Child rights and child development: where do they cross paths

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Increased global attention to Early Child Development (ECD)

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

Early Childhood Rights Indicators, ECRI: Bringing ECD and CR fields together

GlobalChild; Building on ECRI and a decade of work and experience
1. Human capital Theory

Material goods

Service input

Parents’ time

Parents’ HC

Others’ HC

Others’ time

Process of Human Development

Human capital 1

Human capital 2
3. Paradigm shifts in healthcare

- From treatment to prevention; and

- From mere focus on biological analysis and pathological diagnostics to complex human interactions
1989, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was introduced to the world.
Convention on the Rights of the Child

Non-discrimination (Article 2)

Life, survival and development (Article 6)

Best interests of the child (Article 3)

Respect for the child’s view (Article 12)

Four General Principles
The concept of "proportionate universality": Solutions are made universally available, but with an intensity that is directly proportionate to the level of social disadvantage.

The Principle of non-discrimination

The Principle of Respect to child’s view

Protective, Welfare Status

Holders of Rights

Actors in promoting & protecting own rights
“Equity from the Start”

World Health Organization’s Commission on Social Determinants of Health

2nd Decade
- School failure
- Teen pregnancy
- Criminality

3rd/4th Decade
- Obesity
- Elevated blood pressure
- Depression

5th/6th Decade
- Coronary heart disease
- Diabetes

Older Age
- Premature aging
- Memory loss

Life Course Problems Related to Early Life Experiences
What good it can do to treat the disease and send people back to the conditions that created the disease?
Which environments matter?

TOTAL ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT MODEL (TEAM-ECD)
United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child
In 1989 the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.
Translating GC7 to user-friendly indicator set

UNCRC invites group to develop GC7 Indicators
Children have the right to live. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily.

17 Indicator Sets

1. Dissemination of GC7
2. Constructing and implementing a positive agenda
3. Human Rights training
4. Data collection system
5. Early Child Development
6. Birth registration
7. Participation in family decision-making
8. Violence against young children
9. Basic material needs
10. Breastfeeding and complementary feeding
11. Access to and use of health services

- Age-appropriate health education
- Provision of early childhood education and care services
- Educational provision for vulnerable young children
- Knowledge of right and capacity to support their realization
- Play, leisure and rest opportunities
- Inclusive policy and provisions for marginalized groups
e.g. Indicators set for Protection against violence:

- Structure
- Process
- Outcome

**Has there been a reduction (in the last five years) in the rate of occurrence of all forms of violence perpetrated against young children?**

**Are there initiatives to raise awareness and prevent violent physical and emotional (demeaning, ridiculing) disciplinary measures on children?**

**Are there measures in place to ensure adequate data collection to monitor the progress made on the implementation of the right of young children to freedom from violence?**
Dear members of the GC 7-indicator group,

“The Committee welcomes the plans to finalize this project so that a set of broadly applicable indicators regarding the implementation of rights of young children becomes available. The next steps have to be pilot studies in order to test and revise the list of indicators if necessary.”
552 USD GDP/Capita
2009-2010
Chile

13,300 USD GDP/Capita

2011-2012

The Early Childhood Rights Indicators, ECRI
Combining the science of child development and the political power of the Convention we propose to create a tool that will facilitate monitoring the policies and processes designed for children and their impact on children’s development and well being.
Dear Ms. Vaghri,
Dear Mr. Zermatten,

On behalf of the Bureau of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, I would like to thank you for your presentation which took place on 27 September 2017 in Geneva. The presentation, which focused on the GlobalChild project, a comprehensive child rights monitoring platform based on a framework of indicators to facilitate both compliance with and reporting on the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC), was appreciated by all present.

It is noted with appreciation that the GlobalChild project will expand upon the work made on the Early Childhood Rights Indicators (ECRI), a monitoring tool for children under the age of eight, with a view to developing an innovative and comprehensive monitoring platform that will assist in monitoring the rights of all children up to the age of 18.

We welcome that the aim of this initial 5-year project is to operationalize the entire CRC and create an innovative digital monitoring platform based upon an indicators framework, and then pilot the tool in Canada. We understand that in the subsequent five years, the tool will be then expanded globally and piloted in countries from all regions of the world. The Committee commends the Government of Canada for

The committee welcomes the GlobalChild project and looks forward to the envisaged periodic engagement and consultation with the committee in the process of the development of this important electronic child rights monitoring platform. In this regard the committee invites the GlobalChild to provide periodic progress report and decides to designate Ms Kirsten Sandberge to be the committee’s focal person for the GlobalChild project,
GlobalChild Steering Committee

Hon. Jean Zermatten - Chair: Juvenile justice/Europe;
Ziba Vaghri - Vice chair: Child Development/N. America;
Zulfiqar Bhutta - Health/Asia;
Susan Bissell, UNICEF - Child protection;
Cindy Blackstock, Indigenous children/N America;
Najat Maalla M'jiid, Health/Africa;
Kishore Singh, Education/Asia;
Renate Winter, Law/W. Europe;
George Moschos, ENOC; and
Hon. Landon Pearson as the Honorary member of the Committee

The Chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (2008-2013)
Our Network

International Collaborators

• WHO
• UNICEF
• UN-CRC
• UN-CRPD

• International Pediatric Association
• International Society for Social Pediatric
• European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC)

• Global Partnership to end violence
• African Child Policy Forum
• International Institute for child Rights, Sion
• Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)

• Max Plank Institute, Germany
  (Berlin, Germany)
• Child Rights International Network, UK
Human development is at the center of the global agenda in the 21st century. Our planet faces challenges that can be met only by people who are tolerant, empathic, insightful, and capable of lifelong learning. Research teaches us that the roots of these human attributes are in the childhood.”

*Clyde Hertzman (OC)- 1953-2013*