

CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1987

INTRO UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. Most of us have known at least one youngster who seldom or never talks by using words. These children use sounds, like grunts, or gestures, like pointing, to let their parents and others know what they want or need. Psychologists call this condition "expressive language delay." *Today I'll be talking w/ 2 researchers who have ELD*  
Dr. Grover Whitehurst is professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and ~~has~~ *has* special research interest is in this field. With colleagues in psychology, ~~he~~ *they* have been working with Long Island children to learn more about the condition and, of course, to find ways to help the children and their families. Dr. Whitehurst, it seems important to emphasize that the children with ELD, as you call it, are otherwise normal.

INTERVIEW DR. WHITEHURST:

- Define ELD
- Describe behavior patterns
- Gender patterns: boys 6-1; mothers train, not fathers
- Any ELD adults?
- What if no intervention? (Swedish longitudinal)
- Potential causes:
  - \* Genetic (inner ear infection 2.5:1)
  - \* Environmental
  - \* Psychological
- Previous research
- Briefly: current study groups
- Briefly: conclusions

*specific - limited to expressive*

14:00

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*Dr. Whitehurst  
Special  
Asst  
Prof  
in  
Psychology*

14:00

We'll take a short break now. When we return, I'll be talking with Grover Whitehurst <sup>and Janet Fischel</sup> about the research being carried out with groups of children and their families on Long Island. <sup>the</sup> research work includes use of tape recorders and foreign languages with children. Please stay with us.

BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND UNDER

Hi, everybody. I'm Al Oickle. I'm talking with Grover Whitehurst, <sup>pedagogue</sup> a psychologist at the State University of New York at Stony Brook <sup>who</sup> has been working with families of children with a condition known as ELD -- early language delay. I'm interested in how you are using tape recorders in your research, Dr. Whitehurst.

INTERVIEW GROVER WHITEHURST:

- Describe target group and control group
- Review use of recorders
- Discuss use of foreign language (target group better than control group in learning/using foreign words)
- Parents' role - and how they fare
- Importance of reading to children
  - \* What questions
  - \* Open ended directives
- What's it all about:
  - \* a symptom? or
  - \* a cause? or
  - \* something in between?
- Some conclusions:
  - \* Language acquisition is intensely social process
  - \* Language is affected by reward
  - \* "Motivated, middle-class parent not optimal verbal interactor with developing child, delayed or normal"
- Where to go for help

29:00

OUTRO

Page 3 - CONVERSATIONS UNLIMITED - Feb. 24, 1987

PROMO - For use no later than 5:55 p.m. Feb. 24, 1987

Hi, everybody. This is Al Oickle. You can hear me on my program, Conversations Unlimited, every Tuesday at 6 p.m. My guests this week will be Grover ~~Whitenurst~~ <sup>and Dr. Fitcher</sup> Dr. Whitenurst is interested in young children who do most of their "talking" by making noises and pointing. This is called expressive language delay. He'll be telling us about efforts to help these youngsters develop their skills at talking. That's Tuesday at 6 p.m. on Conversations Unlimited. WUSB - FM 90.1.