

Child Development For Child Care And Protection Workers

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The Children’s Bureau Legacy Administration on Children, Youth and Families 2013-04-01 Comprehensive history of the Children’s Bureau from 1912-2012 in eBook form that shares the legacy of this landmark agency that established the first Federal Government programs, research and social reform initiatives aimed to improve the safety, permanency and well-being of children, youth and families. In addition to bios of agency heads and review of legislation and publications, this important book provides a critical look at the evolution of the Nation and its treatment of children as it covers often inspiring and sometimes heart-wrenching topics such as: child labor; the Orphan Trains, adoption and foster care; infant and maternal mortality and childhood diseases; parenting, infant and child care education; the role of women’s clubs and reformers; child welfare standards; Aid to Dependent Children; Depression relief; children of migrants and minorities (African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans), including Indian Boarding Schools and Indian Adoption Program; disabled children care; children in wartime including support of military families and World War II refugee children; Juvenile delinquency; early childhood education Head Start; family planning; child abuse and neglect; natural disaster recovery; and much more. Child welfare and related professionals, legislators, educators, researchers and advocates, university school of social work faculty and staff, libraries, and others interested in social work related to children, youth and families, particularly topics such as preventing child abuse and neglect, foster care, and adoption will be interested in this comprehensive history of the Children’s Bureau that has been funded by the U.S. Federal Government since 1912.

Improving the Odds for America’s Children Kathleen McCartney 2014-04-01 This landmark volume commemorates the fortieth anniversary of the Children’s Defense Fund, which has been an uncompromising champion of American youth for all of those years. Yet the book looks not to the past but at our current circumstances—and at the challenges we must meet now and in the future on behalf of our young people. The book examines critical issues—prenatal and infant health and development, early child care and education, school reform, the achievement gap, vulnerable children, juvenile justice, and child poverty—and highlights crucial practical and policy measures we need to consider and undertake if we are to better serve American children. An invaluable survey of the conditions facing American youth—and a call to action at the local, state, and national levels—Improving the Odds for America’s Children is an urgent, informative, and inspired volume that addresses shortcomings and challenges we cannot afford to ignore. Contributors include Sara Rosenbaum, Partow Zomorrodian, Jack P. Shonkoff, Joan Lombardi, Deborah Jewell- Sherman, Jal Mehta, Robert B. Schwartz, Jerry D. West, Greg J. Duncan, Richard J. Murnane, Michael S. Wald, Jane Waldfogel, Robert G. Schwartz, Laurence Steinberg, Arloc Sherman, Robert Greenstein, Sharon Parrott, and Eric Dearing.

Handbook of Applied Developmental Science Richard M. Lerner 2003 The Handbook of Applied Developmental Science is the only work to comprehensively present the latest theory, research, and application from applied developmental science (ADS) and the positive psychology movement. It summarizes and synthesizes the best scientific knowledge from ADS to help readers understand the efforts being made around the world to ensure that all children and adolescents develop into healthy adults who contribute positively to society. The Handbook is also the first resource to organize and integrate both the prevention and promotion approaches to programs and policies for children, adolescents, and families. In addition, the Handbook provides a detailed road map for future research and for actions that will promote positive child, youth, and family development. Published in four volumes, the Handbook features 95 chapters by more than 150 contributors, many of who are renowned leaders in the field. Volume 1 describes the foundation of applied developmental science, its historical development, and current scientific and professional efforts to develop policies and programs that promote positive child, adolescent, and family development. Volume 2 examines public policy and government service systems. Volume 3 discusses community systems for enhancing citizenship and promoting a civil society. Finally, Volume 4 outlines methods for university engagement and academic outreach. Feature and Benefits - Four comprehensive, topical volumes - Approximately 2,200 pages - 95 chapters - More than 150 contributors, many of whom are world-renowned leaders in applied developmental science from the academic, professional, and policy and political arenas - Forewords for each volume written by well-known authorities, including Edward Zigler, co-founder of the Head Start program; US Congressman Elijah E Cummings; David Bell, International Youth Foundation; and Graham Spanier, President, The Pennsylvania State University Designed for a wide audience the Handbook will be an important addition to your library collection. It offers a single source for information about fostering generations of healthy children and families. It is designed specifically to meet the needs of: - Faculty and students in the fields of psychology, human development, family studies, policy studies, nursing, allied health, and education - Staff and volunteers working in non-governmental organizations - Members of local, state, national, and international government organizations and personnel involved in policy and program development and funding - Directors and staff at foundations that administer programs aimed at promoting positive your and family development

