

**Abstracts:  
Methodik**

**2006 – 1997**

**Reviews**

AN: 2002-08071-002

TI: Obstacles to involving children and young people in foster care research.

AU: Gilbertson,-Robyn; Barber,-James-G

SO: Child-and-Family-Social-Work. Vol 7(4) Nov 2002, 253-258.

IS: 1356-7500

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Despite increasing recognition of the importance of including the perspectives of children and young people in care in alternative care research, in practice this is not always a straightforward matter. This paper describes the recruitment of disruptive young people in care under the jurisdiction of the South Australian statutory authority to 3 studies on placement instability. Nonresponse rates of 72.5% and 82% are reported. A large number of subjects (Ss) were excluded because agency social workers did not cooperate with the project, and more Ss were excluded for reasons which suggest high levels of distress in this population. The dilemma of providing a voice to distressed Ss when distressed Ss are excluded from research is discussed, and the appointment of an independent representative for children in care to review research proposals and to negotiate research access to children is proposed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

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AN: 2005-13227-008

TI: Quality of relationships between youth and community service providers: Reliability and validity of the Trusting Relationship Questionnaire.

AU: Mustillo,-Sarah-A; Dorsey,-Shannon; Farmer,-Elizabeth-M.-Z

SO: Journal-of-Child-and-Family-Studies. Vol 14(4) Dec 2005, 577-590.

IS: 1062-1024

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: We examined the factor structure and psychometric properties of the Trusting Relationship Questionnaire, a brief measure of relationship quality between youth and community-based service providers involved in their care. Data on youth residing in Therapeutic Foster Care and in Group Homes (N = 296) were collected. We identified a one-factor solution for the child version of the measure and a two-factor structure for the adult version: child's perception of the relationship and adult's perception of the relationship. Both versions appear to be highly reliable and possess adequate levels of construct, criterion, and discriminative validity. While no statistically significant age differences were noted on the parent version, on the child version, older youth were more likely to report lower relationship scores. Gender differences were found on both versions: Female youth reported higher scores on the child version as did adults reporters of relationships with female youth, but only for the first factor--child's perception of the relationship. Overall, the TRQ appears to capture the quality of the relationship between service providers and youth in their care, thus bridging a gap in assessment measures. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved) (journal abstract)

AN: 2004-14791-004

TI: The Parent Satisfaction with Foster Care Services Scale.

AU: Kapp,-Stephen-A; Vela,-Rebecca-H

SO: Child-Welfare. Vol 83(3) May-Jun 2004, 263-287.

IS: 0009-4021

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Client satisfaction measures are an essential component of program evaluation. This article describes the development of a scale for measuring the satisfaction levels of parents whose children have received foster care services. Subjected to various statistical measures, the Parent Satisfaction with Foster Care Services Scale appears to be a reliable instrument with the promise of utility for social work researchers, practitioners, and administrators. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved) (journal abstract)

AN: 2004-12358-007

TI: The unheard client: Assessing the satisfaction of parents of children in foster care.

AU: Kapp,-Stephen-A; Vela,-Rebecca-H

SO: Child-and-Family-Social-Work. Vol 9(2) May 2004, 197-206.

IS: 1356-7500

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Although client satisfaction information is often ignored, it is a critical piece of the picture when evaluating the service experience of parents who have had their children placed in foster care. This article describes the development of a client satisfaction instrument and information generated from its use. The findings describe the psychometrics of the instrument, a descriptive profile of the satisfaction scores of the respondents, and some intriguing relationships between distinct aspects of client satisfaction. The service implications of these findings are considered and discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved) (journal abstract)

AN: 2003-02431-004

TI: The Foster Parent Potential Scale.

AU: Orme,-John-G; Buehler,-Cheryl; McSurdy,-Michael; Rhodes,-Kathryn-W; Cox,-Mary-Ellen

SO: Research-on-Social-Work-Practice. Vol 13(2) Mar 2003, 181-207.

IS: 1049-7315

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: A new measure of the potential of foster family applicants to provide quality family foster care is described and field tested in this study: the Foster Parent Potential Scale (FPPS). Prospective data from 105 foster applicant families are analyzed. Results support the internal consistency reliability of the FPPS, and for the most part its predictive, convergent, and discriminant validity. The notable exception to these results is that applicants of African American and other races had higher scores than did European American applicants, although the effect of race was small. The internal consistency, reliability and construct validity of the FPPS is supported by these findings. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 2002-17162-003

TI: Methodological lessons from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being: The first three years of the USA's first national probability study of children and families investigated for abuse and neglect.

AU: Barth,-Richard-P; Biemer,-Paul; Runyan,-Desmond; Webb,-Mary-Bruce; Berrick,-Jill-Duerr; Dowd,-Katy; Griffith,-Janet; Kinsey,-Susan; Newman,-Jeannie; Siebenaler,-Kristin; Weeks,-Mike; Byron,-Margie-Zeller; Cano,-Gabe; Green,-Rebecca; Herget,-Deborah; Langer,-Mike; Liu,-Jun; Lunghofer,-Lisa; Lytle,-Tiffany; McCracken,-Rob; Mierzwa,-Frank; Shende,-Amy; Suresh,-R; Wall,-Ariana; Wallace,-Ina

SO: Children-and-Youth-Services-Review. Vol 24(6-7) Jun-Jul 2002, 513-541.

