

IREWOC Amsterdam

# **Children as Agents in Development**

**Report No 5.**

**Transcripts of ChildPro and Child Media Events in El Salvador and Honduras**

**A research project in six countries, financed by Plan International**

**Project director: G.K. Lieten, Amsterdam School of Social Science Research  
University of Amsterdam.**

**Irewoc@pscw.uva.nl**

## **Foreword**

The present volume brings together some of the documents that Ingrid Stegeman has collected in the course of her work on the ChildPro and Child Media programmes in Central America.

The documents obviously will give only a limited idea of how the (radio) programmes are organized, but yet, they provide a basis for a discussion on how the content is being shaped and how improvements can be addressed.

The documents should be read together with the overall report on the PLAN programmes in El Salvador and Honduras (see Report No 4 of Children as Agents in Development).

G.K. Lieten, chairman IREWOC

Amsterdam, 20 June 2002

## **Contents**

1. Radio Program Transcripts: Derechicos Programs	4
2. Radio Program Transcript CIPOTADAS	9
3. Radio Program Transcript PCHG	14
4. Transcript Act Developed During Child Media Follow-up Workshop	22
5. Round Table Discussion	25
6. Poema de Derechicos	29
7. Children and Youth Participation. Challenges and Strategies (Lalitha Iyer)	30

# Radio Program Transcripts.

## Derechicos Programs

(Spot) Derechicos, Lively music, nice stories, curiosities, riddles ...

Greetings to people in different communities; to the people in a particular community that are celebrating their patron saint.

Today's theme is the maltreatment of children.

(Spot) In many places throughout the world, thousands of boys and girls are victims of discrimination. We are victims of aggression and foreign occupation. Dear parents, teachers and officials, help us to live in a better world. Our present depends on you!

PLAN is starting a campaign against maltreatment in many communities in Cabanas

First a "stories to keep in mind our right" that will enable us to reflect on today's theme. A father comes home from work feeling very tired and wanting to go to sleep. His children are crying and keeping him awake. He reaches for his favorite black leather belt in his closet ... and to his amazement overhears it talking to the shoes and pants in the store. The belt is lamenting the fact that he loves children, but every time they see him they run off crying. Just as the father reaches for the belt a small fairy appears and disappears, along with the belt. The father returns to bed, convinced that he is simply dreaming. The next morning, however, the father can't find his favorite belt. He then comes across a letter that his children have written their guardian angel, asking her to take away the belt. The father feels a desire to hug and to kiss his children.

Hermaides and Mario talk about the fact that children have the right to be protected against maltreatment. They discuss some of the things that parents use to hit children and then say that the story is a call to parents to reflect about the damage that they are doing.

Hermaides says that he remembers his teacher telling him that there is such a thing as physical and psychological abuse. Parents must remember that when they direct themselves to their children they must do so in a good manner.

The presenters then say that PLAN is embarking upon a campaign against the maltreatment of children in various communities that will last from the 8<sup>th</sup> of August to the 18<sup>th</sup> of November.

There is a short interview with Estevana – the facilitator for the rights of the child. They ask her what maltreatment is. She answers that it is actions or sentiments that provoke pain.

They ask what the objective of the campaign is. She says that it is to reach adults, boys and girls adults and persons that work with children and to minimize the levels of abuse that occur at the level of the population.

What is meant by *maltratamiento gestual* (maltreatment by gesture?). Estevana answered that this is one type of maltreatment. Sometimes parents will threaten to hit a child. They might not do it, but the threat alone hurts the child.

Adivinanza (riddle)  
Tapita sobre tapita  
Color de mi pañuelo frances  
No me adivinas en un ano ni en un mes .... (la cebolla)

Another song and spot

The presenters return to the central theme – the causes and consequences of violence and the cycle of violence. One asks the other: “remember when we were playing football and I accidentally hit you?” The other answers: “yes ... and I was so angry that I wanted to kick you back – but I realized that violence and vengeance don’t achieve anything.”

The presenters promise to give to give the listeners more details about the campaign against maltreatment in future programs.

### **Program December 9 2001**

The presenters welcome the listeners and tell them that the theme of today’s program is familial disintegration.

They ask people on the street for their opinions regarding this question; “what, to you, is familial disintegration?”

- A virus ... it could be a fever.
- When parents don’t advise their children. When parents separate and children also leave the home.
- A lack of understanding amongst partners; when parents abandon children.
- It depends upon the conduct of parents, for lack of education. The breakup of the familial union, loosing, disintegrating familial values, values that are based on the doctrine of the lord – to love one another in the way that he loved us.
- When there is a lack of love in the family. When husbands and wives disunite.

One presenter asks Rosimar, another presenter, what she thinks. She says familial disintegration occurs when parents or children leave the house. Parents suffer but children suffer even more. They can end up on the streets and fall into vices. Many times children leave because parents mistreat them. The end-up on the streets or join gangs.

Spot (Millions of children throughout the world suffer as a result of drugs ...)

The presenters remark that there are many disintegrated families; they hope that they integrate soon.

Two riddles:

A small body that is white, like bread.  
All can open it but nobody can close it – what is it? (An egg.)

Round and yellow, it knows of sugar and honey  
Is sweet and has animals in it. (A honeycomb)

The presenters remind the listeners that it is the 9<sup>th</sup> of September; San Salvador is celebrating 180 years of independence this month.

The children interview Dona Dina (who is a facilitator at PLAN) about familial disintegration.

When asked what familial disintegration is, she says that in many situations there is a lack of communication amongst family members. There is no love, comprehension or attention – things that we all need as human beings. If love and confidence don't exist within a family, disintegration can occur. Other factors that are related to political and religious considerations can also lead to familial disintegration, although perhaps to a lesser degree. Lack of communication and incomprehension are the most important causes.

Whom does it affect?

To a large degree it affects boys and girls. When there is disfunction within the family this can generate social problems – they may have difficulties concentrating on their studies or it may affect their conduct. Children get used to living with their parents and then don't have them. It is very difficult to explain the situation to them.

What can we do against familial disintegration in our country?

Develop activities such as the *escuelas para padres* that teach them how to treat their children. This can contribute a great deal to family unity.