Standards of Excellence Child Welfare League of America 2005

Introducing Child Care Social Work: Contemporary Policy and Practice Jill Davey 2009-08-21 This book provides a practitioner’s perspective on the challenges and developments of working in Child Care Social Work in the current context of organisational and social change. Drawing on the experience of social work practitioners who have undertaken the Post-Qualifying Child Care Specialist Award, the book shows how these challenges are being met in everyday practice, providing a forum to share their knowledge and experience with others and contribute to best practice. It will be of interest to social work practitioners and students and all those interested in the reality of current child care practice.

From Early Child Development to Human Development Mary E. Young 2014-05-20 "It is never too early to become involved but it can easily be too late.'Armed with such alarming statistics as 125 million primary-school age children are not in school; another 150 million children drop out of primary school before they complete four years of education; and almost one-half of the children in the least developed countries of the world do not have access to primary education; the World Bank convened a global conference in April 2000, to address the benefits and challenges of investing in early childhood development. Scientific studies now show how critical the first few years of a child’s life are in terms of later physical and mental health, behavior, and capacity to learn.The Millennium Development Goals endorsed by 189 member countries of the United Nations and the World Bank are targets for reducing global poverty. The goals specifically address the need for universal primary education as a means for breaking the cycle of poverty in individual families and in countries. With the publication of this volume, which contains the conference proceedings, the World Bank hopes to encourage a broader investment by countries, companies, organizations and private sector institutions in early child developmentArmed with such alarming statistics as 125 million primary-school age children are not in school; another 150 million children drop out of primary school before they complete four years of education; and almost one-half of the children in the least developed countries of the world do not have access to primary education; the World Bank convened a global conference in April 2000, to address the benefits and challenges of investing in early childhood development. Scientific studies now show how critical the first few years of a child’s life are in terms of later physical and mental health, behavior, and capacity to learn.The Millennium Development Goals endorsed by 189 member countries of the United Nations and the World Bank are targets for reducing global poverty. The goals specifically address the need for universal primary education as a means for breaking the cycle of poverty in individual families and in countries. With the publication of this volume, which contains the conference proceedings, the World Bank hopes to encourage a broader investment by countries, companies, organizations and private sector institutions in early child development."

Child Neglect Diane DePanfilis 2006

Caregivers of Young Children Derry Koralek 1995-04-01 Designed to be used with A Coordinated Response to Child Abuse and Neglect: A Basic Manual, which provides the foundation for all community prevention, identification, and treatment efforts. Intended to be used by early childhood education professional in a variety of settings and programs, including: Head Start; private and public day care; part-day and school-based early childhood; before and after school programs for school-aged children; family child care homes and networks; and child care resource and referral agencies. Six charts, glossary, bibliography, and list of resources.

The Law and Child Development Emily Buss 2010 Understanding the role of law in the care and development of children is the theme of this selection of scholarly articles. Ranging in style from theoretical analysis to empirical data based research, the articles address a range of subjects such as the law’s approach in the United States and the United Kingdom to resolving parenting disputes after separation, protecting children from abuse and neglect, and affording children procedural protections in the juvenile justice system.

Training for Professional Child Care Beverly Gulley 1987 "Only about 25 percent of the employees in child-care operations around the country have had professional training in dealing with children."—Newsweek This book is a proven, practical approach to providing that training at a minimum of expense and disruption of services. Written for trainers, it may profitably be used by any individual who wants to know more about positive methods for working with children. The information provided here has been used extensively to train child-care providers throughout Illinois. Covered in detail are discipline, professionalism, child and adult communication, child development, observation, assessment, play, nutrition, health and safety, parent involvement and education, child abuse, developmental care, and organization of the environment. Illinois Governor James Thompson, former DCF’s Director Gregory Coler, and DCF’s Director Gordon Johnson have all endorsed these materials by continuing to recommend them for day-care training in Illinois.

