

# **OmSorg- Dealing with Bereavement**

## **Integrating Bereavement Response Plans in all Public Schools and kindergartens in Denmark**

*Themed Seminars – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May*

*14.00 – 15.35*

*4.1.2 Promoting health and welfare*

*Per Bøge, Head of section for Children & Youths  
Danish Cancer Society, Copenhagen, Denmark*



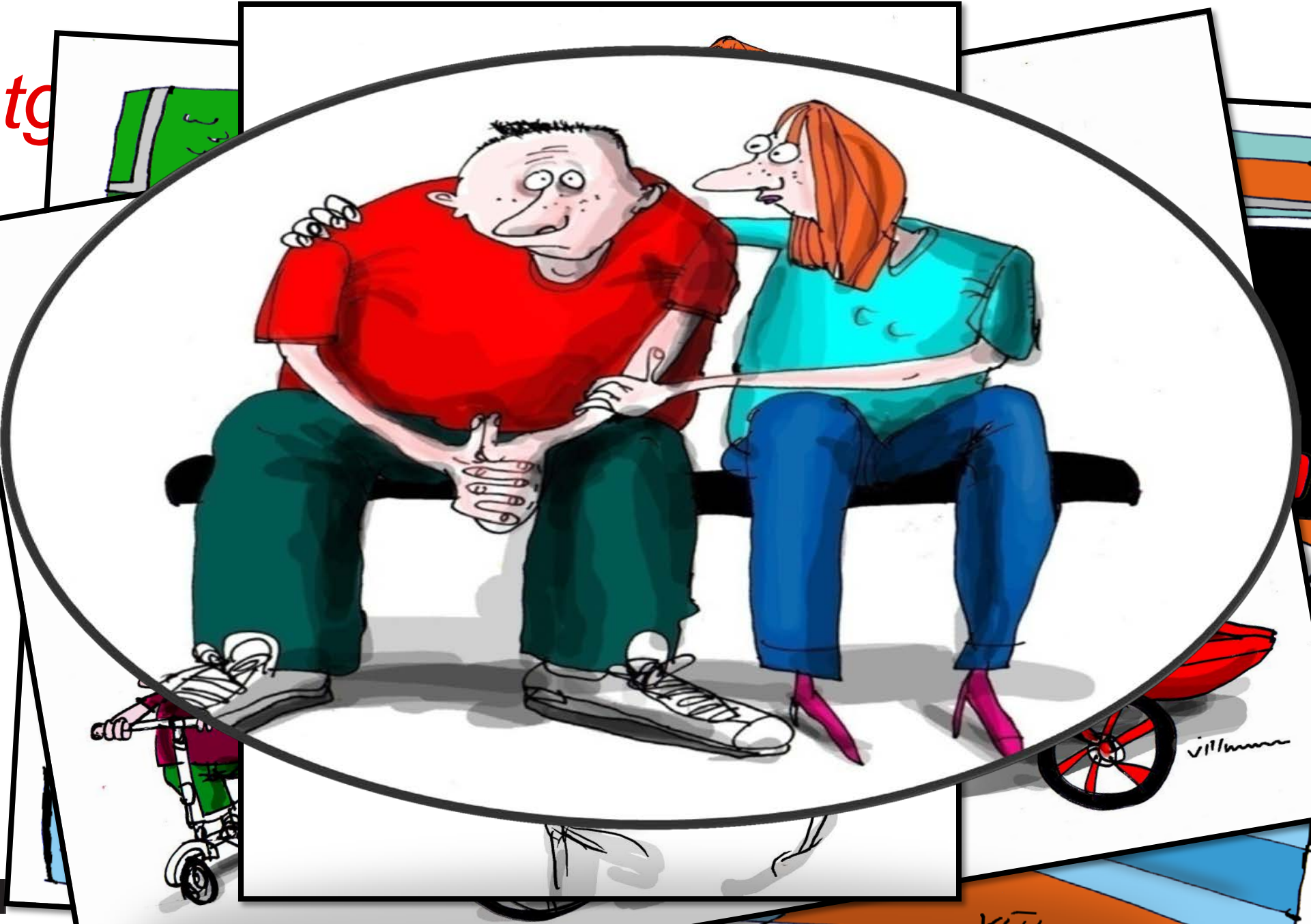
# ***OmSorg*** - *Dealing with Bereavement*

