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Title/Título: Relations of trust between parents and teachers of children in elementary school
Relaciones de confianza entre padres y profesorado en centros de primaria

Topic: Parents as educators, their challenging role and current status in school, family and community relationships

Los padres y madres como educadores, los retos de su rol y su situación actual en las relaciones que se establecen

Presentation time/Día de presentación: Plenary Round Table. Thursday 15, 10:15-11:45 a.m.
Conference Room, Ground Floor

Mesa Redonda Plenaria. Jueves 15, 10:15-11:45 a.m. Sala de Cámara, Planta Baja

Abstract

Certain researches have highlighted the importance of the family-school relationship to children's socioeducational adjustment and in-school learning; other works have identified mutual trust as the essential ingredient in a healthy family-school collaboration. To gain a better understanding of the relationships between parents and teachers, we conducted a study of 28 teachers and 411 parents of primary school children living in Québec. The objectives were to verify 1) if levels of trust were different for parents and teachers, and 2) to what extent socio-demographic, individual and family characteristics can predict the level of parents' trust in teachers. Data were collected through parallel questionnaires to parents and teachers, and responses were rated on a four-point Likert scale. A semi-open question was included concerning what a teacher/parent should do and/or say to earn trust. The results are presented, followed by a discussion of their practical repercussions and a few promising avenues for future research.