

# Who's got the say? Experiences and Agency in Stories of Traumatized Children.

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traumatized due to domestic violence are part of our societal reality. So far children had to take the back seat behind their mothers and the harm done to them. But these things that are happening "privately" are of a political significance: On behalf of children's rights, justice for children and equality to adults, it is about "to give children a voice (back)". Another aim is to enable subject-based and children related research and politics and not to see children (as in previous programs) as educational and care objects only. All this involves a critical assessment of the power balances between adults and children, and based on the approaches of "narrative practice" we aim at creating links between theory, practice and research and methodology. In detail, we aim at implementing the concepts of narrative practice based on an approach on appreciation.

Background: Qualitative research in the context of family violence, new childhood research and children's rights.

Problem: Denying the children's perspective in child protection, pathologizing and reductionism in victim reduced discourse.

Research question(s): How can we create interventions based on appreciative and supportive view and Communication? How can we educate the professionals for reflexive practice in the field of child protection?

Methods : Narrative Interviews with children, using also visual material. The research has been done in a teaching-research seminar. Students who were educated in narrative inquiry conducted interviews with children in some shelters.

Results, Conclusions and Implications: The research shows how children create agency and how important it is to appreciate the children's construction of their reality in the professional interaction. Furthermore the research shows how important it is to make research with children to fulfill the challenges of children's right in the field of child protection and how important it is for a subject orientated children policy.