Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center Category List

There are abbreviated materials - "Information Packets" - that are included in this list. This list represents only materials primarily on this topic. However, there are other materials that speak to this topic available in the library (i.e., brief "Articles," etc.). Contact ORPARC for additional materials.

Child Welfare

Material Title: Adoption and Disruption: Rates, Risks, and Responses

Author: Marianne Berry and Richard P. Barth Books 1988 220 pages

This book analyzes the personal and social economy values of adoption and the changing characteristics of adoptive children and families, while providing models of psychosocial adjustment to adoption. The implications for child welfare policy and services are explored in depth with special attention to methods for identifying risk factors and to strategies for maintaining adoptions that have been identified as at-risk for disruption.

Material Title: Adoption Mystique, The

Author: Joanne Wolf Small Books 2007 181 pages

Much of what's been written and said about adoption—the definitions, myths, interpretations, and so on—was generated by non-adopted persons, and often without benefit of adopted person's input. This book was written by an adopted person who hopes to paint a picture of the social welfare system that contrasts with the traditional view and sheds a new light on the situation.

Material Title: Advocating for Children in Foster and Kinship Care: A Guide to Getting the Best out of the System

for Caregivers and Practitioners

Author: Mitchell Rosenwald Books 2010 272

This book is the first to provide strategies for effective advocacy and placement within the foster care and kinship care systems. It also takes a rare look at the dynamics of the foster and kinship relationship, not just among children and the agency workers and service providers who intervene on their behalf, but also between children and those who take in and care for them as permanency develops. Drawing on their experience interacting with and writing about the institution of foster care, Mitchell Rosenwald and Beth N. Riley have composed a unique text that helps practitioners, foster parents, and relative caregivers realize successful transitions for youth, especially considering the traumas these children may suffer both before and after placement.

Advocating for a child's best interests must begin early and remain consistent throughout assignment and adjustment. For practitioners, Rosenwald and Riley emphasize the best techniques for assessing a family's capabilities and for guiding families through the challenges of foster care. Part one details the steps potential foster parents and kinship caregivers must take, with the assistance of practitioners, to prepare themselves for placement. Part two describes tactics for successful advocacy within the court system, social service agencies, schools, and the medical and mental health establishments. Part three describes how to lobby for change at the agency and legislative levels, as well as within a given community. The authors illustrate recommendations through real-life scenarios and devote an entire chapter to brokering positive partnerships among practitioners, families, and other teams working to protect and transition children.

Material Title: After Adoption: The Needs of Adopted Youth

Author: Jeanne A. Howard and Susan Livingston Smith Books 2003 139 pages

The authors examine more than 1,000 adoptive families to find out how they are functioning years after the adoption. They analyze risk and resiliency factors associated with adjustment and examine differences in adoptions by kin, foster parents, and those matched with children for the purpose of adoption. "After Adoption" will help child welfare professionals to develop post adoption services to sustain and strengthen adoptive families and to better prepare parents and children for adoption.

Material Title: All My Relations: Impact of Indian Child Welfare Act on Foster Parenting (DVD)

Author: DVD DVDs 2009 44 minutes

This DVD includes a brief history of Native Americans and provides background for the development of Indian Child Welfare Act. It reviews the importance of respecting a child's Native American heritage and participating in cultural activities. It includes comments from foster parents and youth in care. The DVD includes information regarding the recognized tribes in Washington state and discusses how to make initial contact and what to expect when attending cultural events.

Material Title: Assessing a Family's Ability to Adopt Transracially (DVD)

Author: Dr. Joseph Crumbley DVDs 36 minutes

This video provides techniques for assessing adoptive parents' experience and understanding with regard to the role of race and ethnic heritage; a family's motivation and support systems; the family's ability to provide a community and opportunities for same-race role models and peer relationships, and life-styles and parenting abilities.

There are three other videos in this series: "The Special Needs of Minority Children Adopted Transracially," "The Impact of Transracial Adoptions on the Adopted Child and Adopted Family," and "Parenting Tasks in Transracial Adoptions."

Material Title: Assessing a Family's Ability to Adopt Transracially (VHS)

Author: Dr. Joseph Crumbley Videotapes 36 minutes

This video provides techniques for assessing adoptive parents' experience and understanding with regard to the role of race and ethnic heritage; a family's motivation and support systems; the family's ability to provide a community and opportunities for same-race role models and peer relationships, and life-styles and parenting abilities.

There are three other videos in this series: "The Special Needs of Minority Children Adopted Transracially," "The Impact of Transracial Adoptions on the Adopted Child and Adoptive Family," and "Parenting Tasks in Transracial Adoptions."

