

The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

SOCIAL WORK WITH CHILDREN: QUESTIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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HISTORIES OF CHILD CARE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- LORENZ'S (2007, P. 608) APPROACH THAT SOCIAL WORK HISTORY IS 'A DYNAMIC WEAVING OF A MULTIPLICITY OF DIFFERENT STRANDS OF IDENTITY.'
 - - OFTEN WESTERNISED
 - SET WITHIN COLONIAL HISTORIES

1. Functional children

Children, economy and industrialisation

Children as 'cannon fodder': growing the militia

Children as (re)producers of the next generation: socialising sexualities and gender

2. Problematizing children

Children as 'bastards' – inheritance stealers

Children as deserving or underserving: eligibility, class and conformity

The National Socialist solution to disabled children and the eugenics movement

The growth of children's rights and the 'problem' of parents

- NUREMBERG TRIALS AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR THAT THE CONCEPT OF HUMAN RIGHTS BECAME ENSHRINED IN INTERNATIONAL LAW AND CODIFIED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (UDHR) (UNITED NATIONS (UN))
- THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (ALIGNS WITH WESTERN INDIVIDUALISM)
- THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (MORE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC)

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which all UN member countries, except the United States of America, have signed up to

'Dr Doolittle's Pushmi-Pullyu'

Protected from and
enabled to...

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS: AMBIVALENCE

- THE GREATEST MAJORITY OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ARE LOCATED IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD, INCLUDING SOME GULF COOPERATION COUNTRIES (MILAAT ET AL. 2001)
- COMMITMENT TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN TERMS OF ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE RESOURCES AND EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY CAN BE DEEPLY COMPROMISED BY POVERTY AND CIVIL CONFLICT (NAHAL ET AL. 2018) (DISABILITY RIGHTS UK, 2022; BBC 2022 [HTTPS://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/NEWS/AV/WORLD-EUROPE-61325277](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-europe-61325277))
- CHILDREN WHO BECOME DISABLED THROUGH THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN WAR CAN SOMETIMES BE TRANSFORMED INTO HEROIC FIGURES AS HAS BEEN FOUND PALESTINE (ASHENCAEN CRABTREE AND WILLIAMS, 2012; PARKER AND ASHENCAEN CRABTREE, FORTHCOMING)
- THERE IS ALSO A STRONG INTERSECTIONAL DIMENSION AT PLAY IN TERMS OF GENDER + DISABILITY + POVERTY + SOCIO-RELIGIO CULTURE - FEMALE CHILDREN AND WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES MAY EXPERIENCE THE MOST NEGLECT AND HAVE THE LEAST OPPORTUNITIES (BOUKHARI. 2007; PARKER & ASHENCAEN CRABTREE, 2018))

- **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES UNDER THE EDUCATION FOR ALL (EFA) GLOBAL ACTION PLAN (2000 UNESCO, UNICEF AND WORLD BANK)**

- DIFFICULT TO MEET (ASHENCAEN CRABTREE AND WILLIAMS 2010).
- SOCIAL UPHEAVAL AND CIVIL CONFLICT IN AFGHANISTAN, COUPLED WITH DEEP GENDER OPPRESSIONS, WILL SEVERELY DELAY THIS GOAL FOR AN UNFORESEEABLE PERIOD. THE CLIMATE CRISIS WHICH IS HITTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT HARDEST IN TERMS OF SUSTAINABILITY AND RESOURCE EQUALITY CAN ONLY DEEPEN THESE SOCIAL DIVISIONS BETWEEN THE ABLE BODIED AND THE DISABLED – AND THESE INCREASINGLY ARE LIFE AND DEATH CONSIDERATIONS (PARKER AND ASHENCAEN CRABTREE, FORTHCOMING).

- ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ARE STRONGLY SHAPED BY CULTURE AND MEDIATED BY EDUCATION.
- RESEARCH INTO THE NEGLECTED TOPIC OF CARE-GIVING ARAB FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) (ASHENCAEN CRABTREE, 2007A).
- STIGMA AND RESISTANCE
- MOTHERS, FEMALE RELATIVES, DOMESTIC STAFF – RESPONSIBILITY AND SHAME; REPUDIATION
- RECENT RESEARCH INTO BEDOUIN MOTHERS CARING FOR CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTED OR OTHERWISE BY ISRAELI STATE SERVICES, ADDITIONALLY THE STRONG STIGMATISATION OF BOTH CHILD AND MOTHER BY PROXY (MANOR-BINYAMINI & SCHREIBER-DIVON, 2021).

UMM AMIRA

- 'MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME THAT I AM A GIFT FROM GOD. SHE TOLD ME I WILL WALK IN HEAVEN AND WILL GAIN LATER WHATEVER I HAVE LOST IN THIS LIFE. (GIRL, 7).' (NAHAL ET AL., 2018, P. 59)
- WHERE THERE IS DEEP SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND FEW PROSPECTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, MOTHERS PARTICULARLY MAY SEEK HOPE FOR THEIR CHILDREN IN HEAVEN, AS THIS POIGNANT QUOTE ILLUSTRATES.
- ASHENCAEN CRABTREE'S (2007B) STUDY ALSO NOTED MATERNAL RESISTANCE: CHILD'S DISABILITY FRAMED AS A PARENTAL TEST OF FAITH. THE EXAMPLE OF 'UMM AMIRA' IS INSTRUCTIVE. 'UMM' IS BOTH A NAME AND A PUBLIC MARKER OF A WOMAN'S STATUS AS A MOTHER. 'UMM' MEANS 'MOTHER OF' AND IT IS NORMAL FOR WOMEN IN THE PATRIARCHAL ETHOS OF THE UAE TO TAKE THE NAME OF THE FIRST-BORN SON.
- IN TWO CASES IT WAS THE NAME OF THE DISABLED DAUGHTER THAT WAS TAKEN BY HER DEFIANT MOTHER, A PROFOUNDLY RESONANT PUBLIC STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION AND CHALLENGE OF INTERSECTIONAL OPPRESSIONS.

Figure 1 A model for human rights social work with children

	Primary action	Secondary action	Tertiary action
Children	Empowering children to prevent harm and abuse or enabling growth and development	Working with organisations to promote voice	Providing children with the means and understanding to be political
Families, groups and communities	Providing education, support and assistance	Working with organisations to promote dignity, freedom and equality	Encouraging and enabling political involvement
Political structures	Service evaluation and research; including the voice of the child	Direct political campaigning and lobbying in organisations and social services	Direct political campaigning and lobbying at political party level

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