Spot  
Song

A presenter introduces a saying:

He who desires much gets nothing

This means that when we want to have much at the same time we achieve getting little.  
You must desire little: You must have patience.

More people are asked about familial disintegration

-Husband and wives leave one another

-Children ought to be taken care of by parents – one has to work for them; nothing else.

-A number of people who ‘don’t know’.

The presenters say that those who said they didn’t know what familial disintegration is probably haven’t have the chance to attend school to learn more about this. They suggest listening to the following story that tells the listeners more about this:

The story is about a mole who goes off to play – but loses his sunglasses, can no longer see and gets hopelessly lost. The parents worry when he doesn’t come home for dinner. All of the animals in the village help to look for him and he is found.

The presenters say that all parents must take heed and search for their children if they disappear. It might not be because the children have run away from home but could be the result of an accident.

After greeting some children and wishing them a happy birthday the presenters take their leave.

### **Derechicos 19 August? (shallow program)**

Spot about Derechicos

Spot about millions of children suffering from the consequences of poverty and economic problems ... others suffer as a result of hunger and the lack of a home.

Two songs

You ought to be happy because the program Derechicos will always be here!

Spot

Story about the environment: A girl wakes up dreaming that they are going to cut down a tree – and protesting this. This shouldn’t be done because trees also have feelings. At school, a vote is taken about whether they are going to expand the school or maintain the forest next to the schools. All vote to maintain the forest, because it is, according a speech given by a girl in the auditorium, important to love, respect and take care of nature.

When she and her friend are walking around in the forest, however, they notice that someone cut the signal and broke the bark of the tree. Her friend wonders who could have done this, since everyone agreed to preserve the forest. She has a good idea ... the person who lost a business deal as a result of the fact that the forest was maintained. She had a good plan, however, to ensure he is caught ... (to be continued.)

Spot (in millions of places children are dying or die as a result of cholera.)

A presenter makes the comment: Ok friends: we all have the right to study. You must advance – and your parents must send you to schools because that is where you learn most!

Song (in English)

Comment: With this song we salute all students of English and we hope you did well in your exams. If you liked the rhythms of this song do you best to ensure that you not only like the rhythms, but also like the words of the songs.

Greetings (to the presenter's family, who always listen and like the fact, as the presenters themselves do, that they are recording these programs.)

“We salute you from Derechicos. We are called Derechicos because Dere refers to rights – and because the majority of those involved in the program are chicos (children).”

Spot (importance of living with a spirit of happiness and cooperation.)

Song

Comment: How is everybody doing? What is everybody doing? Working, having breakfast or ironing? I will now read you a poem:

*Desde lejos viniendo, pasando rios y puentes, solo para ver este programa que es muy inteligente.*

Spot (cholera)

Song

Spot about Derechicos.

---

## Transcript CIPOTADAS

(19 November 2001)

Emily and Anibal introduce themselves as the chief presenters – youth who will express ideas. Talk about our rights and many more things.

Spot

Maria with an 'Entregaflor': "*Aqui te entrego esta flor, en forma de una mariposa, no pierdo la esperanza que me convierte en su esposa*" (I hereby give you this flower, in the form of a butterfly; I don't lose the hope that you will ask me to be your wife.)

I hope you liked it, and enjoy these vacations!  
Popular Arts are very nice and children can also do them!

Song (interrupted by date ... remember we are in your program Cipotadas! Y un saludo para ...)

Yania y Xenia people send best wishes to various people who are celebrating their birthday that week (list of people.)

Song dedicated to all those with a birthday and the whole group sings happy birthday

"Don't forget we are in a campaign against dengue!" Spot (about dengue)

Leti and Emily introduce themselves with the section - Practicing English:

English Song

"Now that we have vacation I hope that all boys and girls out there get out and enjoy yourselves since we all have the right to recreation!"

Leti and Emily read and translate the following text:

"Good morning Emily!"  
"Good morning Lety!"  
"How often do you play softball?"  
"I never play softball?"  
"Why?"  
"Because I don't like to play softball."  
"Where do you work?"  
"I don't work because I'm a student."  
"Sounds great!"

“Yes, it is.”

“Ok, bye!”

Song

(The third presenter, Salvador, couldn't help present the section because he's on vacation!)

We are in your program Cipotadas against Dengue (other Spot)

Greetings to two friends that they know always listen

Manuel – local singer and guitar player sings a song in live (other's join in the background.)

Song about children

Noami presents the section “Practicing my Rights”:

All children have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This includes the right to change religions. Change and manifest in public and in private the teachings of the practice, cult and observance.

All children have the right to freedom opinion and expression. This includes the right not to be persecuted about their beliefs. Investigate or receive information – spread them without opposition to borders and through whatever form of expression.

All children have the right to freedom of assembly and peaceful association.

All children have the right to access to conditions of equality, rest and to enjoy free time. They have the right to work that lasts a reasonable time and to periodically paid vacations.

All children have rights, regardless of their sex, religion or color. That is the reason that we, at Cipotadas, are here; to let you know about your rights.

Spot about Dengue

(Repeat of earlier song ...interrupted by date and Cipotadas)

Presenter: “Remember friends, that it is also a right to dream ... and speaking of this, Anibel, what did you dream of tonight?”

Anibel: “Unfortunately, I didn't dream tonight – but Elsi is going to tell us about a dream.”

Elsi ... “Sorry I didn't respond immediately my friends – I was dreaming. If you dreamt about dance – this has sentimental connotations, so it is important to remember our sensation. If it was a pleasant dream it is a good sign about our successes in love. And

much more if we shared it with the people that we love. If during the dream we fell or tripped, we should see it as a sign of wrong attitudes. If the dream as a whole was disagreeable, we should see it as a conflict between that which we want and that which we have.

We are here in Cipotadas. And you? What did you dream tonight? Tell us! – send us a greeting or a card telling us what you dreamt about tonight.