*A childs grief is an adult responsibility*



*1994 - ...*

Targetg



OMSORG

VILLUMSEN



# *The effort*

- *Educational materials*
- *Implementation of Bereavement Response Plans*
- *Grief Groups for bereaved children*
- *Implementing Grief Groups in Public School settings*
- *Children as relatives when a parent is hospitalized*
- *Lectures, courses and conferences*
- *Consultancy*
- *Research – including three PhD-studies*
- *Political work, lobbyism and mediawork*



# Materials 1996

Når hjertet  
gør ondt

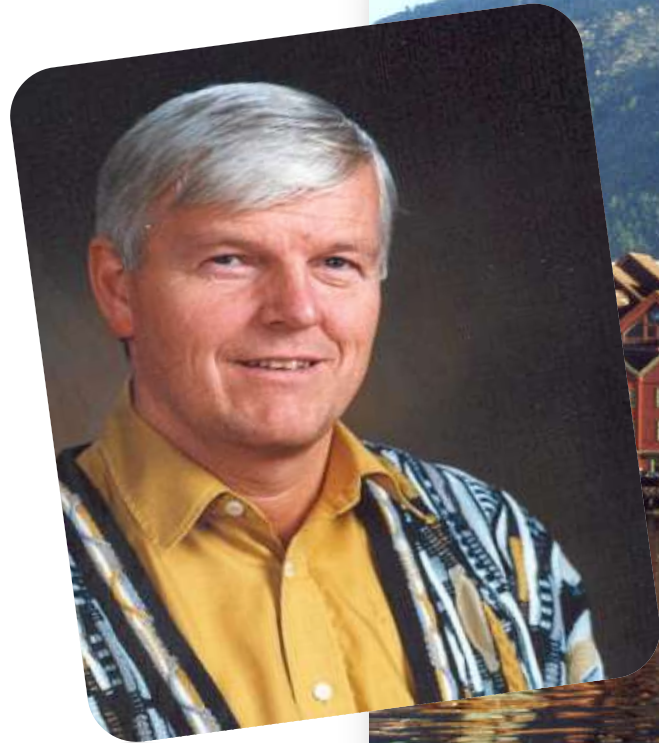
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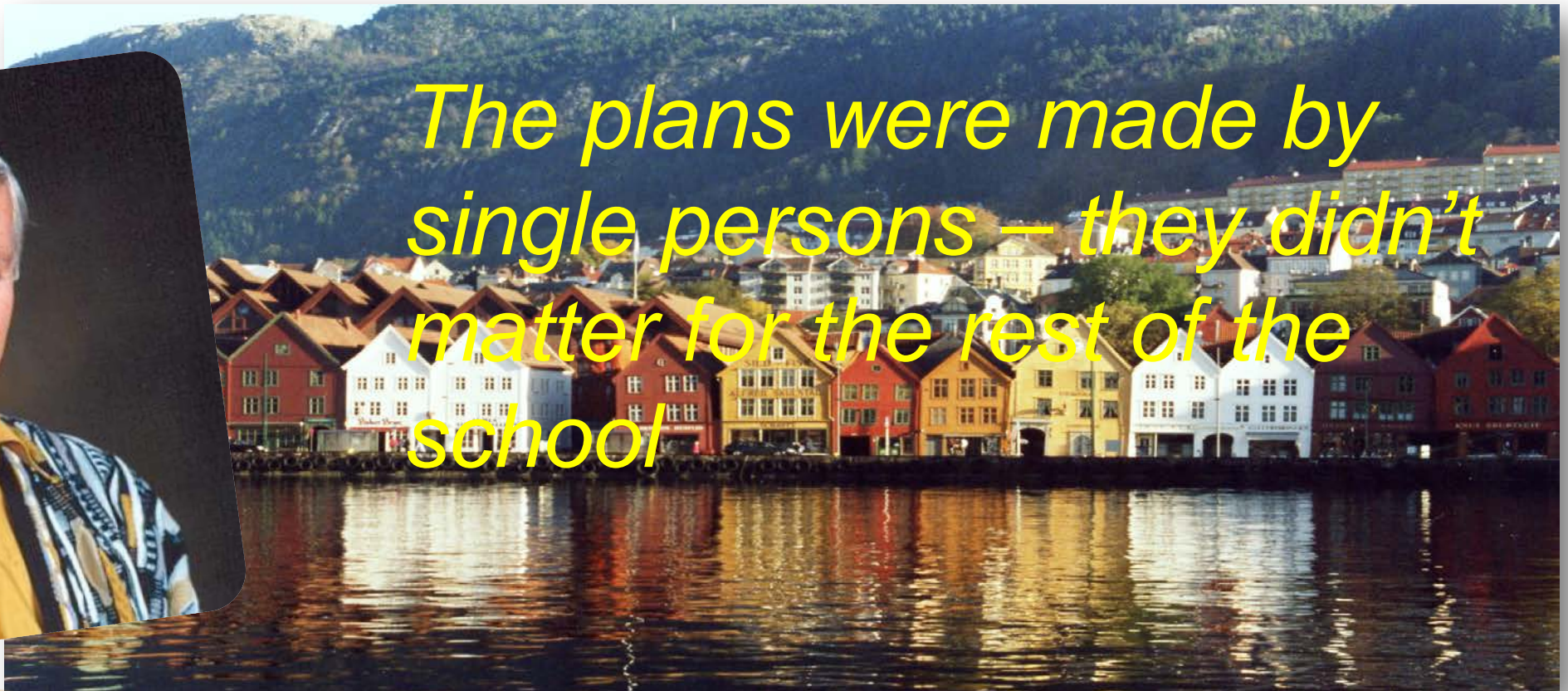
Om Sorg

