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information about children's dislikes and preferences

- Learning experiences are based on individual children's interests
- Children are able to see that their opinions and preferences have a positive influence upon aspects of the environment
- Respectful interactions are modelled by the adults in the setting

## Conclusion

Australia, as a signatory to the UNCROC needs to take seriously the involvement of young children in decision making. We need to create a culture which values children's opinions and takes the time to value and nurture the multifaceted nature of children's input. Communication takes many forms and is not

limited to the spoken word.

Fostering participation in a way which matches a child's development and temperament can be assisted by knowledge in child development. Early childhood teachers and others with a background in child development may be an appropriate reference point for this knowledge. It is thus time to consider how all agencies and adults concerned with the promotion and implementation of children's rights, work with each other and in collaboration with children, to share insights and skills into developing effective and responsive strategies to involve all children in relevant decision making.

This paper is based on excerpts from discussion paper being developed for the Office of Child Care within the NSW Department of Community Services.

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# Reports

## A Step Forward 1998-1999

*ECPAT International*

The third report of the implementation of the Agenda for Action Adopted at the Stockholm Congress, 1996

20 September 1999, Bangkok, Thailand

To Order:

Phone 215-3388, 611-0972 Fax 215-8272

Email [ecpatbkk@ksc15.th.com](mailto:ecpatbkk@ksc15.th.com)

## Sexual abuse of children, child Pornography and Paedophilia on the Internet: an International Challenge -

*UNESCO Conference Report*

This is the final report, declaration and action plan.

To Order: UNESCO Communication Division, Fax +33 1 45 68 5585

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# Publications

## Working Children's Futures: Child Labour, Poverty and Education

*By Rosamund Ebdon, Save The Children UK*

This publication explores the effects of poverty and education and how they relate to child labour. It also outlines short and long-term effects of child labour and the policy implications and actions required.

To Order: Email [crin@pro-net.co.uk](mailto:crin@pro-net.co.uk)

### CHOOSE WITH CARE:

A guide for the recruitment of staff in organisations working with children

*produced by ECPAT Australia and MacKillop Family Services, Melbourne, July 1999*

Organisations working with children both within Australia and internationally can be targeted by child abusers in an attempt to gain access to vulnerable children. This handbook is written specifically for non-government organisations with programs working with children and describes good selection processes for the appointment of staff and volunteers. These strategies will assist organisations to deter potential abusers and deny them entry in to the organisation, thus reducing the risk of child abuse from selection errors.

**Further information:** ECPAT Australia, PO Box 1725, Collingwood, VIC 3066  
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