The Law and Child Development Mavis Maclean 2017-03-02 This volume asks what legal and socio legal scholarship can contribute to understanding the role of law in the care and development of children. The editors have selected key articles ranging from theoretical analysis to empirical data based research that address the law’s approach in the United States and the United Kingdom to resolving parenting disputes after separation, protecting children from abuse and neglect, and affording children procedural protections in the juvenile justice system. Their introduction to these important and often distressing areas of the law confirms the importance of understanding how law works in practice, and reaffirms that law itself remains responsible for articulating and protecting society’s values.

The Child’s Right to Development Noam Peleg 2019-07-31 Based on author’s thesis (doctoral - University College London, 2012),

Engaging with Fathers Brigid Daniel 2001 Fathers are often marginalised or ignored in child protection practice. This reflects an uncertainty within society as a whole about the role of fathers in their children’s lives. Engaging with Fathers is a guide for social workers and health visitors on how to broaden their practice to include fathers and stepfathers, whether or not their behaviour is abusive or problematic. The authors’ approach is based on theoretical analysis and explores attachment theory, feminism, anti-discriminatory practice and nursing ideology as they have influenced social work. From this they provide suggestions on how to assess the potential risks and the potential assets fathers may offer, and positive examples of what can be done in child care and health visiting, drawn from real practice. They set out a theoretical framework that takes account of the reality of the situations practitioners face, draw up a model for intervention, and demonstrate the implications for practice. Engaging with Fathers is written for the busy professional and avoids jargon. Each chapter contains summaries of the main points, examples of research, exercises, key issues to consider and suggestions for further reading. While developing practice with fathers, it remains firmly focused on what is best for children.

Child Development for Child Care and Protection Workers Brigid Daniel 2011-02-12 Child Development for Child Care and Protection Workers is a classic text for students and practitioners in the child care and protection field which summarises important current thinking on child development and applies it directly to practice. The book covers key issues such as resilience and vulnerability and the impact of protective or adverse environments. Different stages of development (infancy, school age and adolescence) are discussed, and attachment theory is used to offer insights into the impact of abuse and neglect on development. A key feature is the inclusion of case studies and activities to allow the reader to improve their understanding and reflect on good practice. This second edition is fully updated to reflect the new policy context and multi-disciplinary practice, and contains updated practice examples to take into account contemporary issues affecting children and young people. This book encourages practitioners to consider each child as an individual with unique circumstances, and links theory and practice in an imaginative and sympathetic way. It will be essential reading for all child care and protection workers.

The state of the world’s children. 1998 1994

Helping in Child Protective Services Charmaine R. Brittain 2004-02-12 This comprehensive handbook is a useful tool for practitioners in understanding the casework process. Chapters cover child development, intervention with families and medical evaluation of child abuse and neglect and how to interview in child protective services.

Community Programs on Child Care, Development and Protection New York State Council of Defense. Committee on Child Care, Development and Protection 1942

Care for Child Development World Health Organization 2012-05-01 An "evidence-based set of materials to help international staff, national governments and their partners promote care for child development within all relevant programme activities of the health sector. These materials guide health workers and other counsellors as they help families build stronger relationships with their children and solve problems in caring for their children at home"--Foreword.

Applied Developmental Science Richard M. Lerner 2005-01-12 A course textbook adapted from the 4 volume 'Handbook of Applied Developmental Science', this work brings together the latest in theory & application from applied developmental science & the positive psychology movement for students going on to careers working with youth & their families.

