National Children's Bureau series

Editor: Ronald Davie

This series examines contemporary issues relating to the development of children and their needs in the family, school and society. Based on recent research and taking account of current practice, it also discusses policy implications for the education, health and social services. The series is relevant not only for professional workers, administrators, researchers and students but also for parents and those involved in self-help movements and consumer groups.

Combined Nursery Centres
Elsa Ferri, Dorothy Birchall,
Virginia Gingell and Caroline Gipps

Growing Up in Great Britain
Ken Fogelman (editor)

**Children in Changing Families: a Study of Adoption and
Illegitimacy**
Lydia Lambert and Jane Streater

Caring for Separated Children
R. A. Parker (editor)

A Fairer Future for Children
Mia Kellmer Pringle

The Needs of Parents: Practice and Policy in Parent Education
Gillian Pugh and Erica De'Ath

**Unqualified and Underemployed: Handicapped Young People and
the Labour Market**
Alan Walker

Also by Gillian Pugh

Shared Care: support services for families with handicapped children

Preparation for Parenthood (editor)

*Parents as Partners: intervention schemes and group work with
parents of handicapped children*

Perspectives on Preschool Home Visiting (editor)

The Needs of Parents

Practice and Policy in Parent Education

Gillian Pugh and Erica De'Ath

M
MACMILLAN

© National Children's Bureau 1984

Softcover reprint of the hardcover 1st edition 1984

All rights reserved. No part of this publication
may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form
or by any means, without permission

First published 1984 by
Higher and Further Education Division
MACMILLAN EDUCATION LTD
Houndmills, Basingstoke,
Hampshire, RG21 2XS,
and London
Companies and representatives
throughout the world

Filmsetting by Vantage Photosetting Co. Ltd
Eastleigh and London

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
Pugh, Gillian

The needs of parents

1. Child welfare—Great Britain

I. Title II. De'Ath, Erica

362.7'0941 HV751

ISBN 978-0-333-37327-9 ISBN 978-1-349-17559-8 (eBook)

DOI 10.1007/978-1-349-17559-8

Contents

<i>List of Tables and Figures</i>	ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii

Introduction	1
National Children's Bureau and parent education	2
The Bureau's parenting project	3
How the book is organised	6

Part I WHY PARENT EDUCATION?

1 Parenting in the 1980s	11
Introduction	11
The tasks and skills of parenting	15
Factors affecting the way parents bring up their children	19
Changing family patterns	23
marriage	24
divorce	24
one-parent families	25
remarriage and step-families	26
adoption	28
Family size	28
Where are the children?	29
Changes in society as they affect family life	30
the changing role of women	31
patterns of work and unemployment	32
the family and the welfare state	34

2 Parent Education	37
Historical perspectives	37
The case for parent education	42
A life-cycle approach to parent education	46
Methods of parent education	53
mass media	53
group work	56
individual approaches	57
Personnel in parent education	58
Training	60
Evaluation	62

Part II PARENT EDUCATION IN PRACTICE

3 Family Life Education: The Role of the School	65
Introduction	65
Aims and approaches	69
A national perspective	72
primary schools	73
secondary schools	75
People and resources	85
Training and support for teachers	88
Summary	90
4 Young People out of School	92
Introduction	92
The youth service and social education	93
Informal youth service provision	94
Preparation for working and adult life:	
the Youth Training Scheme	99
Formal educational settings	101
Other education opportunities	103
intermediate treatment (IT)	103
prison	104
Teenage parents	105
schoolgirl mothers	106
single mothers (16–19 years old)	108
teenage marriages and parenthood	111
Summary	112

