



## **ERIS Web Journal 1/2014**

### **Effects of Family Structure, Dynamics and Values on Child`s Psychic Welfare**

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The main question on the study was if family structure, family dynamics and values in families were connected to child`s psychic welfare. The study concerned children`s psychic disorders and some family factors. The study population consisted of 762 children aged 7-12 and information was gathered from the parents, the teachers and from the child. The data was gathered in Eastern Finland.

As methods it was used SDQ (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire, parent and teacher), CDI (Children`s Depression Inventory, child), Barnhill`s Family Dynamics Measure) and Value Questionnaire.

The results showed that children whose biological parent has a new spouse and family have more psychic disorders than children in nuclear families. When family dynamics did not work well, children have more psychic problems. Also, in families with lower social and emotional values were more psychic disorder within children.

In social work and in child psychiatry in general more attention should be paid to wellbeing, to networks and to parents wellbeing, also.

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