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RESPONSE
OF
UNMARRIED MOTHERS
TO
SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

by
DANIEL DEVLIN
SUSAN NOBBS
GERI SCARBOW

A THESIS PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF SOCIAL WORK, UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR, IN
PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF A
DEGREE OF MASTERS
OF
SOCIAL WORK.

1970

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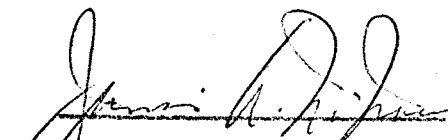
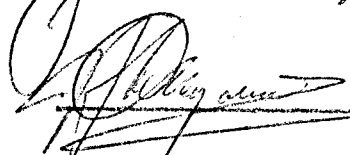
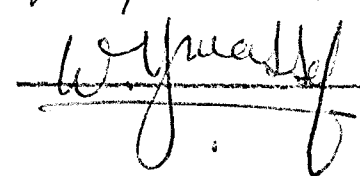

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We are grateful to the officials and staff members of the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society and the Children's Aid Society of the County of Essex, Windsor, for their assistance in bringing the research project to completion.

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CHAPTER I

THEORIES OF UNMARRIED MOTHERHOOD

DANIEL DEVLIN, SUSAN NOBBS, GERI SCARROW

The focus of the research project deals with the problems of unmarried mothers. In spite of many advancements in our science and technology, including contraceptives and sex educational systems, statistics indicate that children born out of wedlock are increasing every day. The increase is very startling when compared with the actual birth rate. Although the total number of live births per year is rapidly dropping, the number of births out of wedlock is increasing steadily.¹

The writers of this research project assume that the unmarried parent is a major social problem of our society. Many theories have attempted to analyze this problem. One of the most significant theoretical contributions

¹Bonnie Buxton, "The Single Mother Subculture," Chateline, XXXXIII (February, 1970), p. 70. (In Ontario, for example, there were 151,000 live births in 1957 of which 4,796 were out of wedlock. Ten years later, the total number of live births dropped to 128,000. However, the out-of-wedlock birth rate increased to 8,960).

deals with the psychoanalytic principle drawn from the works of Sigmund Freud.² It enumerates the intrapsychic conflicts of the girl. However it does not regard her involvement in the social system as significant and meaningful. In this framework, for the unmarried mothers, the out-of-wedlock pregnancy is viewed as a purposeful and deliberate act. For the recidivist there exists an unresolved intrapsychic conflict.

A great deal of effort has been made to define the different personality patterns of the unmarried mother. Young,³ following psychoanalytic thought, points out that unmarried mothers mostly come from homes where either the mother or the father is a dominant parent. In such homes parents are generally authoritarian. Further, the behaviour of the unmarried mother is considered pathological.

Another theoretical viewpoint is significantly sociological in nature. Konopka,⁴ analysing Cloward and Ohlin's theory points out the significance of Merton's paradigm. The deviant behaviour occurs when there is a discrepancy between the individual aspiration towards societal goals which are considered necessary to success in a given society and the opportunities to achieve them.

²The Basic Writings of Sigmund Freud, trans. and ed. by A. A. Brill (New York: Random House, Inc., 1938).

³Leontine Young, Out of Wedlock (New York: McGraw-Hill Company, 1954), Chapter I-IV.

⁴Gisela Konopka, The Adolescent Girl in Conflict (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Inc., 1966), p. 7.

In addition, it is often pointed out that broken homes, lack of education, sub-standard housing and the poor neighbourhood are contributing factors to such problems where the lower-class girls are concerned and they become pregnant more readily than the upper- and middle-class girls. Further, Sutherland⁵ supports this viewpoint. He maintains that illicit sex behaviour is learned through identification and interaction with other persons.

The social-psychological theory deals with race, social class and the personality conflicts of the unmarried mothers. In North America, most Negroes occupy the lower social strata of life. Perlman⁶ points out "we say it's a socio-economic factor for the Negro unmarried mother, but the reason for the existence of the middle- and upper-class white unmarried mother is due to her deviant acting out of her inner conflicts."

The theories mentioned above have significantly contributed to our knowledge and understanding of the unmarried mother. However, to a large extent, they fail to give the answers as to how the problems can be dealt

⁵Edwin Sutherland, "Theory of Differential Association" in Unmarried Mothers (New York: Free Press Inc., 1961), p. 243.

⁶Helen Perlman in Illegitimacy, National Council on Illegitimacy, (New York: National Council on Illegitimacy, 1967), p. 11.

with more efficiently and effectively and how the resources of our society could be mobilized to alleviate the problem of the unmarried mother.

In recent years, there seems to have been a shift in the way unmarried motherhood is viewed. The complexity of the problem defies a simple category, label or explanation. Much of the literature on the unmarried mother is now directed towards the aspect of prevention and continued contact after birth. The idea that the unmarried mother is an individual and should not be categorized according to her problem, seems to be a common theme. Leyendecker⁷ emphasized that "stereotype and preconceived ideas dominate when the analysis of behaviour patterns of an unmarried mother is made." Therefore, difficulty arises when casework services are rendered to the unmarried mother. For the sake of services to the unmarried mother, she is often categorized as an "Unmarried Mother" and the services generally become a routine activity.

In order to develop a better working relationship, Hildebrand⁸ points out that the needs of the unmarried mother are the "core of the problem and that if we can correctly diagnose the needs of the individual client, our

⁷Gertrude Leyendecker, "General and Specific Factors in Casework with the Unmarried Mother," Services to Unmarried Mothers (New York: Child Welfare League of America Inc., 1958), p. 5.

⁸Catherine Hildebrand, "Casework with Different Kinds of Unmarried Mothers," Perspectives on Services For Unmarried Mothers (New York: Child Welfare League of America Inc., 1964).

services can be focused on helping the client to find satisfaction so that functioning can be stabilized or growth can take place."⁹

Unlike the psychoanalytic viewpoint which emphasized the pathologic existent in a person, Hildebrand emphasized the strengths within an individual. These strengths should be used and built upon. Bernstein¹⁰ supports this idea. She cautions her readers to avoid equating the problems of the unmarried mother with any kind of pathology.

Marcel Heiman¹¹ points out that in order to effectively handle the problems of the unmarried mother the entire family need be involved in the spectrum of services rendered by the caseworker and the agency. It is on this specific issue he points out that since unmarried motherhood "is an expression of both intrapsychic and interpersonal conflict, and an expression of the girl's conflict with her immediate environment and the wider environment, it is, therefore, essential that the social services should include her environment of which she is a member." This may include her family also. He feels that within the next ten years one would look upon unmarried motherhood as a family problem.

⁹Ibid., p. 19.

¹⁰Rose Bernstein, "Perspectives on Services for Teenage Unmarried Mothers", Perspectives for Services for Unmarried Mothers (New York: Child Welfare League of America Inc., 1964), p. 9.

¹¹Marcel Heiman, "Out of Wedlock Pregnancy in Adolescence," Casework Papers 1960 (New York: Family Service Association of America, 1960), p. 69.

APPROACHES OF CASEWORK PRACTICE

Casework with the unmarried mother has seen three general approaches. The first is the traditional approach. In this approach the casework method followed the notion that adoption of the children born to unmarried mothers was essential and therefore, following this philosophy, the caseworker strongly advised the unmarried mother to give up her child.¹² The second approach deals with the neutrality of the casework method. In this approach the worker neither advises the unmarried mother to keep her child or give it up for adoption. The third approach is considered to be democratic. This approach, in many significant ways, points out to the unmarried mother, the pros and cons of keeping the child or relinquishing the child for adoption. This is where the caseworker and the client relationship plays an important role.

Another important aspect is the legislation which provides legalistic measures to render social services to unmarried mothers. Many public agencies have thus been created to serve the needs of the unmarried mothers and their children. The agencies are known as Children's Aid Societies. They are organized in local communities establishing their own system of operation in congruence with the Child Welfare Act, 1965.

¹²Roberta Rindfleisch, "Administration of Unmarried Mother Services", Services to Unmarried Mothers (New York: Child Welfare League of America Inc., 1958), p. 3.

This chapter deals with different theories of unmarried motherhood. It analyzes significant analytical, sociological and psychological viewpoints that are considered highly desirable in the understanding of the issues and problems of unmarried motherhood. It also deals with certain social stereotypes and prejudices concerning the behaviour of the unmarried mother. Further, it explains the creation of the Children's Aid Societies and their functions for the benefit of unmarried mothers and their children.

CHAPTER II

RESEARCH DESIGN

DANIEL DEVLIN, SUSAN NOBBS, GERI SCARROW

The problem of unmarried parenthood is very complex. Several psychoanalytic, sociological and psychological positions have been discussed in Chapter I describing the complex relationship between the unmarried mother and the society. No single theoretical approach has adequately explained the behaviour pattern of the unmarried mother.

PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

The purpose of this research is to determine:

- 1) the nature and the provisions of the Child Welfare Act with reference to the unmarried mother and her child;
- 2) the services rendered by the Children's Aid Societies to the unmarried mother and her child for maintenance, protection and adoption;
- 3) the effectiveness of services rendered by the workers and the types of relationships between the worker and the client.

HYPOTHESIS

Based on our examination of the problems, two general hypotheses were formulated. They are as follows:

- 1) The response of the unmarried mother to social work services depends upon the provisions of the Child Welfare Act
- ii) The response of the unmarried mother to social work services depends upon the involvement of the unmarried mother in the casework-client relationship.

