

Perspective about Definition of Individual with Special Needs from Several Scientific Fields: A Short Note from Editorial Board

Ediyanto Ediyanto*, Thalsa Syahda Aqilah, Mohammad Efendi

Department of Special Education, Universitas Negeri Malang, Malang, Indonesia

*e-mail: ediyanto.fip@um.ac.id

Abstract: This short article aims to offer an understanding that there are several points of view about individuals with special needs. Some of these points of view may differ in defining individuals with special needs. So that the optimization of a felicitous life for individuals with special needs may not match what they actually need.

Keywords: Special Needs, Perspective, Individual with Special Needs

Short Note

The main wealth owned by the earth is humans, who have unlimited variety. One of the highlights is individuals with special needs. In the context of special education, the term 'individual with special needs' refers to abilities or activities that are considered essential or even necessary for people (Vehmas, 2010). The term "special needs" appears to refer to individuals who are recognized as having cognitive, mental, emotional, physical, or social needs who after diagnosis may require therapeutic intervention or special care by a qualified specialist (Alkahtani, 2016; Kauffman, Hallahan, Pullen, & Badr, 2018).

Meanwhile, the context of counseling guidance embeds a definition in the form of conditions where children face differences with children's conditions in general, both in physical, cognitive, and psychological factors, and require proper handling according to the needs of the child (Lisinus & Sembiring, 2020). On the medical side, individuals with special needs have medical conditions, biological and health service requirements that tend to be different from people in general in supporting their life functions (Rothman, 2010; Pollard et al., 2014).

So, it can be concluded that individuals with special needs are those with special needs in terms of the emotional, social, physical, mental, or cognitive need for health services, guidance, counseling, and education different from individuals in general. This understanding is certainly based on the experts' opinions or studies in their fields. But what do they really need for individual with special needs? It is needs more comprehensive research is required in the future.

REFERENCES

- Alkahtani, M. A. (2016). Review of the Literature on Children with Special Educational Needs. *Journal of Education and Practice*, 7(35), 70-83.
- Kauffman, J. M., Hallahan, D. P., Pullen, P. C., & Badar, J. (2018). *Special education: What it is and why we need it*. New York: Routledge.
- Lisinus, R., & Sembiring, P. (2020). *Pembinaan anak berkebutuhan khusus (sebuah perspektif bimbingan dan konseling)*. Medan: Yayasan Kita Menulis.
- Pollard Jr, R. Q., Betts, W. R., Carroll, J. K., Waxmonsky, J. A., Barnett, S., deGruy III, F. V., ... & Kellar-Guenther, Y. (2014). Integrating primary care and behavioral health with four special populations: Children with special needs, people with serious mental illness, refugees, and deaf people. *American Psychologist*, 69(4), 377-387.
- Rothman, J. C. (2010). The challenge of disability and access: Reconceptualizing the role of the medical model. *Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation*, 9(2-3), 194-222.
- Vehmas, S. (2010). Special needs: a philosophical analysis. *International journal of inclusive education*, 14(1), 87-96.