



Families, Education and Well-Being

DPI/NGO BRIEFING IN PARTNERHIP WITH DSPD/DESA
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United Nations Headquarters

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International Federation for Family Development

Parental education and family well-being

The revolution of Family Enrichment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulXe-SVbSxU>

Concept

PROCESS OF PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING

- PHYSICAL
- EMOTIONAL
- SOCIAL
- FINANCIAL
- INTELLECTUAL

DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILD

FROM INFANCY TO ADULTHOOD

LOTS OF SKILLS
& PATIENCE

CONSTANT WORK
& GROWTH



PARENTS HAVE
A UNIQUE ROLE

THEY CAN'T
BE REPLACED

History

BEFORE UNIVERSAL & COMPULSORY EDUCATION,
PARENTS AND THE REST OF THE FAMILY
WERE EXPECTED TO ASSUME
FULL RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE UPBRINGING OF CHILDREN



Present

MOST MEN & WOMEN
ASPIRE TO BE GREAT PARENTS
BUT SOME CIRCUMSTANCES
MAKE THIS MORE CHALLENGING

→ + EXTERNAL INFLUENCES
- LESS TIME TO EDUCATE

WORK AND FAMILY LIVES
ARE INCREASINGLY
INFLUENCING EACH OTHER

THE SHIFT IN
GENDER ROLES
HAS BEEN ASYMMETRIC



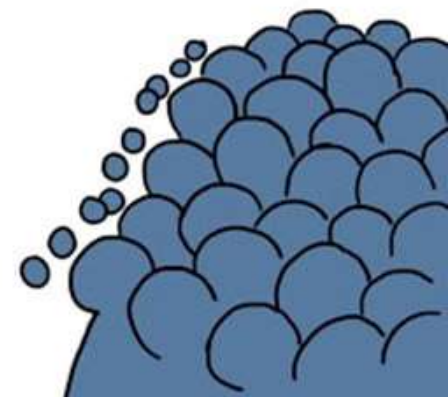
Overview

PARENT EDUCATION IS POPULAR
BUT COULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE

SUPPLIERS INCLUDE:

- OTHER PARENTS
- TEACHERS
- COUNSELORS
- PSYCHIATRISTS,
- MINISTERS
- NURSES & DOCTORS
- SOCIAL WORKERS
- OTHER PROFESSIONALS

PREVENTION REACHES MORE PARENTS
& IS MORE EFFECTIVE
THAN MERELY REACTIVE ACTIONS



Effects

THE 'MARKETING' SHOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE, NOT TO LIMIT PROGRAMS TO THOSE WHO NEED THEM LESS

WHEN IT WORKS, PARENTS DEVELOP A SENSE OF BEING CAPABLE

OTHER PROVEN IMPACTS:

- + SKILLS
- + GENDER EQUALITY
- STRESS
- UNWANTED BEHAVIORS
- MALTREATMENT
- DIVORCE
- AT-RISK CHILDREN



Schools

SCHOOLS ARE
THE OBVIOUS PLACES
WHERE TO FIND PARENTS
WITH THE SAME NEEDS

TEACHERS SHOULD BE
THE FIRST ONES
TO WANT PARENTS
GET THIS HELP IN THEIR TASK

BUT RELATIONS BETWEEN
HOME AND SCHOOL
LEAVE MUCH TO BE
DESIRED IN MOST
COUNTRIES



PARENTS CAN
INTERACT
AMONG THEM
& WITH TEACHERS

DIFFERENT COUNTRIES
MEAN DIFFERENT
POLICY SYSTEMS
REGARDING
FAMILY & PARENTS

THE SOLUTION IS NEVER
TO REPLACE FAMILIES'
SOCIAL FUNCTIONS,
BUT TO EMPOWER PARENTS
TO CARRY THEM OUT IN
THEIR OWN RIGHT

Legislation

CORE POLICIES OFTEN INCLUDE:

- FAMILY LEAVE
- WORKING TIME REGULATION
- EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE



BUT THERE ARE
NO ALL-IN-ONE
SOLUTIONS,
EVERY COUNTRY
IS DIFFERENT

Conclusions

FAMILIES NEED SUPPORT TO:

- GET THE SKILLS THEY NEED
- CREATE A HEALTHY FAMILY
- OVERCOME NEGATIVE BACKGROUND

COMMUNICATION
MOTIVATION
COPING

SCHOOLS ARE
MORE EFFECTIVE
WHEN PARENTS ARE
ACTIVELY ENGAGED
IN EDUCATION



PARENTS NEED TO
BE MADE AWARE
OF HOW THEY
INFLUENCE
DEVELOPMENT

Recommendations

- PROVIDE LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT
- PRIORITIZE FAMILY-FRIENDLY POLICIES
- MAKE IT PART OF EVERY CHILD'S EDUCATION
- ENCOMPASS STRESSORS LINKED TO CHILD MALTREATMENT

FUNDING IN
LEGISLATION FOR

- EDUCATION
- JUVENILE JUSTICE
- PROTECTIVE SERVICES



RESOURCES FOR
PARENTS THROUGH:

- SCHOOLS
- CHURCHES
- OTHER INSTITUTIONS

[The Case Study Method, an example from IFFD](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCwBJLlo5e8>

More information

www.iffd.org

www.familyperspective.org