Presenter: “And now it is time to present the section this week’s adventure. My adventure was that I went to the Vigilance at the UCA (Catholic University in San Salvador.) It was beautiful. I’d never been before, but it was super nice. We arrived at 5pm. At 6pm we went in procession around the UCA. Then we went to the mass, where there were many priests. Then we had a snack; remember boys and girls, we all have the right to alimentation. Do you know what happened? I was carrying my food and coffee, and a woman moved her hand, and my coffee spilled. I was very annoyed, asked her for an apology, but then my annoyance subsided and I told her that I was sorry. Another thing that occurred was that a child was also lost, but then he was found again. Therefore, all parents have the responsibility to take care of boys and girls. That was my adventure of the week.

Lilian: This occurrence is about an inquiry we did in Guarjila. We went from house to house with a questionnaire and asked people names and other things. In many of the houses they told us that they had already passed, so we went to other houses. In one of the last houses, a dog came out barking. Since the owner of the house was visiting the neighbors, she didn’t see. Two more barking dogs followed. We left, terrified, but didn’t run, or they would have followed and bitten us. This was my adventure of the week.

In this section I am going to tell you how my final exams went. And speaking of exams, all boys and girls have a right to education. So don’t stop studying. And continuing with my adventure – the final exams were a little difficult for me – since it took me a while to finish them. But I am happy that we are now on vacation. And speaking of vacations – you, now that you are on vacation, can get out and to enjoy yourselves, since all boys and girls have a right to diversion. This was my adventure of the week, I hope that you liked it.

Voice Anibel: In this world all children have the right to be informed.

Spot

News Section

March against Violence on 24<sup>th</sup> of November through the streets of Chalatenango. Cipotadas will be present, as well as a large number of people from our communities. We will bring you all of the details of this event next Sunday.

The teachers of school in canton Guarjila will hand in the final tests on November 21 along with the school certificates to each student. The Director invites all parents and

students to participate in this event. This will take place at the school at 1pm. Everyone is cordially invited.

To the rhythm of this music we will go to the section “Give a hand to Chalate”  
We are Elsi and Maira and we will tell you more about Padema.  
As a result of the internal war in Chalatenango, only three areas in Chalatenango were chosen to be placed on the list of protected areas in El Salvador. El Pital, Pena Lapa and Santa Barbara. But here comes the good news; The Padema identified thirteen areas that had the potential to be incorporated. It is important that these natural reserves are connected to one another through biological corridors. In this way, Chalate is connected to protected areas in Honduras and the rest of Central America by means of the biological corridor – Meso Americano. The UAPM? Are united to work for the environmental recuperation in which people and local organisations participate. For this reason La Padema proposes that the UAPM’s work in the area of micro-enterprises and small scale projects. That’s all for now – I hope you have a happy and nice morning.

Christmas music ... “yes – this music reminds us that Christmas is nearing. And very quickly. But you too can send your cards to Radio Sumpul and we will read them. You can also send your greetings, a joke, a riddle ... anything you want to tell us.

And speaking of jokes – in continuation we are going to Art and Letters, where we have tongue-twisters, riddles and much more.

Maria Angelica ... it is a pleasure to be with you with in Cipotadas in ‘Walking towards Art and Letters’, and because in this section we lack a *bomba* (?) In this section I will bring you the two that I am carrying.

*Soy el mar, tu eres el pez, te ofresco l vida y el amor a la vez.*

*A mi no me de Chile ni Chilate (ni contima?) un beso que llega hasta Chalate. (?)*

Un saludo a todos \ mi familia que estan en sincronia con mi programa Cipotadas

Here are the refranes – but they are without elaboration.

*No hay peor sordo que el que no quiere oír  
A palabras necias oído sordos  
Acasa sin verguenza todo mundo es suyo.  
A dios rogando y con el mas a dando.*

Adivina y Adivinacion

*Oro parece platano (es sabres continuras?) Sabes lo que es?*  
O this is difficult – but someone is telling me that it is the platano.

En el mar hay un queso y en el queso una te? Adivina lo que es?  
El marquesote

You see, they are very easy! If you know a riddle send it to us! If you, friend, know a riddle that has to do with us, come by and tell it!  
Choquo pero todavia miro, Latte pero no espero, Que es Elsi?

Help ... everyone at home – whether you or I get it first ...Chocolate

Honda pero no las posas, dura pero no las piedras. Que es?  
Oh this is easy .. its Honduras!

And speaking of Honduras, do you know that there are people there who listen to us?  
Yes – a greeting to all of the wonderful people in Honduras that are listening to us now.  
We hope that you are doing well – that you will have a merry Christmas and that you will send us riddles and cards and let us know if you like our program!

Sports Section ... because sports is also a right of boys and girls

Spot ... “remember boys and girls that if you want to be a good athlete you have to prevent dengue.”

(Local sports news ... who won football and softball tournaments in the UCA)

Don't forget that sports is good for your health!

(National and international football results.)

“We at Cipotadas have our own football team. If you want to play a game with come to the Sumpul and put us to the challenge!”

Ok boys and girls ... our sports section and our program Cipotadas ends here. Until next Sunday!

# Transcript PCHG

**18 November 2001**

Spot: Introduction. Do you like diversions, to inform yourself and to be a part of a program? Are you curious, do you like thinking and learning many new things? Stay with us. Stay with PCHG, Program for children and adults, here on radio UPA.

“How are you – we are very happy because once again we are here with you. Today we are going to have contacts with our friends Cipotadas in Chalatenango. The theme of the today's program are the great vacations that we are now in.

Before we start, we can't forget that almost all schools are now on vacation. That's right, PCHG wants to wish you a very happy vacation! We hope that you will use this time to do good things and recreational activities. Before going to our friends in 'Report Mania' we will go to a song.

Song

Hello friends, welcome to Reportemania. Jacqueline and Irwin salute you. We will today talk about a theme that is very important to you: vacations. Do you know what vacation is? Vacation means 'temporary interruption of work or all scholarly activity. It is the time of this interruption – applying especially the necessary rest-time. Friends, we need to take a lot of care during vacations, since there are many people who have died because they haven't followed the instructions.

Yes, many people have done bad things. Sometimes they drink substances that aren't food for people. Yes friends, if you don't have anywhere specific to go during these vacations –there are always your many friends, the books. Even if you don't go to school, you can learn a great deal more than you already know. Books contain many interesting and beautiful things that can serve us a great deal. If you are going to a recreational area, pay attention to what Irwin is about to tell you. Friends; that which I am going to tell you will serve you a great deal, so pay attention! If you leave with your parents, never separate yourselves from them for any reason.

