



KORCZAK AND GOLDSZMIT:  
AN INSPIRATION

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*ON THE RESPECT OF THE CHILD'S DIGNITY*

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# FROM WORDS TO ACTIONS

1. *INSPIRATIONS*

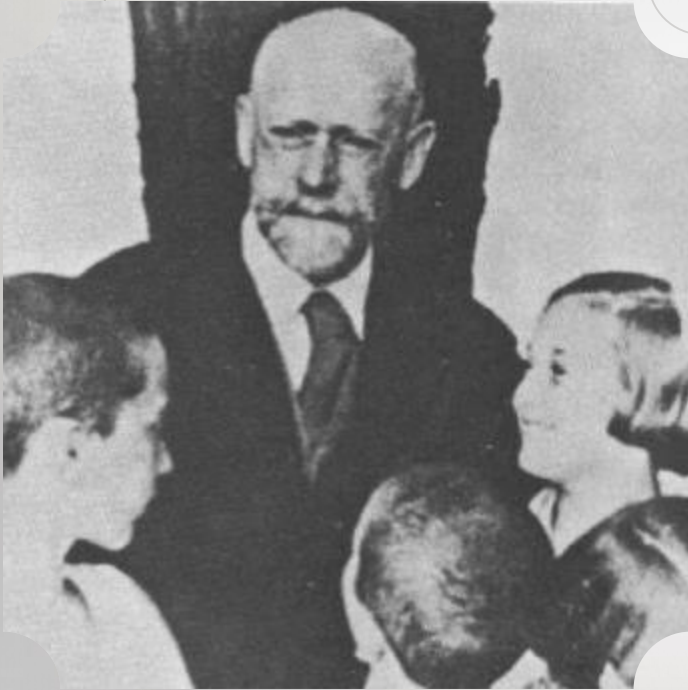
2. *CIRCLE OF THE CHILD (ACCESS TO JUSTICE)*

3. *THE GARAGE À MUSIQUE (ACCESS TO TOOLS)*



**THE FEELING OF POWERLESSNESS  
CREATES RESPECT FOR POWER**

**(KORCZAK ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT)**



**Source photo:** <http://korczakowska.pl/en/janusz-korczak-2/>

**DIGNITY AND  
THREE RELATED THEMES**

- **IDENTITY**
- **WHOLE HUMAN BEING**
- **RIGHTS versus OBLIGATIONS**

## THE DECLARATION ON THE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS BY KORCZAK



<http://bookhaven.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Korczak.jpg>

Source: Appendix : Summary of Janusz Korczak's Declaration of Children Rights in Betty Jean Lifton, *The King of Children : A Biography of Janusz Korczak* (NY : Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1988) at 355-56.

To be loved

To respect (person, property and feelings)

To have optimal conditions to grow and develop

To live at the present time

To have her own identity

To make mistakes and to fail.

To be taken seriously

To be appreciated for what she is.

To wish, to desire, to demand

To keep her secrets.

To a lie, a deception, a theft » (not to lie, deceive , steal)

To education but to resist teachings that go against her values and beliefs

To be protected against injustice.

To be a Court of Justice to be judged by her peers.

To be defended before the juvenile justice system.

To communicate with her God (religion).

To premature death.

## A HOME FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN



- Three institutions (Court, Parliament & Newspaper)
- Pedagogue versus Educator
- One does not leave the child alone in sickness.

Source: <http://odkrywcy.pl/query,janusz%20Korczak,szukaj.html?smg4sticaid=618207>

## THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: NOT JUST WORDS!



### THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD IN 7 PRINCIPLES

1. All children are born equal in law.
2. The best interest of the child governs decisions that concern him or her.
3. The child enjoys civil rights and liberties.
4. Raising a child requires the involvement of the entire community.
5. Children are born healthy and grow healthy.
6. The child learns, plays and is open to the world.
7. The child must be protected.

