

# THE INNOVATIONS IN THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND THEIR INFLUENCE IN THE CIVIC EDUCATION OF CHILDREN

**DR. MEHDI KRONI<sup>1</sup>, PROF. AS. DR. FATMIR VADAHI<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>University “Luigj Gurakuqi”. Sheshi “2 Prilli”, Shkodër, Albania  
Email: kronimehdi@yahoo.com

<sup>2</sup>University “Luigj Gurakuqi”. Sheshi “2 Prilli”, Shkodër, Albania  
Email: fatmirvadahi@gmail.com

## Abstract

During the last years the social environment, especially in the cities, but in country site too have changed visibly. These changes are more visible in the city's infrastructure, the green areas, the sportive places, the bars, the different billboards, the markets and supermarkets and it is noticed at the different social services too. The children, compared to many years ago, have much more and different places to have fun, they travel to school and other places by car and other vehicles. They are asked to be more careful at the rules at different places around the city. Nowadays they wear better and nicer, they can enjoy contemporaneous architecture and they have different conditions to live, play and entertain. These changes at the cities' environment are related to behavioral changes at all the people and at the children too. But there are some problems related to the socialization of the children with the new social context where they live. How can we teach them to live according to the new social environment? Which are the difficulties they have to face? Are they able, specially families and schools, to face all these changes to the children's education? To answer all these questions we have prepared a questioner with children, parents and teachers. We will try to reach some conclusions based also on other different studies on the field and so we will try to answer all the questions above with the aim of contributing in the children's civic education according to the new urban conditions.

**Key words:** *civic education, children, education, social environment.*

## Introduction

The social environment during the last twenty years has changed a lot. Towns and villages are transformed related new conditions. With the opening of the country's borders and consequently migration, population of villages and towns has change. Currently as in the city but also in the countryside, the people are those who have not been previously. Especially in big cities, near the previous housing citizens have bought home or built dozens of new inhabitants. In the villages that are located near cities are established hundreds of residents that are coming from remote villages.

In the streets of the Shkodra city, currently peers groups of children have become very heterogeneous, because almost every day they add new individuals from other areas of the city. Currently in cities, even in the villages are becoming increasingly frequent meetings and cooperation of our people with foreigners. But in addition to the above changes in populations have been made major changes in the infrastructure of the city and the villages. In many towns and villages of the country's numerous buildings have constructed, the old town and village lose their images and replaced with new scenery. On the road and in city areas people cannot be oriented as before.

In many areas of the city streets and paths are diverted according with new extensions. Have been many changes in the nominations of roads in the city, but also in the countryside. Currently people cannot move on the streets like before. In most of them is not possible to move with the foot, but with different vehicles, seeking recognition and enforcement of various rules. Places of leisure and recreation of the citizens are currently other. The free market economy has created a physiognomy else in their function. There are grown more effects on the education of citizens, especially children.

Parents are very imperative to assess the frequency of these facilities from their children by increasing spending in this area. Currently operates a very dense network of various social services for all people. This network is imposing a new behavior to them. People may not behave exactly as in a supermarket or in a commercial center as well as they are brought in stores earlier time.

The above developments, the creation of a new social environment require to make changes in education of people and especially children, in creating a new culture in behavior between people and in their relations with the new environment. So as we become, required to tell other people and especially children, are required to make changes in their practices of socialization. In terms of civic education of children today, requires new mentality and practice. Behavior of people and social environment must be in unity, because otherwise people will negatively affect the development of environmental conservation or human impacts environmental would be weak.

## **METHODOLOGY**

For collection of the data for this study, was conducted along with the others sources, a questionnaire with 16 questions, with 150 pupils teachers and parents in some schools of the Shkodra city. The purpose of this questionnaire has been receiving feedback from the subjects above it for several problems related to the above issues and in particular the fact that as perceived social environment, as estimated by the above entities changes that have occurred, what the problems highlighted in children behavior, in different social environments, what problems are in the family and school for education of children with new rules of community life in the city.

Besides as just above it in the preparation of this paper, is also exploiting a vast literature, especially by local author who studied political and social developments during the twenty years of economic transition. Subjects who participated in this survey were selected at random, regardless of age, gender or education that their children attend. This survey was conducted during 2013. Data are processed with Microsoft Excel program.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Innovations in the social environment and their impact on the education of children are analyzed in four plans.

Firstly: Some visible most important innovations are highlighted, that have occurred during the last twenty years in the city of Shkodra and with them the fact that how much has been made possible for them by the children from being recognized.

Secondly: The behavior of children in different spaces together with deviance of this environment that they create,

Thirdly: How used by children of different age groups this environment

Fourthly: How children socialize with new social environment and how to overcome problems arising in this direction.

