



A Systematic Review of Strategies to Promote Successful Reunification and to Reduce Re-entry to Care for Abused, Neglected, and Unruly Children

Final Report
Presented to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Denise E. Bronson, MSW, Ph.D.
Stacey Saunders, MSSA
Mary Beth Holt, MSW
Emily Beck, BSSW

The Ohio State University
College of Social Work

May 2008

A Systematic Review of Strategies to Promote Successful Family Reunification and to Reduce Re-entry to Care for Abused, Neglected, and Unruly Children

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	V
I. BACKGROUND	1
A. ACCOUNTABILITY IN CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE.....	1
B. OHIO CFSR RESULTS.....	5
C. CFSR DEFINITIONS OF REUNIFICATION AND RE-ENTRY	6
D. SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ON REUNIFICATION AND RE-ENTRY.....	7
II. PROBLEM STATEMENT.....	11
III. THE SYSTEMATIC REVIEW QUESTIONS.....	11
IV. PROJECT METHODOLOGY	12
A. SEARCH STRATEGIES.....	13
B. KEYWORDS.....	15
C. REVIEW PROCESS	17
D. INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA.....	18
E. ANALYSIS METHODS	19
F. ASSESSING RESEARCH QUALITY	20
G. RELIABILITY CODING CHECKS.....	22
H. DESCRIPTION OF RETRIEVED LITERATURE	22
1. <i>Total Number of Reunification and Re-entry Articles Reviewed.....</i>	<i>23</i>
2. <i>Number of Articles by Population – Abused, Neglected and Unruly Youth</i>	<i>25</i>
3. <i>Number of Articles by Rating on the Maryland Scale of Scientific Methods.....</i>	<i>25</i>
V. RESULTS.....	26
A. ANALYSIS OF THE EMPIRICAL LITERATURE	28
1. <i>Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Studies.....</i>	<i>28</i>
a) Findings and Limitations of the Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research.....	35
2. <i>Empirical, Non-Experimental Research.....</i>	<i>37</i>
a) Child Characteristics	38
b) Parent/Family Characteristics	39
c) Service Characteristics	43
3. <i>Program Models.....</i>	<i>45</i>

a)	Intensive Family Preservation/Reunification Services (IFPS) Models	45
b)	Recovery Coaches and Service Matching Program	49
c)	Early Intervention Foster Care (EIFC) Program (Oregon)	50
d)	Concurrent Planning Models.....	51
e)	Court-based Programs.....	51
f)	Manatee Model (Florida).....	52
g)	Assessment and Treatment Model	52
4.	<i>Qualitative Research</i>	59
B.	ANALYSIS OF THE CONCEPTUAL LITERATURE.....	61
1.	<i>Theoretical Foundations and Assumptions</i>	61
a)	Theoretical Foundations	61
b)	Family-Centered Approach.....	62
2.	<i>Child and Family Factors</i>	62
a)	Multi-problem families	62
b)	Substance Abuse.....	63
c)	Neglectful Families.....	64
d)	Poverty.....	65
3.	<i>Services</i>	65
a)	Case Workers Behaviors	65
b)	Assessment	66
c)	Engaging Families	66
d)	Concrete Services.....	67
e)	Social Supports.....	68
f)	Mental Health Services	68
g)	Skill training.....	69
h)	Visitation	69
i)	Agency Factors	70
4.	<i>Re-entry</i>	70
5.	<i>Summary of the Conceptual Literature Review</i>	72
VI.	SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.....	73
A.	ASSESSING THE AVAILABLE RESEARCH ON REUNIFICATION AND RE-ENTRY	73
B.	WHAT INTERVENTIONS OR PROMISING PRACTICES APPEAR TO PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF RE-ENTRY TO CARE?	75
C.	WHAT FACTORS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH SUCCESSFUL FAMILY REUNIFICATION AND REDUCED RE-ENTRY TO CARE?	76
1.	<i>Pre-reunification Services</i>	76
2.	<i>Reunification Services</i>	77
a)	Reducing Re-entry to Care	77
b)	Special Considerations for Unruly Children	77
D.	RESEARCH NEEDED TO DEVELOP MORE EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS	78
VII.	FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS.....	79
VIII.	GENERAL REFERENCES AND RESOURCE MATERIALS	81

