

CAROLE JEAN

The following selection of books on family-related topics are recent additions to the Institute's library. They are available from the Institute's library via the Inter Library Loan system, or for purchase from good bookshops. Prices are given as and when supplied.



The SANE guide for families: Caring for someone affected by mental illness. SANE Australia, 2007. Price: \$12.00 plus postage. Further information available from: <http://www.sane.org>

This booklet is intended as a guide for family, friends and carers of people with a mental illness. It covers the following topics: maintaining a positive attitude; finding support for yourself as a carer; practical ways of giving support to those with a mental illness; looking after other family members; planning for the future; and what to do in a crisis. The information is presented in a practical and straightforward way. A list of useful contacts is also included. This guide would be of interest to everyone concerned with mental illness.



Thinking about poverty, edited by Klaus Serr, The Federation Press, Sydney, 2006. Price: \$34.95.

This edited collection of papers explores global poverty and inequality, then focuses on aspects of Australian poverty. Chapters 2 and 3 focus on the global context, looking in particular at neo-liberal policies and women in poverty. Subsequent chapters

focus on individual and structural explanations of poverty; the way in which poverty is conceptualised and measured; Australian poverty in a historical context; poverty and Aboriginal people; the impact of government policies on vulnerable groups in Australia; mental health and poverty; poverty and crime; the welfare of people with a disability; and the provision of emergency relief in Australia. The final chapter examines anti-poverty strategies. This book would make thought-provoking reading for students and others concerned with poverty in Australia.



Longevity and social change in Australia, edited by Allan Borowski, Sol Encel and Elizabeth Ozanne, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2007. Price: \$59.95.

Australia is confronting the issue of a steadily ageing population. This collection of papers is intended for students and policy makers so that they can gain an understanding of the issues surrounding ageing. The book begins with a discussion of the dimensions and implications of the ageing Australian population, followed by chapters on: the health of older Australians; Indigenous Australians; gender and ethnicity and ageing; age and employment; health policy; retirement incomes; housing; aged care policy; the politics of ageing; lifelong education and learning; family and intergenerational relationships, and ageing and the law. Chapters are written in a clear, easy-to-understand style, and each chapter finishes with a list of references for further reading.



The team around the child: Multiagency working in the early years, edited by Iram Siraj-Blatchford, Karen Clarke and Martin Needham, Trentham Books, Stoke on Trent, UK, 2007.

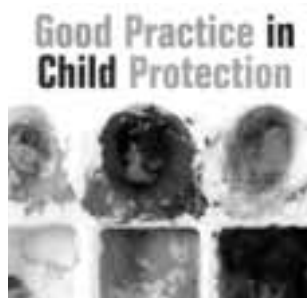
This British publication examines multi-agency approaches to working with children. As its backdrop is recent UK government initiatives in the provision of services to children, with the stated overall aim of improving the outcomes for children from their early years onwards. One of the key ways of achieving this will be the establishment of 3,500 Children's Centres that will integrate the provision of education, care, family support, child protection and health services to families. Chapters cover: the historical background to the development of multi-agency working; child protection; leadership in multi-agency work; and collaboration with parents. Case studies are also provided. This book would make informative reading for all of those who work in the early childhood field.



Social work with indigenous communities, by Linda Briskman, The Federation Press, Sydney, 2007. Price: \$35.00.

The author of this book challenges the social work profession to

pursue a better and more informed way of meeting the needs of Indigenous people and communities. Part One gives the background and context necessary for an understanding of the issues facing Indigenous people, for example colonialism and racism. The accomplishments and resilience of Indigenous people is also discussed. The second part of the book looks at 'practising' social work. It covers: the organisational constraints that confront social workers; the role of social workers in influencing policies and programs; social workers as advocates and activists; engaging in practice-based research; and community development work. Section Three of the book looks at specific fields of practice that are of ongoing concern to Indigenous communities, for example child welfare, youth, family violence, health and criminal justice. The final section of the book, entitled 'Talking Points', examines issues of continuing concern to social workers, for example land rights, reconciliation and mutual obligation. A detailed bibliography is also included. The book would be essential reading for all practising social workers (and social work students) who have an interest in Indigenous issues.



Good practice in child protection, by Clare Tilbury, Jennifer Osmond, Sandy Wilson and Julie Clark, Pearson Education, Sydney, 2007. Price \$59.95.

This practical publication aims to give students an understanding of child protection in an Australian context, and to prepare and guide future child protection workers towards good practice. Chapter

Same-sex: same entitlements. National enquiry into discrimination against people in same-sex relationships : Financial and work-related benefits

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, Sydney, 2007. Price: Gratis. Further information available from: http://www.hreoc.gov.au/human_rights/samesex/report/index.html



The Same-Sex: Same Entitlements inquiry commenced in April 2006. The Inquiry initially spent three months holding public hearings and community forums around Australia to gain first-hand evidence about the discriminatory laws that impact upon same-sex couples. Over 680 written submissions were also received. The focus of the Inquiry was how Australian laws (at federal, state and territory levels) discriminate against same-sex couples in the areas of financial and work-related benefits. Some of the laws discussed included employment, tax, social security, health care, family law, superannuation and migration.

The detailed findings of the Inquiry conclude that 58 federal laws discriminate against same-sex couples, and that many of these laws also discriminate against the children of same-sex couples and breach the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Inquiry recommends that the federal government should amend the discriminatory laws to ensure that same-sex and opposite-sex families are treated equally, and that the laws should also be amended to ensure that the best interests of children in both same-sex and opposite-sex couples are protected.

One gives an overview of child protection and family support practice in Australia. It also discusses how child protection has been conceptualised differently in different places and times. Child abuse theory is the focus of Chapter Two. The features and benefits of an outcomes focus are discussed in Chapter Three. Concepts of risk, harm and needs assessment, case planning and intervention are covered in subsequent chapters. Out-of-home care and the need to involve children in the decision-making that affects them are also discussed. Additional features of the book include case studies and 'practice reflection' sections in each chapter that allow students to develop practical skills in reflecting upon, planning and discussing practical examples of situations they may come across in work situations. Suggestions for additional reading are also given at the end of each chapter.



Social care practice in rural communities, by Brian Cheers, Ros Darracott and Bob Lonnie, The Federation Press, Sydney, 2007. Price \$39.95.

In this book, the authors take a broad approach to the notion of social care. They argue that it is much broader than those services provided by professionals (such as counselling, or providing material/inancial aid), and rather that social care is something that everyone participates in: profes-

sionals, service providers, organisations and individuals. Part One, social care development, looks at social policy (its development, implementation and evaluation); social planning at the local level; and community development. Part Two covers social care services and practice. Individual chapters discuss: individualised services and generalist practice; visiting services; specialised services; statutory services and mandated practice; and the benefits and challenges faced by practitioners who both live and work in the same community. Specific attention in the book is given to Indigenous communities and case studies are also discussed. This book would be of value to both practitioners who already work in rural communities, and students.

Carole Jean is the Reference Librarian at the Australian Institute of Family Studies.