

BOOK REVIEW EXCERPTS

Therapeutic Residential Care for Children and Young People: An Attachment and Trauma-Informed Model for Practice

Reviewed by Kim S. Golding, Clinical Psychologist and author of *Nurturing Attachments*, 2011

"This is one of those rare books that successfully brings together the human and the academic. It provides a comprehensive and clear account of the theoretically based model of care used by the Lighthouse Community, whilst bringing this to life with the real-life stories of young people and carers involved with this organisation. Theory and concepts are described clearly and with understanding, but most importantly the authors have illustrated how these are used in practice to transform the lives of young people and carers alike. This book belongs in the collections of all practitioners involved with traumatized children and young people living in residential care."

A Child's Journey to Recovery: Assessment and Planning with Traumatized Children

Reviewed in: *PsycCRITIQUES*, American Psychological Association 2008, by Nancy Burke

"I would encourage directors of programs such as the one on which this book is based to distribute it widely among their staffs and to expect, as a result, to see improvements in the lives of patients."

Reviewed in: CAF/CASS Publication Channel C

"This a short and clearly written book which firmly follows child-centred and evidence based practice to outline an integrated approach to the assessment and therapy of very disturbed children. It draws on current social work thinking but also includes insights from residential and educational settings.....Most Cafcass practitioners will find new, useful and interesting ideas in this book, and should be able to apply them in their work, particularly with older children, in both public and private law."

Reviewed in: *Accord Magazine*

"This particular book, is a sensitive and comprehensive description of assessment revealing the crucial importance of getting it right for the well being of the child. There is a particularly helpful appendix which shows the progress of one child over a period of time and how she has been assessed at different stages."

"I think this book would help all counsellors (whether working with children or adults) in rethinking how we initially engage with clients and carry out our initial assessment. I certainly have decided to read all the books in this series."

The Child's Own Story: Life Story Work with Traumatized Children

Reviewed in: Community Care July 2006, by Rebecca Eden

"This is an excellent guide for professionals undertaking life story work with children or practitioners working with traumatized children, writes Rebecca Eden."

"It has useful sections on general work with children. For example, it briefly outlines attachment theory and breaks down the process of interviewing, offering advice about each stage. It is easy to read and the format makes it simple to find or recap particular sections."

Reviewed in: Adoption and Fostering on the Internet January 2006, by Melanie Morgan
RN RMN DATS

"Do I recommend this book? Yes I do, it's easy to read and a good reference for multi disciplinary teams of staff and foster carers alike."

Reviewed in: British Psychodrama Journal in Summer 2005, by Carl Dutton - Project Therapist, Liverpool Haven for Refugee and Asylum Seeking Children

"This is a valuable and must have resource for all those who work with and alongside traumatized children and young people."

"As a therapist working with displaced refugee and asylum seeking children who have often suffered multiple trauma's in home country, journey to U.K., and in U.K., I feel this book has much to offer in developing the 'Child's Own Story'."

Living Alongside a Child's Recovery: Therapeutic Parenting with Traumatized Children

Reviewed in: Counselling Children and Young People, by Linda Bean – BACP accredited counselor/psychotherapist

"The authors demonstrate throughout the book a deeply thoughtful and patient approach, which helps us see a traumatised child's behaviour as 'a communication, to be understood and given meaning', however destructive or neglectful it may be. Short vignettes drawn from casework illuminate and amplify our understanding."

"By the end of the book, we can begin to 'imagine in' the world of a severely abused 'child and those who care for them, and respond helpfully. This is a useful process for any counsellor/psychotherapist as well as specialist workers such as foster carers, social workers and counsellors/psychotherapists supporting fostering and adoptive placements."

Reaching the Vulnerable Child: Therapy with Traumatized Children

Reviewed in: Community Care May 2006, by Lynne Fordyce - East Leeds PCT

"This book is illustrated throughout with stories of recovering children, alongside descriptions of a wide range of techniques using expressive arts and play to foster both verbal and non-verbal communication, and explanations about the impact of abuse on a child's development."

"This book can be dipped into or read from cover to cover, a boon for any busy therapist or social worker wishing to develop therapy.....It also provides exercises for the reader so that they are in touch with a child's feelings and predicaments. It is well worth adding to your library."

Therapeutic Approaches in Work with Traumatized Children and Young People

Reviewed in: Community Care, online January 2005 by Panos Vostanis - professor of child and adolescent psychiatry, University of Leicester.

"At times of financial constraints for therapeutic residential facilities for traumatised young people, this is a refreshing "back to basics" approach, writes Panos Vostanis. Such children have complex emotional, behavioural and social needs. The text draws on the author's experience and wealth of material from staff discussions."

"The additional material on child-adult, staff dynamics, supervision and management, will be of great interest to a wide range of residential staff, social workers, foster carers, therapists and educationalists caring for or working with emotionally needy children and young people."