APPENDIX A	84
ELECTRONIC DATABASES USED IN SYSTEMATIC REVIEW.....	84
APPENDIX B	91
ARTICLES REVIEWED FOR THE SYSTEMATIC REVIEW.....	91
APPENDIX C	142
FACTORS CORRELATED WITH REUNIFICATION AND RE-ENTRY.....	142
APPENDIX D	147
ACCESS DATA ABSTRACTION FORMS.....	147

Tables

Table 1. CFSR Assessment Areas and Indicators.....	3
Table 2. Ohio's Compliance with National Outcome Indicator Standards in 1st CFSR.	5
Table 3. Definitions for Reunification and Re-Entry in 1st and 2nd CFSR.....	7
Table 4. Stages of a Systematic Review.	10
Table 5. Search Questions.	12
Table 6. Search methods.....	14
Table 7. Keywords Used in Electronic Database Searches.....	16
Table 8. Maryland Scale of Scientific Methods (adapted from Sherman, 1998).....	21
Table 9. Frequency of Maryland Scale Ratings.	26
Table 10. Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research on Reunification and Re-entry.	29
Table 11. Program Models for Improving Reunification and Decreasing Re-entry to Care.	53

Figures

Figure 1. Article Review Process.....	24
---------------------------------------	----

A Systematic Review of Strategies to Promote Successful Family Reunification and to Reduce Re-entry to Care for Abused, Neglected, and Unruly Children

Executive Summary

In 2003 the Children's Bureau (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) completed the first Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) to assess each state's outcomes for children and families served by their child welfare system and to monitor the state's ability to deliver services to families. During that review, Ohio was judged to be out of compliance on six outcome measures. Two of these are the focus of this report. The first focuses on the percentage of children who were successfully reunified with their parents within 12 months of out-of-home placement and the second measure addresses the percentage of children who re-entered out-of-home care within 12 months of reunification. Too few children were being reunified in a timely manner and too many were returning to placement after reunification.

This systematic review was completed to provide an analysis of the available empirical evidence on services to increase successful family reunification and on strategies to reduce re-entry to care. The search questions guiding the retrieval of relevant literature can be summarized as follows.

1. What interventions or "promising practices" appear to result in a) increasing successful family reunification and b) reducing re-entry to out-of-home care for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?
2. What factors are associated with successful family reunification and what factors are associated with re-entry to care?
3. What research is needed to develop more effective interventions for successful family reunification and to reduce re-entry to care following reunification?

The search of published and unpublished materials satisfying the inclusion criteria produced 800 articles for the initial review. Ultimately, 71 empirical articles (6 were of experimental or quasi-experimental studies) met all the inclusion criteria and were included in the review. To supplement the systematic review of the experimental and quasi-experimental studies, empirical literature such as correlational and qualitative research, and non-empirical, conceptual articles were also reviewed for relevant themes and variables for future research.

The limited number of rigorous research studies (experimental or quasi-experimental research) on reunification and re-entry to care made it impossible to draw

definitive conclusions on the effectiveness of existing reunification programs. However, an analysis of the entirety of the available empirical research identified numerous program models and factors that are associated with successful family reunification.

Some of the critical components of services to support successful reunification and to reduce re-entry include:

1. Pre-reunification Services

- Assess parental ambivalence about the reunification and reunification readiness similar to that included in the North Carolina Family Assessment Scale for Reunification (NCFAS-R) and address issues that are identified.
- Prepare a detailed service plan for families.
- Actively engage parents and involve parents in case planning; arrange regular contact between the parents and the child.
- Schedule regular home visits for the child.
- Identify family needs and match them with available community services prior to reunification.
- Provide parenting skills training to prepare parents to deal with behavioral difficulties exhibited by their child.
- Develop training programs for workers on how to engage parents.
- Work collaboratively with parents, children, kinship caregivers, and foster parents to prepare for reunification.

2. Reunification Services

- Offer intensive, in-home services (described earlier) with low worker to family ratios.
- Match services to client-identified needs for individualized programming.
- Offer multi-component services to address the complex issues presented by family reunification. These would include mental health services for the parents and children, stress management support, concrete services (housing, financial, job, transportation), substance abuse programs, counseling, and homemaker assistance.
- Anticipate family issues and provide preventive services based on pre-reunification assessments of family strengths and needs. Services should be in place at the time of reunification to prevent the need for re-entry to care.
- Provide special health care services for children with health needs such as respite care, nurses and aides, and social supports.
- Provide concrete services in an effort to minimize family stresses.

