métatextes professionnels. Les principales considérations fondées sur les droits d'ordre économique et relatives aux politiques d'inclusion sont fournies. Nos considérations relatives à la recherche et aux politiques reconnaissent non seulement l'importance de l'inclusion au sein des services de garde d'enfants, mais aussi le rôle des services de garde d'enfants dans la création de communautés inclusives.

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