We hope that you will take these suggestions to heard during these vacations, because as the saying goes, it is better to prevent than to lament! Imagine how your parent's would feel if they lost you?

You're right because we have boys and girls that sometimes don't follow suggestions.

That's right – I'm thinking about some accidents now that have resulted as a result of lack of care. Friends, it makes me sad to leave, but I don't have more to say – see you soon!

Gotitas de autoestima para vivir mejor

*No hay mal que por bien no venga*

Gotitas de autoestima para vivir mejor

Spot about PCHG ... patrocinado por PLAN Internacional in El Salvador.

PCHG friends ... what did you think about the suggestions that our friends from Raportemania gave us?

Well I have one more suggestion for older people; that if they drink – they don't drive.  
And if you are driving, don't drink!

And if you go out with your parents, obey them and don't do bad things!

And I want to say something else; now that we are nearing Christmas, we want to have indirect contact with Santa Clause, from the North Pole.

Right friends, and the number is 134 ... so that we can communicate with him and see what presents he will bring us.

That's how it is friends ... stay with us at PCHG ... Program for young and old.

Song

Hey Manuel ... you're very quiet!?

No Jenny, I'm very happy because I'm on vacation, and I'm thinking of how I can invest the time in more studies.

Oh, I thought you were sad. I too am happy, because I can now enjoy myself more now that classes have ended.

Dear friends, we want to tell you that during these vacations you behave yourselves well and pay attention to what your parents say!

Ok friends, and remembering what we said before – write us, and tell us what you want for the next year.

And as we promised you before ... here are our friends from Cipotadas!

Prerecorded tape with a message from Elsi. She greets them and tells them that on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> of Nov. in Guarjila in Chalatenango, the home of Cipotadas, they will have a party. It will be the closure of the guitar course that their companions have followed. They will be playing and singing a number of songs. They have been preparing for 16

weeks and can play a number of songs by popular artists. There will be songs and socio dramas and parents and PLAN International will participate and much more. And the truth of things is that it is going to be great! We hope you will be able to accompany us!

### Song

Continuing with our program we are going to Derechicos (Spot ... what are our rights, who is fighting for our rights, what rights are more important? Get to know them and share them ... in Derechicos.)

Today we are going to talk about the cool theme; vacations. Do you know what vacation means? The word means the suspension of negotiations and studies. Did you know that all children have the right to vacation?

This is true, Jimmy, because everyone is equal and we all have the same rights and responsibilities – don't forget. I can imagine that everybody is very happy, as we are, since we don't have school. But don't forget that we all have to study one or more hours for our own good.

Now we will mention some things that you can do during the vacations.

- help out at home
- invent new games with friends
- read lots of books
- practice a sport, such as basketball, football and swimming
- you can speak to your friends
- watch your favorite films and many more things

Now we will go to the salutations! ...

That which the children from Derechicos said is right ... don't forget to study if you have a moment so that you don't forget what you learned this year.

Manuel I want to ask you a question ... how did this school-year go?

In general well – but at times badly.

And why well?

I passed it with my friends ... studying ... doing group work, I liked being with them a lot. And badly because I got annoyed with a certain friend, or this or that.

Oh, I had a great year ... I passed it only dancing. The 'bailarina' call me.

Friends, get out once in a while and take walks to distract yourself.

Right friends, and now we have an interview with a friend who has come to visit us from Holland. Ingrid

What was the objective of your visit to El Salvador?  
When do children in Holland have vacation?  
How do you say 'child' in Dutch?  
Do you have a message for the children here in El Salvador?  
How do you say Merry Christmas in Dutch?

We are here on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November and know that you are all waiting for your diploma.  
We hope that your notes are good!

Yes friends – we know that at the end of the year we were under great pressure to pass and to achieve first, second or third place. Therefore I hope that all of you have passed your grades!

We also hope that you divert yourselves and that you go out so that you don't get bored.

Hey Jenny, they are telling me over there that our friends from "Cuentamelo" (tell me) are here!

Spot for section Cuentamelo. "section to enjoy stories and anecdotes."

How are you PCHG's you are synchronised to Cuentamelo  
Hey Anamaria are you on vacation?  
Yes, since Friday, but I must tell you that I feel very sad.  
Why?  
Because now I won't see my friends  
But so that you don't feel sad, I invite you to listen to a cool story, entitled 'the vacations of the worm.'  
Give it your attention, friends!

Story

There was a worm called Princita who had vacation and who was thinking about how best to spend this time. She could learn how to gather leaves for the winter or help collect food. She could also make up and learn new games to play with her friends. She had many alternatives but like the former best. Princita was a very collaborative work and liked to teach others that which she knew. She also liked administering her time, in order to volar cometas todo las tardes – la encantaba jugar!

We hoped you liked the story – but what is the moral?  
The moral is that Princita sub-administers her time!  
Who was Princita?  
Princita was a very hardworking worm, who shared her knowledge with her friends!  
What do you think about the activities of Princita?  
These activities help a great deal in not being bored over the winter and to learn new thing.

That's the end of our section "tell-me." Until the next time!

Gotitas de autoestima para vivir mejor

*Help others without expecting anything in return*

Gotitas de autoestima para vivir mejor

Manuel, I wanted to ask you something – how was your school year?

Oh, it was great, because I shared with friends and it was all a lot of fun. And you, how was your school year?

Oh it was very interesting – you know why? Because I did some work with friends that turned out really well.

How good!

Oh, and I wanted to tell you something. They say that you are a *copiomba* (copycat?)

Aye what's wrong with you!? If I get a 5 – they are the result of my work!

*Aye por alli dicen que los gran copias estan los acordeones acaban dicen (?)*

Ahye!

Yes, its true.

Let me tell you something dear PCHG's ...when I left school I felt very sad, because I didn't know if I would see my friends again.

Don't feel sad Jenny – because you'll see that you will see your friends and teachers again.

That's true, friends, we'll see them again and we'll have fun like always.

Therefore – lets go with this song!

Song

Friends, we wanted to tell you that we are very happy, because this is our 25<sup>th</sup> program. Wow, 25 programs, how nice.

