GENDERED ASPECTS OF INFORMAL EDUCATION IN CHILDHOOD: RESEARCH REFLECTIONS FROM THE RURAL PUNJAB, PAKISTAN

Azher Hameed Qamar Norwegian Centre for Child Research, NTNU NORWAY azher.qamar@svt.ntnu.no

ABSTRACT

Informal education plays an important role in social construction of childhood. As gender is widely accepted classification of human being in male and female, the debates go beyond its natural status and place gender as social construct. This article gives a presentation of research reflection regarding the role of informal education in gender learning in traditional rural society of the Punjab. Research is based in the empirical data collected through fieldwork. Findings uncover the social and cognitive learning system of informal education that start working before birth, finally constructing gendered identity and role description.

Keywords: informal education, gender, socialization, social construction