Material Title: Case Studies in Infant Mental Health: Risk, Resiliency, and Relationships

Author: Joan J. Shirilla and Deborah J. Weatherson Books 2002 203 pages

Offers 12 real-life stories written by infant mental health specialists about their work with young children and families. Each case study also reveals the supervision and consultation that supported the specialist, and the specialist's interaction with the larger service system.

Material Title: Child's Journey Through Placement, A

Author: Vera Fahlberg Books 1991 394 pages

This book provides a foundation of resources and tools to help professionals and parents support children as they move through the foster care system to adoption. At times it can focus on theory and practice but it helps families understand why kids move and how their moves affect them. This is considered a seminal work in the field containing practical and thoughtful information about special needs children. More current material on new neurological research and brain development was not available at the time this was written. However, this is still a valuable resource with insight on various aspects related to foster and adopted children.

Material Title: Clinical and Practice Issues in Adoption: Bridging the Gap Between Adoptees Placed as Infants

and as Older Children

Author: Victor Groza and Karen F. Roseberg Books 1998 165 pages

This book is intended for all those affected by and interested in adoption. The contents are written by a variety of experts in the adoption field and examine topics such as treatment issues for adoptees placed at different ages, search and reunion, ethics, infertility, shared identity issues, and the ongoing need for adoption support.

Material Title: Creating Sexual Safety in Adoption and Foster Care (2 CDs)

Author: NACAC Conference CDs 2011 84 minutes

This material is a recording from the NACAC Conference in August 2011. Presented by Wayne Duehn, School of Social Work, Unidersity of Texas at Arlington (retired). In this session, workers will develop knowledge and skills to help parents address the needs of adopted children who have been sexually abused. Discover how to enable parents to create a healing milieu to counteract the negative impact of trauma on a child's psychosocial and cognitive development, and to enhance positive self-esteem. Learn how to help adoptive families become the central ingredient in their children's recovery.

Material Title: Creative Ideas for Assessing Vulnerable Children and Families

Author: Katie Wrench Books 6/21/2018 232

For the busy frontline practitioner with little time to plan ahead, this hands-on guide presents imaginative and unique methods to engage families and caregivers throughout the process of assessing vulnerable children.

Setting the context for each area of assessment, including strengths and resilience, risk and needs and the child's lived experience, the book then describes a series of activities or creative techniques to engage young people and their caregivers within this area. It outlines the materials required, aims of the exercise and method. It includes 'handy hints' based upon practical experience, making it a quick go-to guide for every day practice.

It encourages practitioners to focus on building safety into relationships and to adapt their approach to take into account the impact of trauma and abuse on an individual's capacity to engage and to communicate verbally.

Material Title: Deepest Well: Healing the Long-Term Effects of Childhood Adversity, The

Author: Nadine Burke Harris Books 2018 272 pages

Through storytelling that delivers both scientific insight and moving stories of personal impact, Burke Harris illuminates her journey of discovery, from research labs nationwide to her own pediatric practice in San Francisco's Bayview-Hunters Point. For anyone who has faced a difficult childhood, or who cares about the millions of children who do, the innovative and acclaimed health interventions outlined in The Deepest Well will represent vitally important hope for change.

Material Title: Families at Risk: A guide to understanding and protecting children and care providers involved in

out-of-home or adoptive care

Author: Jodee Kulp Books 1993 399 pages

This book offers an almost encyclopedic look at the difficult task of raising children who have a relationship with the child welfare system. Filled with quotes, charts, lists, illustrations, anecdotes and insight, it is intended as a guide through the maze of hoops, barriers and pitfalls that surrogate families and out-of-home children face.

Material Title: Finding Hope in Despair: Clinical Studies in Infant Mental Health

Author: Marian Birch Books 2008 340 pages

One of the most difficult challenges face by infant mental health professionals is that not all cases have happy endings. Most case studies describe successful interventions, leaving few resources to help professionals deal with cases that can feel like "heartbreaking failures." Whatever the cause – an abrupt end to therapy or an unsuccessful case can leave a professional with feelings of confusion, despair, and even anger. Finding Hope in Despair uses a unique format to present a series of detailed case studies of interventions that were not successful. The author of each case study provides the facts of the case and, even more important, reflects on feelings generated by the failure of the intervention. Each case study is followed by a chapter of analysis by another clinician who reviews the case, discusses the challenges and obstacles that prevented a successful resolution, highlights the emotional impact on the clinician, and summarizes the lessons that can be learned.

