

Hi there my name is Maroline, I have been in the Early Childhood Education field for almost 8 years, not sure how I managed to stay in the field for so long but I have. I have worked at 5 different centers. I am emailing you because unfortunately I have a few questions, concerns and complaints regarding how things are ran in the field itself when it comes to the teachers.

The first point is if there is a way to fight how ratios are made? I work as an infant teacher and I believe 1 teacher to 3 babies, 2 teachers to 7 babies etc is extremely stressful, unfair and that we are over worked with those ratios. It is nice that some centers are okay with having an extra teacher in the room but not all are. I can't express how many days I've went home depressed, stressed, and over worked. If there is a way to change the ratios, please let me know how I would go about that.

My next point is that I feel staff who went to school for Early Childhood Education and graduated with a Bachelors and or Masters degree should not be forced to have to do this new 20 hour training and even the strong start trainings. We already went through enough in college. We took classes for years, we paid thousands of dollars for it and we most likely will be in debt for life (since pay isn't that great as a daycare teacher). The fact that we have to do more just isn't right to me. I understand people who did not attend school should participate to learn more but not people who already attended and graduated college. If there is a way to fight that I'd love for you to direct me to how I can go about that.

Overall I believe teachers in this field go unnoticed, we get taken advantage of, and we don't get paid enough. I understand one would say, if you feel stressed and over worked etc in this field why not leave. That is definitely my plan at some point. I like working with babies, I'd like it even more if things changed. If we got paid better, ratios were better etc. We have to do public school teacher duties but we don't get treated as equal to them. We just need a change. Hope you can help with that and I look forward to hearing from you in regards to this email. Thank you.