Reviews

Working with Adolescent Violence and Abuse Towards Parents: Approaches and Contexts for Intervention

Literature and policy in the UK is full of evidence and guidance about parents who abuse their children, but less so on children who abuse their parents.

Yet evidence about child-on-parent abuse is accumulating, as is criticism that advice is difficult to obtain and practical support is lacking.

This text fills some of these gaps with a rounded discussion of precursors to adolescent violence and abuse, as well as contemporary interventions. It draws on evidence from around the world and contributors identify, present and explore what works.

The text is in two parts: the first explores interventions and their theoretical basis, the second looks at the challenges of working with adolescents and their families.

Presented in an engaging style, this book is a research-based exploration of the complexities and challenges involved in child-on-parent abuse. Although there is little focus on health professionals in this field, the text has much to offer about interventions and approaches that can be applied to adolescents and their families, and would be a valuable resource for practitioners working with young people.


Reviewed by John Thain, senior lecturer in children’s nursing, University of Wolverhampton

Understanding Nursing and Healthcare Research

The 12 chapters here cover the key topics in the nursing and healthcare research process, including data collection, data analysis, and qualitative and quantitative approaches.

Each chapter ends with a summary of key points and signposting to useful online resources for further exploration. The book concludes with a glossary of research terminology.

Peppered throughout the book are activities for the reader to undertake, and a companion website includes a critical appraisal tool and multiple choice questions. Lecturers have access to seminar plans and PowerPoint slides for use in teaching sessions.


Reviewed by Layla Lavallee, midwife, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust

Understanding Nursing and Healthcare Research

This is an excellent resource for anyone considering or currently undergoing midwifery training. It provides a realistic and honest view of the challenges faced by midwifery students, along with practical advice and tips for making the most of clinical placements.

It addresses the gap between theory and practice that students will inevitably encounter, explains the structure of maternity care provision and the roles of those who make up the larger multidisciplinary team.

However, the target audience is not clearly defined, which has resulted in some inconsistencies.

The authors state that the book is intended as an introductory text to facilitate understanding of research, to foster research awareness and develop the skills to read and understand research. Yet the theoretical concepts in chapter one would suggest otherwise to students who have a limited understanding or experience of research.

By contrast, the chapters that address searching and reviewing the literature, ethical and legal issues, and rigour in research are more appropriately pitched at an introductory level and provide valuable insights for novices to research.

With the number of established introductory texts on the market, it is unclear to which niche group this book will appeal.


Reviewed by Kathleen Duffy, senior nurse practice educator, NHS Lanarkshire

The Hands-on Guide to Midwifery Placements

An overview of the basic principles of high and low-risk care is given, plus tips for choosing elective placements and applying for jobs once qualified.

The author’s explanation of the assessment process that midwifery students must undergo is particularly useful, and the text’s clear writing style – with beautiful student reflections throughout – is a refreshing contrast to the woolly language that midwifery theory is so often written in.

Experienced midwives should find this book an interesting read and useful in their role as mentors. Although aspects of the book are relevant to nursing, it is specific in its midwifery focus, and nursing students will probably find other resources more suited to their needs.


Reviewed by Layla Lavallee, midwife, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust

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