

Abstract: «Healthy cities for the next generation»

Cities are supposed to be unhealthy places to grow up. Nevertheless, many children are raised in cities, and that is increasingly the case. How do we accommodate the next generation children in healthy ways? In this lecture I will answer this question from an urban planning perspective. Across the globe we see many initiatives to create child-friendly cities. Creating child-friendly cities is about accommodating children's entire everyday life and goes beyond outdoor play. It also includes housing, school, neighborhood, children's clubs, family outings and mobility. In this lecture I will report on these topics from my latest research in the Netherlands. I will outline the various solutions and best practices we have proposed for the Dutch context. Solutions however, are culturally specific. That is why I invite everyone of the public to discuss the various Dutch best practices for the Swiss context. This lecture ends with a plea for knowledge based (including children's knowledge) interventions.