

REFLECTION OF PRESCHOOL TEACHER CANDIDATES' METAPHORS RELATED TO "CHILD" AND "TEACHER" CONCEPTS TO THEIR TEACHING PRACTICE PLANNINGS

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to investigate the relationship between preschool teacher candidates' metaphoric perceptions of "child" and "teacher" concepts and their situations of putting teacher or child into the center in their plannings of teaching practice. This research is based on descriptive research model in which qualitative and quantitative research methods are used together. 79 4th grade (senior) students, who study in Akdeniz University Education Faculty Preschool Teaching BA Program, are consisted of the research group. In the first step that data is collected, teacher candidates in the research group are asked to prepare a 45-60 minute plannings twice in a week. In the second step, they are asked to complete the phrases of " Child is like Because" and "Teacher is like Because". In the analysis part, data obtained from the first step are evaluated by three researchers in terms of teaching practice plannings of each teacher candidates' being child or teacher centered. For the analysis of "child" and "teacher" concepts' metaphors obtained in the second step, these metaphors are listed and categories related to "child" and "teacher" concepts are established in terms of explanations about these metaphors. In the analysis of data, Chi-square test has been applied to investigate the relationship between plannings of teacher candidates' being teacher or child centered and these plannings' taking place in categories related to "child" and "teacher" concepts. It has been seen that 68,3% of teacher candidates in the study group are teacher centered and 31,7% of them are child centered. It has been seen that there is a statistically significant relationship between teacher candidates' "child" and "teacher" concepts and their teaching practice plannings' being teacher or child centered.

Key Words: Teacher candidate, metaphor of child, metaphor of teacher, preschool education program.