*Puchica!* Its been difficult, but we've had a great time.

Yes, next to all of our friends who are listening and accompanying us here at PCHG.

Now that we've talked a bit, here come our friends from musicales PCHG.

(high voice) Friends, you are going to like the theme that we have prepared for you!

Emerson, why are you talking like that?

Because the theme that we are going to talk about today is the voice.

Yes, that's right Emerson, we are about to discuss a very interesting theme. Its about something that we, your friends are doing, because if you want to be a presenter, this will serve you a great deal so that you know the world of the radio.

Right friends, we will talk to you about how to use the voice on the radio.

Did you know friends, that the voice is the primary sound of the radio. Furthermore, it is indispensable to communicate in the world and in a medium such as the radio.

Directed to hearing, it is obvious that the use of the voice is a privilege of human kind.

Some animals use means of communication – some of which are considered language. And get this, friends, the (aparato fundador) of man is responsible for producing the voice. Its also made up of the resperatory currents and this results in the voice. The voice and its use on the radio can be oriented to many fields such as radio programs and musical programs.

## Song

The primary characteristics of the voice are the following:

Tone – which can be low, central or high

Timbre – the personality of the voice and its intensity

The intensity – the volume

Quantity – The quantity of air gathered and the velocity of sound

## Solicited Song

Friends, today we will give you some suggestions in order to not abuse the voice

Don't clear your throat or cough. In place of this, ? in order to relax the throat.

Swallow slowly and drink a little water

Don't scream in order to get attention. In place of this, use gestures.

Avoid talking for a very long time in a loud environment. Don't sing out of your nature range. It is, in this case, necessary to know your physical limits in tone and intensity.

Avoid nervous habits when speaking or singing in public, such as containing your breath when talking. Talking rapidly leads to insufficient breath and in low tone.

Following many hours of vocal use, wait for your respiratory system to recuperate. Relax and take a vocal break.

Before leaving we ask you, if you want to make suggestions or to request songs to write us at 1a Calle Poniente # 3843 Colonia Escalon, Oficina de PLAN International

Aye – Musicales said something very important. If you want to learn to be presenters like us, you need to take care of your voice so that in this way our vocal chords become more refined.

That's right, Jenny, you need to take care of your voice and not scream a lot, because if you don't, your throat will hurt a great deal and you won't be able to speak. You'll won't be able to talk for a couple of days.

What do you think of the idea, friends, that during these vacations you play at being presenters ... and you'll see that you'll enjoy yourselves a lot!

Do you like to sing?

I like it a lot, because in this way my voice becomes more refined/tuned.

Sing me a song?

Which do you want me to sing? (Jenny sings part of Shakira)

Hey friends, remember that we told you that we were going to contact Santa Clause ... well don't forget PCHG, because here you can listen to the conversation with Santa Clause!

"I eat, you eat, we eat"

What are you doing Jenny?

I'm conjugating a verb ...because you know who is coming?

Oh – that's right, our friends from Letters, Words and Phrases are coming!

How are you friends? You are now with your friends Letters, Words and Phrases!

Yes ... we hope that you performed well in your final exams and if this wasn't the case, we ought to put more efforts into our studies in order to achieve what we want!

We need to give more to obtain the qualifications that we want and to pass to another grade.

Oh – but not everything is study. We also need recreation in order to clear our mind, especially now that we are on vacation!

Yes, we are now on vacation – and speaking of vacation, do you know what this is?

Vacation is the suspension of work or study for some time.

It's a rest from everything – our studies and our work.

This doesn't mean that we don't do anything – no we must help around the house, do sports, go to summer school and behave ourselves with our parents. In addition, we can do many things that are beneficial.

Now Letters, Words and Phrases will give you some recommendations. Share these well-deserved vacations with your friends and family.

If you are going to (delevar piscuchas) or vas a jugar trompo, be careful. Take a lot of care when you throw the trompo that you don't hit a boy or a girl. And if you are going to levar piscuchas, you need to be careful with alambres de energia, in order to evade accidents.

Right friends – Letters, Words and Phrases ends here. I hope you have a happy birthday!

It was very interesting what our friends said! (brief summary)

Hey Manual, do you know what some children say when they play trompo? You, friends, do you know?

Nope.

Now you'll know! They say "trompo avisa, saca sangre y no hay justicia."

I don't understand why they say this?

They say this because you need to be careful. The point of the trompo can hurt you. And there is no justice. Because you yourself weren't careful when they threw it.

Continuing with the program – here is NotiPCHG

Hello we salute you!

A child was hit by a trailer on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November ...

Experts have affirmed that on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December Central America will see a lunar eclipse of the sun. The eclipse can only be observed completely on part of the border between Nicaragua and Costa-Rica. In all other places, it can be viewed partially ... The sun will be 90% hidden by the moon.

That's all for the PCHG news – but we can't forget the greetings ...  
Ruth, Stacy and Omar take their leave.

Song

Spot PCHG

(end program?)

---

## **Transcript Act Developed During Child Media Follow-up Workshop**

### **A Court Case**

S: Stand up – the judge is entering the room!

J: Good Day!

All: Good Day!

J: Sit down. What is today's case, Ms. Secretary?

S: Today's case is about the maltreatment of children

J: We are in the court case, 'El Berinche' –I call the first witness to the stand

S: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

W: I swear

J: I call on the lawyer of the defense

L(D): I'll start with the questions. How do you pass your days, generally?

L(A): Protest! We don't need to know about the life of the witness. Rather we need to know about the life of the child that has been mistreated.

L: Sir Judge, I just want to know what the witness does to see how he knows what is happening to the child in question.

J: Protest accepted

L(A): How do you know they hit the child?

W: Because I see how the parents run after him to hit him.

L(A): Do you go to school?

W: Yes

L(D): And the child?

W: We go together

L(D): Do they abuse the child where everyone can see?

TA: No, he shows me his bruises in school.

L(D): You didn't tell his parents about what you have seen?

W: No because if I tell them they are going to think badly and they might think that I'll denounce them and – no, no, he told me not to tell.

L(D): But if you knew that the child's parents were hitting him, why didn't you go to the police?

W: Because he loves his parents and told me not to do this.

