

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910458173403321
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Titolo	The Politics of Child Abuse in America [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cary, : Oxford University Press, 1997
ISBN	0-19-535376-5 1-4294-1468-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (209 p.)
Collana	Child Welfare: A Series in Child Welfare Practice, Policy, and Research
Altri autori (Persone)	KargerHoward Jacob <1948-> StoeszDavid
Disciplina	362.760973
Soggetti	Social work with children -- United States -- History Abused children - Services for - History - United States Child abuse - Prevention - History - United States Social work with children - History - United States Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Abbreviations; Introduction; 1. The Cultural Landscape of child abuse in the United States; The Paradox of Child Abuse; The San Diego Experience ; The Child Abuse Industry; Psychotherapy and the Child Abuse Industry ; The Legal Industry ; The Unraveling of Child Abuse Policy; Conclusion; 2. Child Abuse Problem: The Emergence of the Child Savers; The Social Context of the Child Rescue Movement; The Mary Ellen Legend and the Rise of the Child Rescue Movement; The Legend; The Makings of a Movement; The Role of the Press; The Influence of an Outraged Public The Anticruelty Movement in the Context of Other Social Movements The Rise of Judicial Patriarchy; Elbridge T. Gerry and the NYSPCC; Central Themes in the Anticruelty Movement; Social Control; Parents, the State, and the Rescue of Children; Differences Regarding the Role of the SPCCs; Conclusion; 3. The Decline and Rediscovery of Child Abuse, 1920-1960; Early Conflict Among "Child Rescuers"; The NYSPCC and the Gerry Paradigm; The Challenge to the Gerry Paradigm; Who Should Do Protective Work, and What Should Be Its Functions?; Feminism and the Anticruelty Movement

Social Work and Child Welfare Changing Nomenclature, Changing Definitions; Disillusionment with the Juvenile Court; Child Welfare Agency Structure and Practice; Organizational Pattern of Children's Agencies; Distinctions Between Child and Family Welfare; The Impact of Psychoanalytic Theory; Social Work's Escape from Authority; The Impact of Economic and Social Conditions After 1930; Conclusion; 4. From the "Battered Child" Syndrome to the "Battered Psyche" Syndrome: Rediscovering Child Abuse in the 1960's and Beyond; The Rise of the American Welfare State
The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 Ideological Convergence; The Family Preservation Model; The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980; The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993; Conclusion; 5. The Breakdown of the Child Abuse System; Researching Child Abuse; Child Abuse and Political Correctness; Maintaining the Myth of Classlessness; Funding for Child Abuse and Neglect; The Panacea of Family Preservation; Service Delivery Problems in the Child Abuse System; Social Work Training and Child Protective Services
Screening, Investigation, and the Provision of Service AFDC, Substance Abuse, and the Breakdown of the Child Abuse System; Conclusion; 6. Restructuring Child Abuse Services: The Children's Authority; The Children's Authority; The Structure of the Children's Authority; Funding the Children's Authority; The Social Mandate and the Span of Authority; Administrative Organization; Conclusion; Index;

Sommario/riassunto

Child abuse policy in the United States contains dangerous contradictions. The rapidly expanding child abuse industry (made up of enterprising psychotherapists and attorneys) consumes enormous resources, while thousands of poor children are seriously injured or killed, many while under the "protection" by public agencies. Meanwhile, the public child abuse system has become a virtual "nonsystem," marked by a staggering turnover of staff, unmanageable caseloads, a severe shortage of funding, and caseloads composed of highly dysfunctional families. In The Politics of Child Abuse in America...
