Assessment in
Child Care
Using and Developing Frameworks for Practice

Edited by
Martin C. Calder and Simon Hackett
To Janet, Stacey and Emma:
I cannot get better than the best.

Martin C. Calder

To Helen for her unwavering support

Simon Hackett
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The Editors

Martin C. Calder MA, CQSW is a Child Protection Co-ordinator with City of Salford Community and Social Services Directorate. The generic nature of the assessment framework has identified the need for more specific and individualised frameworks and Martin is keen to furnish overstretched front line workers with accessible evidence-based assessment tools to assist them in their job. Martin has written extensively on many child protection matters and is keen to bridge theory, research and practice to enhance outcomes for children.

Simon Hackett is a Lecturer in the Centre for Applied Social Studies at the University of Durham, UK. He has a wide range of interests relating to childcare practice and research. A qualified social worker, Simon was previously employed by NSPCC and was involved in the investigation of allegations of institutional abuse in North Wales children’s homes, arising from the Waterhouse Inquiry. A co-founder and a former Programme Director of G-MAP, a leading community-based organisation working with young people who sexually abuse others, he has substantial practice and training experience in sexual aggression work. He is an active researcher in the field and, with Helen Masson, is currently leading a two-year project examining policy and practice in the adolescent sexual aggression field across the UK and Republic of Ireland. He has published variously in relation to child maltreatment, social work practice and sexual aggression. Since moving into academia Simon has taught extensively on child protection matters on the post qualifying award, developing unique frameworks for practitioners.
The Contributors

**Patrick Ayre** is a qualified social worker and university lecturer. Working in the Department of Applied Social Studies at the University of Luton, he teaches and researches in the field of child protection and child welfare.

**Alan Cooper** qualified in 1982 from the London School of Economics with a CQSW and MSc in social work, psychology and social policy. He has worked for several local authorities and an NSPCC special unit. With his colleague Judith Tuck he now runs Osiris Training and Consultancy.

**Dr Lenard Dalgleish** is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Queensland, Australia. From 1981 to 1988 he was a Lecturer in Social Work where his interest in child protection decision making developed. He has given many keynote talks, conference presentations and workshops on risk assessment and decision making. He is a member of the editorial board of *Child Abuse Review*.

**Dr Celia Doyle** is a Senior Lecturer in Behavioural Studies at University College Northampton. Having worked in the field of child protection for thirty years, she also remains in independent practice. Her main research interest is the emotional abuse of children, particularly the nature of supports which can ameliorate their circumstances. However, she has also written extensively on working with abused children and on child sexual abuse.

**Richard Fountain** is a qualified social worker with over 25 years experience of child and family work both as a practitioner and manager. He is currently the manager of Family Support and Child Protection services for Luton Housing and Social Services Department.

**Dr Neil Frude** is a clinical psychologist. He is Clinical Research Tutor on the South Wales Doctoral Course in Clinical Psychology and a Consultant Clinical Psychologist with the Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust. He has written and edited a number of books and papers, mainly on issues within the fields of child abuse, family psychology and abnormal psychology.

**Fiona Harbin** has worked as a senior social worker specialising in substance misuse and child protection, for Bolton social services department, since 1996. Prior to this she worked for eight years in Wigan then Bolton as a childcare social worker. In her current role she has a particular interest in developing new services for working with drug using parents and their children. Within this she has developed group and individual interventions for working specifically with children who have experienced parental substance misuse.

**Dr Anne Hollows** is Principal Lecturer in Social Work at Sheffield Hallam University. She qualified as a social worker in 1974 and has worked in both probation and social work. Before working in higher education she headed the Child Abuse Training Unit at the National Children’s Bureau. She is a member of the international faculty of ISPCAN. Her doctoral thesis was entitled ‘Good Enough Judgements: a study of judgement making in social work with children and families.’
David Howe is Professor of Social Work at the University of East Anglia. He has research and writing interests in adoption, attachment theory, and child abuse and neglect. He is the author of a number of books and Editor of the journal Child and Family Social Work.

Dorota Iwaniec is Professor of Social Work and Director of the Institute of Child Care Research at Queen’s University Belfast. Before coming to Queen’s in 1992 she worked in Leicester as a practitioner, researcher and trainer. She has been involved in failure-to-thrive research for the last 25 years and has finished a 20-year follow-up study on children who failed-to-thrive. She has published extensively in the area of child care.

Lynne Jones has worked in Social Services since 1973, qualifying in 1979 and specialising in children and families work in 1982. She has a broad expertise having worked in six Northwest authorities during her career. She completed her Masters in Child Care Law and Practice in 1991 and joined Bolton as Principal Officer Child Protection and Quality Assurance in 1995. She has recently been promoted to Assistant Director in the same authority.

