

„Cultural sensitization in the process of socialization of a young child growing up in the rural environment”

Summary

This doctoral dissertation presents the issue of the cultural sensitization in the process of socialization of a young child growing up in the rural environment.

In the theoretical construction of the considerations the author refers to: the holistic concept of intercultural education and the cultural sensitization program by Jerzy Nikitorowicz, the theory of by Lew S. Wygotski and the concept of the ecology of development by Urie Bronfenbrenner. Taking into account the complexity of the process of socializing a young child, the author made an attempt to understand this issue by conducting research in action.

For the conducted research, the purposeful selection of the group was important due to the age of the respondents - 3 and 4 year olds. The third year of life is the stage in the life of a child when – according to L.S. Wygotski – the crisis occurs. Its symptoms (including negativism, recalcitrance, opposition (rebellion) and jealousy) make it difficult for the child to contact the environment, this directly translates into the child's relationship with peers, with teachers, but also with parents. During this period, the attitude of the child to the environment as well as to himself/herself changes. The situation of the child is further complicated by the occurrence of various forms of cultural differences in the kindergarten group. A group of 3-4 year old children therefore requires special support from teachers, here many problems arise, and they can be solved by shaping appropriate habits of behavior and social skills in children.

The choice of the research area was determined by cognitive considerations and the intention of the researcher. The site was chosen deliberately because of the importance of the environment in the process of socializing a young child. The village which was chosen is diverse in religion, with a traditional (agricultural) character, rich folk culture where foreigners, immigrants, people with dual citizenship live. The research area was also chosen because of its accessibility for the researcher.

In the organization of the research in action, the stages of the change process indicated by Kurt Lewin were used: 1. Contact with the problem, awareness of the problem (thawing). 2. Introducing a draft of changes, diagnosing a changed situation (action – change). 3. Evaluation of effects, introduction of changes (freezing).

A mixed strategy was used in the research. The following methods of data collection were considered adequate to explore research problems within the framework of the conducted research in action: qualitative research methods (interview, ethnographic observation, and search of secondary sources) and methods of quantitative research (diagnostic survey method

(survey and interview technique). In quantitative research, a standardized questionnaire „Styl adaptacji” by Anna I. Brzezinska and Magdalena Czub was also used.

The dissertation consists of the introduction, three theoretical chapters, a chapter presenting methodological assumptions of own research, an empirical chapter, the conclusion, bibliography, a list of tables, photos, figures, diagrams and graphs and an appendix.

This doctoral dissertation has contributed to the enrichment of knowledge about the process of socializing a young child and its determinants, above all to shaping the social skills of 3 and 4 years old children.

Key words: a 3 and 4 years old child, cultural sensitization, culturally diverse group, process of socialization, socializing, family, pre-school, village