Child Protection Freda Briggs 2020-08-27 'a valuable resource book for teachers, child care workers and school administrators on preventing, identifying and handling cases of child abuse and neglect. [It includes] a unique international perspective on child protection.' Associate Professor Sandy K Wurtele, University of Colorado 'Many books stop at the what should be done, but this book goes beyond that to tell us the how. It is sound, practical and most welcomed.' Wilma Bartlett, The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, UK Teachers and early childhood workers are the only professionals in contact with abused children for long periods of time. Although they are seldom aware of their importance, they can provide the child’s best defence against abuse. Abused children exhibit identifiable behaviours and perform less well in school than their peers. Educators and caregivers can learn to observe children’s development and respond to their special needs. Schools have always taken responsibility for teaching children to stay safe from traffic, fire, water and electricity. They are also in the best position for teaching children to stay safe with people. Child Protection is a comprehensive guide to the common forms of child abuse and neglect. It offers practical help for the identification of child abuse and neglect and the support of the child victims and, in particular, the provision of curriculum for child protection. Freda Briggs, formerly a teacher and social worker is Professor Child Development at the University of South Australia. She is also the author of From Victim To Offender. Why My Child?, Developing Personal Safety Skills In Children With Disabilities, Keep Children Safe and Child Sexual Abuse: Confronting The Problem. Russell Hawkins is a psychologist in private practice and a senior lecturer in Psychology at the University of South Australia.

EBOOK: Child Development from Birth to Eight: A Journey through the Early Years Maria Robinson 2007-12-16 Understanding child development is crucial for all early years practitioners and a sound knowledge of children and their development underpins effective practice. The book presents a detailed and in-depth picture of early years development, particularly of developmental processes and interactions. Rather than focusing on a particular topic, it offers a broad overview from a range of sources including: Developmental, evolutionary and cognitive psychology Biology Sensory information Attachment theory Neuroscience Research linking brain function and emotions As well as providing a great insight into the aspects of child development and offering the benefits of a multi-disciplinary approach, the book emphasizes appropriate pedagogical approaches and the implications for adults who work with young children. Child Development from Birth to Eight is essential reading for all early years students and practitioners.

Children of Neglect Margaret Smith 2004-03-01 This book contains a comprehensive review of the current state of child neglect. Included are statistics regarding incidence and lethality, definitional issues, etiological theory, history of and current policy, and current interventions. As child neglect is often

linked with structural issues, the book also examines the relationship of child neglect to poverty, substance abuse and culture.

Child Welfare for the Twenty-first Century Gerald P. Mallon 2005-09-14 This up-to-date and comprehensive resource by leaders in child welfare is the first book to reflect the impact of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of 1997. The text serves as a single-source reference for a wide array of professionals who work in children, youth, and family services in the United States—policymakers, social workers, psychologists, educators, attorneys, guardians ad litem, and family court judges& mdash;and as a text for students of child welfare practice and policy. Features include: * Organized around ASFA’s guiding principles of well-being, safety, and permanency * Focus on evidence-based "best practices" * Case examples integrated throughout * First book to include data from the first round of National Child and Family Service Reviews Topics discussed include the latest on prevention of child abuse and neglect and child protective services; risk and resilience in child development; engaging families; connecting families with public and community resources; health and mental health care needs of children and adolescents; domestic violence; substance abuse in the family; family preservation services; family support services and the integration of family-centered practices in child welfare; gay and lesbian adolescents and their families; children with disabilities; and runaway and homeless youth. The contributors also explore issues pertaining to foster care and adoption, including a focus on permanency planning for children and youth and the need to provide services that are individualized and culturally and spiritually responsive to clients. A review of salient systemic issues in the field of children, youth, and family services completes this collection.

Child Care for Low-Income Families Deborah Phillips 1995-06-01 Child care has become a fact of life for many American families. At the core of current debates about welfare reform and school readiness, child care has moved to the center of discussion about federal policy for children and families. This workshop report addresses the factors affecting patterns of child care use among low-income families; the quality, safety, and continuity of child care and its effects on children’s development; the role of child care in families’ efforts to prepare for and maintain paid employment; and the structure and consequences of federal child care subsidies. Tables, graphs, and references.

Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 National Research Council 2015-07-23 Children are already learning at birth, and they develop and learn at a rapid pace in their early years. This provides a critical foundation for lifelong progress, and the adults who provide for the care and the education of young children bear a great responsibility for their health, development, and learning. Despite the fact that they share the same objective - to nurture young children and secure their future success - the various practitioners who contribute to the care and the education of children from birth through age 8 are not acknowledged as a workforce unified by the common knowledge and competencies needed to do their jobs well. Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 explores the science of child development, particularly looking at implications for the professionals who work with children. This report examines the current capacities and practices of the workforce, the settings in which they work, the policies and infrastructure that set qualifications and provide professional learning, and the government agencies and other funders who support and oversee these systems. This book then makes recommendations to improve the quality of professional practice and the practice environment for care and education professionals. These detailed recommendations create a blueprint for action that builds on a unifying foundation of child development and early learning, shared knowledge and competencies for care and education professionals, and principles for effective professional learning. Young children thrive and learn best when they have secure, positive relationships with adults who are knowledgeable about how to support their development and learning and are responsive to their individual progress. Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8 offers guidance on system changes to improve the quality of professional practice, specific actions to improve professional learning systems and workforce development, and research to continue to build the knowledge base in ways that will directly advance and inform future actions. The recommendations of this book provide an opportunity to improve the quality of the care and the education that children receive, and ultimately improve outcomes for children.

Child Protective Services Diane DePanfilis 2003 From the Preface: This manual, Child Protective Services: A Guide for Caseworkers, examines the roles and responsibilities of child protective services (CPS) workers, who are at the forefront of every community’s child protection efforts. The manual describes the basic stages of the CPS process and the steps necessary to accomplish each stage: intake, initial assessment or investigation, family assessment, case planning, service provision, evaluation of family progress, and case closure. Best practices and critical issues in casework practice are underscored throughout. The primary audience for this manual includes CPS caseworkers, supervisors, and administrators. State and local CPS agency trainers may use the manual for preservice or inservice training of CPS caseworkers, while schools of social work may add it to class reading lists to orient students to the field of child protection. In addition, other professionals and concerned community members may consult the manual for a greater understanding of the child protection process. This manual builds on the information presented in A Coordinated Response to Child Abuse and Neglect: The Foundation for Practice. Readers are encouraged to begin with that manual as it addresses important information on which CPS practice is based—including definitions of child maltreatment, risk factors, consequences, and the Federal and State basis for intervention. Some manuals in the series also may be of interest in understanding the roles of other professional groups in responding to child abuse and neglect, including: Substance abuse treatment providers; Domestic violence victim advocates; Educators; Law enforcement personnel. Other manuals address special issues, such as building partnerships and working with the courts on CPS cases.

Gender and Child Welfare in Society Brid Featherstone 2009-12-09 Considers ways in which raising questions about gender can help researchers and practitioners better understand family relationships and issues in children’s development Draws on current developments in thinking about gender relations Offers an overview of sociological, psychological and developmental perspectives on family relationships, child welfare outcomes and the practice/policy realities of professional interventions with families Chapters address range of service settings; including family support, child health, education, child protection, domestic violence, ‘looked after’ children and youth justice

Guidelines for Early Learning in Child Care Home Settings John McLean 2010

Social Services, Children’s Division, Early Childhood and Prevention Services Missouri. State Auditor 2006 Department of Social Services, Division of Family Services was established in 1974. In February 2003 the duties relating to child welfare, child protection, child care assistance, and early childhood were transferred to the newly created Children’s Division. Early childhood and prevention Services unit administers several child welfare programs including Early Head Start and Child Care Assistance.

