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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...*