Further, a specific hypothesis includes the degree of involvement of the unmarried mother in the casework relationship. It is hypothesized that the degree of involvement with the caseworker depends upon the caseworker-client relationship.

ASSUMPTIONS

These hypotheses are based on certain assumptions. These assumptions include the traditional social work practice where involvement of social workers with the client is minimal. In the newer and modern social work approaches the involvement of social workers with the client is greater in order to achieve a good deal of effective relationship to solve the issues and problems confronting the unmarried mother.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

i) "degree of response" as referred to in this study is the number of interviews before and after birth that take place between the client and the social worker.

ii) "Unmarried mother" as referred to in this study means the mother of the child born out of wedlock.

iii) "social work services" as referred to in this study are the activities of assisting the individual on a one-to-one basis, plus the use of available agency resources to enable the person to cope more effectively with the problems he faces in his environment.¹

iv) "the provisions of the Child Welfare Act" as referred to in this study is Part III, Sections 48 to 68 inclusive of the Child Welfare Act as passed as legislation in the Ontario Parliament in November, 1965. It also refers to Section 19 of the Standards of Service as in the Child Welfare Act.²

v) "the degree involvement" as referred to in this study is the active participation of the client in the problem solving activities with the caseworker and the role she accepts to play in that relationship.

¹Felix B. Biestek, The Casework Relationship, Chicago, Loyola University Press, 1957), p. 12.

²Department of Public Welfare, Province of Ontario, The Child Welfare Act and Regulations, (1965).

vi) "caseworker-client relationship" as referred to in this study is the interaction of the caseworker and the client with the shared purpose of helping the client achieve a better adjustment between himself and his environment.

POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The population for our study consisted of 67 unmarried mothers reported to the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society and the Children's Aid Society of the County of Essex from July 1, 1969 to December 31, 1969.

These 67 unmarried mothers met the requirements of our study, where a complete case recording was available. We recognize that this does not comprise a sample of the total unmarried mothers reported to the Children's Aid Societies. For convenience, it was felt that information could be readily available where files and recordings were complete.

Further, we recognize the limitation of the study which does not include individuals that were not reported to the agency. According to Henry Mayer³ ideas and assumptions regarding unmarried mothers which are drawn primarily from agency settings generally tend to be biased and, therefore, does not provide a realistic picture of the

³Henry Mayer, "Problems in Developing Research on the Unmarried Mother", Research Perspectives on the Unmarried Mother, (New York: Child Welfare League of America, 1961), p. 7.

issues involved. We have taken this into consideration but in order to understand the status of unmarried mothers in Windsor we had no alternative other than taking the cases reported to the two Children's Aid Societies of Windsor where different types of services were rendered to them.

Another drawback of our study is that we were not able to include all individuals where the files were not complete. Further, adequate data was not available from the file for an effective research which measures the degree of success of each function within the agency.

The description of our population is as follows:

TABLE I
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION
AS TO AGE AND RACE

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	RACE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Below 16	5	7	Caucasian	58	87
17-19	33	49	Negro	8	12
20-22	19	28	Oriental	-	1
23-25	5	7	Indian	1	-
25+	5	7	Mixed Racial	-	-

TABLE II

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION

AS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	EMPLOYMENT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
grade 8 or below	7	14	unskilled worker	12	18
9-10	30	48	skilled worker	3	4
11-13	24	36	clerical worker	11	16
post secondary	4	6	professional	2	3
			student	16	24
			unemployed	23	34

The largest number of girls were between the ages of 17 and 19 being 49 per cent. Twenty-eight per cent of the unmarried mothers were between the ages of 20 and 22. The remaining were either below 16 or above 23 years of age. Nearly eighty-seven per cent were Caucasian and most of them attended high school. Forty-eight per cent have had education up to grades 9 or 10, while 36 per cent had attended grades 11 to 13. Fourteen per cent had left school by grade 8, while almost 6 per cent had attended university or received some other post-secondary education. The largest category was "unemployed" with 34 per cent; 24 per cent were students; 18 per cent were "non-skilled workers"; 16 per cent were clerical workers; 4 per cent were skilled workers and 2 were "professional" being a nurse and a teacher.

Eighty-three per cent of the unmarried mothers were from Essex County while 16 per cent were from other areas of the nation. Most women were being supported by their relatives. Of those supporting themselves, 3 were living alone, 10 were living with a friend, 15 were living with their family and 1 was living with a boyfriend. Of those being supported, 29 were living at home, 3 were living alone, 2 were living in common-law, 9 were on welfare and none was living on an allowance from a previous marriage.

METHOD OF STUDY

In order to obtain a general view of the problem we made a preliminary study of the files of the unmarried mothers reported at the Children's Aid Societies. It helped us to acquaint ourselves with the information generally recorded in describing the problems of unmarried mothers and the services the agencies had rendered. One of the investigators was assigned the task of constructing the research instrument in the form of a check list. When the check list was completed it was presented to the social workers of one of the agencies for a preliminary examination. Several changes were made at this time and incorporated into the check list. (See Appendix A). The check list was then applied to the 67 cases. In order to obtain information for our study we took the case records of 67 unmarried mothers and examined them thoroughly. No face-to-face contact was made with the unmarried mother. Information significant to our study was obtained through the previously-mentioned and prepared check list. In the analysis of our data we have followed different statistical methods.

This chapter deals with the purpose of the investigation, hypotheses, assumptions, definition of terms used in the investigation, population of the study and the method used to conduct the study. Two general hypotheses were formulated in order to test the responses of unmarried mothers to social work services and their involvement in

the caseworker-client relationship. Several assumptions were made to describe the social work practice.

CHAPTER III

CONSTRUCTION OF THE RESEARCH INSTRUMENT

GERI SCARROW

In Chapter III we have indicated difficulties in objectively understanding the complex issues that are involved in understanding the behaviour pattern of the unmarried mother. In order to determine the nature of the problem and to collect pertinent information, the responsibility of constructing a check list was assigned to one of the investigators. Information was then collected from the files by means of this prepared check list. The check list was constructed according to rules designed for the construction of questionnaires.¹

The check list consisted of 71 items and was divided into 3 main categories. The first of these categories consisted of 15 questions designed to collect fact sheet

¹Claire Seltiz, Marie Jahoda, Morton Deusch, Stuart Cook, Research Methods in Social Relations, (New York: Holt, Rinehard & Winston, 1966), pp. 546-74 and

Pauline Young, Scientific Social Surveys and Research, (New Jersey: Prentice-Hall Inc., 1966), Chapter 8, pp. 186-213, with special reference to pp. 198-205.

information. The second grouping of questions was directed to the response of the unmarried mother vis-a-vis the provisions of the Child Welfare Act. This section consisted of 22 questions: questions 16 to 38 are inclusive. The third group of questions was constructed to investigate the response of the unmarried mother and her involvement in the caseworker-client relationship. The third section consists of 32 questions: questions 39 to 71 are inclusive.

Questions 16 to 38 are concerned with the Child Welfare Act. They are designed to elicit information to critically examine the drawbacks of the Act. Although the purpose of the Child Welfare Act is the protection of children the investigators assumed that information and critical examination of the Act was necessary. It would assist the investigators to determine the nature of the Act, provision for services, implementation of services through agencies, and the effectiveness of the delivery of services to the unmarried mothers and their children.

To investigate the degree of involvement of the unmarried mother, questions 16 and 26 were asked in order to establish the number of interviews that took place with the unmarried mother in different situations. As continuous contacts are essential in establishing a relationship with the unmarried mother questions 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 27, 28, 30 and 33 were asked. Further, collateral contacts and other extra services were considered necessary for a better

relationship between the worker and the individual involved. In addition, questions were asked to determine the involvement of the putative father in the casework process.

Since the Act is geared to the welfare of children the investigators felt that workers would attempt to involve the unmarried mothers more frequently before the birth of the child rather than after (questions 19 and 27). This is especially important to the investigators in preventive social work practice for the unmarried parents with regard to recidivism. Continued contact is required only in cases where the unmarried mother has retained the baby and there have been subsequent complaints received by the agency. In general practice it is seen that only in rare instances does contact with the social agency continue after the decision about the child has been made.² Further, questions 18, 21, 23, 25, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 were designed to further explain certain significant questions in the investigation.

Many questions were included to determine the caseworker-client relationship. It is a necessary medium for problem-solving in the social work process. The investigators were specifically interested in the involvement of the unmarried mother in this relationship and the caseworker's attempts at fostering and maintaining her

²Ruth Chaskel, "The Unmarried Mother: Is She Different?", Child Welfare, XXXVI, (February, 1967), p. 68.

involvement in it.³ Questions 39, 40, 44, 45 and 46 were asked to determine the number of interviews attended in various situations. Again, to clarify the answers to these questions several other questions (41, 42, 43) were designed to establish the availability of the unmarried mother for casework services.

Questions 47, 48 and 49 were designed to ascertain the focus of the casework interviews. As there exists several foci in interviews and since they change over time, it was essential to check the range which may exist from the present problems of confinement to the problems of emotions, personality stability, interpersonal relationships, and relationships with the caseworker. Relationships between people rise out of shared and emotional situations. The casework relationship begins as the client shares some part of her problem. Further, the caseworker demonstrates that she feels and understands the client and at the same time brings forward her professional competence to deal with the problem.⁴ Keeping this in mind questions 50, 51, 52, 53, 58 and 67 were posed to investigate the unmarried mother's willingness to involve herself in the caseworker-client relationship.

