

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Childhood is a stage in life that arouses the interest of researchers. As members of social networks, children have access to various resources. When these resources are mobilized and transformed into social capital, they influence children's development. Therefore, this study addresses the relationship between social capital and child development and investigates its impact in various areas of development, such as child welfare, health and education. Thus, this paper presents the results of empirical research in the field of children's social capital and highlights the positive effects of this concept on the harmonious development of children. The results show that social capital has many benefits on children's well-being, on their health and also on their healthy behavior, on the educational performance of students, on the completion of studies by young people and their insertion in the field of work. However, various aspects of social capital, such as social control over children, bonding networks, lack of variety of rural activities and the proximity of friends, can have negative consequences on the development of children, including their exclusion, the perception of isolation or limiting social interactions.

Keywords: social capital; social networks; resources; child development

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