- Offer different services for families with children in care due to neglect than for families with children in care due to other types of abuse or dependency.
3. Reducing Re-entry to Care
- Use assessment tools, such as NCFAS-R, to determine the appropriateness of reunification and the best timing for reunification.
 - Identify family factors that have been correlated with re-entry and provide specialized services. For example, develop programs for older youth who are reunifying as well as for parents with infants and young children.
 - Introduce cognitive-behavior programs to deal with child behavior problems and train parents in the use of behavioral parenting methods.
 - Maintain reunification services for at least 12 months after reunification.
4. Special Considerations for Unruly Children
- Work with courts to create expedited review processes.
 - Deal with parental ambivalence about reunification with an unruly child. Assist them in increasing ability to effectively manage the child's disruptive behaviors.
 - Provide services similar to the Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care program in Oregon and work with parents and foster parents to implement a consistent behavior management program.

The review of existing research revealed a number of important gaps in the research. Some of the areas needing further research include:

- The role of fathers and methods to engage them in the reunification process
- Strategies to address the special needs of families dealing with unruly children and youth
- Rigorous evaluative research on reunification programs to establish causal links between program participation and successful reunification

The report concludes with suggestions for ways to use the best available evidence on reunification and re-entry to address these issues in Ohio.

A Systematic Review of Strategies to Promote Successful Family Reunification and to Reduce Re-entry to Care for Abused, Neglected, and Unruly Children

I. Background

A. Accountability in Child Welfare Practice

In order to promote accountability in the child welfare system, the Children's Bureau and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services instituted the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) in January 2000. The purpose of the CFSR is to "determine the nature and extent of strengths and weaknesses in the state's efforts to assure the outcomes of safety, permanence and well being for children and families" (Cohen, 2003, p.5). The CFSR gathers information from each of the 50 states to assess 1) outcomes for children and families served by the child welfare systems, and 2) the state's ability to deliver services.

The CFSR review is completed in three steps. The first step is an assessment of the state's ability to achieve its outcome objectives for children and families based on an analysis of state data. The second step consists of an intensive, on-site review that includes case reviews and interviews with key stakeholders. After completing these first two steps, the Children's Bureau issues a report outlining the state's strengths and weaknesses on 1) six general national standards, 2) seven outcome indicators, and 3) seven systemic indicators. The specific measures for each of the report areas are presented in Table 1. The report from the Children's Bureau notes the areas in which the state has met or exceeded the general national standards, and indicates where improvements are needed on the outcome and systemic indicators. The six national standard categories provide quantitative criteria against which states can assess their

progress towards program improvement. The third step in the CFSR review process requires each state to develop a program improvement plan (PIP) which describes the steps that will be taken to address the areas in which the state needs improvements to achieve the general national standards.

The first CFSR was completed for all the states in 2003. According to the ACF website, "All 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico completed their first review by 2004. No State was found to be in substantial conformity in all of the outcome areas or seven systemic factors. Since that time, States have been implementing their PIPs [Program Improvement Plans] to correct those outcome areas not found in substantial conformity. The second round of reviews began in the spring of 2007" (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov>). States that do not meet their improvement goals face substantial financial penalties. The second review is currently underway.

Table 1. CFSR Assessment Areas and Indicators.(adapted from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/index.htm#cfsr>)

Assessment Area	Indicators
General National Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat Maltreatment • Maltreatment of Children in Foster Care • Foster Care Re-Entries • Length of Time To Achieve Reunification • Length of Time To Achieve Adoption • Stability of Foster Care Placements
Outcome Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect. • Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate. • Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations. • Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children. • Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs. • Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs. • Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Systemic Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statewide Information System• Case Review System• Quality Assurance System• Training• Service Array• Agency Responsiveness to the Community• Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention
---------------------	---

The national standards were set using data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). AFCARS is a federally mandated data system established for the collection of foster care and adoption data. NCANDS is a voluntary data collection system that is the primary source of national information on abused and neglected children who are known to State agencies providing child protective services (Federal Register: November 7, 2005, Volume 70, Number 214). Several authors have noted problems with the procedures used to set the national standards. The criticisms have argued that 1) the standards focus too much on outcomes rather than process, 2) rely too heavily on subjective evaluations, 3) review only a small sample of 50 cases, and 4) that the measures favor states which quickly remove and return children rather than those that use out-of-home placement as a last resort for more difficult cases (National Coalition for Child Protection Reform, 2003; Cohen, 2003; Courtney et al., 2004). Despite the concerns with the CFSR, the process continues and states are working to comply with the federal requirements.

