

## The Code of Ethics for Preschool Teachers, Traditional Moral Values, and Protection of Children's Privacy

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In a society, complying with and practicing ethical and moral standards has more to do with obeying regulations and laws. Generally, ethical rules play an important role in preventing unethical behavior or interpersonal conflicts. However, it appears that in the field of childrearing and education, the internalized ethical values of a parent or teacher are more important than specified rules. This is because it is difficult to assimilate bad news and solve problems regarding victimized children with a passive attitude such as, "I do not do that." or "It should not be done." Therefore, it is recommended that the review of the code of ethics for preschool teachers in this issue of the journal be read.

Primarily, I advise you to study the discussion on "Not doing harmful activities" vs. "Performing supportive and profitable activities." Teaching talented children is one of the three delights of the superior man, said Mencius, a Chinese philosopher. It should be a rewarding and delightful experience for a lifetime. However, the joy of education cannot be realized with a defensive and passive attitude such as, "Not harming children." Rather, it is necessary to provide children with optimal developmental environments that are appropriate for the characteristics

and potential of each child.

Although it differs from the Code of Ethics, a book review of *Sohak* (elementary learning) in this issue illustrates that the active practice of teachers' code of ethics is valued regardless of the age and times. Zui Xi, the author of *Sohak* notes that good personality can be established through interpersonal relationships based on courtesy and ethics in everyday life. In other words, ethics and morality should be practiced within the real context of interpersonal interactions. It seems that fulfilling roles and ethical responsibilities as teachers, parents, institutions, and children is required.

In addition, ethical standards are closely related to human rights. In this issue, a study on the management of Kindergarten websites reported that personal information protection and safety management have yet to reach a satisfactory level in terms of ethical standards. Social networking and the internet are effective tools to inform parents about events and activities. However, I cannot help feeling uncomfortable whenever I see children's photos and videos shared on Social Networking Sites (SNS) or YouTube.

Though it might not be unethical for parents and

teachers to want to share photos of their children with others, we should remember that infants and young children cannot express their agreement or disagreement with this distribution. Sharing videos on YouTube could reveal significant personal information such as a child's appearance, age, gender, birth date, and family relationships. The more they share, the greater the threat of personal information exposure, placing the safety and protection of children's privacy at risk. It is a child's right as well as the responsibility of adults to protect children. Therefore, it is necessary for parents and teachers to protect children online and on SNS

This issue includes two reviews and 12 research papers. Two reviews on child and youth policies are introduced, while the 12 research papers primarily deal with three topics: parent-child relationships and child development, peer relationships during early childhood and adolescence, and the development and revision of scales for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Finally, it is interesting to note that this issue contains a book review of Sohak (elementary learning).

Academic journals have their own aims of presenting valid and reliable research findings and exchanging scientific empirical information among scholars.

However, it is also important to deliver useful and applicable academic information to educators, counselors, practitioners, administrators, parents, and others, and to communicate with them. Thus, I believe that open communication with the public is a means for our journal to assume social responsibility. Therefore, we welcome book reviews, commentaries, and short case reports. I hope that submissions of non-academic manuscripts will increase in the future.

Hana Song, Editor-in-Chief  
of the Korean Journal of Child Studies.

## Conflict of Interest

No potential conflict of interest relevant to this editorial was reported.

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