Material Title: Foster Care: One Dog's Story of Change

Author: Julia Cook Children's Books 2018 32

In this heartfelt story from the bestselling author of My Mouth is a Volcano!, Foster meets new friends and a kind foster mom who help him navigate the fears and feelings associated with going into foster care. Foster has lived with his mom and "sometimes dad" all of his life...until now. And like so many others entering foster care, he has more questions than answers and so many new feelings to deal with.

"I don't know what's going to happen to me. Will I end up being like Zeke? Will I have a new forever mom? Can I visit my mom once a week?"

"I have so much going on inside me right now. I feel angry, guilty, scared, hurt, and sad. But maybe the others are right. Maybe being here isn't so bad."

Written in an honest, approachable way, Foster Care will encourage children entering or already in foster care and help them understand they are not alone. Foster, Daisy, Zeke, Simpson, and Rex all have different circumstances which brought them to foster care. Together they talk through their stories and realize this is right where they need to be for now; under the caring watch of foster mom, Miss Beulah.

Material Title: Helping Children Heal from Trauma: What Parents and Caregivers Need to Know (CD)

Author: Sue Badeau CDs 8/5/2011 15 minutes

Presented by Sue Beadeau, Casey Family Programs, Pennsylvania at the 37th NACAC Conference 2011 in Denver, Colorado. Every child entering foster care has experienced some amount of trauma—if nothing else, removal from home and placement into care. Parenting a traumatized child can be challenging and stressful. The better a parent is equipped to cope with the emotional, behavioral, and verbal responses of children and youth to placement in foster care, the greater the child or youth's opportunity to heal. The presenter will engage participants in a discussion of the strengths and challenges of traumatized foster children and will share strategies for helping professionals and parents become more trauma-informed.

Material Title: Hootah's Baby* (Children's Materials)

Author: Joanne Green Children's Books 2012 32 pages

Most children have happy, untroubled childhoods. But not all. There are some who are placed in harm's way, if even temporarily, by their own parents' lack of parental skills. When that happens, often, the courts must step in, in the best interest of the child. But when that happens, it is the child who often does not understand the dynamics of this very complicated situation.

Hootah's Baby is an allegorical story about a mother owl whose life-style choices have made it impossible to be an effective mother. The community steps in to ensure the baby's safety. It is not about whether or not the mother loves her baby. It is all about mothering skills and the child's need to be safe.

Hootah's Baby is a tool to be used to help children of court-ordered relinquishment and/or state custody to understand the complex issues that have led to their current life situation. Helps are included for the adult who reads this book with these children to be able to assist them to open windows of communication that will help them understand basic truths: They are not at fault; the courts are not the bad guys; and their mothers do, in fact, love them. They simply cannot parent any child at that point in their lives.

Material Title: In the System and In the Life: A Guide for Teens and Staff to the Gay Experience in Foster Care

Author: Youth Communication Children's Books 2003

The special challenges of coming out while in care are explored through stories by gay and straight teens and staff. Activities for every story make this book ideal for staff training or classes.

Material Title: Infants in the Child Welfare System: A Developmental Framework for Policy and Practice

Author: Brenda Jones Harden Books 2007 341 pages

Every day, maltreated and neglected infants and toddlers are removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system. 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.

Material Title: Medications, Behavioral Management and Child Welfare

Author: J.P. Bourguignon Books 1990 71 pages

This book describes indications and contra-indications for medications prescribed to treat behavioral problems in "systems children."

Material Title: Microscope with a Wide-Angle Lens, The: A Complete Look at Your Adopted Child Using a Bio-

Psycho-Social Model (2 CDs)

Author: James Kagan and Richard Delaney CDs 852011 28 minutes

Presented by James Kegan, pediatrician/psychiatrist, Colorado and Richard Delaney of Hawaii Behavioral Health, Texas at the 37th NACAC Conference 2011 in Denver, Colorado. This workshop will address how the bio-psycho-social assessment of troubled adopted children and youth permits adoptive parents to be better advocates, more informed treatment team members in working with helping professionals, and more knowledgeable observers and caregivers of their children.

Material Title: Mobility Mapping Training Video (DVD)

Author: Seneca Family of Agencies DVDs 15 minutes

In this DVD Kevin Campbell demonstrates using Mobility Mapping with a youth in foster care. A foster teen shares his memories of childhood and kinship care as he is lead through the development of a map of important connections with the purpose of finding significant people from his past.

Material Title: Not Again, Little Owl

Author: Vivien Norris Children's Books 2018

Not Again, Little Owl is a therapeutic picture book for children who are moving from a temporary to a permanent family. It focuses on children who have had multiple transitions. This is not a fairy tale but a powerful and moving story which gets alongside the child's experience. It has been written for foster carers, adopters and professionals supporting children. 'Stories are such an important tool for helping children to understand and to feel understood. This is a delightfully illustrated story which will be of great help for children who unfortunately have to face moving too many times. Believing that the final family is permanent is so hard for these children."

