

Cambridge Elements

Elements in Child Development

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CHILD WELFARE, PROTECTION, AND JUSTICE

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Abstract: This Element first reviews the limitations of the concepts of problems in childhood. It proposes a universal, comprehensive, and longitudinal conceptual framework of problems in childhood, their differential context, and their cyclical effects. Based on the linkages identified in the children's problems, they are divided into three levels: primary, secondary, and tertiary. The Element then reviews the concepts and the limitations of the prevalent service delivery approaches of child welfare, protection, and justice, because of which these services have not helped to break the cycle of problems in childhood. The Element identifies the rights-based comprehensive, preventive, and systemic approach for child welfare, at primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention levels, in order to break this cycle of problems. Finally, the Element goes into details of tertiary-prevention-level integrated service delivery for children facing sociolegal problems.

Keywords: child welfare, child protection, justice for children, preventive service delivery systems, child rights

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