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**UCC**

**University College Cork, Ireland**  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

# Practice Links

Issue 35, December 2009

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**Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!**

# Continuing Professional Development

## UCD Public Lecture Series, UCD

SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN  
PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES UCD Geary Institute Seminar Room  
Tuesday 15th December 2009 at 4.30 pm.

Social Work in Ireland: Priorities for Social Work Research and Education Over the Next Decade  
2 Langford, Director General Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Department of Health and Children Dublin  
The lecture will start promptly at 4.30pm and there will be a small reception after the lecture. Everyone welcome.

## Speaking Up for Children: The Media and LSCBs. On the Same Side?

MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2010, BVSC, BIRMINGHAM, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DR

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS INCLUDE :

- Liz Davies (Senior Lecturer, London Met University)
- Mike Jempson (Director, The MediaWise Trust)
- Prof. Nigel Parton (NSPCC Professor, University of Huddersfield)
- Sue Woolmore (LSCB Advisor, NSPCC)
- David Spicer (Barrister & Vice Chair-BASPCAN)

Issues regarding the care and protection of children are always likely to interest the media and therefore the public. Some of the recent coverage has been negative, focusing on the failings in the systems and processes designed to safeguard children.

This one day event is designed to support LSCBs in considering how to engage with the media in ways that are constructive and mutually beneficial. The conference will draw upon the expertise of professionals with experience of media reporting and commentating on children's issues.

The conference programme will include: presentations on ethical reporting from a journalist's perspective; advice on the issuing of press releases and statements on children's issues; and discussion of how LSCBs engage with the public through the media.

The conference is particularly aimed at Chairs and Managers of LSCBs; Senior Managers and Press Officers within local authorities and Health Trusts; Journalists; and Professional Associations.

To book a place please complete the [booking form](#), and for further information visit the [BASPCAN website](#) for updates or contact the National Office: [conferences@baspcan.org.uk](mailto:conferences@baspcan.org.uk)

Tel: 01904 613605  
Fax: 01904 642239  
[www.baspcan.org.uk](http://www.baspcan.org.uk)

# Continuing Professional Development

## 6th International Conference on Social Work in Health and Mental Health

University College Dublin, June / July 2010. The call for abstracts is now open and closes on 30th September, 2009.

The link to the website is [www.changinghealthdublin2010.com](http://www.changinghealthdublin2010.com)

## International Short Break Association's Conference

7th International Short Break Conference shall explore the theme of Short Breaks:

A Path to Inclusion – Whose Needs? Whose Rights? What Choices?

Venue: National University of Ireland, Galway – Galway, Ireland

Date: June 9-11, 2010

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Roy McConkey, University of Ulster, Northern Ireland

Professor Robyn Munford, Massey University, New Zealand

This biennial conference will explore all aspects of Short Breaks for people of every age with a disability. The conference will draw on the United Nations Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community as a framework for addressing inclusivity. The conference will address the effectiveness and appropriateness of short breaks and respite measures in facilitating all persons with a disability to full enjoyment, inclusion, choice and participation in the service they receive.

### Important Dates:

Opening of Submission of abstracts or draft papers	1st June, 2009
Deadline for submission of abstracts	15th November, 2009
Notification of acceptance	15th December, 2009
Early Bird Registration	15th April, 2010
Late Registration	30th May, 2010
Conference	June 9-11, 2010

[www.isba2010.com](http://www.isba2010.com) / <http://www.conference.ie/Conferences/index.asp?Conference=65>

## The Irish Hospice Foundation Workshops on Loss and Bereavement (2010)

The programme begins in January and ends in July each year. These workshops are suitable for professionals, volunteers and others who may wish to learn more about bereavement and loss. Participants can attend one or more workshops. A certificate of attendance is available on request. The workshops have post-registration Category 1 approval by An Bord Altranais.

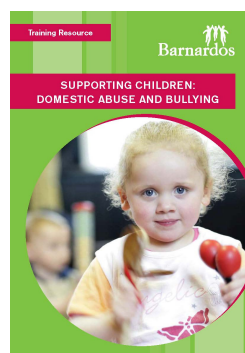
All workshops are held at the [Irish Hospice Foundation's Education & Bereavement Resource Centre](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie), Morrison Chambers, 32 Nassau Street, Dublin 2. Workshops run from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., with registration commencing at 9.00.

