

Chapter 17

Countering Children's Depression as an Aspect of Social and Spiritual Security of Modern Society

Tamara Stanislavovna Olenich

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1212-9181>

Don State Technical University, Russia

Margarita Vasilievna Finko

Don State Technical University, Russia

ABSTRACT

The chapter examines the peculiarities of the problem of depression among school children in the context of ensuring social and spiritual security. The chapter describes the problem of depression and its most negative consequence, suicide, and the reasons that push children to these social actions, among which the authors have identified the following: the social hierarchy of postmodern society, apathy and indifference of parents, the activities of religious cults and “death groups.” The activities of death groups are one of the main causes that lead to a violation of social security and have an impact on the younger generation, committing children to suicide. The mechanism of work of such groups, basic techniques, and mechanisms of their work are described. The authors conduct a sociological study in local secondary schools located in the Don region to identify the level of depression among school children. The authors propose a number of educational innovations and other methods aimed at identifying and preventing depression in the younger generation.

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-6684-9295-6.ch017

INTRODUCTION

The culture of postmodern has brought youth a new type of culture and moral and ethical values that make influence on traditional culture, contributing to the spread of such a threat to national security, including a religious one, such as suicide among children and youth. Of particular concern is the spiritual state of modern children, the blurring and instability of their moral and value orientations, which leads to the extremely negative social consequences. The problem of depression and as a possible consequence – suicide is global characteristic and problem for social security for many countries of the world as well as for Russia. Therefore, in the chapter the case of how Russian state and society manage this problem, find ways for its solutions as well as effective mechanisms of children's adaptation in the modern society are presented.

Russia's National Security Strategy defines the very complex concept of "traditional Russian spiritual and moral values". In the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of December 31, 2015 N 683 "On the National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation" in Clause 11 of the Strategy it is said about the following spiritual and moral values: history of Russia, freedom and independence of Russia, humanism, interethnic peace and harmony, unity of cultures the multinational people of the Russian Federation, respect for family and confessional traditions, patriotism (Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of December, 2015). In the new version of the National Security Strategy adopted July 2, 2021 it is also specified that "At present, the cohesion of Russian society is strengthening, civic consciousness is strengthening, awareness of the need to protect traditional spiritual and moral values is growing, the social activity of citizens is increasing, their involvement in solving the most urgent problems of local and state importance" (Decree of the President of the Russian Federation, 2021).

At the same time, the interpretation of these values and the mechanisms for their protection depend on the position of the government and top officials of the country used to pay attention to the need to protect spiritual and moral security, for example, working out special culturological course for the school curriculum, which would improve the spiritual and moral culture of school children.

Nevertheless, threats to modern spiritual security exist, for the most part, they are identified, but in this chapter the main attention is given to such an urgent problem as markers of depression of children, the reasons that contribute to an increase in the number of those who have depression and which has a potential to be escalated up to the radical form of suicides in order to propose mechanisms to resist this process, which are contained in the philosophical system of traditional confessions.

This chapter is aimed at studying the characteristics of depressions in the modern school children's environment in order to develop effective means of combating and preventing mortality in this age group by spreading traditional values and providing educational innovations. The analysis of the psychological and emotional state of the school children was carried out on the basis of a study conducted at the secondary schools of the region in 2021.

The authors examine the potential of culturological means to ensure spiritual security and the prevention of depressions among children. To achieve the aim of the study, the authors determined the level of a few indicators within school children: anxiety, depression, aggressiveness and a tendency to addictive behavior. The last two indicators were considered as a factor of influence of postmodern culture, destruction of spiritual and moral values. The indicators of the methodology that determine the level of anxiety were interpreted to identify school children who potentially fall into the risk group - subclinical and clinical anxiety.

12 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage:

www.igi-global.com/chapter/countering-childrens-depression-as-an-aspect-of-social-and-spiritual-security-of-modern-society/329114

Related Content

Summative Literacy Assessments and How They Imagine Children: An International Comparison

Catherine Compton-Lilly, Kerryn Dixon, Hilary Janks and Annette Woods (2020). *Handbook of Research on Formative Assessment in Pre-K Through Elementary Classrooms* (pp. 368-390).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/summative-literacy-assessments-and-how-they-imagine-children/240576

Handmade Content and School Activities for Autistic Children with Expressive Language Disabilities

Shigeru Ikuta, Ryoichi Ishitobi, Fumio Nemoto, Chiho Urushihata, Kyoko Yamaguchi and Haruka Nakui (2017). *Supporting the Education of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders* (pp. 85-115).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/handmade-content-and-school-activities-for-autistic-children-with-expressive-language-disabilities/165898

Spending Options for Service Delivery Models

(2015). *Models for Effective Service Delivery in Special Education Programs* (pp. 91-112).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/spending-options-for-service-delivery-models/123259

Technology Integration Planning for Educational Leaders: Utilizing a Process to Purchase, Implement, Evaluate, and Reconsider Technology Spending

Jessica L. DeLisa (2024). *Transformative Leadership and Change Initiative Implementation for P-12 and Higher Education* (pp. 285-299).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/technology-integration-planning-for-educational-leaders/346778

Tentative Taxonomies

(2018). *Advanced Concept Maps in STEM Education: Emerging Research and Opportunities* (pp. 76-106).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/tentative-taxonomies/182926