Margaret Kennedy has pioneered work in issues of disability and child protection. She has written extensively on the subject and is co-editor and co-author of the ABCD – Abuse and Children who are Disabled – training and resource pack. She chaired the BASPCAN Disability and Abuse working party and is on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Adult Protection. Margaret is disabled and is a qualified nurse and social worker. She is a certified counsellor and has an advanced certificate in Child Abuse Studies. She has also studied the issues of Christianity and Child Abuse. Margaret has lectured and taught extensively throughout the British Isles: her audiences have included police, social workers, health workers, clergy, pastoral workers, probation officers and medical staff.

Michael Murphy has been involved in childcare work for over twenty years. He is currently the resource co-ordinator for Bolton ACPC and a member of PIAT (Promotion of Interagency Training) although he is soon to move to the University of Salford as Senior Lecturer. He is the author of Working Together in Child Protection (Ashgate, 1995) and The Child Protection Unit (Avebury,1996). He is the co-author of Dealing with Stress (Macmillan, 1994) and Meeting the Stress Challenge (Russell House Publishing, 1996).

Tom O’Loughlin has worked in Social Services since 1975. He worked initially for Trafford Social Services and since 1980 has been with Bolton Metro. He has specialised in work with children and families. In Bolton he was formerly Principal Officer Child Protection and for the last six years has managed the Advice and Assessment service. He is the manager responsible for the Implementation of the Assessment Framework.

Anne Peake is an Educational Psychologist with Oxfordshire Social Services. She has worked as a psychologist since 1976, for Education and Social Services, in Liverpool, the London Borough of Haringey, and now in Oxfordshire. Her main area of professional interest is in Child Protection work.

Gretchen Precey is an independent social worker, trainer and consultant. Her background is in child protection work. In addition to having a clinical interest in MSBP from her experience as a practitioner, Gretchen has trained widely on the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families.

Barry Raynes is the executive director of Reconstruct. He has twenty five years of experience of working in all aspects of social care. He has worked as a trainer or consultant in most of the country’s social services departments.
Caroline Rowsell is a feminist activist and researcher who has worked within a Social Services Training Section for the past 10 years. She specialises in issues related to violence against women and children, and is particularly concerned with the development of policy and strategy in relation to this field. She has worked extensively with local authorities, domestic violence fora, and domestic violence providers to extend knowledge and awareness of domestic violence issues. She is employed by the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions as one of two National Domestic Violence Co-ordinators, and is currently working to ensure that both local authorities and domestic violence providers are fully engaging with the Government’s Supporting People programme.

Dr Prakash Srivastava is a Consultant Community Paediatrician whose main interest has been the effect of life experiences on child development. Though he currently works in Luton, Bedfordshire, the Graded Care Profile sprang principally from twelve years experience of working in a multi-agency setting in a socially and economically deprived part of South Yorkshire.

Janice Stewart is a qualified nurse and health visitor with many years experience as a practitioner and manager. She is now the Designated Nurse Child Protection for Bedfordshire Health, covering both Luton and Bedfordshire and also the Senior Nurse Child Protection for the Luton and Bedfordshire Community NHS Trust.

Bill Stone qualified as a social worker in 1981 after taking a degree in Social Policy at Nottingham University. Since then he has had a varied career in social work, primarily with children and families. He developed a particular interest in issues around parenting and child neglect and has trained extensively on this subject. He now works on a freelance basis with a mixed portfolio of practice, research, training and consultancy.

Amy Weir MA (Oxon.), MBA (OBS), CQSW. Amy was until recently the national lead inspector at the Department of Health for the Quality Protects Programme. She is currently seconded from the Department of Health to be Head of Children and Family Services in the London Borough of Harrow. She is particularly interested in the questions of how to ensure that the needs of children are assessed and met safely and effectively across agency and specialism boundaries. Amy co-edited Conflict of Interest: Child Protection and Adult Mental Health (Routledge, 1999) with Anthony Douglas. She evaluated and contributed to the Department of Health Training Pack – Crossing Bridges: Training Resources for Working With Mentally Ill Parents and Their Children (Pavilion, 1998).

Jane Wonnacott is a freelance trainer and consultant who has many years experiences of child protection training and practice. She runs training courses for local authorities and voluntary organisations and is particularly interested in supervision and the role of line managers in developing practice. She has recently carried out extensive training for local authorities on the New Assessment Framework. She has undertaken Part 8 enquiries for Area Child Protection Committees as well as providing consultancy on ACPC development. She is a consultant to Social Services departments on all aspects of child protection training. Jane has a long-standing interest in the integration of child protection and disability training, particularly in the area of assessment of risk.