B. Ohio CFSR Results

Ohio has completed the first CFSR review and is scheduled for the second review in 2008. The “Key Findings Report” issued by the Children’s Bureau in 2003 indicated that the state was compliant on six of the seven systemic factors but needed improvement in meeting the national standards and on the service outcomes measures. Ohio officials have submitted the required Program Improvement Plan and are preparing for the second review. Table 2 summarizes Ohio’s performance in 2003 on the six national standards set by the Children’s Bureau.

Table 2. Ohio's Compliance with National Outcome Indicator Standards in 1st CFSR.
(adapted from http://basis.caliber.com/cwig/ws/cwmd/docs/cb_web/SearchForm)

Data Indicator	National Standard (Percentage)	Ohio Percentage
Cases with repeat maltreatment	6.1 or less	8.6
Cases with maltreatment for children in foster care	0.57 or less	0.59
Cases with foster care re-entries	8.6 or less	13.7
Cases achieving reunification in less than 12 months	76.2 or more	74.0
Cases achieving adoption in less than 24 months	32 or more	29.2
Cases with stability in the foster care placement	86.7 or more	85.9

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) is working to meet each of these standards. This systematic review, however, focuses exclusively on strategies for addressing two of these six national standards, i.e., length of time to achieve reunification and foster care re-entries following reunification. These two measures are

closely linked both conceptually and in practice. Successful reunifications are those that return the child to his or her family in a timely manner (in less than 12 months) and that do not result in re-entry to care within 12 months after reunification. This systematic review was undertaken to examine research and promising practices to help Ohio reach compliance on these two related national standards.

C. **CFSR Definitions of Reunification and Re-Entry**

The definitions of reunification and re-entry in the CSFRs are very precise. Based on a careful examination of the 1st round CSFR reports and early criticisms of the CSFR process (National Coalition for Child Protection Reform, 2003; Courtney, Needell, & Wulczyn, 2004), the Children's Bureau modified the definition slightly and revised the criteria used to determine compliance with the national standards. This was done to better reflect the complexity in evaluating a state's performance in providing permanency for the children served by child welfare agencies. In the second round of the CSFRs, three measures are combined into a single score to assess reunification and the definition of re-entry to foster care was clarified. Table 3 highlights the changes in how the concepts "timeliness of reunification" and "re-entry into foster care" were re-defined from the first to the second CSFR evaluations (National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology (<http://www.nrccwdt.org/cfsr/resources.cfsr.html>)). Prior to the CSFR evaluation, definitions of "successful" reunification changed over the years following revisions to federal legislation and variations in state practices. The new CSFR definitions attempt to standardize the definitions for all state child welfare agencies. In summary, successful reunification can be defined by the length of time children spend in out-of-home care, whether they are reunited within 12 months, and whether the reunification with their family lasts at least 12 months without re-entry to out-of-home care, In 2008, Ohio will be assessed using the redefined measures.

Table 3. Definitions for Reunification and Re-Entry in 1st and 2nd CFSR.

	1st CFSR	2nd CFSR
Reunification	<i>Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, 76.2 percent or more were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home.</i>	<p><i>Measure 1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the year shown, and who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, what percent was reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care?</i></p> <p><i>Measure 2: Of all children discharged from foster care (FC) to reunification in the year shown, and who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the most recent entry into FC until the date of reunification?</i></p> <p><i>Measure 3: Of all children entering foster care (FC) in the second 6 months of the year prior to the year shown, and who remained in FC for 8 days or longer, what percent was discharged from FC to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of first entry into FC?</i></p>
Re-entry to foster care	<i>Of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period, 8.6 percent or less was re-entering foster care in less than 12 months of a prior foster care episode.</i>	<i>Of all children discharged from foster care (FC) to reunification in the year prior to the one shown, what percent re-entered FC in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?</i>