# *Bereavement Response Plans*

*The norwegian experiences*



*The plans were made by  
single persons – they didn't  
matter for the rest of the  
school*



*Berevem*

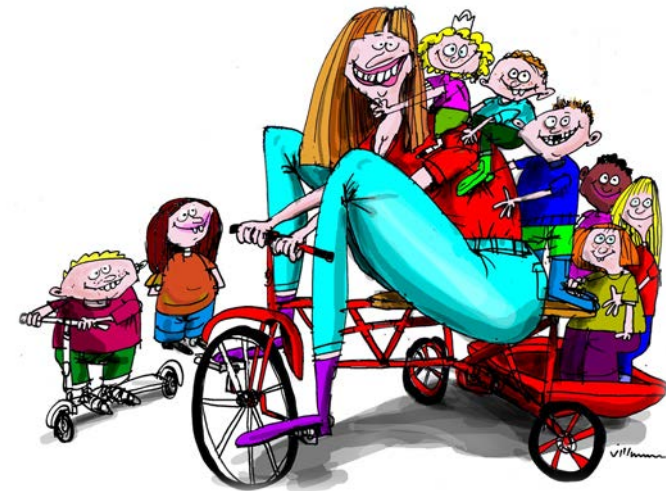


*Its all about the process –  
making everyone feel  
responsible*

# The Bereavement Response Plan

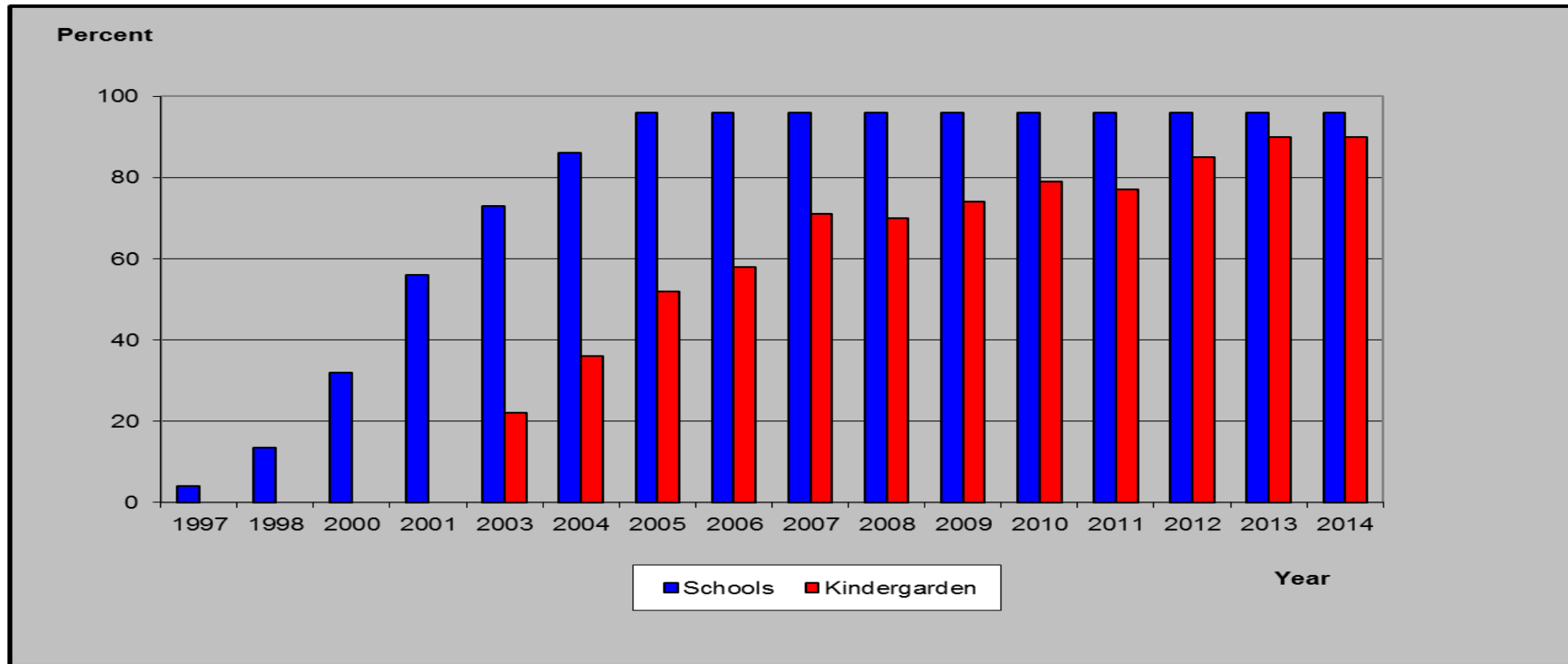
## **What are the adult responsibilities:**

- *When a child is bereaved or lives with a terminally ill parent*
- *When a violent incident occur during working hours*
- *When a child or a teacher is terminally ill or dies*





# Status Bereavement Response Plans



*Today 98 percent of all Schools and 92 percent of all Kindergartens have a Bereavement Response Plan*

*Great result*

*But does it work?!*



# Evaluation 2014 *Schools – aprox 500 Headmasters*



*The BRP is a valuable tool for the schools  
Especially in the acute case of the death of a parent or a child*

**On which occasions do the schools use their Action Plan?**



- Forældredødsfald
- Elevdødsfald
- Medarbejderdødsfald
- Andet



# *Evaluation 2014* Schools – aprox 500 Headmasters



- *98 percent of the Headmasters consider the BRP to be a valuable tool*

*But...*

- *The Schools do not use plans systematically in cases of divorce or lifethrening disease*
- *It is a challenge for the teachers and the Headmasters to use the BRP's on the long term scale*
- *The Schools do not systematically update their BRP's when new experiences occur*