## Expectations

- Parents respond to their child's needs and interests
- Parents ensure the protection of their child

## Reality

- Child's undefined needs and interests
- Parents' life background
- Alarming disparity of resources and opportunities
- Limited communications between professionals
- Intense levels of state's supervision of families in poor neighborhoods

## Results

Children from various communities do not have the same opportunities to develop their capacities

**= Violation of their fundamental rights**

## VARIOUS LAWS

BC Benefits (Child Care Subsidy) Act

Family Law Act

Charter of the French Language Act

Child, Family, Advocacy Act  
Regulation respecting the determination of child support payments, RRQ, c C-25, r 6, (Code of Civil Procedure)

Loi sur l'aide juridique et sur la prestation de certains autres services juridiques

An Act respecting family benefits

Children's Sleepwear Regulations (Canada Consumer Product Safety Act)

Loi visant à lutter contre la pauvreté et l'exclusion sociale

## VARIOUS MANDATES

Ministry of education (MELS)

Ministry of health and social services

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Family

Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale (MESS)

Charter of human rights and freedoms

An Act to implement the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption

Individual and Family Assistance Act

Indian Act

Youth Criminal Justice Act

Divorce Act & regulations

Universal Child Care Benefit Act

Loi sur les prestations familiales

Immigration Act



# CONFRONTATION



Source (photo - Shutterstock) :

<http://fr.canoe.ca/infos/environnement/archives/2012/03/20120304-155340.html>

## BEYOND WORDS: ACTIONS REQUIRED

- ❖ Integrating law into social medicine (Health & Law Alliance)
- ❖ Integrating the child in the decision making power (**The circle of the child**)
- ❖ Providing tools to fully develop (**The Garage à musique**)
- ❖ Building a safety net by mobilising children, families and society
- ❖ And .... forever looking around to meet the challenge for equity



## THE CHILD'S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO DEVELOP

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Every child, **whatever the socioeconomic status of their parents**, have the fundamental right to have all opportunities to develop their full potential in a social model of equity.

# Family network

IDENTIFICATION of sources of toxic stress and Participation

# Health sciences

INTEGRATION of evidence-based knowledge into coherent health services to meet fundamental needs

CHILD

# Social sciences

ACCESS to adapted and integrated services

# Legal field

ACCESS to justice through preventative and participative measures or through litigation



# HEALTH & LAW ALLIANCE

Corporatif  
Clinical  
In-house legal services  
External

**Fondation Dr Julien**

**SOCIAL PEDIATRICS CENTRE**  
(Social pediatrician or physician  
+ clinical social worker + others)

**CASE REVIEW (screening)**  
(Chief legal counsel  
+ Director of services / clinical social worker)

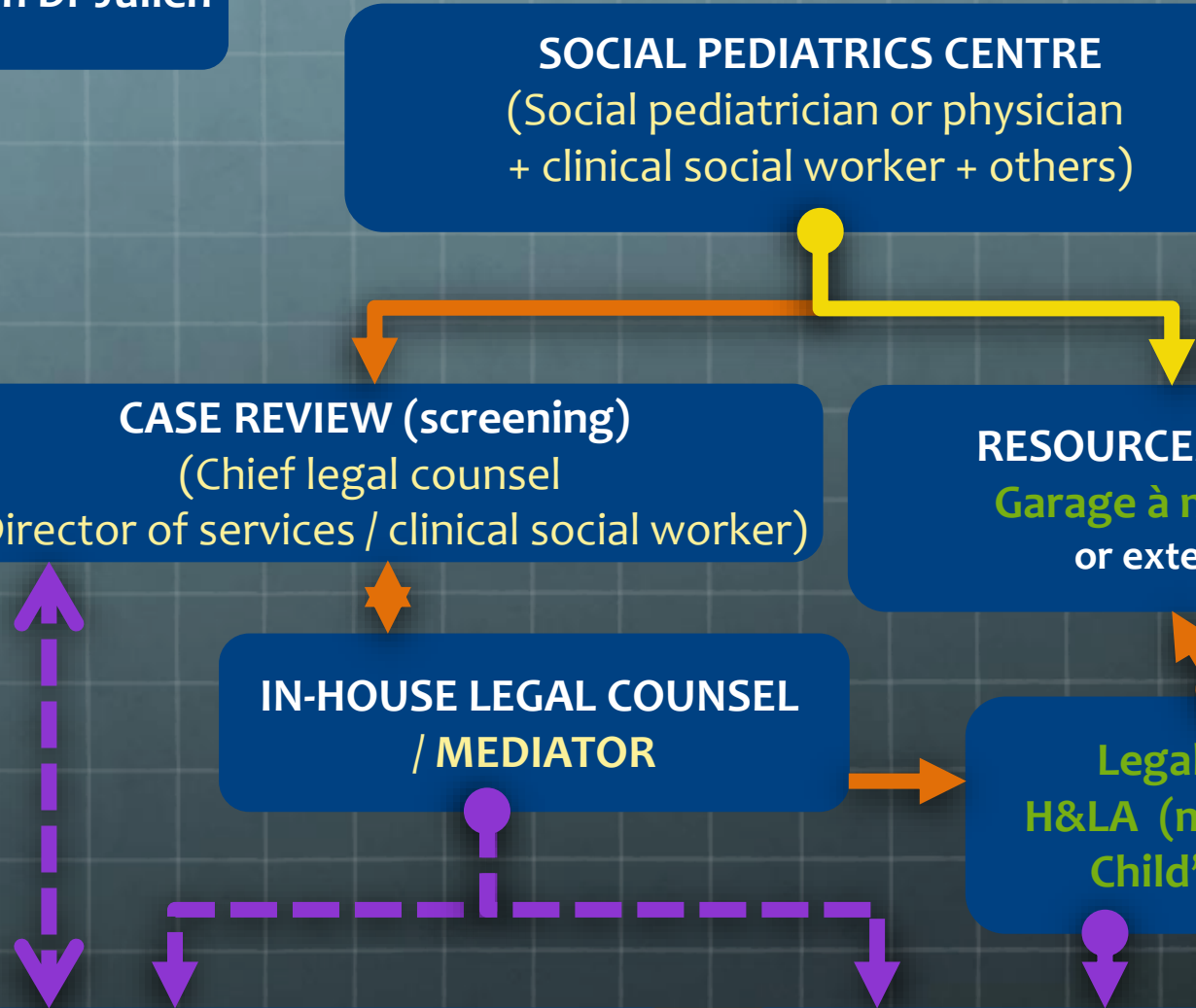
**RESOURCES Internal**  
*Garage à musique*  
or external

