

**Partnership as a tool for consumer citizenship education in Finnish teacher education**

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For all children successful transition from home to school is important. In my research our teacher students (N 130) have written texts concerning challenges how to improve and increase the cooperation between home and school. Partnership is not only a challenge it is also demand. How to find “best” ways/solutions to cooperation is one easily asked question but how to find proper answers.

My method is contents analysis. I have started to group texts. The main point of view seems to focus psychological and social support areas. In our school system, our children have had good success e.g. in PISA-research thanks belong very much to good involvement between home and early childhood education.

Parents have got a bigger role as real stakeholders. In teacher education we don't in general give much enough attention to this subject. Students are reflecting their own attitudes and making us teachers conscious of our responsibility not making natural things too academic; are our students sometimes losing their sensitivity and are we stereotyping families. In my teaching project consumer and citizenship education themes have given concrete tools to open discussion – it's very much question about daily skills and knowing and shearing the changing world where children have to cope. Good cooperation is prerequisite for acting but we have to know our roles as parents and professionals. No competition and avoiding behaviour just to meet and deal with problem.