³Helen Harris Perlman, Social Casework: A Problem-Solving Process (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1957), pp. 64-83.

⁴Ibid., pp. 64-83.

Another way to measure the caseworker-client relationship is through a problem-solving mechanism. According to Perlman⁵ "the conclusive phase of each problem-solving effort in casework is the making of some choice or decision....Its action may take the form of internal organization....or its execution may take the form of outward behaviour, in responses and acts; or both may occur."⁶ Further, as the internal system of the individual is difficult to measure, especially by means of a check list, the investigator decided to focus on the outward behaviour of the client. Questions 54, 59, 60, 61A, 63 and 68 were designed for this purpose. Then questions 61B 62, 69 and 70 were posed to clarify the responses.

The unmarried mother does not exist in a vacuum nor is the caseworker the only person she is involved with while deciding on plans for herself and her baby. To investigate the effects of other types of relationships, the investigators used question 64 to inquire about the family, question 65 to inquire about the putative father and finally, question 66 to ascertain whether or not the woman was influenced by peers in making decisions for the baby.

Termination of services is also a part of casework service. According to Hamilton, "evaluation in regard to the progress of treatment and the pros and cons of termination should be set down. The goal of treatment is always

⁵Perlman, Op. Cit.

⁶Ibid., Perlman, p. 95

to help the person return as soon as possible to his natural channels of activity with relationships strengthened so far as possible. This evaluation is, of course, shared with the client and tentative arrangements for termination agreed upon.⁷

This suggests that the client all along is active in goal setting and achievement and, therefore, shares the decision regarding termination of contact. Question 71 was designed to establish the manner in which it was effected as well as to provide a basis for conjectures regarding the relationship itself.

This chapter deals with the important questions included in the check list in order to obtain information on many different aspects of this study. The check list was divided into three parts. Part one included questions which gathered basic information on the unmarried mother. The second part deals with the Child Welfare Act and its provisions and the third part of the check list elicits information on the caseworker-client involvement.

⁷Gordon Hamilton, Theory and Practice of Social Casework, (New York: Columbia University Press, 1965), p. 236.

CHAPTER IV

THE CHILD WELFARE ACT AND THE UNMARRIED MOTHER

SUSAN NOBES

In 1893, the first legislation regarding the protection of children was developed. It was not until 1921 that the legislation was extended to the unmarried mother and adoption of children born out of wedlock. Since then several amendments and revisions have been made.

In order to meet the requirements of the Act, certain agencies were delegated to carry out the functions in the different areas of Ontario. In Windsor, the Essex County Children's Aid Society and the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society were the delegated agencies with the responsibility of meeting the needs of the Child Welfare Act. The agencies have Boards of Directors elected from the local citizens which establish their roles and methods of operation most conducive to the local climate. The Act establishes the standard procedures to be followed in processing an application of the client. The method of social service operations are not specified in the Act. It is mainly an internal matter of the organization. The Essex County Children's Aid Society and the Roman Catholic

Children's Aid Society are relatively free in establishing their own methods of operation of social services. Each of these institutions have social workers and other qualified individuals who would have some influence in the functions of these institutions. These institutions are created by the Child Welfare Act and are free to operate their methods of services in a manner best suited to their needs and availability of resources.

In this project, the main issue is the problems governing those sections of the Act which relate to the unmarried mother. Since the revision of the Act in 1965, emphasis is being placed on preventive services which include the services for the unmarried mother. It was assumed that this aspect of prevention encourages activities by various agencies to develop programs preventing the birth of children born out of wedlock and to provide services that would effectively reduce recidivism of unmarried mothers. On this issue Verner points out that "if we can identify and reach the unmarried mother as early as possible during her first out-of-wedlock pregnancy, we may reduce the probability of repetition."¹ This kind of identification and reaching out approach is part of the new emphasis in prevention.

Another aspect of the services is casework treatment for the unmarried mother. The treatment is to be effective and immediately available to the unmarried mothers because a

¹Mary Verner, "Administrative Concepts in Comprehensive Services for Unmarried Parents," Unmarried Parenthood (New York: National Council on Illegitimacy, 1967) p. 47.

long-term investment is generally difficult since most women report to the agency primarily for adoption purposes. In order to deal with such issues and problems, the agencies generally are expected to plan ahead for services which would have direct relevance to the mother, baby, and the involvement of the unmarried mother and the putative father in planning for the future of the newly born baby.

Part III of the Child Welfare Act 1965, deals with the child of the unmarried mother and obtaining financial assistance from the putative father. It emphasizes that agreements or affiliation orders should be made by the putative father in order to meet the financial obligations to partially provide for the needs of the child.

LEGAL STATUS OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHER

Legal status of the unmarried mother is also a crucial issue. The development of the legal system in general recognizes that certain rights belong to individuals within a society, irrespective of his condition. It calls for right, justice and equality and availability of legal services to all citizens. However, according to Bernice Bernstein,² the legal services to unmarried mothers are limited. She points out that the unmarried mother could find only legal services related to the relinquishment of the child, its adoption and its support.

²Bernice Bernstein, "Law as an Instrument of Justice for Unwed Parents," Unmarried Parenthood (New York: National Council on Illegitimacy, 1967).

Part III of the Child Welfare Act 1965, sections 48 to 68 are inclusive. They are concerned with unmarried parents and their children. One of the purposes of the Act is to assist unmarried parents and their children³ and obtaining financial assistance for the maintenance of the child. Further, Section 49 is an important class since it protects the rights of individual citizens irrespective of their age, sex, colour and creed, with reference to children born out of wedlock and the services by the Children's Aid Societies. It states:

"Nothing in this part requires a Children's Aid Society to intervene in the care and maintenance of a child born out of wedlock where the child has been adopted in accordance with the laws of Ontario or where the child is being cared for voluntarily by a person whom the Society considers suitable to have charge of the child. R.S.O. 1960, c. 53, s. 42, amended."⁴

The Act seems to indicate a great concern for children born out of wedlock. Leyendecker points out that "we seem to feel a greater sense of obligation, even urgency, for intervention in planning for the child of an unmarried mother than for the child of married parents, although the future of the latter child may be equally, if not more endangered."⁵

³Ontario, Province of, Department of Public Welfare, The Child Welfare Act and Regulations, (Toronto: Parliament Buildings), 1965, Section 6(2)g.

⁴Ibid., Section 49.

⁵Leyendecker, op.cit., p. 15.

In this context Rindfleisch⁶ states that too often the child is immediately focused on rather than the entire 'family' (i.e. the unmarried mother, the putative father and the child as a total unit). It is difficult to indicate whether the unmarried mother services should either be child-focused or mother-focused. The problems and needs of the child may be considered separately, but each within the confines of the total problem. Therefore Rindfleisch suggests that planning must move in the direction which is going to produce the best solution to the unit problem and the greatest good for society.

Section 50 to 68 inclusive of Part III of the Act deals mainly with agreement and affiliation orders. Further it is concerned with obtaining financial assistance from the putative father, methods of collection and punishment and enforcement in case of default by the father if the payment of money is not made properly. It mentioned that "a society shall use its best endeavours to obtain financial assistance from a putative father within fourteen days after the unmarried mother so requests."⁷ From the above statement it appears as if the main purpose of Part III is a financial one.

In addition, several other sections of the Act also enumerates the legal structures which are intended for

⁶Rindfleisch, op.cit., p. 37.

⁷Ontario, Province of, Department of Public Welfare The Child Welfare Act and Regulations, (Toronto: Parliament Buildings), 1965.

collection of money from the putative father. For example, Section 50 (1) of the Child Welfare Act states that

"where a child is born out of wedlock and no agreement between the mother and the putative father with respect to the care and maintenance of the child is in force, a society and the mother of the child may enter into an agreement with the putative father of the child for the payment of money by the putative father in respect of the expenses and the maintenance mentioned in subsection I of Section 59, and, if the financial circumstances of the putative father change at any time, the terms of the agreement may be varied by the parties accordingly."⁸

Further, Section 50 (5) states that

"where the putative father is in default in payment of money under the agreement made under subsection I, the mother or the society, or the mother and the society together, may make an application to a judge for an order to enforce the agreement, and where the putative father continues in default for a period of sixty days and an application for an order to enforce the agreement has not been made, the society shall within the next following period of thirty days make an application to a judge for an order to enforce the agreement."⁹

Since other aspects such as social, psychological and moral obligations of the mother and the putative father towards the child and to each other cannot easily be spelled out in legalistic terms, the only obligation of the putative father is a financial one. This automatically isolates many individuals.

⁸Ibid., Section 50(1).

⁹Ibid., Section 50(5).

Steimel¹⁰ points out that the caseworker is often viewed by the client as a representative of the agency or of the social order and a crusader for the betterment of the community. In such cases therapeutic relationships between the client and the worker is difficult to establish.

Leyendecker¹¹ concurs with this issue by presenting ideas that the caseworker's role in the helping process is determined by a number of factors. It depends on the function of the agency, the method of delivery of service and the length of time the client will be in contact with the agency. From the above, it is apparent that a close contact with the clients, including the putative father is an effective social work practice. These contacts need not merely be for financial reasons. The contact should include all aspects of services including psychological support and follow-up in order to enrich the client-worker relationship and the acceptance of his own personal status and position in the society.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

In order to test the significance of the Child Welfare Act 1965 with reference to its effectiveness on individual clients, several questions were included in our check list. The questions are numbers 11 to 38 inclusive.

