Characteristics and Consequences of Capacity-Building Parenting Supports

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Abstract

Selected references to the conceptual and operational foundations of capacity-building parenting education and parenting support practices are included in this bibliography. The particular sources of information are ones that provide a foundation for understanding the characteristics and consequences of both informal and formal participatory experiences and practices that strengthen parenting confidence and confidence.

This CASEmaker bibliography includes selected references to different conceptual and operational features of capacity-building parenting education and support practices. The particular approach to parenting support practices constituting the focus of this bibliography is one component of an integrated framework for practicing early childhood intervention and family support (Dunst, 2000; Dunst, 2004). Capacity-building parenting education and support practices are ones that strengthen existing parenting knowledge and skills, and build upon existing capabilities to strengthen and enhance parenting confidence, competences, and enjoyment.

The building blocks for developing and implementing a capacity-building approach to parenting education and supports include: (a) the foundations of capacity-building parenting supports (definition and key characteristics), (b) the kinds and types of parenting supports that strengthen existing parenting knowledge and skills, and build upon existing capabilities to strengthen and enhance parenting confidence, competences, and enjoyment.

The Prescription for Practice includes a number of source materials that readers should find helpful to more fully understand and appreciate the characteristics and consequences of this approach to parenting education and support practices.

Capacity-Building Parenting Supports

Foundations

The foundations of a capacity-building approach to providing and mediating parenting supports include a number of different family-centered beliefs, attitudes, and practices. A basic foundation of capacity-building parenting support and practices is recognizing the strengths and assets of parents, and using these capabilities as the basis for promoting and building parenting abilities. Several useful sources of information about the meaning and the key characteristics of capacity-building parenting education and support practices can be found in:


CASEmakers

**Rx Prescription for Practice Rx**

Improve your knowledge and understanding of parenting supports and education practices by reading the following:


**Types of Parenting Supports**

Parenting supports include the information, advice, guidance, etc. that both strengthen existing parenting knowledge and skills and promote acquisition of new competencies necessary for parents to both carry out child rearing responsibilities and provide their children development-enhancing learning opportunities. Several different types and kinds of capacity-building parenting supports are described in the references included in this section of the bibliography.


**Participatory Parenting Opportunities**

Participatory parenting opportunities provide parents experiences that strengthen existing parenting abilities and provide contexts for learning new parenting skills. These experiences constitute windows of opportunities for parents to identify and accomplish parent-identified outcomes for their children and family. The following references include descriptions of participatory parenting opportunities that function as parenting supports.


Outcomes and Benefits

Evidence now indicates that different types of parenting supports, and the ways in which they are provided, are associated with different parent and family benefits, including, but not limited to, enhanced parenting competence, confidence, and enjoyment; parents’ positive self-efficacy beliefs and judgments about their parenting capabilities; increased time and energy to carry out childrearing and parenting tasks and roles; and positive affective relationships with their children. The following references include descriptions of the types of parenting supports and approaches that are associated with different parenting benefits.


Conclusion

This bibliography included sources of information about different aspects of capacity-building parenting education and support practices. Capacity-building parenting practices constitute a set of principles (guiding beliefs), practices (participatory opportunities), and practitioner behaviors (actions) that form a foundation for acknowledging the strengths and assets of parents and using these capabilities as the basis for promoting and strengthening parenting abilities. The consequences of doing so include enhanced parenting competence, confidence and enjoyment as well as other benefits.

References


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