IS: 0190-7409

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: The National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being is a national probability study of children investigated for child abuse and neglect. This core study is complemented with a national probability study of children who have been in foster care about 1 yr. Plans and efforts to recruit 105 county agencies, more than 6,000 children ages 0-14, and a total of nearly 25,000 respondents associated with the child are described. Parents or other permanent caregivers, foster parents for children removed from the home, and the children themselves are interviewed. For children in out-of-home placement, the caregiver from whom the child was taken is also recruited for interviews. Investigative Child Welfare Workers at the baseline, and service workers in subsequent rounds if the family is receiving services, are also interviewed about the case. An annual teacher survey is conducted for children in grades K-12. Several advances in survey methodology help to manage the process in a

cost-efficient and scientifically rigorous manner. Lessons from the planning stages and from the early weeks of fieldwork are presented. The sampling and instrumentation techniques are discussed alongside other methodological issues. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 2002-02850-005

TI: The effect of population dynamics on performance measurement.

AU: Wulczyn,-Fred; Kogan,-Joseph; Dilts,-John

SO: Social-Service-Review. Vol 75(2) Jun 2001, 292-317.

IS: 0037-7961

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: The methodological issues involved in measuring the outcomes of programs are not straightforward. For example, in the case of foster care, overlapping stays in care for various entry cohorts influence how outcomes are perceived. The purpose of this article is to illustrate in more detail how these alternative explanations influence what is learned from studying length of stay. In this article the authors combine the results from a simulation model with empirical research to explore the way basic population dynamics and sampling strategy jointly affect understanding of one outcome, placement duration. The results suggest that exit cohort data are a poor substitute for longitudinal data and that the federal reporting system should shift as soon as practical to a longitudinal perspective based on entry cohorts. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 2002-01446-001

TI: Predicting placement in foster care: A comparison of logistic regression and neural network analysis.

AU: McDonald,-Thomas-P; Poertner,-John; Harris,-Gardenia

SO: Journal-of-Social-Service-Research. Vol 28(2) 2001, 1-20.

IS: 0148-8376

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Explored the use of neural network analysis (NNA) as an alternative to logistic regression to predict which children with a founded (indicated) child abuse/neglect report will be subsequently placed in foster care. The main advantages of NNA are that it is a nonparametric technique requiring no assumptions of normality that can readily accommodate both linear and nonlinear relationships and interactions without prior specification by the researcher. This study employed a retrospective cross-sectional design using child welfare administrative data. The 2 techniques were found to yield similar classification results for these data; however, it is stated that NNA provides unique capabilities in analyzing and displaying interactions in predictor variables that may make it more useful for data mining. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 2002-04666-006

TI: Assessing children's experiences of out-of-home care: Methodological challenges and opportunities.

AU: Berrick,-Jill-Duerr; Frasch,-Karie; Fox,-Adair

SO: Social-Work-Research. Vol 24(2) Jun 2000, 119-127.

IS: 1070-5309

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Discussed some of the methodological issues raised in a study conducted in California. The sample included 100 children (aged 6-13 yrs) residing in kinship/nonkinship care for a minimum of 6 mo. The study used face-to-face interviews with the children in the homes of their caregivers and was built on previous work by the investigator, also involving interviews with the children's kin/nonkin foster parents. Children's interviews lasted approximately 1 hr. The interviews were designed to assess children's experiences of care in four fundamental domains;: their experience of safety, their understanding of and contact with family, their experience of permanency, and their experience of caregiver support for their overall well-being. Among 100 completed interviews, one led to a Child Protective Services report. The legal and procedural training, coupled with ongoing opportunities to discuss personal feelings about children's disclosures, critically influenced the research team's ability to respond effectively to this particular incident. The authors state that the current challenge to child welfare investigators is to devise and refine techniques for gaining access to children in care and incorporating their perspectives into the research enterprise with deliberation and utmost care. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 2000-15160-002

TI: Ready or not: Assessing youths' preparedness for independent living.

AU: Nollan,-Kimberly-A; Wolf,-Merrily; Ansell,-Dorothy; Burns,-Judith; Barr,-Leigh; Copeland,-Wanda; Paddock,-Glen

SO: Child-Welfare. Vol 79(2) Mar-Apr 2000, 159-176.

IS: 0009-4021

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: This article discusses the development and utility of the Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment (ACLSA) in assessing life skills necessary for living successfully in the community upon emancipation from out-of-home care. This article describes the field tests of the ACLSA-I (n = 172 8-11 yr olds and 241 caregivers), the ACLSA-II (n = 219 12-15 yr olds), and the ACLSA-III (n = 421 16-19 yr olds and 411 caregivers). ACLSA, completed by youths and their caregivers, identifies skills that have been mastered and those yet to be learned. Assessment information can be used for goal setting, strength identification, and relationship building, as well as to direct program planning and training in self-sufficiency services. It is concluded that the ACLSA may support greater use of outcome-oriented and strengths-based case planning in child and family services. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 1999-00213-002

TI: Completing the evaluation triangle for the next century: Measuring child "well-being" in family foster care.