¹⁰Raymond Steimel, Psychological Counselling of Adolescents (Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, (1962), p. 119.

¹¹Leyendecker, op.cit. p. 5.

Questions 17, 19, 22, 27, 30, 33 and 38 were formulated to test the hypothesis directly. However, questions 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34 and 37 were for descriptive and explanatory purposes. The investigator has discussed each question briefly in the analysis of the data, giving the finding and their relevance or non-relevance to the study.

Question 16 deals with the total number of interviews before the birth of the child. This question along with question 26, was used mainly as a check for question 39 which indicated the total number of interviews. The number of interviews are grouped into three categories. Category A consists of the cases which experienced 1 to 4 interviews by each individual. Category B will include 5 to 10 interviews and Category C includes people who had at least ten interviews.

Question 17 deals with the caseworker's effort in involvement with the client. Sixteen of the 67 cases or 23.9 per cent were not applicable to this question since this portion of the population were not known to the agency until after the birth of the child occurred. It is likely that many have not been aware that such services existed in Windsor. The probable reasons being unawareness, ignorance, lack of motivation by many individuals in the community regarding the activities of the Children's Aid Societies.

Of the remaining 51 cases, 47.1 per cent stated that collateral contacts were made and 52.9 per cent stated that no collateral contacts were made. In viewing this in totality,

the difference did not appear to be significant. However, when viewed in relation to the three categories a significant difference was noticed. In Category A only 12 per cent had collateral contacts, Category B cited 41.9 per cent and Category C had at least 69.2 per cent of collateral contacts. [The difference between Category A and C supports our hypothesis that the more interviews the individual had with the caseworker, more involvement was demonstrated in the relationship between the caseworker and the client.]

In our analysis it is found that [the largest portion of collateral contacts were made with the smallest portion of the sample.] We wonder as to why such a small proportion of the population received the greatest amount of involvement and attention. We were able to gather that [the agency function, role of the worker and the legal structure did not encourage too many unmarried mothers or putative fathers to keep contact after the child is born and adopted.]

Even though reaching out is a function of casework services nothing is specified in the Act with reference to the nature of the services to be delivered, agencies consider that reaching out as an integral part of an effective social service system.

Most unmarried mothers liked the casework services. They did not miss an appointment with the worker. Of the total cases that were known to the agency prior to the birth of the child, [only 9.8 per cent of the unmarried mothers missed an interview before the birth of the child.] Despite

the fact that this question did not prove to be relevant in testing the reaching out of the caseworker, [it did show that the majority of the unmarried mothers make themselves available and are open for casework services prior to the birth of the child.]

Question 22 showed the percentages of unmarried mothers visited in hospital by the worker, were fairly high in all three of the categories. [Individuals who had close contact with the worker were visited more often by the worker.] In Category A, 68 per cent of the unmarried mothers were visited by the worker while in the hospital, 89.7 per cent in Category B, 84.6 per cent in Category C were visited by the social worker.

Question 23 showed the reasons for visiting the client. The main reasons for visiting the clients were to establish a relationship with the client, continuing relationship with the client and filling out the birth registration forms. Nineteen point eight per cent of the clients were visited for the purpose of filling out the birth registration forms, 23.2 per cent were visited for the purpose of continuing the casework relationship, 41 per cent were visited for both assisting in filling out the birth registration forms and continuing the relationship and 16 per cent were visited to establish contact.

In examining the reaching out activities of the social worker, question 24 was asked to determine services that were offered after the baby was born. Services like

collecting of information, adoption procedures, and court proceedings were found to be regularly offered by the worker. Many unmarried mothers showed a willingness (question 25) to become involved with the caseworker and the services including adoption. Of the total population 83.6 per cent of the unmarried mothers accepted the services offered. The rest had their own plans for their child. However, after the birth of the child, casework appeared to be significantly related to a small minority of the population (question 30). People who had contacts after the birth of the child mentioned a meaningful relationship with the worker. Thirty-two per cent in Category A replied positively; 34 per cent in Category B and 58.8 per cent in Category C replied positively. These collateral contacts were primarily for welfare assistance.

Involvement of the putative father in casework services (question 33) supported this concept and such a trend is gradually evolving. The putative father is an important person in the entire therapeutic relationship. Since he is seen by the Child Welfare Act as being mainly a financial resource, the writer anticipated that he would not often be involved in casework treatment. In our study only 22.4 per cent of the cases involved the putative father. That means that in over three-quarters of the cases or 77.6 per cent he was not involved. Further, it is found that among the putative fathers who were involved in the casework relationship, 60 per cent were seen by the caseworker for the sole

purpose of obtaining financial assistance from him. The other contacts included a combination of financial assistance and obtaining social histories for the purpose of adoption.

The majority of the unmarried mothers knew the putative fathers for longer than ten months. Of the total population, 64 per cent knew the putative fathers for longer than ten months. The next highest category was the group of unmarried mothers who knew the putative father for two to four months. This consisted of fifteen per cent.

TABLE III

PERIOD OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNMARRIED
MOTHER AND THE PUTATIVE FATHER
AND CASEWORK SERVICES

PERIOD IN MONTHS	CATEGORY A %	CATEGORY B %	CATEGORY C %
less than 1 month	0	20.7	7.7
2 to 4 months	24	6.9	7.7
5 to 7 months	0	10.3	0
8 to 10 months	4	6.9	0
more than 10 months	64	55.2	84.6

When viewed from the different categories of unmarried mothers who were assisted by casework services, Category A showed that 64 per cent of the unmarried mothers knew the putative father for more than two months before they became pregnant. Twenty-four per cent of the unmarried mothers knew

the putative fathers for at least two to four months.

Category B included individuals who were assisted from five to ten casework interviews. Nearly 55.2 per cent knew the putative fathers for more than two months, 6.9 per cent knew him for at least eight to ten months, 10.3 per cent knew the putative father for two to four months and a large per cent of nearly 20.7 knew the putative father for less than one month.

Individuals in Category C experienced casework interviews for more than 10 times. Nearly 84.6 per cent of the unmarried mothers knew the putative father for longer than two months. The remaining 15.4 per cent knew the fathers for less than one month to four months.

In order to determine the significance of our findings, Chi Square tests were applied and in many cases there was a significant relationship between the number of casework interviews and collateral contacts before and after the birth of the child. Also, significant relationships were seen between contacts made directly with the unmarried mother and the putative father by the caseworker. (See Appendix B, Tables VI to VIII).

This chapter deals with the issues and problems of the Child Welfare Act 1965, the relationship between the unmarried mother and the putative father and the services offered by the agency in a casework setting. It is found that the legal system which embraces the unmarried mother has definite bearings on her well-being, contact with the

agency and the assistance she seeks from the worker. It points out that the post partem counselling as an important aspect of services to unmarried parents.

Further our examination revealed that most unmarried mothers have had a long duration of contact with the putative father before they became pregnant. The attitude of the Child Welfare Act does not appear to be conducive to encouraging his involvement, since it is aimed mainly at obtaining financial support from him.

CHAPTER V

THE UNMARRIED MOTHER AND SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

DANIEL DEVLIN

Social work services for the unmarried mother are an important factor in the social work program. These services assist the individual unmarried mother to better cope with her problems and effectively function as an individual within the hardships she has encountered. In order to determine the extent of social work services towards the unmarried mother, the check list questions 39 to 71 dealt with the unmarried mother's involvement in the client-caseworker relationship. The responses from the unmarried mother were measured and categorized by the number of interviews she was involved in with her social worker. The investigators attempted to demonstrate that the degree of response of unmarried mothers to social work services is dependent upon her involvement as measured by questions 39 to 71 in the check list.

The response of the total population has been broken down into three categories: those who had 1 to 4 interviews; those who had 5 to 10 interviews; and those who had 10 or

more interviews. In referring to these categories in this study they shall be known as Category A, B and C respectively.

The first sign of a client's willingness to respond to social work services is the presentation of herself at the agency with her problem. In our study 19 clients or 28 per cent of the population initiated contact directly with the Children's Aid Societies, 3 clients or 4 per cent were referred by another social agency and 45 or 68 per cent were referred by the hospital, friend, family and doctor. Although this data is inconclusive, the majority of unmarried mothers did not directly contact the Children's Aid Societies. A number of variables such as the unmarried mother's ignorance of the services provided, or the psychological conditions of the mother, have not been accounted for in this study.

Question 39 deals with participation of the client in social work assistance. The total number of interviews that each client participated in, indicates that 25 unmarried mothers fell into Category A, 28 into Category B, and 14 into Category C. The total number of interviews that took place are presented in the following table:

TABLE IX

TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS BEFORE AND AFTER BIRTH

CATEGORY	BEFORE BIRTH	AFTER BIRTH
A	36	55
B	86	115
C	119	82

It is to be noted that these figures represent an approximation because of the limitations of the source of the data. It would seem from these that the unmarried mother's response to social work services increased after the birth for Categories A and B and decreased for Category C. However the fact that 16 unmarried mothers did not have any interviews before the birth of the child and these mothers fell into Categories A and B would introduce a distortion into the figures. The most important fact that these figures demonstrate is that the unmarried mothers in Category C had more interviews both before and after the birth.

