Now in its third edition, *Human Rights and Social Work* explores how the principles of human rights inform contemporary social work practice. Both human rights and social work have traditionally been understood through the lens of an Enlightenment world view. Jim Ife explores the implications of this Enlightenment heritage for social work, and the possibilities of ‘post-Enlightenment’ practice, in a way that is accessible, direct and engaging.

The world has changed significantly since the publication of the first edition in 2001 and this book is situated firmly within the context of present-day debates, concerns and crises. It covers the importance of relating human rights to the non-human world, as well as the consequences of political and ecological uncertainty. By examining the evolving nature of human rights, Ife encourages social workers to apply a human rights framework to their practice.

Featuring examples, further readings and a glossary, this book enables readers to identify and investigate the important issues and questions arising from human rights and social work. Now more than ever, *Human Rights and Social Work* is an indispensable resource for students, scholars and practitioners alike.

**Emeritus Professor Jim Ife** holds adjunct positions at the Centre for Human Rights Education at Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia, at the Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights at Deakin University, and at Victoria University, Melbourne, Victoria.
Human Rights and Social Work
Towards rights-based practice
Third edition
Jim Ife
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Emeritus Professor Jim Ife holds adjunct positions at the Centre for Human Rights Education at Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia, at the Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights at Deakin University, and at Victoria University, Melbourne. He is a former secretary of the Human Rights Commission of the International Federation of Social Workers and is also a former president of Amnesty International Australia. Previously, he was Professor of Social Work and Social Policy at the University of Western Australia and at Curtin University. His other publications include Community Development (3rd edition, 2006), Rethinking Social Work: Towards Critical Practice (1997) and Human Rights from Below: Human Rights and Community Development (2010).
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For the author of a book to claim that the ideas it contains are all his/her own is both false and arrogant. Ideas are shared, developed and reconstructed through a process of continuous dialogue, reading and collaborative praxis, and any claim to individual 'ownership' of such ideas in the form of 'intellectual property' is a nonsense. Simply writing ideas in a book, with its corresponding claim to ownership and authority, is to privilege the author over others who have had a major influence in the creative endeavour and is, for this author at least, a source of some discomfort. Many people have contributed, often unknowingly, to the ideas in this book and it would be impossible to acknowledge, or even to remember, them all. I owe a great deal to many encounters with students, colleagues and friends in several different universities and in the wider community.

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