Abstract

The purpose of this article is to discuss children’s cultures. We live in an increasingly globalized and multicultural society. Children are constituted in places where different cultures intersect: family, school, media (BARBOSA, 2007), so it becomes increasingly difficult to talk about culture in a singular form. The main objective of this article is to answer the following questions: Do small children build culture? Is there autonomy in this cultural construction? What characterizes children’s cultures? From the analysis of the work of three renowned foreign authors in the area, William A. Corsaro, Manuel J. Sarmento and Gilles Brougère, it a confluent answer is proposed. If culture is understood as an invention of everyday life, being the result of a practical intelligence (DE CERTAU, 1995), it is certainly possible to affirm children’s participation in the world cultural construction. The three authors point to a relative autonomy of infant children’s cultures against adult’s culture, as contemporary society is highly hybridized, and, in its intersection, creates new cultural spaces. Children’s cultures are transmitted and re-elaborated generationally, are characterized by being related to the children’s everyday lives, are based on material and symbolic elements. Children’s cultures emerge primarily in living with small and permanent groups with whom children perform activities in common. Children repeat their actions, propositions and reiterate their achievements. Children’s cultures are characterized by a playful mode, by binding to the imagination.

Keywords