*SLO III. Developmental Context*

*Students will demonstrate knowledge of the multiple environmental contexts in which children grow and develop, and will be able to analyze systems that support children’s well-being.*

As a child development major I now understand and know that children grow and develop in multiple environmental settings/systems. After gaining personal experience from observing and working with children, I have watched children develop from the variety of environmental contexts that have supported their well-being. Before I became a child development major I had no idea of the multiple environmental systems that have impacts on a child’s health and development. After taking child development courses, I now understand these environmental systems have a great impact on children’s health, development, and shaping their personality. The insight I have gained from learning about this context of systems will only positively influence my future by having a better perspective of children when working with them in the professional world.

Being actively involved in my past internships have allowed me to experience and help facilitate my growth in understanding the learning objective stated above. Additionally, working as a summer camp counselor for the YMCA has also influenced my growth in understanding that children are greatly impacted from their multiple environmental contexts. Lastly, the classes that I have taken at California State University, Chico has introduced Bronfenbrenner’s Bioecological Model that has greatly impacted a clear understanding for me on how all systems can affect a child.

From my higher education, I have learned most about Bronfenbrenner’s Bioecological Model and the following systems that are involved in the model, which are microsystem, mesosystem, exosystem, macrosystem, and chronosystem. The thing that surprised me the most about this model was how much the exosystem and macrosystem has an affect on the child’s development and their forming personality. Because I am a life-long learner of child development, will continue to take into consideration how the Ecological Model will constantly impact individual youth. After learning about Bronfenbrenner’s Model, I can appreciate the knowledge of its affects. It is interesting and amazes me how much outside sources from the child’s home plays a role in that child’s life and can predict future behavior.