**IN-HOUSE LEGAL COUNSEL / MEDIATOR**

**Legal advice H&LA (mediations)**  
*Child's circle*

**PRIVATE LAW FIRM**  
*Borden Ladner Gervais*  
(Litigious matters)

**LEGAL AID SERVICES**  
(Litigious matters)





**THE CIRCLE  
OF THE CHILD**

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To empower the child, the family & community (**family network**) to become real partners with professionals (**social network**)





# THE **G****O****P****E** PHILOSOPHY

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The global development of the child is  
the responsibility of the family network &  
of the social network



**G**ift

**Every child is born with at least one gift**

**O**pportunities

**This gift is developed through opportunities offered to the child from her family network and her community**

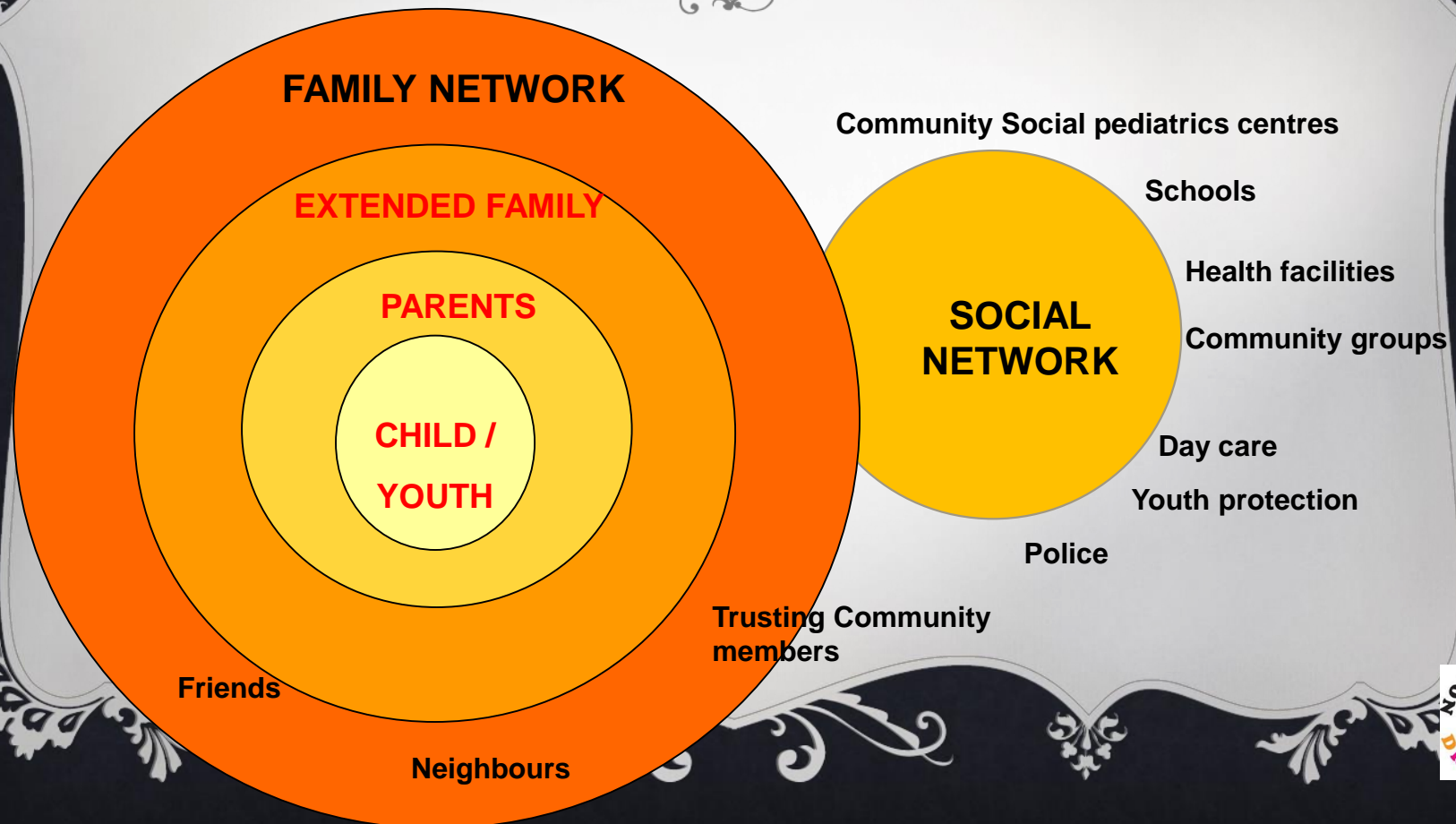
**P**artnership

**The family network and the community must work in partnership**










**E**quity

**Policies must ensure equitable opportunities and resources in various communities**

# MOBILIZES THE CHILD'S NETWORKS



# THE CHILD'S PROTECTIVE CIRCLE SESSION

-  Opening remarks or ceremony
-  Sharing of concerns, needs, strengths
-  Private time (family network / social network)
-  Putting the objectives in common
-  Sharing of a meal together
-  Sharing objectives
-  Building a partnership to identify means, responsible people, and calendar
-  Distributing the action plan to all participants
-  Closing remarks or ceremony



# **THE MUSICAL NOTE OF COMMUNITY SOCIAL PEDIATRICS**

## What we know

- The stimulated brain of a 3 y.o. child may be twice the size of another child's brain who has lacked stimulation.
- At school age, the child who has lacked stimulation may be more at risk of developing difficulties: learning, adaptation and inhibition.
- The child's difficulties will require several human and financial resources through different services: education, health, social services, correctional.