Infants in the Child Welfare System Brenda Jones Harden 2007 "Although intended to protect the children, the very act of separating very young children from their parents and familiar caregivers can put those children at greater risk of developmental delays. The importance of quickly finding a permanent placement, especially for infants, cannot be overstated." "In Infants in the Child Welfare System, Brenda Jones Harden presents a detailed examination of the dangers faced when very young children are unable to bond with a safe, dependable caregiver. Using extensive research, her work explains basic theories of child development that are especially relevant to the experiences of infants and toddlers in the child welfare system."--BOOK JACKET. **Rights-based Integrated Child Protection Service Delivery Systems** Muri Desai 2019-09-17 The Sourcebook-IV provides training modules for rights-based integrated child protection service delivery systems at the secondary and tertiary prevention levels. Part 1 of the Sourcebook focuses on the preventative, comprehensive, integrated and systemic, and universal community-based and family-based service delivery systems for children; and the methods of case management and outcomes-based project cycle. Part 2 discusses children and families at risk and the role of community-based Integrated Childcare and Support Centres for providing supplementary care and support services to them at the secondary prevention level. It also focuses on children facing sociological problems such as deprivation of parental care, violence, and conflict with law, and the role of District-based Integrated Child Protection Centres for providing protection, justice and rehabilitation to them at the tertiary prevention level. Part 3 focuses on children in emergencies in general and in specific situations and role of Integrated Child Protection Centres in these situations. This is a necessary read for social workers, lawyers, researchers, trainers and teachers working on child rights across the world, and especially in developing countries.

Model Child Care Standards Act 1985

The Early Childhood Care and Education Workforce National Research Council 2012-03-10 Early childhood care and education (ECCE) settings offer an opportunity to provide children with a solid beginning in all areas of their development. The quality and efficacy of these settings depend largely on the individuals within the ECCE workforce. Policy makers need a complete picture of ECCE teachers and caregivers in order to tackle the persistent challenges facing this workforce. The IOM and the National Research Council hosted a workshop to describe the ECCE workforce and outline its parameters. Speakers explored issues in defining and describing the workforce, the marketplace of ECCE, the effects of the workforce on children, the contextual factors that shape the workforce, and opportunities for strengthening ECCE as a profession.

The Impossible Imperative Jill Duerr Berrick 2017-09-07 The Impossible Imperative brings to life the daily efforts of child welfare professionals working on behalf of vulnerable children and families. Stories that highlight the work, written by child welfare staff on the front lines, speak to the competing principles that shape everyday decisions. The book shows that, rather than being a simple task of protecting children, the field of child welfare is shaped by a series of competing ideas. The text features eight principles that undergird child protection practice, all of which are typically in conflict with others. These principles guide practice and direct the course of policymaking, but when liberated from their aspirational context and placed in the real world, they are fraught with contradiction. The Impossible Imperative is designed to inspire a lively debate about the fundamental nature of child welfare and about the principles that serve as the foundation for the work. It can be used as a teaching tool for aspiring professionals and as motivation to those looking to social work to make a difference in the world.

Getting a Job in Child Care Anastasia Suen 2013-07-15 Child care is a field that continues to grow, as the economy forces more and more people with children to work outside the home. This guide to finding a meaningful job in child care provides the basic needs of any job seeker: how to craft a successful resume and cover letter, how to dress for an interview, and how to be the best worker you can be. It covers all of the bases, including getting safety certification, licensing, and handling tax concerns when the time comes.

Visions of Entitlement Mary A. Jensen 1993-01-01 As part of a re-examination of our societal values and obligations, this book focuses on illuminating the various meanings and issues of entitlement in relation to the basic needs of children in our society. Drawing on the perspectives of philosophy, law, education, sociology, child development, economics, and public health, the authors discuss the implications of their vision of entitlement for the well-being of America’s children. The book also points out specific family and cultural contexts for the provision of entitlements for young children. And, finally, it turns our attention to the moral commitments needed to effect changes in policies and programs. In this way, the book provides valuable information for all who are trying to improve the nurture and education of America’s children.

