

Liking of Children as a Predictor of Attitudes toward Children's Rights

Abstract

This study aimed to determine whether liking of children is correlated with and a predictor of attitudes toward children's rights. Data were collected from 270 pre-service early childhood teachers studying at one of public universities in Turkey. Results indicated that pre-service early childhood teachers' liking of children was significantly correlated with their attitudes toward children's rights, $r = .364, p < .01$ and that attitudes toward children's rights were significantly predicted by liking of children, $F(1,240) = 36.58, p < .01$. A little more than 13% of the variance of attitudes toward children's rights was accounted for by its linear relationship with liking of children.

Key words: liking of children, attitudes toward children's rights, pre-service early childhood teachers.

Introduction

According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted and opened for signature, ratification, and accession by General Assembly resolution 44/25 of November 20, 1989 and put into force on September 2, 1990 in parallel with Article No. 49 (United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF], 2004), the child is referred to as every human being under the age of 18. Regardless of children's gender, religion, nationality, and ethnicity, the Convention on the Rights of the Child includes the following rights of children: (1) The right to survival, (2) the right to thorough development, (3) the right to protection from harm, abuse and exploitation, and