

CICLO DE CONFERÊNCIAS 2012 CENTRO INVESTIGAÇÃO ISPA - INSTITUTO UNIVERSITÁRIO

EXTRAORDINÁRIA

CHILD CARE QUALITY AND CHILD OUTCOMES: EVIDENCE AND QUESTIONS FROM 30 YEARS OF RESEARCH

More than 30 years of research in the US and other countries indicates that high-quality child care promotes cognitive, academic, and social skills among young children. High quality preschools are viewed as one of the most promising means for improving school readiness skills, and has resulted in heavy government investment in programs like Head Start to provide 1-2 years of care for low-income children and Quality Rating and Improvement Systems to rate and improve quality in child care programs within a state. Recent evidence, however, indicates that associations between widely used measures of quality and child outcomes are very modest and recent research has focused on whether this modest association is due to thresholds in the quality-outcome association and/or to inattention in the quality measures to crucial aspects of child care. These issues will be described and current evidence presented.



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