

A változási képesség alakulása intézeti körülmények között

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Abstract: When trying to understand the way of development of children growing up in residential care, modifiability is an important concept. It suggests that the pace and rhythm of developmental acquisitions might be different not only as a result of heredity, but also as a result of specificities in the environmental influences. The goal of the hereby presented research, done during the Ceausescu area (1985), in one of the Romanian orphanages, was to gather data which shows that restrictive stimulation, maternal deprivation and institutional care have a negative effect on development. Therefore, correlation analysis was done to test the effect on development (measured by psychological, social and motor abilities tests) of the independent variables of age of the child, the period of being in care, the period of staying with own family, the number of units the child has been boarded in. As stated in the hypothesis of the paper, the more time a child has spent in the institution, the more residential units he was boarded in, and the less time he has spent at home, the more his development has suffered developmental delay. This research implicitly shows that improving the quality of life of children in care is an essential condition of influencing their development.

Keywords: modifiability, restrictive stimulation, maternal deprivation, institutional care.