5 Antenatal Education and the Transition to Parenthood	115
Introduction	115
Planning parenthood	115
Pre-conceptual care	117
Becoming a parent	118
Antenatal care	119
antenatal clinics	121
antenatal classes	124
Choices and options in childbirth	129
Post-natal care and support	131
Special areas and needs	133
Summary	134
 6 Parents with Pre-school Children	 137
Introduction	137
Widely available services	138
individual approaches	138
informal post-natal and parent and toddler groups	139
groups and schemes with a particular emphasis on	
parenting: playgroups, parent education groups	142
advice and information	149
Working with vulnerable families	149
adult and community education	151
closer liaison between home and school	154
toy libraries	156
family groups	156
family centres	158
home-based programmes	160
crisis phone services	162
intensive work with families	165
Summary	166
 7 Parents of School-age Children	 168
Introduction	168
Parents and schools	170
background influences	170
recent developments	172
parental involvement in schooling	174
Parents and pre-adolescents	182

Parents and adolescents	184
the generation gap and family relationships	186
services for parents and adolescents	186
Summary	193

Part III A POLICY FOR PARENT EDUCATION

8 Parent Education and Support: Summary of Main Issues and Recommendations	197
Summary of main issues	197
Some common themes	201
Recommendations for policy-makers and practitioners	208

Appendices

<i>1 Organisations and individuals consulted</i>	219
<i>2 Examinations in child-care and development</i>	224
<i>3 Resources for parent education</i>	226
<i>4 Basic training package</i>	232

<i>References</i>	235
<i>Index</i>	253

List of Tables and Figures

Table 1.1	Children by age and where currently living, Great Britain, 1979	29
2.1	Methods of parent education	54
2.2	Methods in relation to objectives	59
4.1	Courses provided in colleges of further education relating to parent education	102
4.2	Legal abortions and live births to girls under 16 resident in England and Wales	107
6.1	Parent education activities available at one or more adult education institutions, ILEA	152
7.1	Percentage of mothers aged 16–59 who go out to work (1980)	170
Figure 1.1	Different types of lone-parent families in Great Britain, 1979	27
3.1	Host subject groups for preparation for parenthood in the optional and compulsory curriculum for five LEAs	74

List of Abbreviations

ACE	Advisory Centre for Education
AIMS	Association for Improvement in the Maternity Services
APNI	Association for Post-natal Illness
ATW	Active tutorial work
BAECE	British Association for Early Childhood Education
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
BFUW	British Federation of University Women
BMA	British Medical Association
BON	British Organisation for Non-parents
CACE	Central Advisory Council for Education
CAP	Calderdale Association for Parents
CASE	Confederation for Advancement of State Education
CEDC	Community Education Development Centre (Coventry)
CERI	Centre for Educational Research and Innovation
CETHV	Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors
CDT	Community Development Trust
CHAT	Contact Health and Teaching
COFACE	Confederation of Family Organisations in the European Community
CHSC	Central Health Services Council
CSE	Certificate of Secondary Education
CSV	Community Service Volunteers
CTVC	Churches Television Council
CWLA	Child Welfare League of America
EOC	Equal Opportunities Commission
EPA	Educational Priority Area
FLEEP	Family Life Education Ecumenical Project
FPA	Family Planning Association
FSU	Family Service Units
FWA	Family Welfare Association

GAFL	Gloucester Association for Family Life
GCE	General Certificate of Education
GP	General Practitioner
HEC	Health Education Council
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspectorate
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
HVA	Health Visitors Association
IBA	Independent Broadcasting Authority
IFPE	International Federation for Parent Education
ILEA	Inner London Education Authority
INSTEP	In-service Training and Education Panel
IUFO	International Union of Family Organisations
LEAs	Local Education Authorities
MAMA	Meet a Mum Association
MSAC	Maternity Services Advisory Committee
MSC	Manpower Services Commission
NAMCW	National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare
NAWCH	National Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital
NAYPCAS	National Association of Young People's Counselling and Advisory Services
NCB	National Children's Bureau
NCDS	National Child Development Study
NCH	National Children's Home
NCOPF	National Council for One Parent Families
NCPTA	National Council of Parent Teacher Associations
NCT	National Childbirth Trust
NCMA	National Childminding Association
NCVO	National Council for Voluntary Organisations
NCVYS	National Council for Voluntary Youth Service
Newpin	New Parent-Infant Network
NFCA	National Foster Care Association
NHS	National Health Service
NMGC	National Marriage Guidance Council
NNEB	National Nursery Education Board
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
NUS	National Union of Students
NUT	National Union of Teachers
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPCS	Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
OPUS	Organisation for Parents under Stress
OU	Open University
PACT	Parents Children and Teachers
PET	Parent Effectiveness Training
PMS centres	psycho-pedagogical-medical-social centres
PPA	Pre-School Playgroups Association