D. Systematic Review on Reunification and Re-Entry

To begin to address these issues, Ohio needs to be guided by the best available evidence on how to increase successful reunification and reduce the number of children who return to out-of-home care. This project utilized a systematic review and followed the

guidelines developed by the Campbell Collaboration for identifying and evaluating relevant research. The Campbell Collaboration (C2) is, “a non-profit organization that aims to help people make well-informed decisions about the effects of interventions in the social, behavioral and educational arenas” (<http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/index.asp>). The Campbell Collaboration has developed methods for systematically identifying and evaluating the available research. The most rigorous method, Systematic Review, is based on a comprehensive review and analysis of the existing research, both published and unpublished, and was the method employed in this project. The objectives of a systematic review are to 1) conduct a comprehensive, unbiased review of the research literature, 2) describe the review process with enough specificity that it can be replicated or updated by others interested in the topic, 3) appraise the available research for quality and credibility, 4) identify “best practices” based on the best available evidence, and 5) to disseminate the results of the review for use by practitioners and policy-makers.

Every effort is made to minimize any bias that may influence the conclusions that are drawn from a review of the available research. This is done by emphasizing the transparency of the review process, reducing publication bias by systematically collecting all relevant research (not just research that has been published in professional journals), evaluating the quality and rigor of the research, and attempting to determine if the researchers had any direct interest in the outcomes of the research they conducted (e.g., researchers evaluating programs that they developed).

Systematic reviews are completed in stages. In the first stage, a practice or policy problem is identified and is translated into a searchable question. The searchable question identifies the nature of the practice/policy problem, the target population, and determines whether research on a specific intervention is sought or whether the search should look at research on any intervention/policy that has been applied to the problem. In

the second stage, an attempt is made to identify all research that is relevant to the search question. This includes articles published in professional, peer-reviewed publications as well as unpublished materials such as those found in conference presentations or proceedings, unpublished dissertations, state or county evaluation monographs, or other unpublished research results. The third stage focuses on evaluating the quality and rigor of the research, and on compiling the results of all identified studies in order to assess the state-of-knowledge for the identified problem. A standardized critique is applied to each of the studies to reduce any possible bias that might influence the assessment of the research. The results of each study are aggregated and, if the quality of the research is appropriate, the results are subjected to a meta-analysis to calculate an overall effect size and to better determine whether an intervention is effective and with whom it is likely to work. The results are compiled to allow easier interpretation and to detect trends in the research that are not evident from the review of a single study. The final stage of a systematic review is to summarize the current state-of-knowledge based on the best available research. This information is disseminated to practitioners and policy-makers to assist in evidence-based decision-making and planning. The stages are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. Stages of a Systematic Review.

Stage	Activities
<i>Protocol Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions to be answered by the review are specified • Inclusion and exclusion criteria to identify relevant research are described • Methods for the review are made explicit • The protocol is discussed with users and modified as needed
<i>Search and Screen Studies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods for managing references are identified and set up • Search methods are explicated and implemented (i.e., electronic databases, hand-searches, reference mining, and snowball searching for unpublished studies) • Studies are screened for relevance and reliability checks are completed on screening procedures • Descriptive mapping of the relevant literature is completed
<i>Extract Data</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles passing the screening criteria are given a full review • Important data concerning the research methods, outcome measures, intervention, and outcomes are coded on a data abstraction form • Data are coded and entered into software for statistical and conceptual synthesis (e.g., SPSS, Access, NUDIST) • Quality and credibility assessment is completed for each study
<i>Data Synthesis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeric, categorical, and narrative data are summarized • Meta-analyses completed if possible • Narrative empirical synthesis is completed • Conceptual synthesis is completed • Conclusions drawn from the syntheses are presented • Recommendations which are clearly linked to the analyses and synthesis are presented
<i>Final Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full technical report is prepared including a detailed description of the search and analysis methods to promote transparency • Report is presented to the users for discussion of conclusions and recommendations • Plans are made for updating review

II. Problem Statement

In 2008 Ohio will participate in the second CFSSR and will be evaluated according to the new national standards. A report issued in 2006 by the Ohio Bureau of Outcome Management (BOM) indicates that Ohio has not yet met the national standards for successfully reunifying families or for reducing re-entry to foster care. The report prepared by BOM indicates that from May 2005 to May 2006, 74.14% of the children in out-of-home care were reunited with their families within 12 months. This is 2.06% below the national standards. The Ohio Child and Family Services Review Data Profile (February 2006) indicates that Ohio also exceeds the national standards for the percentage of children who re-entered foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode. The re-entry rate in Ohio for Federal FY 2005 was 12.5%. This exceeds the national standard of 8.6% by 3.9%.

