

# Why should we support vulnerable children?

Canadian children SHOW AVERAGE OR ADVANCED LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT IN COMPARISON WITH CHILDREN WORLDWIDE.

(Government of Canada, [goo.gl/u4fQP6](http://goo.gl/u4fQP6))

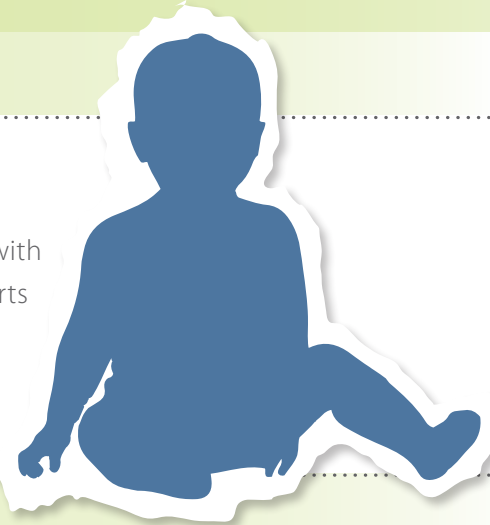
However, not all of our children have an equal chance at healthy development.

**FOR EXAMPLE**, children from families with lower

incomes are more likely to have cognitive difficulties, behavioural issues, and struggle with hyperactivity and obesity.

**MEANWHILE**, immigrant and Aboriginal children

may face barriers to healthy development if they are not provided with culturally relevant supports provided in a language themselves and their parents understand.



**Through no fault of their own**, children who face barriers during early childhood can experience lifelong consequences. **THESE CONSEQUENCES CAN INCLUDE:**



LOWER educational attainment



WEAKER literacy and communication skills

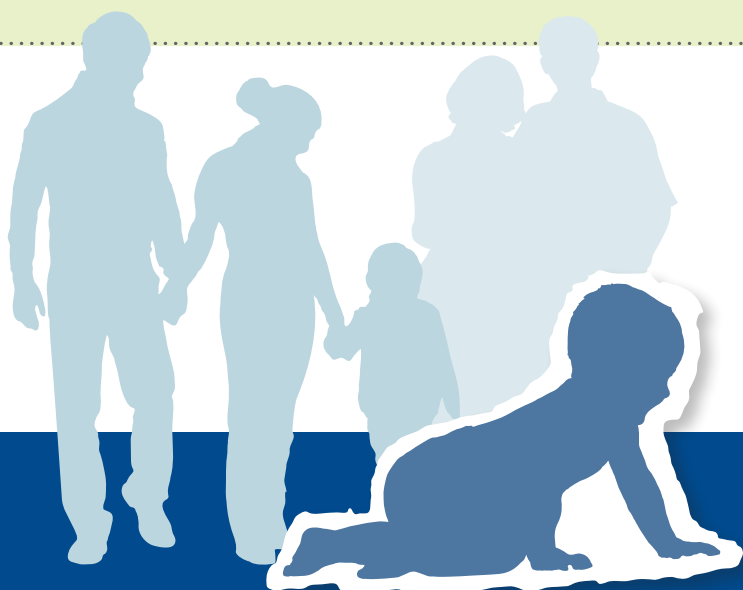


FEWER employment opportunities



POORER physical and mental health

(Government of Canada, [goo.gl/Z1tNSi](http://goo.gl/Z1tNSi))



**And that's not fair.**

**NOT ONLY IS IT UNFAIR**, but it means everyone risks missing out on the potential that lies within each and every child.

**FORTUNATELY**, we can

take advantage of the window of opportunity that opens during a child's early years to help ensure they overcome barriers on the path to a healthy and happy adulthood.