

UNICEF
THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2001 VIDEO
EARLY CHILDHOOD

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Images of newborn baby, mother and child, babies, three year olds.</p> <p>Titles: The State of the World's Children 2001 Early Childhood</p> <p>Images of mother and sick child, violence against women, war, crying children</p> <p>Image of father/child Images of child monitoring</p> <p>Taking blood pressure, home visits, Bangladesh Class in India</p>	<p><i>FADE IN MUSIC – TITLE SEQUENCE</i></p> <p>Narrator: Every year 129 million babies begin an extraordinary developmental sprint – from defenceless newborn to pro-active three-year-old.</p> <p>We know the care a child receives in this period is critically important, shaping a lifetime of experience. And we know too that if we fail to invest in children in their earliest years, our failure will be felt at every level of society.</p> <p>Raising a child is a challenge for parents wherever they are – but for many families, the task is almost impossible.</p> <p>If poverty, violence and discrimination are not to become the dominant themes of the twenty-first century, we have to act.</p> <p>The best start we can make is to invest in families as early as possible.</p> <p>Each time we improve the health of a pregnant woman or enrich a mother's diet we fulfill the rights of a child. Because each gain for women is also a gain for children.</p>

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Mother and young baby – bathing. Visit by roving caregiver.</p> <p>Oiling baby.</p> <p>Mother and child’s faces.</p>	<p>When a family is in difficulty, early intervention is the strongest safeguard of a child’s potential. 16-year-old Kerry Kay, a single mother living in a poor rural area in Jamaica, is especially in need of support. Here a roving caregiver from the Rural Families Support Organization helps Kerry Kay build her parenting skills.</p> <p>She’s encouraged to be tactile with eight-week-old Junior, helping to stimulate the neural connections within his brain.</p> <p>Every sensory input – touch, sight, smell, feel - and sound – especially the sound of his mother’s voice – all feed a dramatic surge of emotional, intellectual and physical development.</p>
<p>Child centre in France</p>	<p>In any society, we have to ensure that all children have access to the highest quality services. In France, a nation-wide pre-school programme means that three year old Eddy, the son of Algerian immigrants, has an excellent opportunity to learn and develop.</p>
<p>Images of rockets, refugees</p> <p>Images of children inside tent</p> <p>Boy dancing</p>	<p>The more severe the threat to children, the more we must invest.</p> <p>When children are traumatized by war, it’s more vital than ever to nurture their innate capacities.</p>

VIDEO	AUDIO
<p>Abandoned children in South Africa</p> <p>Children go to child centre</p>	<p>When HIV/AIDS destroys family networks, it is essential that we support the remaining caregivers.</p> <p>Children orphaned by AIDS have the right to reach their full potential – and with our help, they can.</p>
<p>Images of children with caregivers, mother and baby</p>	<p>The power of early investment in children has been demonstrated in Cuba. Here 98 percent of children from birth to the age of six are covered by national child development programmes. From pregnancy onward, families are supported in their homes and communities. As a result, by the age of nine, Cuban children perform at a high level in both language skills and maths.</p>
<p>Image of father and child</p> <p>Images of mother and triplets returning home</p> <p>Images of children drawing at home</p> <p>Images of children at supermarket</p> <p>Images of child care centre, clinic, job training, home visit</p>	<p>When we invest in every aspect of children’s lives, the most profound change becomes possible.</p> <p>Samaria and her three-year-old triplets live in an area of Johannesburg that was once notorious for crime and violence. Now a groundbreaking project has brought about a remarkable transformation -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Samaria’s children have developed creatively, with a new-found interest in drawing and art. - and from being a dangerous place for families with young children, the community is now safe for them to learn and explore. - South Africa’s Impilo project links a complete network of services around Samaria and her daughters – a child-care centre, a clinic, job training and home support

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<p>On camera interview with mother of triplets Title: Samaria Hlanze</p> <p>Images of children painting</p> <p>Title: Leon Mdiya, Project Coordinator, Impilo On camera interview</p>	<p>Mother: (in translation) I see a big difference in the children. They are able to talk about their feelings and they understand a lot more.</p> <p>Narrator: For the organizers of Impilo each nation faces a fundamental choice: either invest early in children or put a country's future at risk.</p> <p>Leon Mdiya: If we do not focus our energies on children, whatever we miss or don't do with children at that age will catch up with us fifteen yearsdown theline.</p>
<p>Images of children of different ages Child on rocker Mother and child</p> <p>Second mother and child</p>	<p>Narrator: We have a choice - we can perpetuate the cycles of poverty, violence and disease. Or we can change our future by making the best investment of all – in our children's earliest years.</p> <p>Music picks up</p>
<p>END TITLES: Narrator Jeremy Irons</p> <p>UNICEF logo & web address</p>	<p><i>FADE OUT End Music</i></p>