

Students with emotional disorders: Are primary education teachers prepared to teach them?

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Abstract.

Emotional disorders, mainly manifested in depression and anxiety, are challenges that affect a person's feelings, thoughts, and behaviour.

In children, different efforts have existed to prevent emotional disorders that, depending on the case, can occur at different stages of academic development. Nevertheless, these attempts have proven to be ineffective among elementary education students.

Since most children spend a large part of their time in schools, various authors argue that academic institutions are the prime location for detecting mental disorders as early as possible, in order to effectively guide students to adequate health services. However, are our teachers prepared for it? Are our academic institutions prepared for it?

The close relationship between mental health and the process of learning in schools, justifies investigating that may reveal a real, emergent and unattended problem. These results might raise awareness in the academic society about a topic that should be considered at the moment of planning classes.

This paper intends to justify further research on the preparation of teachers to deal adequately with students with mental disorders. In order to do so, it has been gathered different theories that show a problem that needs to be addressed. Besides, interviews applied to professors from elementary levels of Chilean schools included in this work, support this theory.

Keywords: emotional disorders, children, teachers' preparedness, teaching, primary education depressive and anxiety disorders. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics*, 18(3), 593-610.