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BØRN OG KULTUR – DET ÆSTETISKE BETYDNING

Undertema: **Det æstetiske betydning i medier, kunst og kultur for børn?**

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CHILDREN'S CULTURE AS A TARGET OF SUPPORT IN FINLAND

When the government allocates resources for promoting children's culture, it also defines special forms of children's culture as worthy of grants. In this meaning, the government installs a scale of aesthetics in the culture for children. Children's culture produced in their own peer groups hardly exists at the top of the formal aesthetic scale.

The study examines the formulation of the concept of children's culture and the cultural policies related to it, and the targets and distribution principles of government support aimed at promoting children's culture. The creation of Finnish policies on children's culture is studied from different points of view based on documents, reports, assessments, committee reports, and cultural policy programmes from the 1960s onward.

The statistical part of the paper gives a large overview on how grants and prizes for the promotion of children's culture have been allocated since the subcommittee of children's culture was founded by the Arts Council of Finland in 1987. The quantitative data covers a period of twenty years. In addition, the content of applications submitted in 2006 are analysed qualitatively. The paper also includes facts about the quantitative development of grants and a profile of a typical receiver of a grant for the promotion of children's culture (age, gender, art form, region, language).

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