xii *List of Abbreviations*

PTA	Parent Teacher Association
RCGP	Royal College of General Practitioners
RCM	Royal College of Midwives
RCOG	Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
SCHEP	Schools Council Health Education Project
SLS	social and life skills
TACADE	Teachers Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
VCHC	Voluntary Council for Handicapped Children
YFDCA	Young Family Day Care Association
YOP	Youth Opportunity Programme
YSDC	Youth Service Development Council
YTS	Youth Training Scheme

Reports

<i>Usually known as</i>	<i>See reference under</i>
Albemarle report	Ministry of Health (1960)
Court report	Committee on Child Health Service (1976)
Crowther report	Central Advisory Council for Education (1959)
Hunt report	Youth Services Development Council (1967)
Latey report	Lord Chancellor's Office (1967)
Macnaughton report	Royal College of Gynaecologists (1982)
Miles report	National Council for One Parent Families (1979)
Milson-Fairbairn report	YSDC (1969)
Newsom report	CACE (1963)
Peel report	Central Health Services Council (1970)
Plowden report	CACE (1967)
Short report	House of Commons, Social Services Committee
Skeet report	House of Commons, Youth and Community Bill
Taylor report	DES and Welsh Office (1977)
Thompson report	DES (1982)
Warnock report	Committee of Enquiry into the Education of the Handicapped

Acknowledgements

Many people have contributed to the development of this book, by discussing their thoughts on parent education with us or by attending one of the seventy or so conferences set up during the course of the Bureau's parenting project. Some of the main groups and organisations we have consulted are listed in Appendix 1, and we are grateful to them for their time and their ideas. Particular thanks go to those who served on the working party which produced *A Job For Life*, a document which has guided our thinking throughout the project: Kate Torkington and Joan Kidd with whom the booklet was written and Brenda Crowe, Ken David, Gill Feeley, Heather Hyde, Jill Manning Press, Lin Poulton and government observers Rachel Lockwood, HMI (DES), and Dr Barbara Ely, Hilda Kell and Daphne Learmont (DHSS).

Colleagues to whom we are grateful for their constructive comments on all or part of earlier drafts of this book include Ron Davie, Dorothy Birchall, Elsa Ferri, Dorothy Henderson, Richard Ives, Lydia Lambert and Christine Such (from the Bureau); and, from outside the Bureau, Dorit Braun, John Coleman, Bernard Davies, Shirley Goodwin, Margaret Harrison, Janet Paraskeva Hunt, Lesley Rimmer, Sheila Shinman, Lesley Smith, Willem van der Eyken and, in particular, Kate Torkington. Many helpful comments were made, but the responsibility for the final manuscript is entirely ours. Our thanks, too, to Ian Vallender and Biddy Cunnell for laboriously checking through our numerous references.

Neither the book nor the project would have been possible without the hard work and commitment of our secretary, Margery Geoghegan, and we wish her a happy and well-deserved retirement.

And finally our grateful thanks go to the late Mia Pringle, who

xiv *Acknowledgements*

sought and obtained funding for the project on which the book draws, and to the Department of Health and Social Security who responded to her request for funding.

GILLIAN PUGH
ERICA DE'ATH