Questions 41, 42, 43 and 45 were explanatory questions relating to the availability of the unmarried mother for interviews at home and in the office. When the client was unable to come to the office for interviews and accepted service, she was visited by the worker in her home. Although home visits may stimulate a stronger client-caseworker relationship, the number of home interviews is also dependent upon the time, work-load and involvement of the worker. This specific variable was not the focus of the study. The number of appointments that were recorded as missed or cancelled were very small and indicates at least that the unmarried mother has co-operated with the social agency to a large extent.

In answer to the question, "Who requested the first interview after birth?", we find that in category A 18 or 72 per cent of the interviews were requested by the worker and 6 or 24 per cent were requested by the client; in

Category B or 82 per cent of the initial interviews after birth were requested by the worker and 5 or 18 per cent by the unmarried mother. In Category C we found that 5 or 36 per cent of the initial interviews were requested by the worker and 9 or 64 per cent by the client.

Questions 47, 48 and 49 describe the focus of the interviews before and after the birth. These questions were descriptive and did not lend themselves well to statistical analysis. The main focus of the interviews before birth was directed towards confinement and planning for the child. Although problems such as the unmarried mother's relationship with the putative father, with her family, plans for marriage and school progress were named, the principle interest for the mother was her feelings concerning her decision to keep the child or give it up.

The ability of the unmarried mother to work with the caseworker to develop insight is an important clue to her involvement and response to the social work relationship. Although the investigator accepts Rose Bernstein's statement when she cautions the reader "to avoid equating problem with pathology,"¹ it is felt that the client's ability to realistically identify problems is a positive sign of involvement in the social work relationship. In response to question 50, the unmarried mother saw other problems besides her pregnancy,

¹Rose Bernstein, "Perspectives on Services for Teenage Unmarried Mothers," Perspectives on Services for Unmarried Mothers, (New York: Child Welfare League of America Inc., 1964), p. 9.

37 or 55 per cent of the total population were identified as seeing pregnancy as their only problem and 30 or 45 per cent were identified as seeing other problems. The following table illustrates the number of unmarried mothers in each category who saw their pregnancy as their only problem as well as those who saw other problems:

TABLE V

THE PERCENTAGE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS
WHO SAW PREGNANCY AS THEIR ONLY PROBLEM

CATEGORY	YES	NO
A	79	21
B	54	46
C	21	79

This table illustrates that a larger number of the unmarried mothers in Category C, those who had more than 10 interviews, were able to identify problems other than their pregnancy. In Category A, where the client had 1 to 4 interviews, the percentages are reversed with the larger number not seeing problems other than their pregnancy.

Questions 51, 52 and 53 are an expansion of question 50 and are descriptive in nature dealing with the sample in general. The problems, besides the pregnancy, that were most often identified were, relationship with family, relationship with the putative father and problems in school, in that order. There were no problems identified with peers.

Question 54 is related to the unmarried mother's perception of the problems and deals with her involvement in considering the alternatives suggested by the caseworker. Her ability to view alternatives suggests her degree of involvement in the social work relationship. In response to this question we found that of the total population, 47 cases or 70 per cent of the unmarried mothers considered alternatives suggested by the worker while 20 cases or 30 per cent of the total population did not. In Category A, 44 per cent considered suggestions while 56 per cent did not; in Category B 85 per cent considered alternatives while 15 per cent did not and in Category C 86 per cent considered alternatives while 14 per cent did not. This seems to suggest a positive relationship between the number of interviews and the degree of involvement. (See Appendix B, Tables IX to XI).

There were only two cases in the entire population that had a transfer of workers and both these cases the transference was considered positive. Questions 55, 56 and 57 relate to the transfer of workers when the worker is no longer on the job. It was found that where there was a transfer of workers there was no significant correlation between the transfer and the client's ability to relate to the new worker.

It was found that from the sample of population, 38 cases or 57 per cent were described as initiating discussion into problems while 29 or 43 per cent were described as not initiating discussion. In a further breakdown of the

data it was found that 40 per cent of Category A initiated discussion while 60 per cent did not; in Category B 57 per cent initiated discussion and 43 per cent did not; and in Category C 86 per cent initiated discussion and 14 per cent did not. It would seem that there is a positive correlation between the number of interviews and the degree of involvement of the unmarried mother in the social work relationship. Figure 5 in the appendix gives an illustration of this data.

Further, it was found that 67 per cent of the total population contributed suggestions to the worker's alternatives and not only initiated discussion but responded to the social work relationship. Although this was difficult to evaluate from case recordings and required subjective interpretation on the worker's part, it does seem to be an indication of the unmarried mother's involvement in the client-caseworker relationship.

Questions 61 and 62 relate to the unmarried mother's success depending on her following through with the suggestions and possible alternatives in the client-caseworker relationship. Although 45 of the unmarried mothers were identified as successful, 4 as not being successful and 15 as not applying, it was very difficult to draw any conclusions from this data. The reason for this is that to a large extent this was a subjective opinion on the part of the worker or client and their opinion was subject to a number of unanswerable questions. From this trend it is clearly indicated that 67 per cent of the unmarried mothers were

identified as having success in working through and following through with suggestions and alternatives in the client-caseworker relationship.

Questions 64, 65 and 66 relate to the influence on the unmarried mother by her family, the putative father and her peers. Again it was difficult to ascertain from our data any conclusive findings relating to these questions because of their subjective elements. It seems that the family was an influential factor in the girl's response to casework services but it was shown that the putative father and the girl's peers' influence was minimal. The putative father was conspicuously absent although the findings of Pannor, Evans and Massarik suggest the contrary. They point out that an unmarried father-mother constellation exists.²

It was also seen from our data that of the total population 48 cases or 72 per cent of the unmarried mothers were described as actively participating while 19 cases or 28 per cent were described as passive. In Category A 60 per cent were active and 40 per cent were passive; in Category B 75 per cent were active and 25 per cent were passive; and in Category C 86 per cent were active and 14 per cent were passive. This again suggests a definite positive correlation between the total number of interviews and the passive or active involvement of the unmarried mother in the social work relationship. As the activity of

²Reuben Pannor, Byron Evans and Fred Massarik, The Unmarried Father, (New York: National Council on Illegitimacy, 1965), p. 12.

the unmarried mother increases so does the number of her interviews.

The final question deals with termination of services. F. G. Clark³ states that "ideally, termination occurs with the consummation of planned treatment goals and upon the mutual decision of the client and the worker."⁴ This type of termination would indicate the kind of involvement on the part of the unmarried mother and the degree of her involvement. In our study 12 per cent of the cases were terminated by mutual decision, 28 per cent were terminated because of the girl's decision and 30 per cent were closed at the worker's request. Twenty per cent of the cases were still open at the time of our study.

In order to test the above objectively, statistical methods were adopted. Chi square was applied to questions 36, 46, 50, 54, 58 and 71 in each Category, A, B and C, of unmarried mothers. In Category A we found questions 46 and 50 meet the level of significance required by this study. In Category B, questions 36, 46, 50 and 71 were significant. In Category C, questions 54, 58 and 71 were significant. These significant findings indicate that the unmarried mother is involved in a casework relationship when the services rendered to her are conducive for her well-being. Further, it points

³F.G. Clark, "Termination: The Forgotten Phase?" Social Worker, XXXV, (November 1967).

⁴Ibid., p. 265.

out that the frequency of casework interviews increased when the responses of the unmarried mothers were positive to services rendered by the agencies.

This chapter deals with the social work services toward unmarried mothers. It was found that a definite trend if not a positive correlation exists between the unmarried mother's involvement in the client-caseworker relationship and in her response as measured by the number of interviews she attended. The unmarried mother's involvement was measured by her degree of activity, willingness to initiate discussion, capacity for insight and other variables desirable for an effective social work practice. It seems evident though not conclusive that the response of the unmarried mother, as measured by the number of interviews was dependent upon her involvement. The data indicates a progressively higher degree of response in Categories A, B and C respectively and this correlates with a progressively higher degree of involvement. It would seem then in this writer's limited study that his original hypothesis has been upheld.

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

DANIEL DEVLIN, SUSAN NOBBS, GERI SCARROW

The focus of this research project deals with the problem of unmarried parents. It is also concerned in exploring the provisions and statutes of the Child Welfare Act (1965) and its effect on the unmarried mothers. Further it also examines the relationship between the caseworker and the unmarried mother in a setting where social work services are rendered for the betterment of the child and the psychological and social well-being of the mother. In addition to these, the Child Welfare Act is critically examined in order to determine its effectiveness and its flexibility for allowing the individual worker, and the agency to function effectively in organizing its resources for providing adequate services.

These questions were examined by collecting information through a check list, from sixty-seven cases of unmarried mothers whose files and records were available at the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society and the Public Children's Aid Society for the City of Windsor and the County of Essex during the time period of July 1, 1969 to December 1, 1969.

Two general hypotheses were formulated in order to measure the response of unmarried mothers towards the provisions of the Child Welfare Act and the response of the unmarried mothers for social work services at the Children's Aid Societies. The hypotheses were based on the assumption that in the traditional social work setting the involvement between the worker and the unmarried mother is minimal and whereas in a modern social work setting the involvement is deeper and more meaningful.

