Young children are being expelled or suspended from early childhood settings at an alarming rate.

WHY SHOULD I CARE?

Young children who are suspended or expelled from childcare/preschool are 10 times more likely to:



Drop out of high school



Experience academic failure and grade retention



Have negative feelings about school



Face incarceration



"IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION"* COULD LOOK LIKE

Disciplining a child by sending the child out of the classroom and to the director's office.

"OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION"* COULD LOOK LIKE

Asking a family to pick up their child early because of behavioral issues like biting, hitting, or refusing to follow directions.





"SOFT EXPULSION" COULD LOOK LIKE

Repeatedly asking a family to pick up their child early because of behavioral issues, requiring them to leave or miss work frequently.

"EXPULSION" COULD LOOK LIKE

Asking a family to find another care arrangement/center because the child is not a "good fit" for the program or that the program can "no longer support" their toddler or preschooler.



FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS

Here are some questions you can ask yourself when considering suspending or expelling a child from your childcare setting:

How can I better understand what this child's behavior is telling me? What are some things I can do to prevent the behavior from happening?

What skills does this child need to learn so that she can be successful throughout her day? How can I recognize this child's positive behavior? How often?

I would like more information on social-emotional development. Visit http://bit.ly/exclusionarypractices to learn more.

I would like to speak to someone about a specific, ongoing situation.

Tracy Gordon, Co-Executive Director
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The warmth and support of the caregiver in a child care setting influences the development of important capabilities in children, including greater social competence, fewer behavior problems, and enhanced thinking and reasoning skills at school age.

National Scientific Council on the Developing Child (2004) www.developingchild.harvard.edu