The programme which commences in January 2010 comprises a total of 25 workshops covering a wide range of topics. For full details, see website for full brochure:

[http://www.hospice-foundation.ie/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=132&Itemid=58](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=132&Itemid=58)

## Barnardos' Training and Resource Service

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Funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013

**Positive Behaviour Ireland** is a not-for-profit organisation which aims to reduce challenging behaviours in children and young people and to positively promote their social, emotional and educational competence.

We were set up in May of this year and have been growing ever since. In September we ran a very positive seminar about managing challenging behaviour in a residential setting (you can find the presentations on this link:

<http://www.pbireland.ie/2009/09/presentations-from-managing-challenging-behaviour-seminar/>.

We are also running the Incredible Years parenting programme. Our next session of this starts on Tuesday the 9th February 2010. We'll also be running the Parenting Teenagers Today programme from Thursday the 11th February 2010. Meanwhile our Centre-Based Home Tuition Service is making great progress in educating young people not in mainstream education.

Our website contains details about all the programmes we run and is updated at least once a week. You can find it at <http://www.pbireland.ie>

Our monthly newsletter is also quite popular and contains interesting research that we come across as well as news about our organisation. You can find it here <http://short.ie/pbinewsletter>. We will also be running another seminar in February (the provisional date for this is February 4th.

We can also be contacted via phone on (01) 894 2765.



## PBI

PBI is dedicated to promoting positive, pro-social behaviour in children and young people throughout the Island of Ireland. Staffed by professionally qualified social workers, nurses, psychologists, teachers, child care workers and youth workers, PBI services include: The Incredible Years Programme; Applied Behavioural Analysis; Behavioural Management Training; Centre-Based Home Tuition; Short Break/ Leisure Provision and Small Group Home Provision for children and young people with learning disabilities and challenging behaviours.

**Aistear: the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework** is now published on the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) website at [www.ncca.ie/earlylearning](http://www.ncca.ie/earlylearning). CDs of Aistear are also available. Check out the website for details of where and how to get a copy.

Aistear is the new curriculum framework for all children from birth to six years in Ireland. It was developed by the NCCA in partnership with the early childhood sector. Aistear sets out broad goals for children's early learning and development. This is the first such statement of what we aspire to for the nation's youngest citizens. Guided by these goals the Framework gives practical information, ideas and suggestions to help adults provide fun, motivating and challenging experiences for children. Aistear can be used by parents and practitioners in the range of early childhood settings in Ireland including children's own homes, child-minding settings, sessional services, full and part-time daycare and infant classes in primary schools. Do check out [www.ncca.ie/earlylearning](http://www.ncca.ie/earlylearning) to find out more.



## About the NCCA

### Background

The NCCA was established on a statutory basis in 2001. Before that, it was a non-statutory organisation for over 20 years. Read more about the history of the organisation [here](#).

### Vision and mission

Our Strategic Planning Process for 2009-2011 sets out the vision for the NCCA:

The NCCA will lead and support change in schools and other educational settings

The mission is to advise the Minister for Education and Science on curriculum and assessment for early childhood education and for primary and post-primary schools. This advice is generated through engagement with schools and educational settings, with committees and working groups and is informed by research, evaluation and foresight.

# Recently Published Books and Resources

## ***Mental Health, Service User Involvement and Recovery.***

Edited by Jenny Weinstein.

November 2009, 224 pages, paperback.

ISBN: 9781843106883.

£19.99/US\$35.95.

As the momentum for personalisation and recovery approaches grows, service users are increasingly participating as partners in all aspects of health and social care delivery, policy-making and professional training. This book provides an overview of service user involvement in mental health, its origins and current practice and policy.

Written cooperatively by service users and academics, this book conveys a vital connection between recovery and involvement, offering a framework of values and helpful strategies to promote meaningful user participation. By sharing their personal narratives and contributing their views, service user authors demonstrate how taking control of their own care facilitates a swifter and more satisfying recovery. The book further acknowledges the bilateral value of user involvement in the development of mental health services, student learning, collaborative research and challenging social stigma, providing examples and critical appraisal of how this is currently being implemented.

With a strong, positive emphasis on the benefits to all stakeholders, Service User Involvement and Recovery in Mental Health offers guidelines for good practice that will be relevant to health and social care practitioners, service users, students, researchers and educators. Find out more and buy this book: <http://www.jkp.com/new/9781843106883>.