The check list consisted of 71 questions which were divided into three parts. The first part included questions which gathered basic information of the unmarried mother. The second part of the questions dealt with the Child Welfare Act and its provisions and the third part of the check list elicits information on the worker-client involvement. We found that forty-nine per cent of the girls who became pregnant out of wedlock were between the ages of 17 and 19 and nearly 28 per cent of the girls were between 20 and 22 years. Only very few cases were either below 16 or above 23. The majority of women were Caucasians and had attended high school. Forty-eight per cent of the women have at least attained ninth grade education and to a large extent most of them were either unemployable or dependent on their parents. At least sixteen per cent of the women were employed in clerical services. Most of these women came from Essex County. A high percentage of the women were being supported

during their pregnancy. Most of them were supported by their parents or were living separately with other girl friends.

The second part of the check list deals with the issues and problems of the Child Welfare Act, the relationship between the unmarried mother and the putative father, and the services offered by the agency in a child welfare setting. It has been discovered that the legal system (as well as the institutions which deliver services) have definite bearing on the well-being of the unmarried mother. Further, our examination reveals that most unmarried mothers have had a long duration of contact with the putative father before they became pregnant. It was also found that many services which may be considered desirable are either included in the Child Welfare Act or not a part of the services generally rendered by the agencies. Sometimes the agency and the staff person may consider certain innovative methods and procedures to assist the child, mother and putative father, but the legal system (as well as the organization of the agency may not) have adequate provisions to encompass a broader scope of service or offer more specific directions for effective treatment.

The third part of the check list deals with the social work services for the unmarried mother. It was found that there exists a positive relationship between the unmarried mother's involvement in the caseworker-client relationship and her response to the interviews conducted by the caseworker during the working relationship. The

unmarried mother's involvement was measured by the degree of activity in interviews, her willingness to initiate discussion and her capacity to plan for the child and herself. The unmarried mother who had more than ten interviews seemed to be much more involved in the caseworker-client relationship than the unmarried mother who had fewer interviews. The least involved unmarried mothers had fewer than four interviews with the worker.

In the light of these results several conclusions can be drawn. There is a decrease in post partem counselling. This decrease may be attributed either to the statutes of the Child Welfare Act or the functioning of the agencies. The Act requires that a case be closed or terminated within 60 days of the last significant contact. Unfortunately it does not call for further significant contacts and follow-up's. Another aspect that appears to be very common is that there is at least involvement with the putative father with reference to future planning of the welfare of the child. The putative father is often contacted for financial reasons only. The Act does not recognize the significant relationship of the putative father to the child and therefore the putative father is often excluded from the entire process of responsibility and well-being of the child.

In the light of our examination certain questions can be raised with reference to the statutes of the Child Welfare Act, functions of the Children's Aid Societies with reference

to the delivery of services and the involvement of the case-worker with unmarried mothers and putative fathers in planning for the new-born baby. Since putative fathers are generally contacted by the agency for financial reasons only, the value of involving putative fathers in any kind of significant relationship is found to be minimal. Therefore, one may question the validity of the financial obligation of putative fathers towards the welfare of the child. The Act needs to specify more detailed, elaborate services not only for the treatment of the individuals involved but also emphasize a level of primary prevention in terms of education and community involvements in handling such problems. With reference to the delivery of services by the Children's Aid Societies, it is necessary that more innovative and aggressive approaches may be desirable for the further delivery of services. This would include different levels of prevention to be practiced within the agency and in the community.

APPENDIXES

CHECK LIST

TABLES

GRAPHS

APPENDIX A

CHECK LIST

CHECK LIST

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

1. Referral:
 self _____ doctor _____ school _____
 family _____ clergy _____ maternity home _____
 friend _____ social agency _____ hospital _____
2. Age:
 below 16 _____ 17-19 _____ 20-22 _____ 23-25 _____ 25+ _____
3. Religion:
 Protestant _____ Catholic _____ Jewish _____ other _____
4. Race:
 Caucasian _____ Negro _____ Oriental _____
 Indian _____ Mixed _____
5. Education:
 8 or below _____ 9-10 _____ 11-13 _____
 further education or training _____
6. Occupation:
 non-skilled worker _____ student _____
 skilled worker _____ unemployed _____
 clerical _____ (but not a student) _____
 professional _____
7. Marital Status:
 i) single _____
 ii) married _____
 1) common-law _____
 2) legal marriage but:
 a) separated and not living with another man _____
 b) separated and living with another man _____
 c) divorced but not living with another man _____
 d) divorced but living with another man _____
 iii) widowed _____
 a) and living with another man _____
 b) but not living with another man _____
8. Residence:
 Essex County _____ other _____

9. Supporting self:
- a) living alone _____
 - b) living with female friend _____
 - c) living with family _____
 - d) living with boy friend _____
10. Being supported:
- a) living alone _____
 - b) living with family _____
 - c) living common-law _____
 - d) living on allowance from
previous marriage _____
 - e) welfare _____
11. Number of months pregnant on first contact:
- 1-3 _____ 4-6 _____ 7-9 _____ after birth _____
12. Was this the first out-of-wedlock pregnancy?
- Yes _____ No _____
13. If no:
- 2nd _____ 3rd _____ 4th _____ 5th _____
14. If no, was it the
- same father _____
 - different father _____
 - don't know _____
15. State purpose for contact with agency:
- a) help in planning for adoption _____
 - b) help in planning for confinement _____
 - c) help in deciding plan _____
 - d) help in planning to keep baby _____
 - e) to get support from the putative father _____
 - f) other _____
16. How many interviews took place before the baby was born?
- 0 _____ 1 _____ 2-4 _____ 5-7 _____ 8-9 _____ 10+ _____
17. Were collateral contacts made?
- a) such as placing her in a home _____
 - b) attempts to involve family _____
 - c) attempts to get welfare _____
 - d) attempts to involve the putative father _____
 - e) none _____
18. Not seen as necessary by:
- a) worker _____
 - b) client _____
 - c) both _____

19. If the girl missed an interview before the baby was born, what did the worker do?
 A a) call _____ B a) how often? _____
 b) letter _____ b) how often? _____
 c) visit _____ c) how often? _____
20. If this happened repeatedly, did the worker continue to try to involve her?
 yes _____ no _____ don't know _____
21. If yes, for how long? _____
22. Was the girl visited in hospital?
 yes _____ no _____
23. For what purposes?
 a) to complete birth registration forms _____
 b) to continue the casework relationship _____
 c) both a and b _____
 d) to establish relationship _____
24. Was service offered after the baby was born?
 yes _____ no _____
25. Was it accepted?
 yes _____ no _____
26. How many interviews took place after the birth of the baby?
 0 _____ 1 _____ 2-4 _____ 5-7 _____ 8-10 _____ 10+ _____
27. If the mother failed to come for an interview after the baby was born, what did the worker do?
 A a) call _____ B a) how often? _____
 b) letter _____ b) how often? _____
 c) visit _____ c) how often? _____
28. If this happened repeatedly, did the worker continue to try to involve her?
 yes _____ no _____
29. For how long? _____
30. Were collateral contacts made for the unmarried mother after the birth?
 yes _____ no _____
31. Not seen as necessary by:
 a) worker _____
 b) client _____
 c) both _____

32. If so, what was the nature of them?
 a) to Canada Manpower _____
 b) to City Welfare _____
 c) with family _____
 d) with putative father _____
33. Was an attempt made to involve the putative father?
 yes _____ no _____
34. At whose request?
 a) the putative father's _____
 b) the girl's _____
 c) the worker's _____
 d) other _____
35. For what purpose?
 a) to get an agreement _____
 b) other _____
36. Did the girl wish to have him involved
 a) yes _____ no _____
 b) if no, why not? _____
37. Did the putative father wish to become involved?
 yes _____ no _____
38. Did the unmarried mother know the putative father for long?
 a) less than 1 month _____
 b) 2-4 months _____
 c) 5-7 months _____
 d) 8-10 months _____
 e) 10 months or more _____
39. Total number of interviews:
 0 _____ 1 _____ 2-4 _____ 5-7 _____ 8-10 _____ 11-13 _____
 14+ _____
40. Number of office interviews after the birth:
 0 _____ 1 _____ 2-4 _____ 5-7 _____ 8-10 _____ 11-13 _____
 14+ _____
41. Indicate if impossible for unmarried mothers to come to the office

42. Was unmarried mother available for interviews after the birth?
 yes _____ no _____
43. Indicate if home visits not advisable:

44. Number of home interviews after the birth which were arranged by mutual decision:
0 ____ 1 ____ 2-4 ____ 5-7 ____ 8-10 ____ 10+ ____
45. Number of appointments missed or cancelled after the birth?
0 ____ 1 ____ 2-4 ____ 5-7 ____ 8-10 ____ 10+ ____
46. Who requested the interview? (1st interview after the birth)
worker _____
unmarried mother _____
both _____
47. Before the birth, what was the main focus of the interviews?
a) plan for confinement _____
b) adoption placement _____
c) both a and b _____
d) plan for keeping child _____
e) both a and d _____
f) plan for marriage _____
g) unmarried mother and family relationship _____
h) unmarried mother and putative father relationship _____
48. After the birth, did the focus change?
yes ____ no ____
49. What was the focus of interviews after the birth?
a) mother's feelings re baby i) kept it _____
 ii) adopted _____
b) mother's feelings re returning to school, work, family, etc. _____
c) mother's problems with school, family, work, etc. _____
d) mother's relationship with putative father _____
e) other _____
50. Did she see the out-of-wedlock pregnancy as a problem?
yes ____ no ____
51. Did she see herself as having problems with:
a) family _____
b) school _____
c) peers _____
d) putative father _____

