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Factors hampering the integration of Refugee Children

Faktory ztěžující integraci uprchlických dětí

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ABSTRACT

The main aim of this thesis is to describe the factors that hamper the integration of Refugee Children into a new society. Factors that are mentioned in relation to integration are connected with an education gap, unfamiliarity with the language spoken in a new society, a bad economic situation of a family and its consequences and unstable or inappropriate housing. Social economic factors are also mentioned in the thesis. Child Labour closely linked to family conditions are discussed together with the worst form of it: child recruitment into army. Refugee children coming from various backgrounds also may face many psychologically challenging situations when forcefully or willingly leaving their home country and other significant situations connected to their refugee status. In this thesis, I discuss psychological distresses that influence children's mental state due to war experience, migration experience, extended stays in refugee camps or post-migration stressors. In this thesis the situation of Syrian refugee children is a case study. The thesis reviews stressful reactions as well as demanding experiences. These experiences among refugee children may be associated with health problems that may lead to trauma, posttraumatic stress disorder, depression or emotional/behavioural problems.

KEYWORDS

education, refugees, refugee camp, inclusion, integration, mental health, psychological well-being, depression, cultural identity, poverty, child labour