## ***What Have I Done? A Victim Empathy Programme For Young People.***

Pete Wallis with Clair Aldington and Marian Liebmann.

Illustrated by Emily Wallis.

November 2009, 208 pages, paperback.

ISBN: 9781843109792.

Victim awareness and the needs of victims of crime are a major societal concern. What Have I Done? is a photocopiable resource and DVD to encourage empathy in young people who commit crimes or hurt others through their actions. It is designed to be used directly with young people who have committed a specific crime or caused harm and distress to others through their actions, and challenges the young person to face the harm they have caused and consider what they can do to help put things right.

The course is flexible and interactive, and can be used on an individual basis or with small groups, and is suitable for young people with limited literacy. The exercises are challenging, and aim to be engaging through the use of creative arts, film, role-play and discussion. Clear guidance is provided for the course leader, and evaluation is built into the course, including a psychometric test. A DVD to help stimulate discussion is also included.

What Have I Done? will be ideal for victim empathy work in Youth Offending Teams and Young Offender Institutions, and can equally be used in schools, children's homes, youth groups and any context with young people.

## ***Participatory practice: Community-based action for transformative change***

Author/Editor(s): Margaret Ledwith, Jane Springett

ISBN: 9781847420121

Ledwith and Springett's innovative approach bridges the divide between ideas and practice and allows the development of the knowledge that is needed to bring about transformative social change. Their ideas are founded on two premises: firstly, that transformative practice begins in the everyday stories that people tell about their lives and that practical theory generated from these narratives is the best way to inform both policy and practice. Secondly, that participatory practice is a tool for examining this knowledge that allows practitioners to examine the way they view the world and to situate their local practice within bigger social issues. The book will be of interest to both academics and community-based practitioners. <http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISB=9781847420121>



# Recently Published Books and Resources

## ***'Transforming' Children's Services? Social Work, Neoliberalism and the Modern World.***

Paul Michael Garrett.

ISBN: 9780335234257

Division: Open University Press

Pub Date: AUG-09

This book provides an accessible overview of the 'transformation' of Children's Services in England. In doing this, it draws on social theory, critical social policy and takes account of developments in other countries.

Paul Michael Garrett argues that the many changes which have taken place within, and beyond, Children's Services are related to the politics of Neoliberalism which, it is maintained, lie at the core of the Change for Children programme.

Readers will find detailed discussion on:

- The Laming Report which examined the death of Victoria Climbié
- The case of 'Baby P'
- Social work's 'electronic turn' and the use of ICTs in Children's Services
- Controversial plans to introduce Contactpoint (a database on all children)
- More pervasive patterns of surveillance
- How 'ASBO politics' has influenced the 'transformation' agenda
- So-called 'Problem Families' and the measures put in place to respond to such families
- Controversial plans to set up 'Social Work Practices' for children in public care

Transforming Children's Services will be a vital text for social work and social policy students. Furthermore, the book directly addresses a range of issues of direct concern to practitioners.

The book will also find an audience amongst academics, policy makers and all those who are interested in critical reflection and in applying theoretical insights to practice issues. After each chapter a 'Reflection and Talk' box is included to prompt further discussion on the key themes examined. <http://www.mcgraw-hill.co.uk/html/0335234259.html>

## ***Social Work and Human Behaviour.***

[Margarete Parrish](#)

ISBN: 9780335223671

Division: Open University Press

Pub Date: DEC-09

The capacity to observe, interpret and understand human behaviour is vital for effective social work practice. By choosing to enter a profession that requires high levels of astute observation and listening skills in the interpretation of people's behaviour, social work students have undertaken a demanding task.

Using a bio-psychosocial framework, this fascinating book provides a wide basis of perspectives on human behaviour on which to build understanding of and responses to people's behaviours, along with an enhanced appreciation of some of the circumstances that shape behaviour.

Margarete Parrish covers the key theories of human growth and development in the context of social relationships, providing a frame of reference from which to explore various aspects of human behaviour. This is particularly relevant to students' preparedness to practice social work with complex populations, addressing factors such as:

- Attachment
- Developmental status
- Context
- Diversity
- Trauma
- Oppression

By drawing from biological, psychological and sociological perspectives, the book aims to provide social work students with a theoretically informed basis to observe, understand, and interpret people's behaviours in ways that will contribute to excellent practice.

