Assessment in Social Work

Also by Judith Milner

Exclusion from School: Interprofessional Issues for Policy
and Practice

Child Sexual Abuse: A Guide for Teachers

Also by Patrick O'Byrne

Applying Family Therapy (with H.C. Masson)

Assessment in Social Work

Judith Milner

and

Patrick O'Byrne

Consultant editor: Jo Campling

© Judith Milner and Patrick O'Byrne 1998

All rights reserved. No reproduction, copy or transmission of this publication may be made without written permission.

No paragraph of this publication may be reproduced, copied or transmitted save with written permission or in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, or under the terms of any licence permitting limited copying issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9HE.

Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages.

The authors have asserted their rights to be identified as the authors of this work in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

First published 1998 by
MACMILLAN PRESS LTD
Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 6XS
and London
Companies and representatives
throughout the world

ISBN 978-0-333-65919-9

ISBN 978-1-349-14054-1 (eBook)

DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-14054-1

A catalogue record for this book is available
from the British Library.

This book is printed on paper suitable for recycling and
made from fully managed and sustained forest sources.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00 99 98

Editing and origination by
Aardvark Editorial, Suffolk

*To Huddersfield University Diploma in Social
Work students, past and present, whose contributions in
lectures and seminars helped us to develop our ideas
about assessment.*

Contents

<i>List of Tables and Figures</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
1 Introduction	1
2 From Traditional Practice to Current Legislation	7
3 Outcome Evaluation and the Assessment Process	26
4 Selecting a Map	44
5 The Weather Map: Anti-oppressive Practice	60
6 A Map of the World: the Systems Approach	79
7 A Map of the Ocean: Psychodynamic Approaches	96
8 An Ordnance Survey Map: Behavioural Approaches	112
9 The Handy Tourist Map: Task-centred Approaches	130
10 The Navigator's Map: Solution-focused Approaches	146
11 Making and Finalising the Judgment	164
12 Conclusion	183
<i>References</i>	187
<i>Index</i>	201

List of Tables and Figures

Tables

2.1	Principles underpinning recent legislation	22
4.1	Social science theory	50
7.1	Stages of human development	108

Figures

3.1	A data collection grid	38
6.1	Pincus and Minahan's four systems	81
6.2	Systems - example a	88
6.3	Systems - example b	89
7.1	Mind and world	97
7.2	Parent-Adult-Child	105
7.3	An ego gram	106
8.1	Reinforcement and punishment	116
8.2	Record of behaviour	117
8.3	Behavioural baseline	120
8.4	Response record	125
9.1	Want Sheet	133
9.2	Problem scale	135
9.3	Mr and Mrs K's completed problem scale	142
10.1	Solution-focused work – session 1	151
10.2	Solution-focused work – session 2	153

Acknowledgements

There are many people who deserve our thanks for their help in the writing of this book. Not least are our colleagues, Pat Bastian, Eric Blyth, Christine Horrocks and Wendy Marshall, for their helpful comments on early drafts; Maxine Hamilton for her case example; Sue Hanson who translated our feeble efforts at word processing into a readable text with her usual cheerful efficiency; and Jo Campling for her support and guidance. We also wish to acknowledge the contribution of colleagues more generally. Our efforts have been greatly facilitated by the fact that we work in a stimulating social work department at the University of Huddersfield, which is well supported by agency partners and management. This has meant not only that we have benefited from a healthy exchange of ideas, but also that we have been well supported in our efforts in terms of time, advice and encouragement. We thank you all.

Last, but not least, we are grateful to Mary O'Byrne who tolerated Patrick's strange working hours during the preparation of the text with unfailing good humour, and to Rosie who bore with Judith's hours with stoic patience.