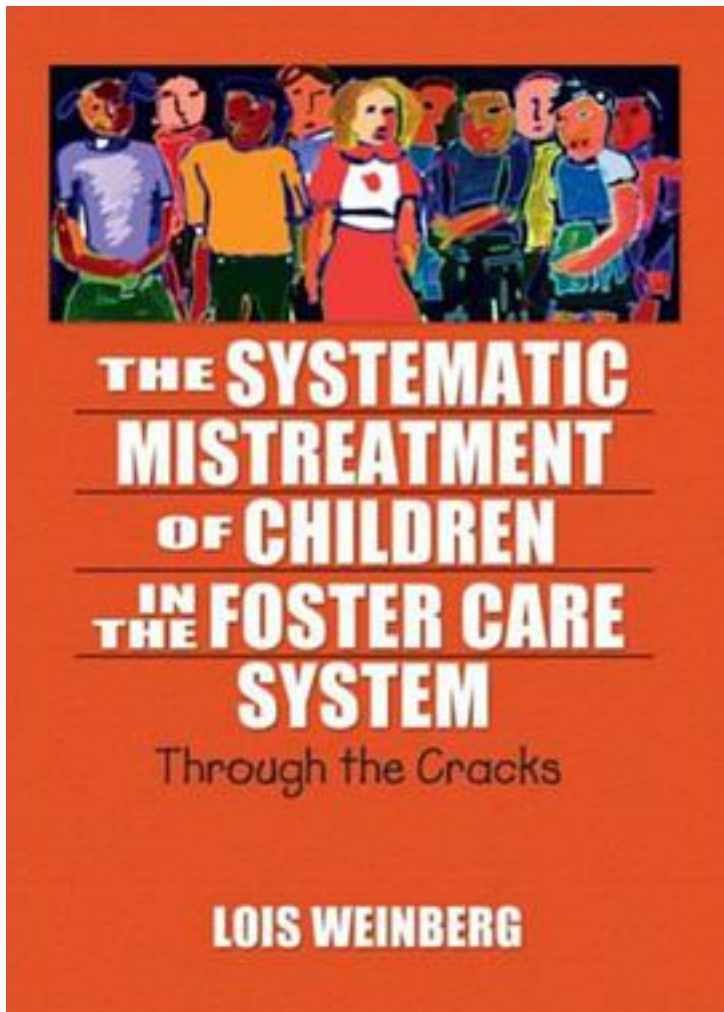


The Systematic Mistreatment of Children in the Foster Care System



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The Systematic Mistreatment of Children in the Foster Care System tells the stories of 10 children in the foster care system from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and the efforts by advocates to find them permanent places to live, appropriate schooling, and other essentials they need to survive. The children's case studies highlight the difficulties in placing and maintaining them in healthy living situations with supportive educational, mental health, and other services. The book shows how children fall-sometimes over and over again-through the "deep cracks" that exist within and between the various agencies of the multi-agency system of care that was designed to help them. Appropriate placement and services for children in foster care typically requires the coordination and collaboration of several agencies, including the juvenile court, child protective services (CPS), school districts, and departments of mental health (DMH). The Systematic Mistreatment of Children in the Foster Care System shows how these agencies frequently fail to meet their legal obligations to children in the system and what can be done to address these failures-and the outcomes they produce. The Systematic Mistreatment of Children in the Foster Care System includes: an introduction to the child protective services system the general route by which children in the United States are removed from their parents' custody because of abuse and neglect the major components of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the problems in getting foster children's educational needs met the difficulties in securing stable out-of-home placements strategies for stabilizing home placements problems in funding for out-of-home placements strategies for advocating the removal of children from inadequate out-of-home placements legislation and practices for bringing about needed policy changes and much more Equally valuable as a professional tool and as a classroom resource, The Systematic Mistreatment of Children in the Foster Care System includes introductions to specific issues presented in each chapter; case studies that illuminate the issues presented; subsections for each case study chapter entitled "Prevention," "Intervention," "Advocacy Considerations," and "What Had Gone Wrong;" boxed items highlighting practical strategies, laws, and other relevant information; and a conclusion and summary of each chapter.

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