L(D): Isn't it the case that when the child plays football he hurts himself?

L(A): Protest! She is insinuating that the child hasn't been maltreated, but that he simply hit himself

J: Protest Accepted

L(D)Those are all my question, Sir Judge

J: I call on the lawyer of the accuser

L(A): How many times have you seen that the child has been hurt?

W: Three times a day

L(A): And how do you know this? Do you live nearby?

W: I'm his neighbor

L(A): And when you go to school, the child tells you everything?

W: Yes, he tells me everything and even shows me the bruises on his back

L(A): Those were all of my questions

J: You may sit down. I call on the person testifying for the defendant

S: Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

W: I swear

J: I call on the lawyer of the defendant.

L(D): Have ever seen the parents hit the child?

W: Not once – they don't mistreat him

L(D): So you've never noticed that the parents have hit the child?

W: They've never hurt or mistreated the child

L(D): How far do you live from the child?

W: From my house I cross the street and arrive at his house

*From the court room: "That's a lie"!!*

L(A): Protest Sir Judge!

J: Silence in the room. Continue

L(D): Have you seen the bruises on the boy

W: Those bruises come from football

L(D): So you're insinuating that it's a lie that the boy's parents hit the child?

W: They don't hit the child. He hurts himself when he goes to play in the field.

L(A): Protest! Here is the proof that the boy hurt himself when he plays football!

J: Protest accepted

L(D): Those were my questions

J: Are there more questions for this witness?

L(A): No

J: I call the child in question

S: Do you swear to tell the truth ...

C: I swear

L(D): Do your parents hit you a lot

C: Yes, they hit me two or three times a day

L(D): Do you go to school?

C: Yes, but before going they hit me and mistreat me a lot

L(D): But why do they hit you?

C: They hit me, I'll go to get wood and run errands and they hit me just because I am resting. They beat me.

L(D): Isn't it the case that they hit you because perhaps you don't listen to them?

L(A): Protest! She's saying that the boy is lying!

J: Protest accepted

L(D): Do you have evidence of where your parents have hit you?

C: Yes, I have some proof that can serve ... I have bruises all over my body, so as you can observe what I'm saying is true.

(Oohs and Aahhhs from the court room)

L(D): Didn't you get these bruises playing football?  
L(A): Protest! She is insinuating that the boy is lying!  
L(D): I just want to arrive at a conclusion – because it can be true!  
J: Protest accepted  
L(D): I don't have any more questions

J: I call on the lawyer of the accusing party  
L(A): As you can see the boy has bruises all over his body. I carry a medical statement that reveals that the boy has been maltreated with belts, ropes and sticks.  
L(D): Protest! That statement could be false!  
L(A): She is slandering me, judge – she is saying that the medical statement that I have produced is fraudulent.  
L(D): Yes – because it can be true that you paid the doctor  
L(A): Protest! She is accusing me of something that isn't the case!  
J: Defense Lawyer, do you have a means of proving that which you say?  
L(D): I don't have proof, but I can get it.  
J: No – if you don't have it now I'll give you a fine. You must give the child five caramels. You can continue with your questioning.  
L(A): I have no more questions.  
J: No more questions?  
L(D): No

J: I call on one of the parents of the affected child  
S: Do you swear to tell the truth ...  
P: I swear  
L(A): Do you love your child?  
P: Of course  
L(A): What can you tell me about the bruises on his back and all over his body?  
P: I don't hit him. I give him permission to play– and when he returns he has them  
L(A): But the child has just confirmed that you don't give him permission to go out and play.  
P: It's a lie what they said.  
L(A): Ok those were all of my questions  
J: And on the part of the defendant?  
L(D): Yes – I have some questions. Do you hit the child?  
P: No  
L(D): As you can see, she doesn't hit her child. Everything that they say is a lie! I have no further questions.  
J: You may be seated. Ms. Secretary, please get the jury's final verdict  
S: Sir Judge, here is the jury's verdict.  
J: The jury and this court decided that the parents must give the child affected hugs, kisses, especially caramels and lots of love. And the lawyer who lent herself to this disgrace must give all poor children toys for Christmas.

## Round Table Discussion

*Moderator: Good Day, my name is Francis and we are here today with the Round Table, the Talking parrots. Today we are going to talk about a very important theme; the environment. For this we have the participation of (Drs.) Lesly, Victor and Denis. We also have the participation of the environment, the engineer Jonis, Hely and Edwin. In third place we have very important representatives; the community. Let us start with the participation of the environment.*

*Good day, we are very happy to be here and that you have permitted us to discuss the problem of the environment with the directors of the factory. Since you are the owners of the factory we feel obliged to tell you that the factories are one of the factors that most contaminate the environment and you should do everything possible to ensure that they don't contaminate the environment.*

*Look, you are only looking at the bad things that factories do. You are forgetting the fact that we also do good things. We for example pay a lot of taxes ...*

Yes, that is good – but the problem is that you are contaminating the environment and this harms people.

But we have taken the necessary measures to ensure that this does not occur. I don't understand why you dedicate yourselves to punishing us.

You don't take the necessary measures, sir ... you don't control the smoke that leaves the factories. Ok – another problem is that of the shrimp factories. They throw away the heads of the shrimp and this produces a very bad smell that reaches the communities. People can't bear this. There are nights when they can't sleep.

Ok, sir. We have this work to do, but we have been trained to work sometimes with the employees and sometimes amongst ourselves. Therefore, we can't only be with the employees.

But you ought to be involved everything ... because you by far, are capable and ought to be involved in everything.

But no – we aren't capable of being involved in everything at all times!

And did you train the others?

Yes, we train them, but what happens is that they forgot everything, because that which is bad, they do.

But you ought to be responsible, because you trained them. You don't help them to put what they learned to practice.

Our responsibility is to train them. Their responsibility is to put this to practice.

You, the representatives of the factories ought to plant trees where your factories are. This produces pure air and makes it possible that the smoke that leaves your factories doesn't escape.

Hey, permit me. We have hectares in Lo Lancho where only trees grow.

But in Lo Lancho ... (interrupt one another)

Moderator: Please ladies and gentleman, I am chairperson, deserve respect and ask that only one person speak at a time! The representatives of the factory have the word.