- a. As results from consultations held with them, a good part of them are not even interested in such a thing. They were more interested in the school environment and the environment in which they play at home. From the questionnaires has emerged that only 23% of children up to fifth grade, spend their free time with parents in different social and cultural environments of the city two to three times per week. A good part of the children have no knowledge of new neighborhoods that are created in Shkoder, the peripheral neighborhoods of the city, to ring the city and for many new roads that have been built.
- b. Children continue to follow those practices are followed as before by their peers over free time, although for them, today were created in the city and new space on his outskirts. But they are still not exploited by most children. From the questionnaire has emerged that only 32 % of children up to fifth grade are familiar with the main centers of games in town. Courses for sports centers that are actually elevated in many corners of the city generally do not have any information. As results from consultations held with them, a good part of them are not even interested in such issue. They are more interested in the school environment and the environment in which they play at home. Even a student at ninth grade of the 9 year school “ Ndre Mjeda” mean that: *I know that the people that are going to gyms tare open only girls and women who want to keep the body beautiful and deteriorate , there has no reason to go others and so with little children .*

- c. Parents that work are busy and do not have time to send their children to these centers, another part of parents have economic impossibility, while others think that it is better that children spend their leisure time at home. *During the consultations a parent would mean for his child in the fifth grade: I think my child is better to play with friends in the street near the house because I have it under surveillance. Do not let him to go anywhere that I stay with fear, because there is no security anywhere, not in the gym or in the school yard.* Practices continue when parents perceive as more reasonable to the passing of time that free, not to take children with them in different social environments outside the city, although there are also fun environment for children. They think that: *Children have their place at home, when they will growth they will exploit these opportunities, we spoil the tranquility party etc.* More than 75 % of respondents children did not use the elevator and never want to know how to use it, many of them even have a phobia of elevators.
- d. At present time, there are many problems and identify deviation in behavior of children in city environments. There are many parents who are concerned in this regard, but there are many others who want to exculpate obscene behavior of children in city environments. There are many parents that are expressed in such a way: *Well, they are kids and want to play, the cars have to be careful with them.* So continue to exist mentioned of the past in the education of new behaviors to the children in the city.
- e. In the education practice of the children for a civilized behavior of the city, has indifference, as from the parents, the school but also citizens. Once citizens have been very active on the without the desired behavior children and not stayed there indifferent, but have intervened more decisively to prevent deviant behavior, and today has indifference, do not have seen anything like. So opinion role in this direction has fallen. It is important to increase the socialization of children work for the recognition and enforcement in the social environment. A special role in this regard has schools. In the educational programs for civic education in the 9 years schools, not noted changes to better cope with innovations that have occurred and are occurring in the city

## CONCLUSIONS

During the transition period, the Albanian reality will be incorporated by rapid changes not only in political but also in economic and social cultural. Besides other sides of what would fall more in the eye, are changes in the hinterland roads etc. The policy of opening the borders and the free movement of people, together with the migratory movement, will create all environment premise for introducing Albanian new mentalities and practices of living, housing construction, movement of people, building roads, the

performance of different social services people need to live in a city that has changed a lot, with new rules of functioning of the infrastructure etc, Certainly enough problems of behavior are highlighted that people with new social environment, the study conclude for new behavior problems in children, in this environment.

There are reflected outdated minded practices in the behavior of children in the city. Children under ten years of age, who are not familiar with all spaces of the city of Shkodra, but only the main square of the town and neighborhood of residence. There are many of them who do not know the names of many of the city's neighborhoods. Also most of them do not know where they are the main institutions of the city, squares, gardens and angles of toys. Most of them say that the neighborhood play in the driveway or in the school yard. From the questionnaires appears that only a minority of children aged up to 12 years attending to private sports centers. Most of them have no knowledge, how they are and how these centers operate. The majority of children have not used, if once the lift. Children are not interested, and very few know the rules in road traffic.

Parents believe that children will learn everything gradually what they need to live as a citizen in the community of the city. There are minority of parents who are concerned that their children are wrong in their behavior in our town. According to them, this comes from the fact that they themselves are not yet familiar to the new rules. So has the role of parents to children's socialization with their behavior in the city, with the proper use of all the opportunities offered by today at our city. This problem grows even more when in Shkodra have many new residents that are come especially from mountainous areas. To these psychology of village affects more in socialization of children with new values of the city.

The study showed that the school believes that education realizes the case said that only through civic education. But we think that its program only affect how problems that have emerged in the education of children with the values of today's developments in the social environment. It would be necessary that the substance curricula of civic education better reflect the education of children with current developments, and assist the parents in the socialization of children in today's conditions.

Also would affect very positively with the positive orientation of the role of peers in that direction. From questionnaires has emerged that worries parents of the fact that in many cases peers influence negatively in the behavior of children in city environments. Especially reflects the impact of the use by children of a vulgar vocabulary, the organization of the game between the roads, the decay of personal hygiene etc.

## **References:**

- Giddens. A. Sociologji
- F. Artan, Dervishi. Z. Ndermjet fshatit dhe qytetimit global. Tirane 2002
- F. Artan Shoqeria periferike, Tirane 2005
- Dervishi Z. Sociologji kulture, Tirane 2004

- Revista Lente sociologjike, Tirane 2011