

1982-83

Child Care & Development Group (formerly Medical Psychology Unit)

(Department of Paediatrics and Social & Political Sciences Committee)

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The work of the Group is mainly concerned with research on child development, with particular emphasis on the growth and influence of parent-child relationships and the effect of medical practice on children and parents. In several projects we work closely with the Paediatricians at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Members of the Group teach for various departments in the University, including Social and Political Sciences, Experimental Psychology, the Medical Sciences Tripos and the Department of Paediatrics.

The library of the Institute of Child Psychology is now housed in our premises. This came to us together with the Margaret Lowenfeld Fellowship held by Dr. Catherine Urwin through the Lowenfeld Trustees. We also have been given some archival material relating to Dr. Lowenfeld and the Institute of Child Psychology. Anybody wishing to consult this should contact Dr. Urwin. Frances Barnes is our Honorary Librarian. The library also houses books given by Professor Harry Highkin following the death of his wife Elspeth, who was a research student in the Group at the time of her death.

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Barbara Antonis is working on the social and cognitive development of the 5½ year olds in the longitudinal study and how this development relates to parental and child measures at earlier ages, including the mothers' pregnancies.

Roger Bacon is concluding a 3½ year project for the DHSS on the identification, management and treatment of child abuse in Cambridgeshire. His particular area of interest is in social work and child-care services, and the attitudes of abusing and 'at risk' parents and families.

Frances Barnes is engaged on a study of the children in the longitudinal study at 2½ - 3 years - focussing on patterns of communication in the family, in as far as it is informative about underlying relationships. Work continued on the relationships between pregnancy factors, the children's status at birth and their later development including handedness.

Ben Bradley is engaged in observational and theoretical research into the relationship between early infant behaviours and their representation in and effect on caretakers' speech; looking both at the way this relationship is connected to other social formations and at the significance of variations in it for subsequent social development.

Jill Brown - Secretary for the Group.

Shelley Day (third year research student) is working on the social history of post-natal mental breakdown - interested in the evolution of the medical category and the ways in which medical knowledge is produced.

Sheila Gatiss is working on the psychological and social aspects of newborn screening with particular reference to screening for cystic fibrosis.

Les Goldman (first year research student, a psychotherapist from Oregon) is studying the psychological aspects of anaesthesia. He is specifically interested in improving the recovery of surgical patients.

D. Balfour Jeffrey - (on leave from the University of Montana) is interested in (a) the effects of television advertising on children's health and (b) the etiology, assessment, and treatment of obesity.

Carlos J. Leighton (third year research student, on leave from the Metropolitan University, Caracas) is carrying out a research project on some aspects of prosocial behaviour in children 4-5 years of age. In particular: sharing, cooperation, role-taking and their relationship.

Mary Lund (post doctoral visitor from the University of California, Los Angeles) is researching the effects on children of parental separation and divorce. A special interest is the role of fathers in families after parents separate.

Jane Kenrick is concluding a study of family ideology, concentrating on the impact of separation and divorce on couples with children.

Brigitte Niestroj (second year research student from the University of Berlin) is studying the development of the isolated and individualised mother-child relationship and its impact on emotionality and rationalisation in Seventeenth-century England.

Shirley Prendergast and Alan Prout are undertaking a three year study of parenthood classes in a small number of secondary schools. Using intensive data collection methods the intention is to produce a number of case studies of what occurs in classrooms which will illuminate the educative process at this level. The research is funded by the Health Education Council.

Martin Richards' main interests are the effects of marital separation on children and the intended and unintended consequences for development of perinatal medicine. He has recently completed some pilot work with Margaret Dyson for a follow-up study of children and their parents going through the process of marital separation. He is also working on books on fatherhood and Divorce and Children. In the perinatal field current work is focussed on the social and psychological effects of neonatal screening for various diseases including cystic fibrosis.

Sally Roberts - Assistant Secretary.