III. The Systematic Review Questions

Systematic reviews are designed to answer a variety of practice and policy questions, and the type of question will dictate the appropriate type of evidence that will be sought. Typically systematic reviews are used to determine the effectiveness of interventions and policies. Recently, however, systematic reviews have also been used to identify trends and promising directions for services and policy and areas requiring new research, especially when a strong body of experimental evidence is lacking. Table 5 provides a summary of the questions guiding this systematic review. Since reunification and re-entry to care are inextricably linked, the analysis, conclusions, and directions for future work will be presented for these topics together.

Table 5. Search Questions.

Topic	Question
<i>Family Reunification</i>	1) What interventions or services result in increasing successful family reunification within 12 months of placement for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children who are returning from out-of-home care?
	2) What factors are correlated with successful family reunification?
	3) What are “promising” practices for increasing successful family reunification for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?
	4) What research is needed to develop more effective services and policies to increase successful family reunification for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children who are returning from out-of-home care?
<i>Re-entry to Out-of-Home Care</i>	1) What interventions or services are effective in reducing re-entry to out-of-home care for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?
	2) What factors are correlated with returning to out-of-home care following family reunification?
	3) What are “promising” practices for reducing re-entry to care for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?
	4) What research is needed to develop more effective services and policies to reduce re-entry to care for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?

IV. Project Methodology

A systematic review of the research literature to identify strategies to promote successful family reunification and to reduce re-entry to care for abused, neglected, and unruly children was conducted from April 2007 to February 2008. This effort extends an

earlier rapid evidence assessment (REA) of research dealing with re-entry to care that was completed in 2005 by Bronson, Helm, Bowser & Hughes to provide information on the factors associated with re-entry into foster care. This earlier review was limited in scope and included only published articles dealing with re-entry to care for children who were in out-of-home placements due to abuse or neglect. Unpublished materials or studies dealing with unruly youth were excluded and programs to promote reunification were not included.

The current project is a systematic review, which expands upon the work completed in 2005 by including:

- research on family reunification,
- studies that address services for unruly children and youth, and
- unpublished research reports (grey literature).

This effort is also more expansive than a typical systematic review. The inclusion criteria were broad and all empirical or conceptual articles dealing with reunification or re-entry were reviewed. In most systematic reviews, only experimental or quasi-experimental research is included, but such an approach significantly narrows the scope of the review. The research questions for this review demanded a broader perspective to identify important trends in the field, even if those trends are not based on rigorous quantitative research. The results of this systematic review will clearly distinguish those conclusions that are based on rigorous research and those that were gathered from examining the conceptual/non-empirical literature.

A. Search Strategies

Several methods were used to locate relevant research on family reunification and re-entry to care. Table 6 provides a summary of the approaches employed.

Table 6. Search Methods.

Search Method	Description
Electronic databases	See Appendix A for list of electronic databases searched
Hand-searching of child welfare journals	<p>The table of contents was reviewed for journals identified as most likely to contain relevant research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Social Work</i> (1997-2007) • <i>Children's Services: Social policy, research, & practice</i> (1999 2007) • <i>Child Maltreatment</i> (1996-2007) • <i>Child & Youth Services</i> (1997-2007) • <i>Child & Family Social Work</i> (1997-2007) • <i>Child Welfare</i> (1980-2007) • <i>Child Abuse & Neglect</i> (1980-2007)
Conference presentations	Conference proceedings for 2007 (Society for Social Work and Research, Council on Social Work Education, and the Campbell Collaboration) were reviewed for relevant references.
Citation searches/Reference mining	The bibliographies of all articles selected for full review were mined for additional articles. A search was done for any title that appeared relevant.
Contact with identified experts in the field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Barth (Dean at the University of Maryland) • Diane DePanfilis (Associate Dean for Research Director, Ruth H. Young Center for Families & Children University of Maryland School of Social Work) • Joan Zlotnick (Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research) • Howard Doueck (Professor, State University of New York at Buffalo) • Chapin Hall (Chicago, IL) • the Annie E. Casey Foundation
Snowball method	All links and leads to additional material suggested by relevant websites or electronic databases were followed to locate additional resources.

Every attempt was made to identify all research pertaining to reunification and re-entry in child welfare services that was available. The search included materials available as of

February 2008 and earlier and included English language resources in the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Australia, and East Central Europe.

