

CHILDREN OF THE FUTURE 1.

Playing, Learning, and the Effects of the Environment

Barbara Czeizel: *Changing Children, Changing Requirements and Changing Professional Solutions – New Challenges in the Therapeutic System of Early Childhood Intervention*

We should pay special attention to the age of early childhood since it is a time of high importance in the child's development. In our work, we face continuous challenges, both in our personal interactions and professionally.

The big question is: who or what is in continuous change? Is it the population of special needs children, or is it us, parents and therapists, and our professional skills and knowledge?

Prof Dr Valéria Csépe: *Learning, Playing and the Development of the Brain*

For the small child, playing is a combination of emotions and cognitive challenges, the perfect way to gain experiences and to discover connections, to have lots of "a-ha" moments – it is the early form of learning. This is why we must understand the factors that govern these spontaneous and natural forms of learning, and how the interactions of innate abilities and the environment influence this learning process.

Dr Nándor Donauer: *Can the Asteroid of Online Education Cause Evolutionary Damage in the Biology of the Child's Brain?*

The recent time period has seen a huge increase in the number of children who have come to see us having extremely severe learning disorders, memory issues, and the inability to memorize anything. The results of our examinations have made it clear that the apparent "instant availability" and "instant visibility" are having an especially bad effect on children's ability to memorize anything, and are making the process of recalling from memory very uncertain.

Dr Júlia Schneider: *The Effects of Electronic Devices and the Environment on our Children's Future*

Among all the effects on the children of the future, the lecture will focus on the ones that technical devices are having on their movement system, their posture and their sensory organs. Changes in body posture and the effects of devices on the sensory organs are influencing the maturation processes of the nervous system. The lecture will place special emphasis on ways in which we can recognize symptoms, balance adverse effects and prevent damage.

Dr Éva Gyarmathy: *An Open and Experience-Based System*

Our ability to adapt is based on the process of learning, which changes the human brain. The brain is somewhat re-wired from the get-go and has a predetermined developmental process, but its functioning depends on our interactions with the outer environment. The key factors that influence the development of the brain can be grouped as follows: our diet, infections and toxic influences, and our experiences about the outside world and mainly about people.

Dr Maryanne Wolf: *The Role of Reading and Books in the Lives of Children Today*

Reading is a basic human right that is the basis for the rest of learning across the lifespan. But it is also the platform for our intellectual, social, emotional, and ethical development. Children learn empathy for others and critical thinking for themselves.

Dr Agnieszka Wilczynska: *Loneliness and a Sense of Belonging – their impact on our Children's Future*

Loneliness and social exclusion is discussed as a stress situation which teenagers confront by activating their own resources and mobilising strategies of coping with internal stress caused by external experiences.

In my presentation I will discuss connections between selected psychological variables which are developed or deteriorate when children feel lonely or excluded.