Jane Selby (fifth year research student) is working on the social and psychological issues of being a career woman, especially in academia as a research student. Also methodological issues in social psychology. The research project focusses on the contradictions, social, professional and psychological which women research students, as career-committed women, have to contend with.

Stephen Scott is investigating the effect of a change of bedding texture including lambswool on the behaviour of premature babies in incubators.

Peter Underwood is on leave from the University of Western Australia where he teaches and practices Community Medicine. His main research interest is the social origins of disease and health and he writes on Third World medicine, cultural aspects of health in First and Third Worlds, the doctor-patient relationship and self-help.

Cathy Urwin (Margaret Lowenfeld Research Fellow on leave from the University of Warwick) is carrying out a small-scale intensive study of the development of relationships between same-aged infants. She is also working on the application of psychoanalytic theory and other clinical approaches to the empirical study of parent-child interaction, and on the relationship between developmental psychology and child rearing practices.

Anne Weissman (third year research student) is observing potential differences in interactions between depressed mothers and their infants, and non-depressed mothers and their infants, the impact of maternal depression on the infant's early cognitive development - for instance, on the formation of object concept - will be examined.

Selected Publications

- Antonis, B. 'Motherhood and mothering' In Women in Society. Cambridge Womens Studies Collective (eds) Virago, 1981.
- Austin, P., Owen, A., Underwood, P. and Winkler, R. A Simple Procedure for Activating Patients in General Practice. Behavioural Medicine GEIGY, Melbourne 1981.
- Bacon, R. Management of Resources for fostering and adoption in Region 5. A Study of Needs and Resources for Substitute Family Care. A confidential Report to the DHSS. (A summarised Report is published by the Association of British Adoption and Fostering Agencies.)
- Bacon, R. Child Abuse and Child-Care - Connections and Implications. Adoption and Fostering. Vol. 90, No. 4, 1977.
- Bacon, R. Some Conceptual and Methodological Problems in Preventive Police Research. In The Cranfield Papers 'The Proceedings of the 1978 Cranfield Conference on the Prevention of Crime in Europe'. Peel Press, 1979.
- Barnes, F. Birth of a Ngoni child. Man, 49.
- Barnes, F. 'The Biology of Pre-Neolithic Man' In The Impact of Civilisation on the Biology of Man. ed. Stephen Boyden. Australian National Univ. Press.
- Barnes, F. On having a relatively poor status at birth: some characteristics of the children and their mothers. Paper presented at the Spastics Society Developmental Neurology Meeting Oxford, September, 1974.
- Barnes, F. Handedness and Birth Stress in a Sample of Normal Children. New Scientist 67, No. 959, 25 July 1975.
- Barnes, F. Accidents in the first three years of life. Child: care, health and development 1975, 1, 421-433.
- Brimblecombe, F.S.W., Richards, M.P.M. and Robertson, N.R.C. (eds.) 'Early Separation and Special Care Nurseries'. Clinics in Developm. Medicine No. 68. Spastics Publications, 1978. Chapter by M.P.M. Richards and N.R.C. Robertson. Admission and discharge policies for special care baby units. Chapter by J.T. Hawthorne, M.P.M. Richards and M. Callon. Parental visiting of children in a special care nursery.
- Chard, T. and Richards, M.P.M. (eds.) Hazards and Benefits of the New Obstetrics. Clinics in Developm. Medicine, Spastics Publications, No.64, 1977. Chapter by I. Chalmers and M.P.M. Richards. The effectiveness of present day obstetric practice.
- Chisholm, J.M. and Richards, M.P.M. Swaddling, cradleboards and the development of children. Early Human Developm., 2, 255-275, 1978.
- Davis, J., Prendergast, S., Prout, A. (Joint authors all forthcoming publications)
- "Arguing about Health Issues"
  - "Teenagers and Motherhood: Who's being Naive?"
  - "What do Fifteen Year Old Students Know About Old Age?"
  - "This is the time to grow up. A Case Study of Fifteen Year Olds Knowledge of Menstruation"
  - "Science Education and Everyday Life: A Case Study of the Common Cold"
  - "The Report of the Schools Health Education Project"
  - "Health Knowledge" (provisional book title)

