

## ABSTRACT

### ATTITUDES OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS TOWARD SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING FOR CHILDREN

Social skills training is an intervention designed to teach children positive social skills and problem-solving strategies. This intervention is effective with children with varying disabilities and can be taught by a variety of school personnel. Hypotheses included that district-wide social skills training programs are not widely implemented and that psychologists in the Central Valley who have gathered most of their knowledge on social skills training from either journals, graduate education, or continuing education will have more positive attitudes toward this intervention than do school psychologist who received most of their information from colleagues. Means, medians, standard deviations, and an ANOVA were performed to analyze the data. It was found that over half (55%) of school psychologists in the Central Valley conduct at least one social skills group and school psychologists with colleague-based knowledge had more positive attitudes towards social skills than those who gathered their information elsewhere.

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