B. Keywords

The keywords used in the electronic database searches were developed to capture references that addressed 1) the problem question (issues of family reunification and re-entry to care), 2) the population of interest (abused, neglected, or unruly children), and 3) type of service. The actual keywords used in each search were dictated by the indexing structure of the database. Each electronic bibliographic database uses an idiosyncratic set of terms to classify references. The terms used in our search were selected based on the system used for each of the databases we searched. Table 7 provides the keywords used in each category. The asterisks are wild card characters to capture all deviations of a root word (e.g. delinqu* for delinquency or delinquent).

The keywords listed in Table 7 reflect those that proved to be the most fruitful in producing relevant research articles. Research and outcome variable keywords (e.g., experimental, quasi-experimental, empirical, or quantitative/qualitative) were not included in the list of search terms since they seemed to overly restrict the search outcomes and limited the articles on reunification and re-entry that were identified. Each article retrieved was reviewed to determine if it met the inclusion criteria for relevance and then categorized by its research rigor. Using a broader search strategy than is typical of systematic reviews allowed us to report on trends and common conclusions in the literature even if there is not a supporting research evidence base at this time.

Table 7. Keywords Used in Electronic Database Searches.

Category (AND)	Keywords (Or)
Problem Question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • family reunification • permanency • placement • family maintenance • out-of-home care • re-entry/re-entry • recidivism • reintroduction to care • CFSR • level of functioning
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child* • youth • juvenile • teen • infant • toddler • family • delinquent • unruly • dependent
Type of Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • abuse* • neglect* • unruly • delinquent* • dependent • foster care • looked-after children • family • kinship • at risk • high risk • maltreat*

Some of the databases required specialized searches using some or all of the above keywords. For example, the following searches were modified to identify the relevant literature:

- IBZ – Child Welfare AND Reunification, Family and Reunification, Child AND Welfare, Foster care AND re-entry;

- Coalition for Evidence Based Policy – Review of all articles listed on the web site; and
- NSPCC Inform – (Based on available listing of web site key words) Abused Children, Repeated Abuse, Child Protective Services, Children of Addicted Parents, Family Reunification, Recidivism.

In addition to the keywords listed in Table 7, additional areas of interest were independently searched upon the recommendation of the ODJFS research committee members. These additional areas of interest are as follows.

- Level of Functioning and/or 'Ohio Scales'
- Caseworker visitation of a child in the home setting
- The court's role in reunification
- The home case planning process
- Youth involvement in placement planning.

Separate searches were conducted on these topics since the earlier search terms had not identified articles that addressed them. The additional searches did not reveal other empirical research linking these topics to reunification outcomes and they are not addressed further in this report.

C. Review Process

The review process consisted of several steps to identify the most relevant literature and to eliminate articles that did not offer information on how to address reunification or re-entry in child welfare services. The following steps were employed.

- Title review for relevant resources
- Abstract reviews
- Full review of articles
- Final review for inclusion in systematic review

During the search, articles with titles that appeared to be relevant were saved to a RefWorks database. RefWorks is a bibliographic management tool that is designed to capture citations identified by electronic searches. The second step consisted of reviewing the abstracts for each article to assess the relevance of the article for inclusion in the systematic review. Those articles that passed the abstract review were next given a full review of the article to further assess its relevance. The final step in the review process was to conduct a thorough evaluation of those articles that satisfied the inclusion criteria for the systematic review.

D. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

Throughout the review process, each resource was assessed according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria that were developed at the beginning of the project. At each stage of the systematic review the criteria were used to decide if the report was rejected or moved to the next stage of review for inclusion in the final analysis and report. To be included in the final empirical analysis the report had to:

1. deal with family reunification following a foster care placement or re-entry to out-of-home care following family reunification;
2. be based on work with abused, neglected, or unruly children; and
3. report on a) an empirical study evaluating programs intended to increase family reunification or decrease rates of re-entry into out-of-home care after reunification, or b) research to identify factors associated with reunification or re-entry to care.

Literature reviews and conceptual papers that did not satisfy the inclusion criteria were used to identify common practices and trends in the field that are not derived from empirical research.

E. Analysis Methods

Data abstraction form. A data abstraction form was developed to guide the collection of information about each of the resources reviewed. The form guides the reviewers through a structured decision-making process to determine if the study meets the inclusion criteria. If the report is judged to meet the inclusion criteria, then additional information is recorded on the form to capture critical information about the research that enables the reviewers to assess the quality and credibility of the research. The information collected on the data abstraction form can also be used to compare similar studies on outcome measures used and the final results.