From Neurons to Neighborhoods Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education 2000-11-13 How we raise young children is one of today’s most highly personalized and sharply politicized issues, in part because each of us can claim some level of "expertise." The debate has intensified as discoveries about our development-in the womb and in the first months and years-have reached the popular media. How can we use our burgeoning knowledge to assure the well-being of all young children, for their own sake as well as for the sake of our nation? Drawing from new findings, this book presents important conclusions about nature-versus-nurture, the impact of being born into a working family, the effect of politics on programs for children, the costs and benefits of intervention, and other issues. The committee issues a series of challenges to decision makers regarding the quality of child care, issues of racial and ethnic diversity, the integration of children’s cognitive and emotional development, and more. Authoritative yet accessible, From Neurons to Neighborhoods presents the evidence about "brain wiring" and how kids learn to speak, think, and regulate their behavior. It examines the effect of the climate-family, child care, community-within which the child grows.

People Under Three Sonia Jackson 2003-12-25 People Under Three translates child development theory and research into everyday practice. Focusing on the group day care of very young children, it is designed specifically for those who look after them day by day, as well as policy makers, administrators and the managers of the child care services. All the practical ideas in the book have been developed and tested in nurseries and family centres. They include detailed guidance on educational play for babies and toddlers and how to care for children’s emotional needs. The book also explores the difficult area of child protection and working with parents and children with a variety of problems. This book is an established text for all those training to work with young children or managing day care facilities. This new edition has been completely updated to take account of the expansion and radical changes that have taken place in childcare care provision since the book was first published and includes new material on assessing the quality of care and short-term and intermittent care.

Parenting Matters National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2016-11-21 Decades of research have demonstrated that the parent-child dyad and the environment of the familyâ"which includes all primary caregiversâ"are at the foundation of children’s well-being and healthy development. From birth, children are learning and rely on parents and the other caregivers in their lives to protect and care for them. The impact of parents may never be greater than during the earliest years of life, when a child’s brain is rapidly developing and when nearly all of her or his experiences are created and shaped by parents and the family environment. Parents help children build and refine their knowledge and skills, charting a trajectory for their health and well-being during childhood and beyond. The experience of parenting also impacts parents themselves. For instance, parenting can enrich and give focus to parents’ lives; generate stress or calm; and create any number of emotions, including feelings of happiness, sadness, fulfillment, and anger. Parenting of young children today takes place in the context of significant ongoing developments. These include: a rapidly growing body of science on early childhood, increases in funding for programs and services for families, changing demographics of the U.S. population, and greater diversity of family structure. Additionally, parenting is increasingly being shaped by technology and increased access to information about parenting. Parenting Matters identifies parenting knowledge, attitudes, and practices associated with positive developmental outcomes in children ages 0-8; universal/preventive and targeted strategies used in a variety of settings that have been effective with parents of young children and that support the identified knowledge, attitudes, and practices; and barriers to and facilitators for parents’ use of practices that lead to healthy child outcomes as well as their participation in effective programs and services. This report makes recommendations directed at an array of stakeholders, for promoting the wide-scale adoption of effective programs and services for parents and on areas that warrant further research to inform policy and practice. It is meant to serve as a roadmap for the future of parenting policy, research, and practice in the United States.

Child Protection and the Care Continuum Elizabeth Fernandez 2020-11-26 This important new book critically examines the complex policy and practice issues surrounding child protection, including the impact of theoretical orientations, contemporary debates, policy initiatives and research findings, and maintains an emphasis on the ethics and values underpinning child welfare interventions. The book introduces policies that are central to understanding the position and needs of children and young people, and how policy and practice have been influenced by developments including the children’s rights agenda. It also explores the most significant issues in child welfare. These include: the experience of maltreatment by children, the systems of child protection to safeguard them, the methods and challenges of risk assessment, and the wide range of policy and therapeutic interventions to respond to children’s needs. The book also examines family support to promote children’s wellbeing before considering provision for children and young people who are looked after in out-of-home care. There is also a final section that focuses on best practice in communicating and working with children and young people, drawing on participatory, rights-oriented and resilience-based approaches, and supporting foster and adoptive carers and biological parents. Contributing in a substantive and clear manner to a growing international conversation about the present function and future directions for child welfare in contemporary societies, this textbook will be of interest to undergraduate and postgraduate social work students and those from allied disciplines, and professionals who are engaged in child welfare services.