Young carers and their families


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Abstract

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.

Item Type: Book
Schools and Departments: School of Education and Social Work > Social Work and Social Care
Subjects: L Education
Depositing User: Deeptima Massey
Date Deposited: 10 Apr 2018 12:24
Last Modified: 10 Apr 2018 12:24
URI: http://sro.sussex.ac.uk/id/eprint/74970
Young people form many of their attitudes about work and careers as a result of interactions with the family. Family background provides the basis from which their career planning and decision making evolve. However, within each family, the level of involvement can vary, offering both positive and negative influences. This Digest examines the research on family influences on career development and describes implications for practice. The influence of family background. “Family background factors found to be associated with career development include parents’ socioeconomic status (SES Carers Trust found that the majority of those that are identified as young carers still don’t get an assessment of their needs or access to the support they and their families need. The consequences can be serious and long lasting. ‘Hidden from view’ also found that young carers achieve on average 9 grades lower than their peers at GCSE which can have consequences for their long term economic prospects and life choices. It is clear therefore that we need to do more to support young carers. With the Care Bill also under consideration by Parliament, this is an ideal opportunity to ensure that yo...