52. a) Did the unmarried mother see the out-of-wedlock pregnancy as the cause of these problems?
 yes _____ no _____ don't know _____
- b) Did the unmarried mother see these problems as the cause of the pregnancy?
 yes _____ no _____
- c) Did she see the out-of-wedlock pregnancy as relieving these problems?
 yes _____ no _____
53. Did the unmarried mother see these problems as being:
- a) of long standing _____
- b) of recent origin _____
- c) of long standing but became evident with the pregnancy _____
- d) of recent origin but unrelated to the pregnancy _____
- e) of recent origin because of the pregnancy _____
54. Did the unmarried mother consider alternatives of the worker?
 yes _____ no _____
55. Was there a change of worker in this case?
 yes _____ no _____
56. Was any reaction of the unmarried mother apparent?
 yes _____ no _____
57. Was the reaction:
 positive _____ negative _____
 (cancelling or missing of interviews or ending contact as indicators of negative reaction)
58. Did the unmarried mother initiate discussion of problem areas?
 yes _____ no _____
59. Did the unmarried mother follow alternatives of caseworker?
 yes _____ no _____
60. Did the unmarried mother suggest alternatives to caseworker's suggestions?
 yes _____ no _____

61. If the unmarried mother acted on alternatives, did she have success with it?
 yes _____ no _____
- Whose suggestions?
 a) worker's _____
 b) client's _____
 c) both _____
62. In whose opinion?
 a) worker's _____
 b) client's _____
 c) both _____
63. If the unmarried mother did not follow suggestions, did she:
 a) suggest alternatives _____
 b) reject all suggestions _____
 c) do what she first intended _____
 d) remain inactive _____
 e) withdraw _____
64. If the girl was still involved in her family, did she:
 a) do what they suggested _____
 b) do what she thought best _____
 c) both, since they were similar _____
 d) don't know _____
65. If the putative father was involved, did she follow his suggestions:
 yes _____ no _____
66. Was she influenced by peers?
 yes _____ no _____
67. Was the unmarried mother's participation either:
 active _____ passive _____
68. In planning for the baby was the decision made because the unmarried mother:
 a) felt it was best for the child _____
 b) felt it was best for all involved _____
 c) wanted to be done with it all _____
 d) wanted to keep it but couldn't _____
 e) other _____
 f) reality factors _____
69. Was the health of the baby a factor in deciding what to do?
 yes _____ no _____

70. If yes, in what way?

71. Regarding termination of services, was it

- | | | | |
|--------------|------|------------------------------|-------|
| a) planned | i) | mutual decision | _____ |
| | ii) | girl's decision | _____ |
| | iii) | worker's decision | _____ |
| | iv) | parent's decision | _____ |
| | v) | transfer to another agency | _____ |
| b) unplanned | i) | mother returned to home town | _____ |
| | ii) | mother moved to another town | _____ |
| | iii) | worker left agency | _____ |
| | iv) | mother withdrew from contact | _____ |
| | v) | parent's decision | _____ |

APPENDIX B

TABLES

TABLE VI
 CHI SQUARE RESULTS OF VARIABLES
 FOR CATEGORY A
 (1-4 interviews)

VARIABLES	χ^2^a
Were collateral contacts made before birth?	13.9 **
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview before birth?	20.3 **
Did the worker visit the unmarried mother at hospital?	.692 *
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview after birth?	17. **
Were collateral contacts made after birth?	3.15 ***
Was an attempt made to involve the putative father	4.69 ***
Length of time unmarried mother knew putative father	1.92 *

a χ^2 refers to the Chi Square Test
 * not significant
 ** .02 level of significance
 *** .05 level of significance

TABLE VII

CHI SQUARE RESULTS OF VARIABLES

FOR CATEGORY B

(5-10 interviews)

VARIABLES	X ^{2a}
Were collateral contacts made before birth?	.84 *
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview before birth?	20.84**
Did the worker visit the unmarried mother at hospital?	17.40**
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview after birth?	24.33**
Were collateral contacts made after birth?	2.73 *
Was an attempt made to involve the putative father?	12.06**
Length of time unmarried mother knew putative father.	.33 *

a X² refers to the Chi Square Test
 * not significant
 ** .02 level of significance
 *** .05 level of significance

TABLE VIII

CHI SQUARE RESULT OF VARIABLES

FOR CATEGORY C

(10 or more interviews)

VARIABLE	χ^2 ^a
Were collateral contacts made before birth?	1.85 *
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview before birth?	5.85**
Did the worker visit the unmarried mother at hospital?	5.85**
Did the unmarried mother miss an interview after birth?	8.71**
Were collateral contacts made after birth?	.14 *
Was an attempt made to involve the putative father?	3.57***
Length of time unmarried mother knew putative father.	5.85**

a χ^2 refers to the Chi Square Test
 * not significant
 ** .02 level of significance
 *** .05 level of significance

TABLE IX

CHI SQUARE RESULTS OF VARIABLES ACCORDING

FOR CATEGORY A

(1-4 interviews)

VARIABLE	X ² ^a
Did the unmarried mother wish involvement of the putative father?	.1 *
Who requested the first interview after birth?	5.6**
Did the unmarried mother see pregnancy her only problem?	6.5**
Did the unmarried mother consider alternatives suggested by her worker?	.38*
Did the unmarried mother initiate discussion of problem areas?	1.3 *
Termination of service.	1. *

a X² refers to the Chi Square Test

* not significant

** .02 level of significance

*** .05 level of significance

TABLE X

CHI SQUARE RESULTS OF VARIABLES ACCORDING

FOR CATEGORY B

(5-10 interviews)

VARIABLE	χ^2 ^a
Did the unmarried mother wish the involvement of the putative father?	5 **
Who requested the first interview after birth?	9.3**
Did the unmarried mother see the pregnancy as her only problem?	.01*
Did the unmarried mother consider alternatives suggested by her worker	14 **
Did the unmarried mother initiate discussion of problem areas?	.57*
Termination of services.	7 **

a χ^2 refers to the Chi Square Test
 * not significant
 ** .02 level of significance
 *** .05 level of significance

TABLE XI

CHI SQUARE RESULTS OF VARIABLES ACCORDING

FOR CATEGORY C

(10 or more interviews)

VARIABLES	X ^{2a}
Did the unmarried mother wish the involvement of the putative father?	.3 *
Who requested the first interview after birth?	1.1 *
Did the unmarried mother see the pregnancy as her only problem?	4.5***
Did the unmarried mother consider alternatives suggested by her worker?	7 **
Did the unmarried mother initiate discussion of problem areas?	7 **
Termination of services.	7 **

a X² refers to the Chi Square Test
 * not significant
 ** .02 level of significance
 *** .05 level of significance

