

Public Abstract

First Name:Hyun Kyung

Middle Name:

Last Name:Youm

Adviser's First Name:Wendy

Adviser's Last Name:Sims

Co-Adviser's First Name:

Co-Adviser's Last Name:

Graduation Term:FS 2008

Department:Curriculum & Instruction

Degree:PhD

Title:South Korean Parents' Goals, Knowledge, Practices, and Needs Regarding Music Education for Young Children

The purpose of this study was to explore South Korean parents' understanding of and desires for music education for their children. Following qualitative research methods, data collection involved in-depth interviews, observations, written questionnaires, family musical materials, and the researcher's journals. The participants were 22 South Korean parents whose young children attended music programs in the Seoul metropolitan area. Data were analyzed using accepted techniques such as description, classification, and interpretation. To ensure the trustworthiness of this study, the researcher used multiple sources, and experts reviewed all materials and cross-checked all translations.

Analyses revealed that parents' goals for their children's participation in music programs included facilitating the child's development, enriching the child's life, preparing for future learning, and providing the opportunity to play through music. With respect to their knowledge about music education, parents described the music programs according to the activities they observed or experienced, but they did not show deeper understanding about a program's philosophy or history. Findings related to music practices in these families indicated that the primary activities were singing, listening to music, playing instruments, and dancing/movement. In describing their needs, parents expressed the desire to learn musical skills and knowledge not only for their children, but also for themselves. The findings of this study imply the necessity of education for parents of young children relating to a variety of aspects of children's music education.