There we have hectares full of trees. We plant them there because there is water, irrigation, etc.

And in the cities?

We carry them there ...

But sir, the trees that you planted aren't enough.

Yes they are – how can you call yourselves agronomers. If you plant trees there, the oxygen comes here.

But you say you have trees there – the area with the most trees in Honduras, but not here, in the cities where the factories are ...

Yes sir, but we also have trees in the areas around our businesses.

You have to plant trees in the cities!

And tell me, where can we plant trees if the cities are so populated that there isn't even room to move around oneself?

There are *maseteras*? (farm or green houses?). If you can grow one flower in a *masetera*, one flower, one small flower produces oxygen!

But we don't plant gardens, we plant trees to produce oxygen!

*But what does it serve to plant trees only in Los Lanchos if you are contaminating almost the entire country?*

Not the whole country, because the factories are moderated. They check the machinery – and although a lot of smoke leaves, it disintegrates in the air.

Well perhaps you plant trees – but they are only a few. The contamination that you produce is a great deal more than that which you plant.

But you only look at the bad things that the factories do! The factories help the development of the country, give employment to people, train people and in some communities they are paying for two schools to teach the children of our workers!

We of the environment are conscious of the fact that the factories generate work and are helping the economic development of our countries but also the environment is also important. If the factories contaminate the environment we will be sick and this can lead to death.

Yes but we give the people working for us opportunities.

You give them opportunities; but what do you like more – breathing pure air or air from the factories?

But we plant trees, as we said. We want to breath pure air. But you need to be more united. I only see you walking around criticizing the factories and not planting trees yourselves.

Sir – we go from community to community training people on how they can take care of the environment. We do that which you don't do. You don't supervise your personnel.

Yes ... yes we do. We capacitate young and old for this ...that they too learn how to take care of trees ...

But you don't supervise them!

Of course we do ...

But only inside, not outside ...

Also outside ... but we discuss the work amongst ourselves ... we can't be with the employees a great deal of the time ...

Moderator: Ok – we have listened to very interesting opinions on both sides. Now we will give the word to community members because they also have the right to an opinion.

Right, my name is Kelvin and I am a representative of the community Los Llanitos. I have come to ask the people from the shrimp factories not to be unpleasant. Please have some consideration for the community. As you can see, they have thrown away the remains of the shrimp and this really stinks . If you pass by, you can't even breathe. I ask you to do something out of respect.

But you talk as if this occurs all the time. Perhaps it only occurred once.

Not only once sir – this has happened many times.

Moderator: Ok, we also have the participation of a woman in the public.

Hello, my name is Gladys Onaida. I have a question for the factory owners. Why are you giving work to under aged children? This is leading to the exploitation of children.

We don't give work to minors. They present us with their papers. We don't have the time to verify whether or not they are false.

But you have to make sure that they aren't children. And the work in the factory is work for adults. There are machines that lead to accidents even amongst adults – they loose a finger or a hand ... and you aren't going to return a finger or a hand to a person.

Only adults work in the factories. When I go to the factories, I only seen adults.

I can assure you, sir, that if we go to one of your factories, we will definitely find children working. And if they get hurt – they get some social security, but you can't return the part that's been hurt.

Well, from now on we will contract an employee who dedicates him/herself to this.

Moderator: Wait – there is another participant who wants to give his opinion.

I think it's good what the factories are doing because they are helping people find work and they are helping people pay for the studies of their children.

You see, there are people who believe in us!

Ok, I'd like to reply. Sir – do you have children? Doesn't it bother you that in the future your children are going to live in a contaminated environment? And your grandchildren? In what type of environment will they live?

Moderator: Ok, we have listened to all sides and know that we are being confronted with a very difficult problem, not only for the communities but the entire country. We thank all parties for being with us in this Round Table the Talking Parrots and invite you to join us next time!

---

## Poema de Derechicos

Guaro Descraciado

El Alcohol es un product  
Que no tiene vitamina  
Y si usted no se da cuenta  
Enferma su familia

Cuando yo iba por el camino  
Me encuentre con un borracho  
y saben como iba  
Curcucho y hasta gacho

El alcohol es nenenoso  
Por que tiene various ingredientes  
Y si usted no se da cuenta  
Se quebrara todos los dientes

Ya con los dientes quebrados  
Nadie lo va a querer  
Y si es posible  
Lo dejara su mujer

Si usted siente avergonsado,  
Ya no siga tomando  
Y si usted no se da cuenta  
El guaro lo esta acabando

Cuando usted valla a Chalate  
No mire las cantinas  
Mejor valla al Mercado  
Y compre una gallina

El alimento que le va a dar  
Tiene mucho vitamina  
En cambio el guaro  
Mejor lo desanima

Ya con esto me despido  
Con este poema  
Pesado solo le pido disculpas  
Que no me salga enojado

# Children and Youth Participation.

## Challenges and Strategies.

Lalitha Iyer -Technical advisor, Child Participation Programs.  
PLAN International.<sup>1</sup>

Child participation is an essential component for building up of social capital among the marginalised population for reducing vulnerability. The extent and content of children participation within the family and beyond will vary vastly, according to their cultural contexts. At the family level, most parents themselves have never been exposed to the ideas of rights and participation. Most of these communities lack the viability and vitality to provide appropriate support mechanisms for children and youth to release their full potential. Growing up in this environment offers poor choices for the social and economic advancement of boys and girls in different age groups. They face the brunt of poor development decisions leading to deprivation of their fundamental right to life, development, protection and participation. Within that, girl children are placed in a more vulnerable situation. Identification of this aspect has resulted in a number of organizations focusing upon increasing awareness levels of children on their rights. However, it has been found that in addition to this, building capacities of children, youth, and communities for understanding and supporting their mutual strengths is a critical requirement for enhanced participation of children in decisions that affect their lives. This poses a great challenge for the social development organizations at community, national and international levels in terms of their strategies, structure, resources and mobilisation processes. PLAN International has adopted 'child centredness' to meet this challenge that is committed "improve the quality of life and advance the rights of children".