The book includes exercises, discussion questions and chapter summary points to help the reader further develop their understanding. Social Work Perspectives on Human Behaviour is key reading for all social work students. <http://www.mcgraw-hill.co.uk/html/0335223672.html>

# Recently Published Books and Resources

## ***Moving Out, Moving On. Young People's Pathways In and Through Homelessness.***

Shelley Mallett, Doreen Rosenthal, Deborah Keys and Roger Averill.

Part of the [Adolescence and Society Series](#) series

Based on rich interview data drawn from a large scale longitudinal study of homeless young people, this book examines the personal, familial and structural factors that impact on homeless young people's long-term outcomes. While telling the personal stories of young people's experiences, the book refers to the wider research and policy literature on youth homelessness, engaging with key debates about the causes and meanings of homelessness in western societies. The book addresses important issues such as employment and education, engagement with services, social support, connection to family and friends, as well as personal factors including physical and mental health, sexual practices and drug use.

Homeless young people are typically portrayed as leading chaotic, risky lives, trapped in a downward spiral of drug use, mental and other health problems, and long-term homelessness. By giving voice to young homeless people, this book challenges this stereotype and demonstrates young people's capacity to move out of homelessness and make satisfactory lives for themselves.

Research findings are positioned in the context of a broad, international literature on youth homelessness and is important reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students of psychology, sociology, youth and social work as well as researchers, policy makers and service providers in all western cultures.

Table of Contents

Introduction. Youth Homelessness in Context. Participation and Pathways. Becoming Homeless. On the Street. Using the System. In and Out of Home. Going Home. Conclusion: Interdependence Not Independence. <http://www.adolescent-studies-arena.com/moving-out-moving-on-9780415470308>

## ***Key Indicators of Child and Youth Well-Being***

Edited by Brett V. Brown.

Indicators of child and youth well-being are indispensable tools for improving the lives of children. In this book, the nation's leading development researchers review the recent progress made in the measurement, collection, dissemination, and use of indicators of child and youth well-being. In addition, they identify opportunities for future research to expand and improve on the indicator data available, so as to develop greater measures of positive development.

The first eleven chapters cover key indicators in the areas of health, education, social, and emotional development and then social context indicators of the family, peers, school, and the community. The book then goes on to demonstrate the use of indicators for influencing policy at the state and local levels. One chapter discusses how social indicators were used to guide welfare reform and another recounts the use of the indicators to guide local planning. The volume concludes with a discussion of summary indices of well-being and the methodological challenges of constructing such indices.

Written in an accessible manner for policy makers, practitioners, and researchers concerned with children's well-being, including experts in developmental, social, community, and educational psychology, the book also serves as a supplementary text in public policy and the social sciences. The policy chapters will be of particular interest to those who use child and youth indicators to guide policy development.

*Table of Contents*

Contents: Preface—Indicators of Child and Youth Well-Being: Completing the Picture. B. Brown, Introduction: About the Chapters. Part I: Health Indicators. D.P. Hogan, M.E. Msall, Key Indicators of Health and Safety: Infancy, Pre-School, and Middle Childhood. M.W. Stagner, J.M. Zweig, Indicators of Youth Health and Well-Being: Taking the Long View. Part II: Education Indicators. T. Halle, M. Reidy, M. Moorehouse, M. Zaslow, C. Walsh, J. Calkins, N.G. Margie, A. Dent, Progress in the Development of Indicators of School Readiness. A. Flanagan, D. Grissmer, What Do National and State NAEP Scores Tell Us About the Achievement of American K-12 Students. Part III: Social and Emotional Development Indicators. M. Ripke, A.C. Huston, J. Eccles, J. Templeton, The Assessment of Psychological, Emotional, and Social Development Indicators in Middle Childhood. J.L. Roth, C.J. Borbely, J. Brooks-Gunn, Developing Indicators of Confidence, Character, and Caring in Adolescents. J. Eccles, B. Brown, J. Templeton, A Developmental Framework for Selecting Indicators of Well-Being During the Adolescent and Young Adult Years. Part IV: Social Context of Development Indicators. G.D. Sandefur, A. Meier, The Family Environment: Structure, Material Resources, and Child Care. K.M. Harris, S. Cavanagh, Indicators of the Peer Environment in Adolescence. D. Mayer, J. Ralph, Key Indicators of School Quality. J.D. Morenoff, R.J. Sampson, Constructing Community Indicators of Child Well-Being. Part V: Child and Youth Indicators in Practice. T. Corbett, Social Indicators as Policy Tool: Welfare Reform as a Case Study. D. Murphey, Creating Community Capacity to Use Social Indicators. Part VI: Social Indices of Child Well-Being. K.C. Land, V.L. Lamb, S.K. Mustillo, Child and Youth Well-Being in the United States, 1975-1998: Some Findings From a New Index. N.G. Bennett, H-H. Lu, Methodological Issues Surrounding the Construction of an Index of Child Well-Being. <http://www.psyppress.com/9780805863130>

