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PhD

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Image created at the Kitchen Table

Images of Research Competition

University of Alberta

Parenting Interculturally

Semi-finalist (2019)

“Parenting Interculturally” portrays my early childhood education research regarding bicultural children. My study explores parental perceptions of childhood and childrearing held by intercultural couples who are parents, one partner who is Canadian-born and raised, and the other who is foreign-born and raised and immigrated to Canada as an adult. It is planned that one of the Canadian-born participants will be Indigenous. My research is timely because the number of bicultural children in Canada is anticipated to grow due to migratory increase and subsequent increases of intercultural marriages/relationships.

Raised in a multifaceted cultural context, bicultural children experience influences from both parents’ childrearing practices. My study, then, is informed by Super and Harkness’ (2002) parental ethnotheories, which include taken-for-granted beliefs regarding the ‘right’ way to care for children (e.g. where a baby should sleep or how a child should act at school.)

Providing insights into the home lives of bicultural children, my research invites teachers to relate to bicultural students in ways that connect with the complex values of their parents.

Acknowledging children as competent and creative, the artwork in this image was created by a 5 year-old and a 7-year-old.