

Rohrmann, Tim (2014).

**Researching Masculinities in Early Childhood Settings**

Self organized symposium on the 24<sup>th</sup> EECERA annual conference, 8.9.2014, Hersonnisos/Greece

**Abstract**

How do men construct their personal and vocational identity in a female dominated field? Contradictory role expectations regarding what it means to be a man and to be an ECEC teacher or caregiver generate tensions that constantly challenge these men's ability to create an adequate professional identity. This symposium presents research from Israel, Turkey, the UK and other Western European countries, revealing how various cultural backgrounds affect men's coping with the task of building a professional identity within a female gender territory. These research findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the development of professionalism in ECEC. The focus on personal narrative and individual understanding of masculinity within the ECEC work context is relevant for measures aiming at more men in the field, for effective training and counselling of male ECEC workers and as well for better collaboration in gender-mixed teams.

**Chair**

Tim Rohrmann | University of Applied Sciences, Dresden, Germany

**Contributions**

*Professionalism and Masculinity in ECEC: Men's Voices from Around the World*

David Brody | Efrata College of Education, Israel

*A Critical Social Analysis of Men's Experiences Working in Early Childhood Education*

Janine Ryan | University Centre Doncaster, United Kingdom

*Male Preschool Teachers' Parents Views about the Career of Their Sons*

Ramazan Sak | Yüzüncü Yil University, Turkey

Adem Uğuzlu | Preschool Teacher Candidate, Turkey

Oktay Demir | Preschool Teacher Candidate, Turkey

Yakub Çiftçi | Preschool Teacher Candidate, Turkey