# What we know

- The practice of music plays an important role in the development of the brain
- Access to music education is not financially and culturally accessible
- Public school systems offer music concentration program to good students
- Democratic and subsidized access to music programs exist in the USA since over 100 years, in Venezuela since 1975 (*El Sistema* )





# **TOXIC STRESS and MORBIDITY**

[/santeplus.bloguez.com/santeplus/445786/Le-stress-et-le-cerveau](https://santeplus.bloguez.com/santeplus/445786/Le-stress-et-le-cerveau)



# INTERVENTIONS IN COMMUNITY SOCIAL PEDIATRICS





## JOSE ANTONIO ABREU

Charismatic founder  
of youth orchestra  
system

(EL SISTEMA)

Source, photo:

<https://conscioussavvy.com/2016/09/25/jose-antonio-abreu-and-venezuelas-el-sistema-miracle/>



## SEARCHING FOR A HOME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Combines three important tools

1. Community social pediatrics
1. Access to education
1. Brain stimulation through music in group

# IN HOCHELAGA-MAISONNEUVE

- An underprivileged district of Montreal, Québec in Eastern Canada
- Nearly 50% of the children (aged 4) are not adequately prepared for a successful school experience
- One of the highest rate of youth protection intervention
- Lower life expectancy





## THE RIGHT PLACE

Adopts a **holistic approach to health based on neuroscience, transcultural medicine and evidence-based health concepts** such as the theory of attachment, the role of identity, the concept of resilience.

## Garage à musique

Offers a friendly, encouraging and safe place, free of costs and accessible 6 days a week on a 12-hour basis to more than 700 children and youth aged 0-22 y.o.



## **THE MUSIC GARAGE**

**Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child**

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