Cooperation between Children and Seniors and Its Impact on the Quality of Life in Residential Care Conditions

Abstract

Cooperation between children's homes and facilities for seniors may be considered the most humane way of integration of both social groups living in residential care conditions. Therefore, development of various socio-educational programmes is a challenge that should be taken note of by any children's home and facility for seniors. Effectively filled time of children from children's homes may have a preventive effect against possible socio-pathological phenomena or work as prevention against ageism and support of intergenerational relations.

Keywords: quality of life; senior's personality; child's personality; cooperation programme; subjective well-being.

Introduction

Children's and adolescents' quality of life is considerably influenced by the environment in which they grow up, i.e. their primary family environment. The problem, however, is that the current family is undergoing a crisis and the whole society as well. The author Ch. G. Vella (1999) speaks of three causes of this fact. The first one is individualism replacing the family. Society is an aggregation of individualists exercising their right to autonomy, personal fulfilment, sexual satisfaction and all this is above the family. Autonomy and rights have replaced ethics and morality. The second main cause is the relation between “interdependence” and “independence”. The family is determined by interdependence of its members. Notwithstanding,