APPENDIX C

GRAPHS

Figure 1

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS

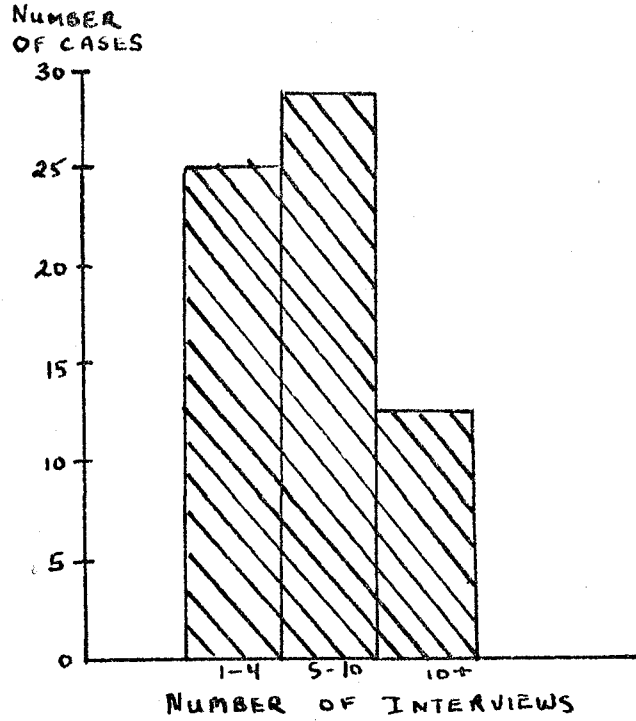


Figure 2

COLLATERAL CONTACTS BEFORE AND AFTER BIRTH

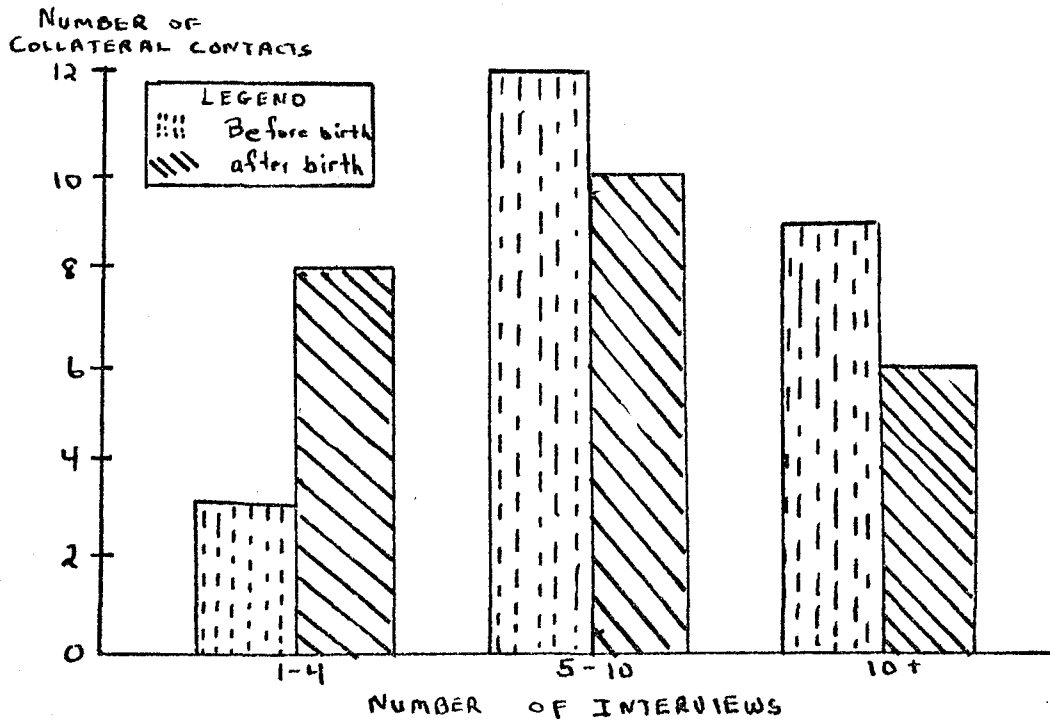


Figure 3

IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEM

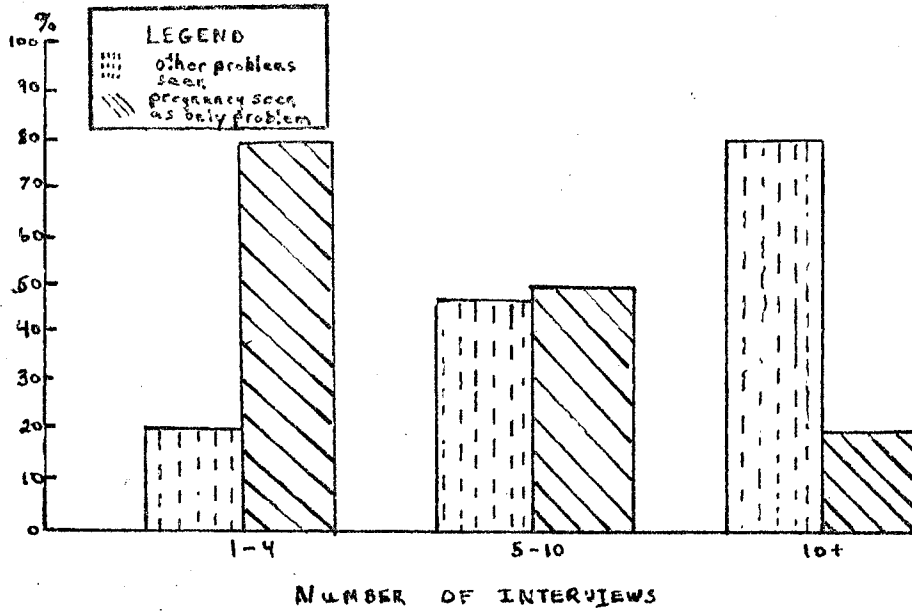


Figure 4

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

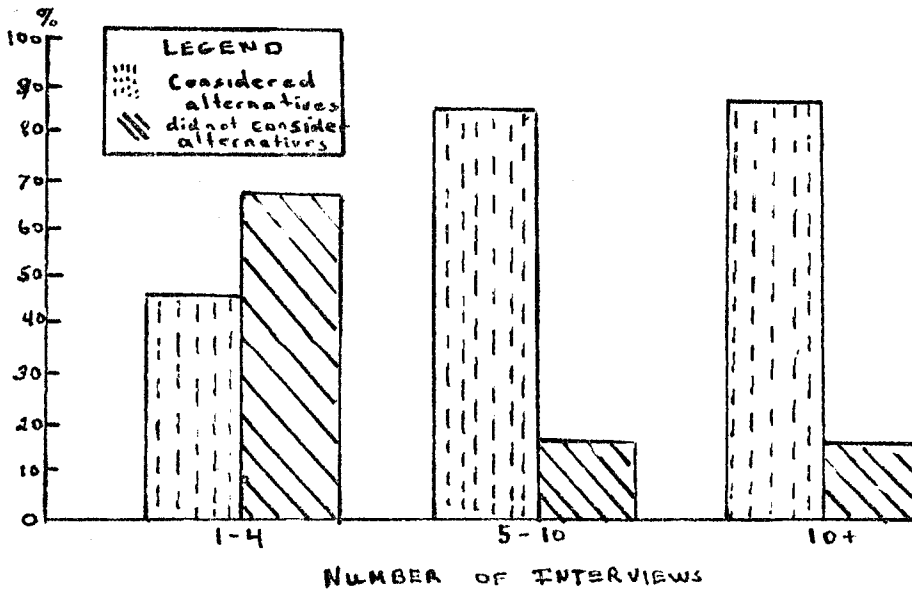
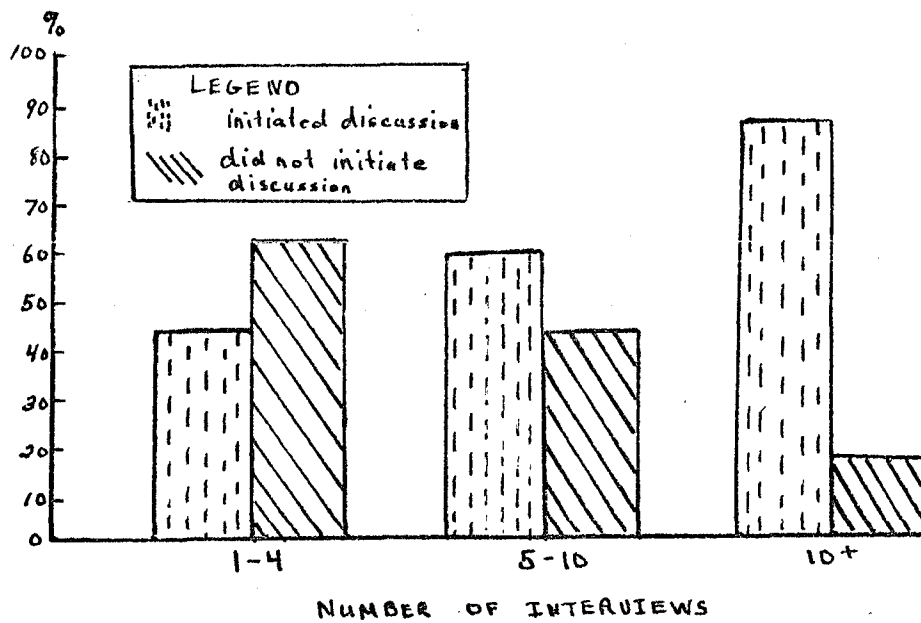


Figure 5
DISCUSSION INITIATED BY UNMARRIED MOTHER



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VITA

Daniel H. Devlin was born on May 4, 1943 in Kingston, Ontario. After graduating from Regiopolis College in Kingston, Ontario, he entered St. Augustine's Seminary to study for the priesthood. However, after completing three years of study, he decided not to pursue this goal, and looked for a career in the secular life.

He completed his undergraduate training at the University of Windsor, where he studied history and English. Upon graduating he found employment at the Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society, where he worked for two years in the Family Service Department. Here he worked in family counselling and to a large extent worked with multi-problem low income families.

He returned to the University of Windsor where he obtained his Master's Degree in Social Work in the Spring of 1970.

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VITA

Sylvia Susan Nobbs was born in Windsor, Ontario on October 4, 1942. She was raised in Windsor, Ontario and attended Walker Road and Hugh Beaton Elementary Schools. She entered Patterson Secondary School in September 1955 and remained there until September 1958, at which time she transferred to Walkerville Secondary School. She completed her secondary education at Walkerville in June 1960. In September 1960 she enrolled in Assumption University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario. She graduated from the University of Windsor (formerly Assumption University) in May of 1964 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Her major is in Psychology and her minor in Sociology.

From 1964 to 1968 she obtained a position as a social worker at the Children's Aid Society of the County of Essex, 690 Cataraqui Street, Windsor, Ontario. Her case load was a mixture of Protection, Child Care and Unmarried Parent cases.

In the fall of 1968 she returned to school. She enrolled in the School of Social Work at the University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario. In May 1970 she completed the requirements and graduated from the University of Windsor with a Master's Degree of Social Work.

VITA

Geraldine Scarrow was born in Sudbury, Ontario on July 9, 1946. She attended several separate schools in the Sudbury area. Her high school years were completed at Marymount College. Staying in the north, she attended Laurentian University in Sudbury and received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 1968.

She was accepted into the School of Social Work at the University of Windsor in September 1968 and graduated in June 1970, with a Master of Social Work degree.

Her main work experience was in the area of psychiatric hospitals. She was employed by the Sudbury and Algoma Sanatorium for two summers, and for one summer at the North Bay Psychiatric Hospital.

She is now employed by the Children's Aid Society and Family Counselling Service for the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington.