

*the moral and spiritual foundations of the formation of family traditions, justifies the necessity of their compliance with the standards of culture.*

**Keywords:** family traditions, family relationships, culture, “norm” of cultural background.

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## PARENTS' ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

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*This article deals with parents' attitude towards children with special needs our modern society. Much attention should be paid to the formation of right attitude towards such children in the family and in the society as a whole. This article reveals that it is very essential for parents to have positive attitude towards their children because it will influence their future life and perception of this world. Parents are key persons who help a child with special needs to feel that he or she is an individual with his or her personal talents and abilities that can be improved during the life. Positive attitude is a key component of a harmonious development of a child with special needs.*

**Key word:** parents' attitude, children with special needs, family, harmonious development.

**Problem statement.** During last years, the number of families with children with special needs has increased greatly. Parents are the first teachers who help such children to integrate into society. Family environment is very important and it influences well-being of a child with special needs.

**Recent research analysis.** This problem has been highlighted in the works of the following researchers: Chandramuki I., Krishnashastry V., Vranda M., Kenny J., Corkin D., Smith J., Swallow V. and Coyne I.

**Problem definition.** It should be noted that there are not enough researches in the field of parents' attitude towards children with special needs in Ukraine. Therefore, the work will be focused on the formation of positive attitude towards children with special needs in the family and our society.

**The paper aims.** The purpose of this article is to reveal parents' attitude towards children with special needs in America and Ukraine, point out main reasons of such attitude in order to form a positive attitude towards these children who need extra attention and care.

**Research development.** Unfortunately, children with special needs often face with various problems such as rejection, inadequate parental attitude, violations, complexity of relationships between family members, emotional problems of parents, lack of understanding and support.

Lack of appropriate services, limited financial resources and insufficient support are family risk factors that can contribute to poor attitude towards children with disabilities. Children are the perfect expression of parents' love and care. The emotional preparation of parents who are expecting a baby resembles a kind of ego ideal. The difference between a perfect image of a newborn baby and a real child may be the cause for negative attitudes and parenting stress. Different emotions such as denial, guilt, blame, frustration, anger and despair can trouble the parents when they see their child with disability. Parents often lose their hope for a “perfect child” and start feeling loneliness, isolation and exhaustion. Parents usually overprotect their child with disability and feel guilty for his or her disability.

The parents of such children develop chronic sorrow that is characterized by constant recurrence of sadness, guilt, shock and pain. They are overflowed by feelings of pessimism, anger and shame. Denial of the reality, guilt, grief and self-condemnation are only some of the usual parental reactions. Some parents often experience helplessness, feelings of inadequacy, disbelief and deep depression [1, p.256].

Problems concerning parent-child relationships are caused by the severity of child's disability, parents' personal qualities and their psychological characteristics; family value orientations; parents' level of education and social environment.

Inadequate interpersonal relationships are formed for various reasons in families with children who have special needs. Factors that usually violate

family atmosphere, affecting the development of parent-child relationships and education of children with special needs include the following:

1. The severity of child's disability, duration and outward manifestations of psychophysical deficiency (for example, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, early childhood autism, etc.);
2. Parents' personal characteristics that are exacerbated in situations when they are said that their child has a disability;
3. Family value orientation and the impact of parental attitudes on the process of their child's education, dependence of such a child on his or her family, ethnic traditions, socio-cultural level and education of parents;
4. Social environment and conditions that impede normal development of a child with special needs [3, p.14].

Moreover, parents' negative attitude is characterized by parents' emotional rejection of child's disability, inability to create a situation of joint activities, inadequate parenting style, lack of communication with a child and lack of positive emotions. Here are the examples of negative parents' attitude towards children with disabilities: rejection of the situation; transfer of guilt on a child; constant feeling of shame; victim syndrome; feeling of being punished for something; self-abasement; feeling of distress; feeling of hopelessness.

Parents of children with disabilities play a pivotal role in the further acceptance of these children in the society. It is important that parents form positive attitude towards children with special needs in order to help such children feel that they can live a full-fledged life.

Nowadays family relations are of great importance but there is an issue concerning proper communication in the family because family relationships have become less emotional and spiritual. People spend less time on communication with each other and especially on communication with children. Sometimes family members only coexist with one another. Many problems are left unsolved because family members do not solve them together. Thus, parents deprive children of an opportunity to share his or her emotional experiences. It especially concerns children with special needs because they need much time and attention. It is understood that parents want to give their children the best, protect them from unnecessary alarms and provide them with "bright future". However, they often forget about simple communication with their children [1, p.257].

Interpersonal communication between parents and children with special need is very essential. It help children realize that they are loved and respected.

Nowadays the number of children with special needs has increased greatly all over the world. The incidence of childhood disability has doubled in the past decade. That is why the topic of parents' attitude towards such children is relevant.

Negative attitude towards children with special needs leads to wrong perception of individual needs, unhealthy self-esteem, emotional disorders, inability to empathize, misunderstanding of others, various conflicts in the future.

The following factors influence the attitude towards child with special needs: health of a child and his or her parents, their psychophysical state, economic stability of the family, presence of both parents or one parent and even income of the family.

It is very important for children with special needs to feel that their parents appreciate them and they are not burdens for them. Parents should do their best to form positive attitude towards children with special needs despite any stereotypes and prejudices.

Parents who take care for a child with any disability may respond positively to stressful situations and develop closer bonds. Unfortunately, they may experience a negative impact that can lead to a conflict or further distress. There is an immense strain on relationships with marital confrontation, stress and dissatisfaction that effects on the health and well-being of parents who bring up children with special needs.

Parents have a huge influence in their disabled child's life and play a significant role in improving outcomes for their child. Mothers always try to be with their children but fathers sometimes appear 'invisible' but they need to be involved in the upbringing of children with disabilities. Moreover, parents should be well informed about their child's disability and know how to behave properly and form a positive attitude. Many parents need professionals' assistance in caring for a child with special needs. Additionally, parents should understand children with special needs and help them to overcome any obstacles in their lives [5, p.34].

Parents should be positive role models for their children. Parenthood is an overwhelming, challenging and emotional experience. Diagnosis of a disorder or disability may cause feelings of guilt for the parents. Subsequently, such diagnosis breaks all parents' dreams about an ideal child. Parents often lose their hope for a better future. They cannot perceive the reality. Parents must deal with their personal grief and support their children. Furthermore, it is important to note that when parents overcome their fears and grief, children with special needs achieve great results in their personal development and academic performance. It is parents who can help children

with special needs reveal their talents and unique abilities. Disability is only a label that should be taken away because every child has his own talents. Parents should recognize this truth and do their best to develop child's strengths. Parents should be honest and open with their children because children feel when parents hide their true feelings [2, p.64].

Positive attitude can be formed only when parents are sincere with their children. It is considered that children with special needs cannot comprehend feelings but it is a wrong opinion. It is understood that there are some mental diseases when children are unable to emphasize but children with other disabilities can easily comprehend other people's feelings and emotional state. Loving parent-child relationships should be established in order to promote harmonious psychological and physical development of children with special needs. When children with special needs see a positive attitude towards them, they will begin to trust their parents and become more confident. Self-esteem of children who have friendly relationships with their parents is at a high level.

A child with special needs is not a passive member of the society. This child has his own rights and freedom to get a proper education, employment, etc. Parents are the first people who share these opportunities with a child with special needs. Therefore, personal development of children with special needs is of great importance and correct attitude help to promote normal personal development.

Parents who want to form healthy relationship in the family should take into consideration the following rules:

1. Parents should treat their children with special needs as children that have some unique abilities that are different from other children's abilities. They should do their best to assist children in improving these abilities.

2. Parents should not be afraid of asking for specialists' help in solving issues that seem insuperable. Moreover, parents should teach their child with special needs different ways of communication; teach him basic rules of conduct; develop skills of self-service; help children to overcome stressful situations; identify and develop child's creativity; develop visual, auditory, tactile perception with the help of various games.

3. Parents should create emotionally secure family environment for children who have special needs: raise a child in an atmosphere of love, respect and kindness; keep regular hours; get rid of all the factors that can cause child's fear or negative emotional reaction.

4. Parents should attend support groups that will help them to alleviate feelings of isolation and emotional anxiety. During such meetings, parents can share their successes and challenges.

5. Parents also should: respect children with special needs; accept them as they are; allow them to be themselves; praise and encourage them when they try to do something on their own; teach simple thing with the help of different games; talk with their children and listen to them when they try to say something; pay attention to their strengths; always ask children because it is the most effective way to teach them something [4, p.143].

Parents have great influence on their children from their birth until their maturity. It is parents who are responsible for a positive perception of children with special needs because parents' attitude helps others to see children's strengths or weaknesses. Parents who bring up children with special needs should always remember the words of I. Pavlov, a scientist: "... Everything can be changed for the better, if only you create appropriate conditions."

**Conclusions and perspective of future development:** It is noted that many parents do not have enough opportunities to share their experience with others and gain support from friends and other family members. They need people who will listen to them and give them some pieces of advice how to solve their issues such as feelings of frustration and child-rearing problems. These parents have to develop realistic expectations for their child and generate feelings of competence. In many countries, network support groups are created in order to help parents who have children with special needs to gain confidence, improve self-esteem and enhance feelings of control. Such groups act as a social support network that is missing from lives of parents whose children have special needs. Confidence and sense of well-being can be generated by an increased sense of inherent worth among these parents that lead to attitudinal changes towards children with special needs.

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### СТАВЛЕННЯ БАТЬКІВ ДО ДІТЕЙ З ОСОБЛИВИМИ ПОТРЕБАМИ

М.О. Сяба

*В даній статті розглядається ставлення батьків до дітей з особливими потребами в сучасному суспільстві. Значну увагу необхідно приділити формуванню правильного ставлення членів сім'ї та суспільства до дітей, які мають певні особливі потреби. Показана важливість позитивного ставлення батьків до дітей з особливими потребами, адже саме позитивне ставлення може значною мірою вплинути на майбутнє життя та сприйняття цього світу дітей. Саме батьки відіграють ключову роль в розкритті та розвитку талантів та здібностей дітей з особливими потребами. Позитивне ставлення є ключовим компонентом гармонійного розвитку дитини з особливими потребами.*

**Ключові слова:** ставлення батьків, діти з особливими потребами, сім'я, гармонійний розвиток.

### ОТНОШЕНИЕ РОДИТЕЛЕЙ К ДЕТАМ С ОСОБЫМИ ПОТРЕБНОСТЯМИ

М.А. Сяба

*В данной статье рассматривается отношение родителей к детям с особыми потребностями в современном обществе. Значительное внимание необходимо уделить формированию правильного отношения членов семьи и общества к детям, которые имеют особые потребности. Показана важность позитивного отношения родителей к детям с особыми потребностями, ведь именно положительное отношение может в значительной степени повлиять на будущую жизнь и восприятие этого мира детей. Именно родители играют ключевую роль в раскрытии и развитии талантов и способностей детей с особыми потребностями. Положительное отношение является ключевым компонентом гармоничного развития ребенка с особыми потребностями.*

**Ключевые слова:** отношение родителей, дети с особыми потребностями, семья, гармоничное развитие.

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### ЗНАЧЕННЯ ПЕДАГОГІЧНОЇ СПАДЩИНИ Я. А. КОМЕНСЬКОГО ДЛЯ СТВЕРДЖЕННЯ ДУХОВНОСТІ В УКРАЇНІ

Т. Д. Тхоржевська

*У статті розкриваються особливості сприйняття педагогічних ідей Я. А. Коменського в залежності від історичного періоду та світогляду освітян в історії педагогіки України. Також розкриваються основні погляди Коменського на призначення шкільної освіти і морально-релігійне виховання.*

**Ключові слова:** морально-релігійне виховання, розумовий розвиток, призначення школи, примирення, національна злагода.

**Постановка проблеми в загальному вигляді та її зв'язок з важливими науковими і практичними завданнями.** Все далі й далі уносить людство потоком життя від часів видатного чеського педагога. Хто тільки не вивчав і не аналізував його творчість. Здавалось би, що можна ще писати про спадщину, хоча й великого, але вже давно хрестоматійного Я. А. Коменського? Але тому й уважають його генієм, що його ідеї не стають із часом менш мудрими й актуальними.

У цій статті **автор ставить за мету** проаналізувати настанови Я. А. Коменського щодо морального виховання дітей і молоді, адже проблема суспільної моралі в Україні стоїть дуже гостро.

**Виклад основного матеріалу з аналізом досліджень і публікацій, на які спирається автор.** Аналіз історії розвитку педагогічної думки вказує на невсучасний інтерес до спадщини Я. А. Коменського з боку вітчизняних педагогів. В українській просвітницькій традиції взагалі закладено інтерес до західноєвропейської педагогічної спадщини. Бібліотеки кращих українських навчальних закладів (Кієво-Могилянська академія, Харківський колегіум) були укомплектовані працями Я.А. Коменського, Е. Роттердамського, Гомера, Цицерона, Декарта та