# Ph.d. – Unheard Voices / Stemmer vi glemmer



## **To loose control**

*Much too often the Schools forget to ask the bereaved children about their needs and wishes when returning to school – the children wants to be included*

## **To be different**

*The peers need guidance on how to take in their grieving peer, when he or she is returning form home*

## **To be grieving**

*Grief is allways present as "a blind passenger" and can be activated by many events*

## **It takes time**

*The teachers seem to forget the grieving children over time*

## **Strickt rules and deals**

*The children wants strict rules and deals concerning special arrangements – eg – leaving the class if the grieving gets too hard*

## **Change of school**

*In case of a school change the teachers must deliver the true story to the new classteam*

## **Lifetreathning ill parents**

*Children who lives with a lifetreathning ill parent has the rigts to be treated as carefully as bereaved children*



OmSorg – Unheard Voices / Stemmer vi glemmer



# Swedish translation



*Du är en viktig vuxen*  
*Førskola*

**OM SORG**



*Du är en viktig vuxen*  
*Skola*



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**Kræftens Bekæmpelse | OMSORG**

Til fagfolk | Sorggrupper for børn og unge | Børns sorg | Materialer og film | Kurser og foredrag | Nyheder

Følg os på

### Find sorggrupper for børn og unge

I en sorggruppe får børn mulighed for at dele deres oplevelse med jævnaldrende.