# Web Links and Electronic Publications

## Youth and Policy Journal - Changes to Publication Format

As you may be aware due to financial difficulties the NYA has closed its publications unit and as a consequence will not be publishing Youth and Policy in the future.

The Youth and Policy Editorial Board have been expecting this decision for sometime and as a consequence have devoted considerable time to planning the future direction and style of the journal. Two publishers expressed a wish to 'sign us up' and this would certainly have secured the long term future of the journal. However although this route may appear superficially attractive we have decided not to join a major publishing house. Our reasons for taking this decision are:-

1. The cover price of the journal following such a move would probably double and therefore it would lose a sizable proportion of its non university-based readership;
2. Although it would be readily available electronically to university students and staff it would not be accessible to practitioners and others via this method.

As a consequence we have opted to re-launch ourselves as a free web based journal. Some web journals are of a poor quality but we intend to invest a sizeable proportion of the reserves we have built-up during the last 25 years in employing professional programmers who will produce an attractive and accessible web journal. Thus from early 2010 Youth and Policy be available three times a year and contain, as before, a range of articles and reviews.

We remain committed to providing a critical space to discuss policy and practice relating to young people in society. We hope you will continue to enjoy the journal in its new format. Those subscribers with outstanding paid subscriptions will be refunded for your unused portions. Publication will now be suspended until 2010 while we restructure and prepare for the web-based launch. We have also created a facebook group entitled 'Youth & Policy' which should be accessible via the following link: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=139373184580> (you will be prompted to log into a facebook account in order to access this group).

## Cancer Research Conference Webcasts

You can see how this repository looks like at [http://crr.ucc.ie/isgct2009a/epp\\_index.php](http://crr.ucc.ie/isgct2009a/epp_index.php) which contains the research talks of the 2009 ISSGT conference organised early in September at UCC with the Cork Cancer Research Centre.

## Well-Being Zone Website (Neil Thompson)

The online hub for everyone committed to promoting well-being. <http://www.well-beingzone.com/>

## Commission of Investigation. Report into the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin

Full text of Dublin Archdiocese Commission of Investigation Report <http://www.dacoi.ie/>

## SLAN. Survey of Lifestyle, Attitudes, and Nutrition in Ireland

Full text of recent SLAN reports <http://www.dohc.ie/publications/?year=2009>

## Teenage Mental Health: What helps and what hurts? Report On The Outcome Of Consultations With Teenagers On Mental Health

[http://www.dohc.ie/publications/teen\\_mentalhealth.html](http://www.dohc.ie/publications/teen_mentalhealth.html)

# About Practice Links

*Practice Links* is a free e-publication for practitioners working in Irish social services, voluntary and non-governmental sectors. *Practice Links* was created to help practitioners in these areas to keep up-to-date with new publications, electronic publications, conference and continuing professional development opportunities. *Practice Links* is published every other month in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf file).

Distribution is by email and on the *Practice Links* website.

*Practice Links* is a publication of the Social Work Development Unit, University College Cork.

# Submissions

Submission for publication should be received two weeks prior to the next publication date. Please forward submissions by email to [k.burns@ucc.ie](mailto:k.burns@ucc.ie).

# Subscriptions

To subscribe to the *Practice Links* email distribution list, whereby you will automatically receive each edition, click on this link <http://lists.ucc.ie/lists/archives/pl-l.html> and press the *Join or Leave PL-L* button. Follow the same process to unsubscribe from the list.

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