

Multinational Qualitative Study »Children's Understandings of Well-being – Global and Local Contexts«

United States Research Team

The research team from the United States includes Barb, Lisa, Shana, and Mike (pictured below), as well as students in the occupational therapy and education programs at the University of South Dakota. USD is located in Vermillion, a small town in the southeast corner of South Dakota. Although most of the children who participated live in South Dakota and nearby states, some children live in states as far away as Oregon, about 1.600 miles from Vermillion! Over the University's spring break, graduate students were able to interview some children from their home communities.

Our research took place in children's homes. Students met with children individually to find out what makes them feel well or good – the places, people and things that make them feel good. Children told us about the kinds of things they enjoy doing with family and friends – like »hanging out« or team sports – and how those things create friendships and relationships with family. Some children told us about their teachers and how they can talk to them about anything and that made them feel good. We learned a lot from the children we interviewed. We were impressed with their insight about themselves and their world!