

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN'S ABILITY TO SOLVE CONFLICTS

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Abstract

Both adults and children face various conflictual situations that involve emotional regulation and require to find solving strategies. This study aimed to identify the strategies that preschoolers use for solving parent – child and parent – parent conflicts. The participants were 63 children, 24 were male and 39 female. The average age for boys was 5.33 and the average age for girls was 5.28. The results indicate that in the case of the parent – child conflicts - most children choose to amplify the conflict by punishing the undesirable behaviors, and in the case of the parent – parent they choose to avoid the conflict. This finding highlights the fact that the relations that the child experiences within his family are perceived differently; the relationships with his parents are driven by the principle of authority, thus we can infer the type of educational and disciplinary practices used by the parents.

Keywords: conflict solving; parent – parent conflict; parent – child conflict; preschoolers

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