

The Web of Affects: a Narrative and Ethics of Care Approach To Sexual Orientation in Early Childhood Education

Author: MSc. Carmen Alicia Fajardo
Early Childhood Education School
"Bolivariana Mac Gregor"
Email: fajardoalicia603@gmail.com
ORCID ID: 0009-0001-7097-6231
Research Area: State, Society, and
Development. Thematic Area: Pedagogy

How to cite this article: Carmen Alicia Fajardo "The Web of Affects: A Narrative and Care Ethics Approach to Sexual Orientation in Early Childhood Education" (2025), (1,17)

Received: 08/13/2025 Revised: 08/15/2025 Accepted: 08/20/2025

ABSTRACT

This documentary addressed the need to overcome fragmented and biological approaches to sexuality education in early childhood. To this end, it proposed an innovative theoretical framework that integrates the narrative perspective and the ethics of care, with the fundamental objective of analyzing the interplay of emotions: a narrative and ethics of care approach to sexuality education in early childhood education. The methodology employed was qualitative-hermeneutic, using a systematic documentary analysis of primary and secondary sources. This process allowed for the contrasting and synthesis of the key theoretical constructs for the proposal. The main results demonstrated a productive synergy between both approaches. The narrative approach redefines childhood sexuality as a process of co-constructing meaning through bodily and affective narratives. Simultaneously, the ethics of care provides The axiological foundation guides pedagogical practice toward responsiveness, mindfulness, and harm prevention. The integration of both shapes the central concept of the "web of affections," which describes the relational texture where a healthy experience of sexuality is woven. In conclusion, the study proposes a paradigm shift: sexual orientation in early childhood education should not be instruction, but rather the conscious cultivation of a nurturing narrative space. This model offers concrete principles for teacher training and pedagogical practice, emphasizing ethical listening and respect for children's bodies as fundamental pillars.

Keywords: Early childhood education, sexual orientation, narrative approach, ethics of care, web of affections, early childhood pedagogy.

Biographical Sketch: Bachelor's degree in early childhood education. Master's degree in educational guidance. Doctoral candidate in psychopedagogy. Pedagogical Coordinator, "Mac Gregor Bolivarian Early Childhood Education School"