



MEDIA RELEASE
AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO TREATING LEARNING
DISORDERS IN CHILDREN BREAKS NEW GROUND

A new approach to helping children with learning difficulties is having some stunning successes using a concept that is drug-free, non-intrusive and is of no risk to the child.

Taking the innovative step of also directly involving the child's mother in the process, the Tomatis Method is challenging many long-held ideas of how to approach learning difficulties, such as ADD and ADHD, in children.

The Tomatis Listening Program works by retraining the ear and re-patterning the nervous system with a sophisticated device called the Electronic Ear, designed by Dr Tomatis, a French Ear Nose and Throat physician.

Psychologist and President of the International Association of Registered and Certified Tomatis Consultants, Françoise Nicoloff, says the method is gaining support from the professional community.

"We're finding that more people are now willing to try different things in an attempt to help their children, rather than always assuming that medication is necessarily the answer to their problems," Françoise says.

"And while many of the drugs used to treat children with learning difficulties have a positive effect on the child, there are always negative side effects, so people are now starting to realize that there are other ways of dealing with these issues as well, "

"We've also found that involving the child's mother in the treatment greatly enhances her ability to understand what we're trying to achieve, and to back this up in the home environment."

While the idea of a non-invasive treatment for children with learning disorders is still gaining momentum among the scientific community, those familiar with the methods involved are often surprised at how simple the concept behind the Tomatis Method is.

"Given the tremendous results I've seen with children who have undergone treatment with the Tomatis Method, I'm convinced this concept has a big future helping children with some of these disorders," Ester Bruhl, Speech Therapist.

"Technically, children with learning disorders are unable to focus, analyse or direct their listening, and when faced with a variety of sounds, will take them all in. Thus they will listen with distortion, which means they will have to work much harder to comprehend, leading them to tire easily, only being able to listen for short periods,"

"This method simply teaches the ear to process a wider range of sounds, helping children who are otherwise bombarded with 'noise' to more effectively decipher and understand the information they're hearing."

THE AUSTRALIAN TOMATIS METHOD IS HOLDING A NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON 23RD JULY 2005 FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE METHOD. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.TOMATIS.COM.AU

Ends.

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