

REFERENCES

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- Warren, S. (1992), 'Lower Threshold for Referral for Psychiatric Treatment for Adopted Adolescents', *J. of Am. Acad. Of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 31 (3), 512-7.
- Wegar, K. (1995), 'Adoption and Mental Health: A Theoretical Critique of the Psychopathological Model', *Amer. J. Orthopsychiat.*, 65 (4), 540-8.
- ⁱ This percentage was decided upon in consultation with the former Manager of the Adoption Information Service, Department of Human Services.
- ⁱⁱ Some children had experienced alternative care after intake to Alfred CAMHS.
- ⁱⁱⁱ The adoption statistics do not show any changes when the point and period prevalences are compared, illustrating perhaps the permanent nature of adoption - in contrast to other kinds of care, once a child is adopted, even if the placement disrupts, that person is likely to view him or herself as adopted.
- ^{iv} Despite the discrepancy in these years, there is no reason to believe that the overall numbers of foster children in Victoria would have been significantly different in the years 1991-1993.
- ^v The experience of permanent care could have been either before or after intake to Alfred CAMHS, as the therapists were completing the data collection forms in 1994.
- ^{vi} It should be noted that these proportions are based on small numbers, as detailed above.
- ^{vii} This is the finding of Warren's (1992) research.
- ^{viii} While Problem scores were available for all of the children in both groups, not all the Competency scores were available.
- ^{ix} This may be indicative of the range of activities available for children in alternative care.
- ^x While it is assumed (and there is no contradictory evidence) that the pattern of referrals to this agency is similar to the pattern of referrals to child and adolescent mental health services in other regions, it is impossible to be sure of this without undertaking a similar study in more than one region.
- ^{xi} Alfred CAMHS has recently introduced the Global Assessment of Functioning, a tool which may give a clearer picture of a child's level of disturbance in future research of this kind.
- ^{xii} For a discussion of the use of a psychopathological model in adoption, see Wegar (1995).

NEWS FROM AAYPIC

The Australian Association of Young People in Care continues to go from strength to strength. Congratulations to Jan Owen on receiving an innovation and leadership award from the Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Nonprofit Management. It is the first fellowship awarded outside the United States. Congratulations to the Association itself for winning the 1998 Australian Human Rights Award for innovation and excellence in promoting the rights and participation of children and young people in care. It was presented by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission for the Youth Category.

The association magazine, *Illusion Free Zone*, has been relaunched in March 1999 with profound comment and stunning graphics. It will be of interest to young people in care throughout Australia and has much of interest for young people generally. Even older people will enjoy its day-to-day reality and forward looking style.

AAYPIC participated in the National Children's Summit held in Canberra in December last year. A declaration resulted from the work of the 300 delegates from youth networks, government, non-government organisations and corporations. The full declaration and other information can be accessed on the Coalition for Australia's Children website (www.chatabox.com.au/cfc).

State Face to Faces, where key players meet on issues for people in out-of-home care, are under way this year following the earlier National Face to Face.

A range of participation projects are going on in each State, including:

PIR (as in peer) 'Professionalism is Realism': The workers and young women in a SA residential service will work in partnership to design and implement a change strategy in the service.

Bruiises: A team of young people in the Toowoomba area are producing a video on the stereotyping of young people in care. The video will then be used as a community education tool.

MAD - Making a Difference: A team of young people in Victoria are creating a resource to support children and young people on entering the care system.

Community paper: Young people in Bunbury, WA will produce a community newspaper for local community groups, government departments, non-government agencies and young people in care to inform each other of events, services, issues and rights.

Long Grass: young people across the Northern Territory will be participating in creating a user friendly resource with information on where, what and how to access support when the time comes to leave care.

Far Out Brussel Sprout: Young people in the New England area will create a forum for young people in care to explore the issues they face.

IFCO '99: Young people are working with other stakeholders to plan, design and run an international foster care conference in Melbourne in 1999.

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