

IMPACT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN ACHIEVING ACADEMIC LEVEL

Irena Kito¹, Erisa Grabocka², Milena Alliu³, Dr. Vjollca Shpata⁴

¹Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, University Hospital Centre Tirana, Albania,

Abstract

Background: Informal child care and education is not new. Early childhood is plagued by a sense of unevaluated in the field of education, compared to college or high school education. Behind this sense of marginalization lie important factors and conditions. Aim of the study: To enhance the impact of optimal early childhood education as an essential component in achieving academic level and later on in life. Objectives: To present the historic changes in early childhood education. To highlight the important role of teacher educators of daycare and teachers of elementary schools in creating effective instructional teams. To recognize the need for including family/friend/neighbor caregivers in early childhood education policy. To evaluate early education as an economic investment. To give suggestions for childhood teaching improvement. Materials and methods: We reviewed all the articles published from 1973-2013 in “Early Childhood Education Journal”. Conclusions: A systematic review of the articles suggests that children who lack sufficient nurturing, nutrition, interaction with a parent or caregiver and stimulus during this crucial period may be left with developmental deficits, as has been reported in Russian and Romanian orphanages. Children who have had preschool education for 2 years are 2 times as likely to have stronger literacy, math, language, social, emotional and fine motor skills, compared to those who have not. Recommendations : Children need strong families, good learning experiences, especially in the early years, good health and supportive communities to succeed. While we have discussed the importance of children’s education, it is of even greater importance that early childhood professionals (teachers, teacher educators, and researchers) develop professional competences.

Key words : *Education, childhood, family and community, educators, teachers.*