Final Paper HFS 202, Spring 2020

Due April 28, 2020

For this paper, I want you to write a 4-page paper on creative solutions to helping children (broadly defined) during the Coronavirus pandemic. See <https://www.srcd.org/news/letter-members-srcd-president-ken-dodge-march-2020> for a brief overview of some of the key challenges as identified by the main research organization looking at children. However, there are many more issues than identified here and I would encourage you to be thoughtful and creative about what specific issues you see as needing to be addressed.

For this paper, I want you make a specific argument for how one specific strategy for helping to support children during this time, given the nature of overall virus and how it has affected the daily lives of children and families across the US. I want you to identify a specific challenge to children and then focus on how individuals, families, or broader institutions can support them. The target children of your paper can range from prenatal to the adolescent period. Ideally, you would focus on some specific group, perhaps uniquely vulnerable group of children, such as children in poverty, immigrant children, etc. The focus of the paper should not be on how to talk to children during this time but rather to think of some more concrete steps that could help to support children with this challenge. You will want to support your argument with research to back up why it is likely to be effective.

Obviously, there will be no research out there as of yet that directly speaks to the coronavirus epidemic. You should have at least 3 peer-reviewed articles that draw on related topics such as educational interventions, stress in children, children coping with disasters and war, etc. You should also include 2 non-peer reviewed articles that can utilize more up to date information about practices or perspectives directly related to the current virus.

The essential part of the paper is to make as strong an argument as possible for whatever strategy or solution you recommend. I also want you to consider the potential challenges with your proposed strategy/solution and show that are thinking of ways to overcome them.