

03 – Children’s Rights in the Constitution? Perspectives and Challenges

Comment

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The influence of the turning point Covid-19 of children rights and their awareness

During the Corona Pandemic “[three-quarters](#) of young children (ages 2-4) experience either psychological aggression or physical punishment” (COVID-19 and Children’s Rights, 2020). How does it make you feel? Shocking, isn’t it? The Corona Pandemic had a significant impact on several topics and changed our day-to-day life. In the following, we will comment on the importance of the turning point Covid-19 considering the rights of children and their awareness in the society.

As mentioned before physical and psychological violence at home raised dramatically during the Corona Pandemic. This had an enormous impact on the children’s life, caused mental disorders, decreased learning and social abilities. Through the media the awareness of this problem increased. Because of this situation discussions started and got into the consciousness of everybody.

Furthermore, the digital infrastructure was very present in media. After schools were closed, teachers and students were confronted with the lack of digital abilities and systems. Many people had to improvise to teach without clear instructions. These public issues resulted in the investment of technical equipment and education. The digitalization was accelerated and consulted in more equality in the school system and the children’s right of education got in the public focus.

While online school slowly flourished, isolation became progressively more problematic leading to the growth of mental health conditions. For children especially the right of rest, play, culture and arts as well as unharmed mental health were damaged. Due to the impact on their own mental health parents and politicians started to recognize the importance of social interactions.

Although these topics got in the main view, there were a lot of problems that didn’t got the attention they needed. One of these was the issue that the control visits of social workers constrained a lot. Households which relied on social assistance were partially abandoned and left alone with their troubles. Many children rights were harmed for example the right of child welfare.

Moreover, mortality rate was higher than ever. Covid itself wasn’t the direct cause of that, but the health system was significantly overloaded with covid patients. Children that had previous conditions or other illnesses suffered due to a lack of medical attendance which harmed their right of physical and psychological integrity.

Lastly children weren’t integrated in the decision making that influenced their life. Their essential right to participate was ignored although problems concerning children were publicly

discussed. Children have their individual minds and should be integrated in topics regarding them.

In conclusion the Pandemic showed a lot of existing problems and enlarged the persisting social gap. While some topics regarding children rights got a lot of attention others were inadequate discussed. As mentioned, several children rights were harmed and overlooked. The situation for children became worse and although the problems were discussed a lot, society didn't react fast enough so there weren't enough measures taken. To do better there is a great need to talk with the children and find solutions together. On top of that essential institutions must be strengthened like the health care system and the digital education in school. Social and health care jobs need to be more attractive for employees and students, through better working conditions and fair payments.

Sources:

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