Material Title: Out of Home Placement Issues with Adopted Youth (2 CDs)

Author: Deborah Cave, Lacey Berumen and Lori Ross CDs 8/4/2011 22 minutes

Presented by Deborah Cave of the Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Familes, Lacey Berumen of NAMI Colorado, and Lori Ross of the Midwest Foster Care & Adoption Association, Missouri at the 37th NACAC Conference 2011. Join this advanced, interactive discussion about what happens when an adopted child or youth needs support that cannot be provided in the home. Far too often, parents are investigated, have a child protective case opened, need to relinquish parental rights, or are otherwise treated like the enemy. In this discussion, we'll explore how to address this challenging problem.

Material Title: Permutations of Permanency, The: Making Sensible Placement Decisions

Author: Richard Delaney Books 1998 21 pages

In this booklet, Dr. Delaney offers an introduction to the process of making sensible and sensitive placement decisions. Attention to the twelve placement principles listed here will reduce the chances of making inappropriate placement decisions and lead to the individual optimum permanency for each child.

Material Title: Practical Guide to Adoption Subsidy for Adoptive Families and Advocates, A

Author: Tim O'Hanlon Books 2004 132 pages

This booklet includes chapters on federal adoption assistance programs, state adoption subsidy programs, negotiating an adoption assistance agreement, retroactive adoption assistance payments, etc. It discusses legal considerations in a readable format

Material Title: Raising Your Children's Children: Help for Grandparents Raising Grandkids

Author: Martha Evans Sparks Books 2011 160

Sometimes, people mess up. They get addicted to drugs or alcohol, abandon their child, or just leave. This book is for those who want to step in and help, specifically the grandparents of those abandoned. Over six million children live in grandparent-headed households in the United States today. The number continues to rise. More than 80% of these cases occur because of drug or alcohol addiction. Grandparents raising grandchildren occurs in all ethnic and socio-economic groups. But where do you start? There s court proceedings, lawyer bills, sometimes hospital bills, and not to mention emotional needs of the children and grandparents alike. Raising Your Children's Children is a first reader of fast, accurate answers to sudden questions from the world of child neglect and abuse, court proceedings, custody arrangements, and drug addiction grandparents never knew existed. Your world may have just changed drastically, but you re not alone. Let us help.

Material Title: Scientific Basis of Child Custody Decisions, The

Author: Robert Orlans Books 1999 443 pages

This book was written to help lawyers, judges, custody evaluators, social workers, psychologists, policymakers and parents understand the tangle of information and concepts involved in child custody decisions. A seven page chapter by Susan Fisher highlights how to deal sensitively with issues of loss, separation and abandonment.

Material Title: Siblings in Late Permanent Placements

Author: Alan Rushton Books 2001 164 pages

This publication from British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF), intended for practitioners and researchers in the fields of both social work and children's mental health care, looks at issues surrounding permanent placement of children who have siblings. The research study follows a sample of 133 children placed with 72 new families in middle childhood in the UK and explores the patterns of separation and reunion and compares the outcomes for jointly and singly placed children.

Material Title: Somebody Cares: A Guide for Kids Who Have Experienced Neglect

Author: Straus Susan Farber Children's Books 2016 32

Useful to read with a caring adult, Somebody Cares is a book for children who have experienced parental neglect and have been taking care of many things on their own. It helps them understand their feelings, thoughts, and behaviors and prepares them for changes in their families. Most importantly, Somebody Cares teaches children that they are not to blame and were brave to do so much on their own. Includes a "Note to Readers" inside for children and an online "Note to Parents and Caregivers" for adults.

Material Title: Tackling the tough stuff: a home visitor's guide to supporting families at risk

Author: Angela M., Stephan A. Viehweg Tomlin Books 2016 228 pages

Home visits with at-risk families present unique, complex challenges that professionals must be ready to address with skill and sensitivity. The problem-solving framework in this practical guide will help home visitors manage their on-the-job challenges-and support and empower vulnerable families of children birth to 3.

