Young Carers are children and young people who provide care for an ill or disabled parent or relative in the community, usually within their own home. They perform many of the same domestic, caring and other duties as adult carers, but often without the recognition and support which many adult carers receive.

This is the first comprehensive text on young carers and their families. It examines how young carers are perceived, their varied situations, their rights and needs, and uses case studies to illustrate the dynamics of experiences and relationships. It discusses the effects of caring on the child's health and psychosocial development. It considers the policy and legal context for young carers and their families. In particular, the book considers the role and responsibilities of welfare professionals and organisations, offering guidance on how to implement policy to offer the best support. The experiences of young carers in other countries are also considered.

Key Features:
- A topical book for all involved in child and family welfare
- Case studies highlight the dynamics of experiences and relationships
- Promotes improvement of policy and practice
- Authors founded internationally renowned Young Carers Research Group

This is a valuable book for all student and practising social workers and community care workers and those involved in service planning and provision. It is essential reading for teachers and for students studying health and social care, social policy, sociology and nursing.
Career-family issues are adult life issues. Women and men both experience conflict between their career and family roles and desire more flexibility in their work schedules and more time with their families. Although household work and parenting remain unevenly divided in many two-career marriages, the distribution of income and participation in family roles is much more equitable than in past decades. Increasing numbers of men actively participate in parenting, and a significant proportion of men are the primary caretakers of young children. Nonetheless, women more than men are culturally expected to be actively involved with and available to their children and responsible for their care.