

Peer Review

Review of: "Creating a Child-Centered Playroom for Marshallese Children"

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This article is an interesting introduction to using child-centred play therapy and child-centred group play therapy with Marshallese children. The article argues well for the incorporation of these concepts for children aged 3 to 10 years. However, while the article puts a lot of weight on the importance of creating these child-centred playrooms using play therapists, neither concept is properly described, leaving the reader unsure about what these things actually entail.

The article puts forward some nice, concrete steps in order to create a child-centred playroom for use with Marshallese elementary students, even giving a list with suggestions of culture-specific toys for Marshallese children. Still, I feel the article is lacking a proper introduction to what Marshallese culture is. The article talks a lot about the importance of better understanding their history and culture, but does not explicitly state anything about either.

The article several times mentions children's natural language of play (e.g., on page 4). While I am inclined to agree, I feel like there is a missing proper justification for this claim. Especially considering that, on page 10, the authors write that "play therapists can work to advocate for mental health literacy about what play therapy is and how play is the language of children", but do not themselves state anywhere what and how.

On page 8, it is mentioned that the authors used a "standard child-centred note", but it is unclear what this is. Just a short sentence stating what it is and how it is used would be beneficial.

On page 9, "playful supervision approaches" are mentioned, but it is not stated what such approaches are.

All in all, I find the article very interesting, and it seems to fill a gap in our knowledge about Marshallese children and how to help them cope with immigrating to America. I find the concepts used in the article well-argued for, and they also seem well-picked and useful for the topic.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.