

The Netherlands; children, childcare and education

Betsy van de Grift

About my country



..and our children



16,5 million people

Life expectations men 78 years

Life expectations women 82 year

2,6 million children under 12

50 % under 6

About 80% living in families with 2/3 children

About 85% having ' no problems'

About 5% being raised in severe poorness

No problems?

- Children being a victim of child abuse and physical and emotional neglecting. Each year almost 30.000 children are being put under care by court order. A multiple thereof lives with domestic violence.
- Children growing up in a illiterate or low literate family. Due to that they will have a learning delay their whole life and less opportunities. Mostly the problem is, that the families don't speak or read Dutch.

Early care and education

- Day care centres 0 – 4 year olds (parents subsidised)
- Pre-schools 2,5 – 4 year olds (centres subsidised)
- After school centres 4-12 year olds (parents subsidised)
- Primary school for 4-up (free)

For every 100 children younger than 4 years, there's about 0,70 place in a EcE centre.

Children in originally non-Dutch families are often not reached!