

**Research on the development of a theory of Mind in deaf children: a study on methodological procedures as well as on practical and theoretical issues.**

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The present review deals with the research carried out on relationship – from a theoretical and clinical perspective – between deafness and the Theory of Mind (ToM). Currently, the development of ToM represents an important research field in deafness studies. This paper focuses on the new perspectives for the development of ToM (e.g., conversational hypothesis) and how such perspectives have determined, in a relatively short period of time (about 10 years), a great deal of studies. Different research teams have produced converging evidence on a number of important issues.

Moreover, a few key-issues (i.e., effects of language and socialization) concerning the debate about the development of ToM in deaf children were also analyzed.

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