

# 死が差し迫った子どもへの家族における処遇

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## 〈シルビア・ヘデニック先生の紹介〉

2003年11月12日、東京大学教育学部にてベルリン自由大学大学院で教授資格論文を執筆中のSilvia Hedenigg氏の講演がセンター主宰で行われた。講演は論文の一部をなすものであったが、テーマは、ガンで死を宣告された子どもを抱えた家族がその子に実際にどう接しているかということを通じて明らかにし、それを類別化してその人間学的意味を分析したものであった。氏の主張は、今や学校は精神医学や小児科学などの医学ともコラボレートすべきだということで、現代の人間の危機はそうした協働を不可欠のものとして求めているとされた。

報告は英語で行われたが、氏自身の要望で報告全体は活字にせず、当日配布された要点のレジюмеだけを掲載しておく。  
(文責 汐見稔幸)

## Abstract

### Dealing with the child's impending death in the family

Silvia Hedenigg

In Germany, cancer is newly diagnosed in about 2000 children each year. The majority of these children is suffering from leukaemias (34%), followed by CNS-Tumours, (21%) and Lymphomas (13%). One of the main characteristics of childhood cancer is that it has its peak incidence in preschool children: Leukaemias for instance occur mostly in children aged 1-4 years, similar to children diagnosed with neuroblastomas (tumours of the autonomous nerve system) and Wilms tumours (tumours of the kidney). —Due to the progress in treatment nowadays statistically 3 out of 4 children can be cured from cancer. However, this means, that still out of four children one is going to die. How are these children experiencing the fact of being affected by a life-threatening illness? What are they feeling? What do they know? Do they talk about their sensations, surmises and fears?

The aim of my presentation is to offer a glimpse of how children perceive such a situation, how their patterns of interaction and communication allow us to draw back on their intrapsychic perceptions and cognitive reflections. Excerpts from a qualitative explorative study with parents who had lost their children show the tense and intensive understanding of the illness even in children aged 3 or 4 years. Based on a typology of the families' frames of orientation and corresponding ways of dealing with the death of the child, I would like to discuss these results in the context of childhood research and family sociology. Additionally I will explain the implications of the study for the concrete paediatric oncological practice.

The following agenda for the lecture will be based on a powerpoint presentation in English:

- “The telling debate”: protective vs. open communication
- Research design and methodology: “Dealing with Dying and Death of a Child Suffering from a Life-Threatening Illness in the Family—An Explorative Qualitative Study with Childhood Cancer Patients”
- Communication patterns in the Family
- Results and implications