**Til fagfolk**  
Som lærer, pædagog eller sundhedspersonale kan du gøre en forskel for børn og unge, der mister en nær pårørende eller oplever alvorlig sygdom i familien.  
[Information til lærere, pædagoger og sundhedspersonale om børn og unge i sorg](#)

**Børn, der mister en forælder, skal inddrages og støttes i skolen**  
Ny ph.d. fra Kræftens Bekæmpelse spærrer for første gang de børn, der har mistet enten mor eller far til alvorlig sygdom, hvad de har brug for, når de skal vende tilbage til skolen og klassekammeraterne  
[Gå til nyheder](#)

**Sorggrupper for børn og unge**  
I en sorggruppe får børn mulighed for at dele deres oplevelse med jævnaldrende, der også har oplevet at miste eller har en pårørende, som er alvorligt syg.  
[Find sorggrupper](#)

**Kurser og foredrag**  
Her finder du kurser og foredrag om børn i sorg bl.a. vores sorggruppelederkursus, hvor du lærer at hjælpe børn i sorg.  
[Se alle kurser og foredrag](#)

**Materialer og film**  
Hvordan kan du tale med børn om svære emner som sygdom, død og sorg? Få inspiration - og hent konkrete undervisningsforløb.  
[Materialer og film](#)

**Børns sorg**  
Hvert år mister omkring 2.000 børn under 18 en mor eller far, mens næsten 6.000 oplever at deres mor eller far får kræft.  
[Læs mere om børn i sorg](#)

**Kræftens Bekæmpelse**  
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# Newsletter



- *And the last word goes to...*



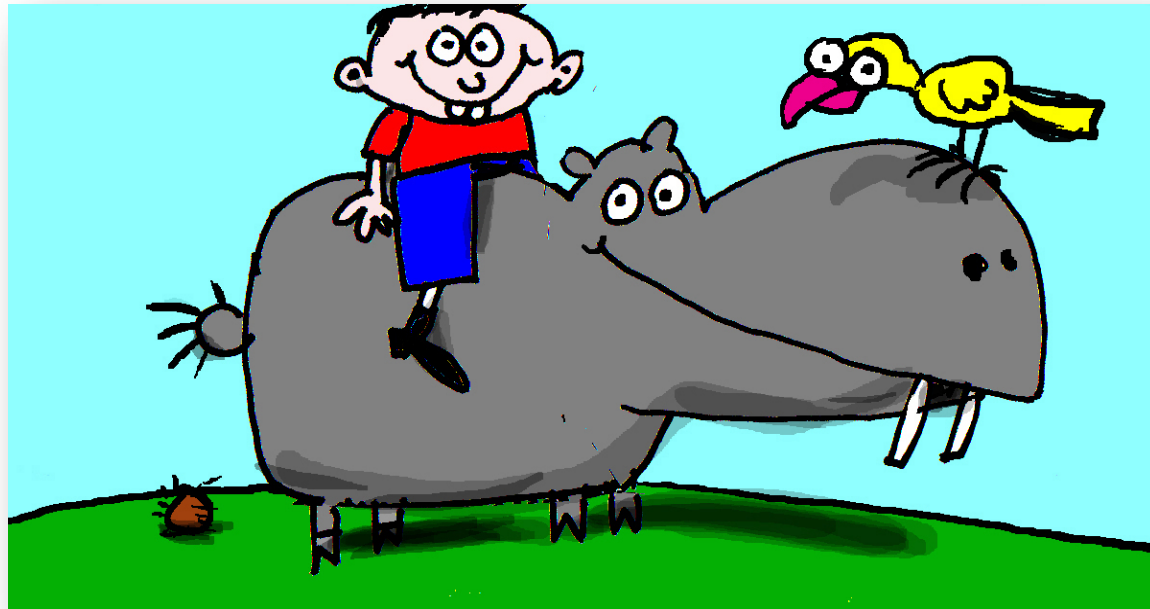
*I'll play with my parents until I'm 15 – after that, I won't have time.*

*Boy, age 7*



*Being a kid is fun because you live longer.*

*Boy, age 6*



*I'm not going to heaven when I die. I'll just stay at home!*

*Girl, age 8*



**FINITO!**

