



Editorial: The Synergy between School and Family

Family and school are two fundamental educational and socialization environments for the youngest generation. Since the dawn of time, family has been the first and basic place for development and education, and the parents have been the most important carers and educators for their children. The establishment of school created the need and necessity for these environments to cooperate for the sake of young people. All the more today, when the school is treated as one of the key educational and social institutions, due to the popularization and democratization of education under the influence of economic, socio-cultural and political factors. There has also been an increase in social awareness of the fact that education is an essential element in human development not only in childhood, but also in adulthood. In this perspective, expectations towards school are growing and so is criticism. Also, on the part of the parents, i.e. those who entrust their children to the school, so that it appropriately takes care of teaching, comprehensive development and education. Moreover, the fluid and rapidly changing reality generates problems which have not been known before (e.g. connected with the new media), and which shape specific, often complex, contexts for action for all those who have undertaken the efforts of education. The awareness of constant change should influence thinking about education and – as a result – lead to the modernization of actions within this scope. Therefore, the synergy between school and family becomes an extremely important task.

The title of the current volume of *The Horizons of Education: The Synergy of School and Family* determines the problem area of individual texts, where the authors are trying to find an interdisciplinary answer to the questions: why is it worth cooperating? what are the basic conditions for a real synergy between these environments and what are the optimal models? what are the expectations? what are the contemporary determinants of the synergy between family and school? how should people react to the changes taking place in order to allow to find and understand the issues presented? The multidimensional character of the contexts of education and

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socialization, their diversity and dynamics induce to undertake academic analyses and consideration from various sides and different perspectives so that it is finally possible to verify and increase the quality of the synergic actions of family and school, and thus the quality of educational and developmental influences.

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