

DEVELOPING EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL INTELLIGENCE IN CHILDREN

Santi Elena-Ancu a *

Kindergarten no. 16, Târgovi te
Romania

Abstract

Emotional intelligence and spiritual intelligence are two relatively new concepts that relate to some extremely powerful resources of human potential, namely emotional experiences and openness to the spiritual, to the absolute. The two concepts significantly influence both separately and especially together the full development of human beings to achieve their potential perfection. The sooner they realize their importance, even in early childhood, the more visible are the effects, both internally on the quality and value of personal life, and externally in peer relations and social integration. Both emotional and spiritual intelligence promote a model based on empathy and love for others, which makes a person with full developed emotional intelligence and openness to spirituality, to be a strong person, successful, loved and appreciated by those around her, living in harmony with others, with nature and themselves. The paper presents a brief report of personal findings on the relationship between emotional and spiritual intelligence, concluding that emotional intelligence is varying significantly depending on the level of religious experience.

Keywords: emotional intelligence; spiritual intelligence; childhood religiosity

* Professor for preschool education, Kindergarten no. 16, Târgovi te, Romania; PhD student, Doctoral School of Psychology, Department of Psychology, University of Bucharest, Romania; e-mail: santicosmin@yahoo.com