

Concepts of Protection Against Sexual Violence in Residential Institutions From the Point of View of Adolescents and Group Educators. An Interdisciplinary Collaborative Project to Explore the Point of View of the Addressee and To Develop a "Culture of Seeing"

Acronym

Schuko (BMBF), better known as the study "Ich bin sicher!" (I am safe)

Keywords

Safety, Protection, Protection Concept, Adolescents, Youth Welfare Institution, Boarding School, Hospital, Sexual Violence

Project Management

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Cooperation Partners

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- ▶ Landshut University of Applied Sciences

Project Term

07/2013-06/2016

Link Project Website

www.ichbinsicher.de

Background & Aim of the Project

After numerous cases of abuse in educational institutions in Germany were uncovered, the question arose how to protect children and adolescents in institutions appropriately. As a result, prevention and intervention concepts (protection concepts) were developed for more safety and security in the facilities. In many cases, however, these have been defined top down by the management level and developed less in cooperation with the children and their caregivers. How a safe institution is defined from the perspective of the children and adolescents living there and their caregivers was therefore largely ignored. The aim of the project was to investigate the implementation of protection concepts as well as organizational procedures and contexts and the perceived changes and wishes of the addressees in the implementation of protection concepts.

Description of the Project

Within this project, anonymous online surveys and a paper-based survey as well as group discussions were used to interview children and adolescents between 11 and 18 years of age and their caregivers in the group service in inpatient care forms of child and youth welfare and in comparable organizations such as boarding schools, hospitals and health clinics. At the end of the surveys, 233 adolescents and 490 caregivers had completed online questionnaires and 279 adolescents and 147 caregivers had completed paper-based questionnaires. The group discussions were attended by 87 children and adolescents and 73 caregivers. The adolescents interviewed stated that they generally felt rather safe in the institution. This sense of security was linked to positive relationships between caregivers and adolescents. At the same time, however, there were indications that potential risks within the facility were underestimated (also see final report).

Publications and created materials

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Funded by

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