To make children and youth participation real and meaningful to themselves and the community, child centredness places emphasis on:

Enhancing adult awareness and sensitivity about age and gender differentiated needs, priorities and potential of boys and girls  
facilitating the process of the families and communities creating opportunity for children/youth to participate consistent with their age and ability and  
equipping boys and girls with skills and competencies to enable them to participate in decisions that affect their lives.

---

<sup>1</sup> A shortened version of a paper at the V Ministerial Meeting on Children and Social Policies, Jamaica, Kingston, 9-11 October 2000.

Within this overall framework, program countries have adopted diverse innovative strategies for operationalising the child centred approach.

In the early stages, children's participation was limited to them taking part in sporadic cultural activities, sports clubs or theatre groups or whenever the adults in the school or community wanted them to participate. While children learned to work together, enjoyed and had fun, these forums did not provide opportunity for children to voice their concerns.

As PLAN has expanded its understanding of participation, in several countries programs have begun to place mechanisms that will help in integrating child participation as part of the community development processes. Within the program areas, child centredness is promoted in a variety of ways including use of child to child health programs, addressing child labour in livelihood interventions, malnutrition in agriculture programs, to name a few.

However, this is easier said than done because, there are no universal standards, that prescribes the level and nature of children's participation in different age groups. It entirely depends on the opportunities available to the children in their given cultural, social and economic context. In all the countries including the Latin American region, traditional practices and cultural barriers hamper the participation of children in family or community decisions. Often the concerns of the children never figure in the discussions of the community while finalising program choices. Adult perception of protecting or promoting the rights of children are vastly different from that of children .

Mainstreaming Strategies :

- Creating space for 'voice' of children through children consultations.
- Enabling adult understanding of children rights.
- Facilitating program development in the community with the inclusion of children's voice and participation.
- Facilitating the alliances and networks at local and national levels.
- Enhancing presence of children in media and technology.
- Building in-house capacity, policy support and improved institutional learning.

Issues constantly brought about by the adolescent girls and boys of Haiti, Honduras and El Salvador during children's consultation were, familial rape, abandonment of children, violence at home and school, poor environmental sanitation and the effect of these on their morale. These did not figure in the discussion of the adults. While the adults consider having a latrine as only a sanitation issue, for the adolescent girls and boys it is an issue of a safety and sanitation issue. Often the communities consider that the unemployed out of school youth are a burden on the community. Youth feel that they must be given an opportunity to prove themselves and their views need to be heard. They show a preference to interventions that can add value to them as human resources and can create an environment where they can have choices, instead of interventions only when they are 'at risk' or give short term placebos. Given this situation, the challenge is bridging the communication gap between children, especially youth and adults.

*Children consultation are forums where boys and girls in different age groups gain space for interaction with peers, get broader understanding of their contexts supported by appropriate information, and are comfortable to express and discuss with adults and children. The participatory and experiential learning techniques used for encouraging the children to clarify their doubts and analyse information, enhance their self confidence, self esteem and ability articulate their concerns, hopes and ideas. Views expressed by children in these forums are then exchanged with the community adults for discussion. PLAN is enhancing frontline staff capacity for facilitating such consultations on a regular basis. Methodology such as SASITO, Child PRO and CFCDA described elsewhere in this paper, adopt this strategy enhance the skills and competencies of children to participate.*

Another limitation for enhanced participation of youth in community decisions is the fear in the minds of the adults that youth participation may reduce/remove their authority and power. Or replace them in the community decision making processes. Some feel challenged and perceive their involvement as threatening and hostile. Some adults question the ability/competency of the youth to participate in complicated programs such as natural resources management, which deals with power structure, resources and complicated local and national government policies. The challenge here is bring a change in the perceptions of the adults regarding the capacity and participation of youth for stimulating and supporting their community development processes.

The strategy adopted by PLAN in Central American countries is holding series of dialogue/community consultations, where adults are helped to understand children participation as a process of preparation, whereby children learn to identify their boundaries of freedom and responsibilities. Children participation in community processes, place greater responsibility and accountability on the adults at two levels. The first is to make project decisions based on clear assessment of their results on the lives of children. The second is creating an environment of trust, where youth feel respected, their views heard and acted upon.

Involvement of youth in all the stages of programming is dependent upon the capacity and support provided by the community organisations. Building relationship between youth and adults as mentioned above demands fundamental changes in the approach, decision making processes, resource utilisation methods of the community organisations. The challenge is identifying an appropriate strategy for bring such fundamental changes. The strategy adopted by PLAN is to encourage and facilitate the preparation of community micro plans with the involvement of youth, help communities to analyse the social cost of not including the voice and participation of youth, and facilitate their allocation of resources to address the concerns of children.

Building alliances and partnership is another strategy adopted by PLAN for enhancing participatory opportunities for children and youth. A number of PLAN program countries are members of coalitions on children's rights. In all the countries partnership is developed with the line ministries providing health, education, agriculture, housing and other related areas.

Use of Media and enhancing presence of children in media as persons with capacity, is another strategy that several PLAN countries have adopted. Usually media pays attention to children when there is some thing sensational to report or when children are victims. The strategy adopted by PLAN programs challenges this situation, by encouraging children to use media for expressing their views on diverse issues. It also combines

education with entertainment. Radio program created by children in Senegal are very popular among the adults and has helped in raising the awareness of adults about the capacity of youth and children. Children in PLAN Burkina Faso, Togo, Mali, Guinea and Senegal created a radio campaign, " I am a child, But I have my right too". A three year program titled, "Child Rights and Participatory Media in Civil Society", in partnership with radio Netherlands for technical assistance is on going in Nicaragua, Haiti, Honduras and El Salvador. The objective is to enhance youth participation in development process using communication media and enhancing the presence of children in media. Many PLAN countries such as Ecuador, Honduras, El Salvador, Philippines, Indonesia, have moved to a child rights based programming approach, in which child rights and participation are to be integral part of all PLAN's programs with communities. The process adopted have created a new respect among the adults regarding the capacity of children to identify the issues, express them and offer suggestions for improving the situation. Adult are constantly surprised, for the ability of their children to identify and discuss sensitive issues such as domestic violence, child abuse, attitude of teachers, quality of teaching materials, gender inequity in non threatening and mature way. The challenge once again is encouraging the community organisations to address these concerns by converting their understanding into appropriate program choices which are child friendly.

---