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Childcare in Chile

The role of ethnicity and socioeconomic inequalities

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1. Chile bears the mark of a history of inequality and is still unable to fully guarantee the health of children from the poorest sectors of society. (This thesis)

2. The strongly increased enrollment of infant and toddlers in Chilean daycare centers was not accompanied by an equally strong decrease of the quality of care. (This thesis)

3. Preserving cultural differences and traditions is an important goal in itself but for childcare it is at least equally important to eliminate socioeconomic inequality. (This thesis)

4. Full-time daycare - as compared to full-time maternal care - does not negatively affect the mother-child relationship nor the quality of the home environment. (This thesis)

5. Infant daycare of high quality may serve as an intervention for children with a disturbed mother-child relationship. (Howes et al., 1988)


7. We should not strive for identity, because we are not all identical. But we should try to live together in harmony and mutual respect and correct illegitimate differences such as economic inequality. (Humberto Maturana)

8. “The natural distribution is neither just nor unjust; nor is it unjust that persons are born into society at some particular position. These are simply natural facts. What is just and unjust is the way that institutions deal with these facts.” (John Rawls, 1971, p. 102)

9. Tennis is like Chilean society: knowledge or skills are not enough to win; what counts is power and position.