AU: Altshuler,-Sandra-J; Gleeson,-James-P

SO: Child-Welfare. Vol 78(1) Jan-Feb 1999, 125-147.

IS: 0009-4021

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: In recent years, success in family foster care has been evaluated by examining indicators of 2 goals of the child welfare system: permanency and safety. Systematic measures of child well-being have not been incorporated into the administrative databases that are used for case monitoring and evaluation. This article describes how child well-being has been conceptualized and measured in research on family foster care and discusses essential dimensions for inclusion in a useful measure of child well-being. These dimensions include resilience, coping, and overall functioning; physical health; cognitive functioning and developmental delay; emotional or psychosocial adjustment; and school performance. Challenges in incorporating measures of child well-being into ongoing evaluations of family foster care are discussed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

## 1996 – 1987

AN: 1995-00122-001

TI: The Intervention Stressors Inventory: A measure of the stress of intervention for sexually abused children.

AU: Runyan,-Desmond-K; Hunter,-Wanda-M; Everson,-Mark-D; Whitcomb,-Debra; et-al

SO: Child-Abuse-and-Neglect. Vol 18(4) Apr 1994, 319-329.

IS: 0145-2134

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Developed and validated the Intervention Stressors Inventory, a scale designed to measure the level of stress sexually abused children experience as a result of societal intervention. Estimates of the relative stress level of various interventions were obtained from 98 professionals; a police interview was the designated anchor with a score of 50 points. Resulting scores from the survey included 35 points for social worker interview, 100 points for placement in foster care, and 111 points for testimony in criminal court. Factors that could potentially modify the stress of any given event were also considered. Interviews with 256 sexually abused children (aged 4-17 yrs) and their parents, 9 mo after their cases were reported, provided an opportunity to examine the validity of the instrument. Weighted scores for each child were generated based on their experiences. Validity was supported. (French & Spanish abstracts) (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 1994-11001-001

TI: Standardized outcome evaluation of child welfare services out-of-home care: Problems and possibilities.

AU: Courtney,-Mark

SO: Children-and-Youth-Services-Review. Vol 15(5) 1993, 349-369.

IS: 0190-7409

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Examines the issues involved in developing methods for the standardized evaluation of child welfare services out-of-home care (OHC) programs on a large scale (e.g., statewide). Suggestions are made regarding which current approaches are most productive and what needs to be done in the areas of research and policy to develop more sophisticated and useful models than are now available. OHC placement settings and the agencies that license and/or place children in those settings are distinguished. This distinction helps articulate the varying relationships that exist between placement settings and placement agencies and their implications for evaluation. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 1991-28497-001

TI: Foster care drift: A risk-assessment matrix.

AU: Katz,-Linda; Robinson,-Chris

SO: Child-Welfare. Vol 70(3) May-Jun 1991, 347-358.

IS: 0009-4021

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Presents a risk-assessment matrix designed to improve permanency planning practice through early identification of foster children who have the least chance of returning to their families. The matrix is an organization of a list of conditions commonly encountered in parents of children placed in foster care. An effort has been made to describe behaviors rather than psychiatric diagnoses so that the instrument is more usable to social workers. The matrix has 2 categories. Category I describes 5 conditions so serious that any one of them will make family reunification a very low probability. Category II describes 16 conditions that are less extreme but are still strong contraindicators for family reunifications. The more factors present, the more guarded the prognosis. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 1989-24587-001

TI: Foster Placement Evaluation Scale: Preliminary findings.

AU: Doelling,-Jenny-L; Johnson,-James-H

SO: Social-Casework. Vol 70(2) Feb 1989, 96-100.

IS: 0037-7678

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Developed the Foster Placement Evaluation Scale (FPES) to evaluate the success of individual placements. The FPES was administered to 17 foster care workers and their supervisors concerning 51 foster placements of boys and girls aged 5-20 yrs. Measures of internal consistency indicated high reliability. Use of the FPES in a study by J. L. Doelling (unpublished) indicated that the combination of an inflexible mother and a child with a negative mood frequently resulted in less successful placements. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

AN: 1997-73385-001

TI: Consistencies and inconsistencies in child care placements.

AU: Knapp,-Martin; Baines,-Barry; Fenyo,-Andrew

SO: British-Journal-of-Social-Work. Vol 18(Suppl) 1988, 107-130.

IS: 0045-3102

PT: Journal; Peer-Reviewed-Journal

AB: Describes a simple research tool which provides insights into the relationships between child characteristics and placement patterns, and which generates a powerful information base for the examination of child care practices. The focus is on 2 placement patterns for children in care: foster and residential placement and contracted-out provisions. The records for child in care held centrally by authorities provided suitable data using dichotomous logit analysis. Results show that this approach can throw much needed light on placement patterns and child care practices. It is concluded that replication and critical respecification of the methodology is needed. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2005 APA, all rights reserved)

**1986 – 1977**

**1966 – 1917**