The authors' PAUSE framework (Percieve, Ask, Understand, Strategize, and Evaluate) walks home visitors through the entire process of addressing problems, from recognizing a difficult situation to evaluating the chose action steps. Readers will learn how to apply the framework in real-world situations as they:

- partner with parents to understand their perspectives
- take direct action to help solve key challenges (self-regulation, sleeping problems, feeding issues, biting and hitting, meltdowns, cooperating and following directions, fears and separation anxiety)
- skillfully blend relationsip-based and reflective practice approaches
- understand what's behind children's challenging behaviors
- work sensitvely with families facing difficult situations, including domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental illness
- set appropriate boundaries with families
- use self-care strategies to addresss symptoms of burnout

Readers will get a wealth of practical materials, including helpful sample diaglogues and reproducible materials on exploring challenging behaviors, discussing difficult topics, helping parents imporove their skills, and more. (Reproducible materials are included in this book and are available online.) With this essential giude, home visitors will provide effective support for at risk families--and equip them with skills they'll use long after the visit is over.

Material Title: Tender Years, The: Toward Developmentally Sensitive Child Welfare Services for Very Young

Children

Author: Jill Duerr Berrick, B. Needell, R. Barth, and M. Jonson-Reid Books 1998 203 pages

Today most children entering the child welfare system are very young, and, in most large states, infants are the largest group of children entering foster care each year. Social service systems are typically not designed for very young children, however, and therefore fail to serve their special needs. This shortcoming is significant because protecting very young children from physical harm is not enough; they must also be protected from developmental harm.

The Tender Years is the first textbook to address this critical situation. Beginning with an overview of child development theory, it examines child abuse reporting patterns and discusses placement in foster care, reunification, and adoption. It also looks at public child welfare practice, featuring vivid examples of the children and families served by this system. The authors analyze the differences between the foster care experiences of very young children and those of older children, with special emphasis on the way the child welfare system deals with infants. Based on a significant body of evidence regarding young children's unique affective, physical, and cognitive development, this text illuminates the interrelationship of child welfare practice, child development outcomes, and public policy. The authors offer a fundamental framework for decision-making in child welfare when young children are involved, and recommend specific changes in policy and practice aimed at moving the system toward greater developmental sensitivity.

Material Title: Texas Judicial Summit; Improving Outcomes for Children in Care

Author: TCU Institute DVDs

Tragically, many children who are abused or neglected suffer long-term consequences from the early harm, and often follow a path to mental illness/incarceration. This training is focused on how to improve successful placements, and enhance the assessment of children through the use of attachment theory and model safety plans.

Material Title: Toolbox No. 3: Facilitating Permanency for Youth

Author: Gerald P. Mallon Books 2005 81 pages

This book from Child Welfare League of America offers a permanency assessment approach that identifies the youth's current relationships and attitudes toward permanency, provides guidelines that promote permanency, and includes an array of practices, including family group decision making, circles of support, digital portraiture, person-centered planning, lifebooks, mentoring programs, permanency retreats, youth empowerment programs, etc.

Material Title: Transracial Adoption and Foster Care: Practical Issues for Professionals

Author: Dr. Joseph Crumbley Books 1999 114 pages

The purpose of this book is to show professionals how to help children and families make transracial adoptions and foster placements work. It describes specific ways that practitioners can work with transracial families to ensure that children develop positive racial and cultural identities. Cultural competence, recruitment of minority adoptive parents, and myths of transracial adoption are also addressed.

Material Title: Unconditional Commitment: The Only Love That Matters to Teens (DVD)

Author: Pat and You Gotta Believe, Inc. O'Brien DVDs 2007 52 minutes

There is a great need for prospective and current parents to become unconditionally committed to the children that they care for, particularly teenagers, in order to prevent disruptions in permanent family homes. The emphasis here is that every child in foster care needs one placement and one placement only, and the challenges to unconditional commitment are explored and addressed. This is the story behind the enormously successful older teen adoption agency, and includes many of the staff, foster and adoptive parents, along with the children they have taken into their hearts and lives.

Material Title: Working with Traumatized Youth in Child Welfare

Author: Nancy Webb Books 10/28/2005 316

Until recently, there has not been a great deal of overlap in the child welfare and trauma literatures. This text bridges that divide by integrating perspectives from both fields to help practitioners understand and address the special needs of maltreated children and adolescents and their families. Current knowledge on attachment, trauma, and risk and resilience is clearly explained, including the impact of abuse on the brain. Readers learn how to conduct assessments and implement a range of effective helping strategies with youth in foster care and other settings. Featuring extensive case illustrations, the book gives particular attention to diversity issues and the importance of supporting child and family strengths.

Material Title: Young Children and Foster Care: A Guide for Professionals

Author: Judith A. Silver, Barbara J. Amster, and Trude Haecker Books 1999 509 pages

Infants and young children entering the child welfare system often have histories of abuse, neglect, and fragmented medical care. This book helps human services professionals meet these children's special needs as it proposes models for intervention and provides expert advice on often-overlooked aspects of care, including developmental and medical concerns, child advocacy, and early intervention services.