

A Study of Children's Death Concepts

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Abstract

In Chinese tradition, parents always protect their children away from death. It can be proved that when passing a funeral, parents covered children's eyes. But can adult's protection really help children away from death? In fact, death is really existing around our daily life, children should learn about death.

Participants of this research are eight preschool-aged children in a nursery center in Taipei, those children witnessed a dog died in car accident, and the research investigates: (a) how the preschool-aged children know about death? (b) How children adjust to this accident? The researcher used interview and observation to understand children, parents and teachers' death concepts and their psychological process.

The results are: "death" is not to be separated and marginalization, children should face everything naturally in their daily life in order to learn how to solve problems. The researcher suggests parents: (a) Let children learn about life's circulation in a natural way. (b) Have positive

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