- Day, S. Is obstetric technology depressing? *Radical Science Journal* No. 12. (1982).
- Dunn (Bernal), J.F. Crying during the first 10 days of life, and maternal responses. *Developm. Med. Child Neurol.* 14, 362-72, 1972.
- Dunn (Bernal), J.F. Night waking in the first 14 months. *Developm. Med. Child Neurol.* 15, 760-769, 1973.
- Dunn (Bernal), J.F. Consistency and change in maternal style. *Parent-Infant Interaction. Ciba Foundation Symp. No. 33*, Elsevier, 1975.
- Dunn (Bernal), J.F. and Richards, M.P.M. Social interaction in the first days of life. In H.R. Schaffer (ed.) 'The Origins of Human Social Relations.' Academic Press, 1971.
- Dunn (Bernal), J.F. and Richards, M.P.M. What can the zoologist tell us about human development? In A.S. Barnett (ed.) 'Ethology and Development' (Little Clinics Clubs in Developm. Med. No. 47). Spastics Society/Heinemann Medical Books, 1973.
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- Guzmán, V., Leighton, C.J. & Sepúlveda, S.M.A. (1973). (In Spanish) Rorschach test in ideopathic epileptic children between 8-10 years old. *Revista Latinoamericana de Psicología*, 5, 2, 70-82.
- Hawthorne, J.T., Callon, M. and Richards, M.P.M. A Study of parental visiting of babies in a special care baby unit. A chapter for Separation and Special Care Baby Units. Brimblecombe, Richards and Robertson (eds.) Spastics Publications/Heinemann Medical Books. *Clinics in Developmental Medicine* No. 68, 1978.
- Jacques, N.C.S., Hawthorne Amick, J. and Richards, M.P.M. Parents and the support they need. In J.A. Davis, M.P.M. Richards and N.R.C. Robertson (eds.) *The Care of Preterm Babies*. Croom Helm, in press.
- Jeffrey, D.B. & Katz, R.C. 1977. Take it off and keep it off: A behavioural program for weight loss and healthy living. New York: Prentice-Hall, 354 pp.
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- Jeffrey, D.M. & Knauss, M.R. The etiologies, assessments, and treatments of obesity. In S.N. Haynes and L. Gannon (eds.) *Psychosomatic disorders*. New York: Praeger, in press.
- Jeffrey, D.B. & Berger, L.H. A self-environmental regulation model and its implications for behavior change. In J. Polivy and K.R. Blankstein (eds), *Self-control or self-modification of emotional behavior*. New York: Plenum, in press.
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- Knauss, M.R., Jeffrey, D.B., Knauss, C.S. & Harowski, K. Therapeutic contact and individual differences in a comprehensive weight loss program. *Behavior Therapist*, in press.
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- Leighton, C.J. (1981). (In Spanish) Quantification and quantities: conservation in a sample of 399 Venezuelan preschool children. *Psicologia*, viii, 4, 327-352.
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- Lund, M.E., Foy, D.R., Sigrelle, C. and Strachan, A.M. *The Combat Exposure Scale: A Guttman Scaling of Trauma in the Vietnam War.* Submitted for publication 1982,
- McPherson, A., Richards, M.P.M. and Chalmers, I. Developing a bibliography of randomized controlled trials in perinatal medicine. Report submitted to the Family Health Division, W.H.O. 1979.
- Prendergast, S. and Prout, A. 1980. What Will I Do...? Teenage Girls and the Social Construction of Motherhood. *Sociological Review*, August.
- Prendergast, S. In Pursuit of Vertigo: Women's Stoolball in Sussex. *Int. 3. of Women's Studies*, Spring 1977.
- Prendergast, S. (with Brown, P., MacIntyre, M., Morpeth, R.) *A Daughter, A thing to be given away.* *Women in Society*, Virago 1981.
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