Information management (Access and RefWorks). Two software packages were used to facilitate the analysis and summary of the available research on family reunification and re-entry to care. RefWorks is a bibliographic management program that allows users to download citation information from electronic databases. RefWorks collects the full citation, the abstract (when available) and includes several user defined fields to store notes about the report. RefWorks was used to catalogue each reference during the review process. One folder was created to include a comprehensive list of articles under review. Separate folders were created for the Abstract review, Full review, and the Final review. Articles not meeting the inclusion criteria at any stage were placed in a Rejected folder. Using this approach it is possible to determine the review status of each article that satisfied the title review.

Microsoft Access was also used to manage the detailed information collected on the data abstraction form. The data abstraction form was translated into an Access database with each question on the form becoming an input variable for the database. All of the references in the RefWorks database were downloaded into Access. As the articles were reviewed, information was collected on the extent to which the article met the

inclusion criteria. For those meeting the criteria at each stage, additional information was collected on the quality and credibility of the research. A variety of queries from the Access files have been used to create the final report for the project and are used to provide summaries of the available research by type of article (empirical, conceptual, etc.), the population studied, outcome measures used, and the research results.

F. Assessing Research Quality

The quality and credibility of the research articles used in the systematic review were appraised. This occurred in two stages. In the first, all empirical studies were rated on the rigor of the research using the Maryland Scale of Scientific Methods. The scores ranged from 1 to 5 with higher scores associated with more rigorous research. Table 8 describes the ratings scale and the anchors used to categorize the studies. Only studies given a rating of 4 or 5 were included in the analysis of effective programs.

Additional detailed information for the empirical studies was also captured on the data abstraction forms (See Appendix D). Information on sample sizes, sampling method, attrition bias, data collection, treatment fidelity, and unit of analysis were also collected when available to further examine the quality of the research. The articles were also reviewed for any obvious biasing factors or conflicts of interest that could influence the research.

Table 8. Maryland Scale of Scientific Methods (adapted from Sherman, 1998).

Rating	Description
<u>Level 0</u> : Qualitative study	Studies that use interviews, focus groups or other qualitative methods
<u>Level 1</u> : Correlation study with no comparison group	<p>Studies looking at the correlation between a reunification program and a measure of re-entry at a point in time or those using a single, post-treatment survey of clients who have received treatment</p> <p>Analysis of administrative data to identify factors correlated to reunification and re-entry</p>
<u>Level 2</u> : Study in which a temporal sequence between the program and the recidivism outcome is clearly observed (pre-post study), or the presence of a comparison group <u>without</u> demonstrated comparability to the treatment group	Studies where the comparability of the comparison groups is <i>seriously</i> compromised and no attempt has been made to control for this, pre-post only studies, or studies where the only comparison is between completers and non- (or partial) completers of a particular treatment
Level 3: A comparison between two or more comparable units of analysis, one with and one without the program (no random assignment to groups).	A comparison between two or more comparable units of analysis, one with and one without the program.
Level 4: A comparison between multiple units with and without the program, or using comparison groups that evidence only minor differences.	Studies in which it has been <u>clearly demonstrated</u> that, prior to the intervention there is very little difference between comparison groups.
Level 5: Random assignment and analysis of comparable units to program and comparison groups. Differences between groups are not greater than expected by chance. Units for random assignment match units for analysis	Studies in which subjects are randomly assigned to groups. The strongest studies will also attempt to “hide” the group assignments from those involved in the research.

G. Reliability Coding Checks

The reliability of the coding on the Data Abstraction Form was checked throughout the project. In the early stages, the coders met to review the coding categories and to check the consistency of use by applying the codes to an article reviewed by members of the research team. This training and clarification exercise helped to insure that the coding categories were being used reliably.

Reliability checks were performed on a sample of the references that were used in both the 2005 rapid evidence assessment on re-entry and the current systematic review. Forty-two articles were checked with a reliability coefficient of 83% indicating that the same disposition was made in most cases. Checks were also made later in the process on 12 articles that were coded separately by two researchers. The same inclusion/exclusion was made on 11 of the 12 articles for a reliability coefficient of 92%. Both reliability coefficients are within acceptable limits.

H. Description of Retrieved Literature

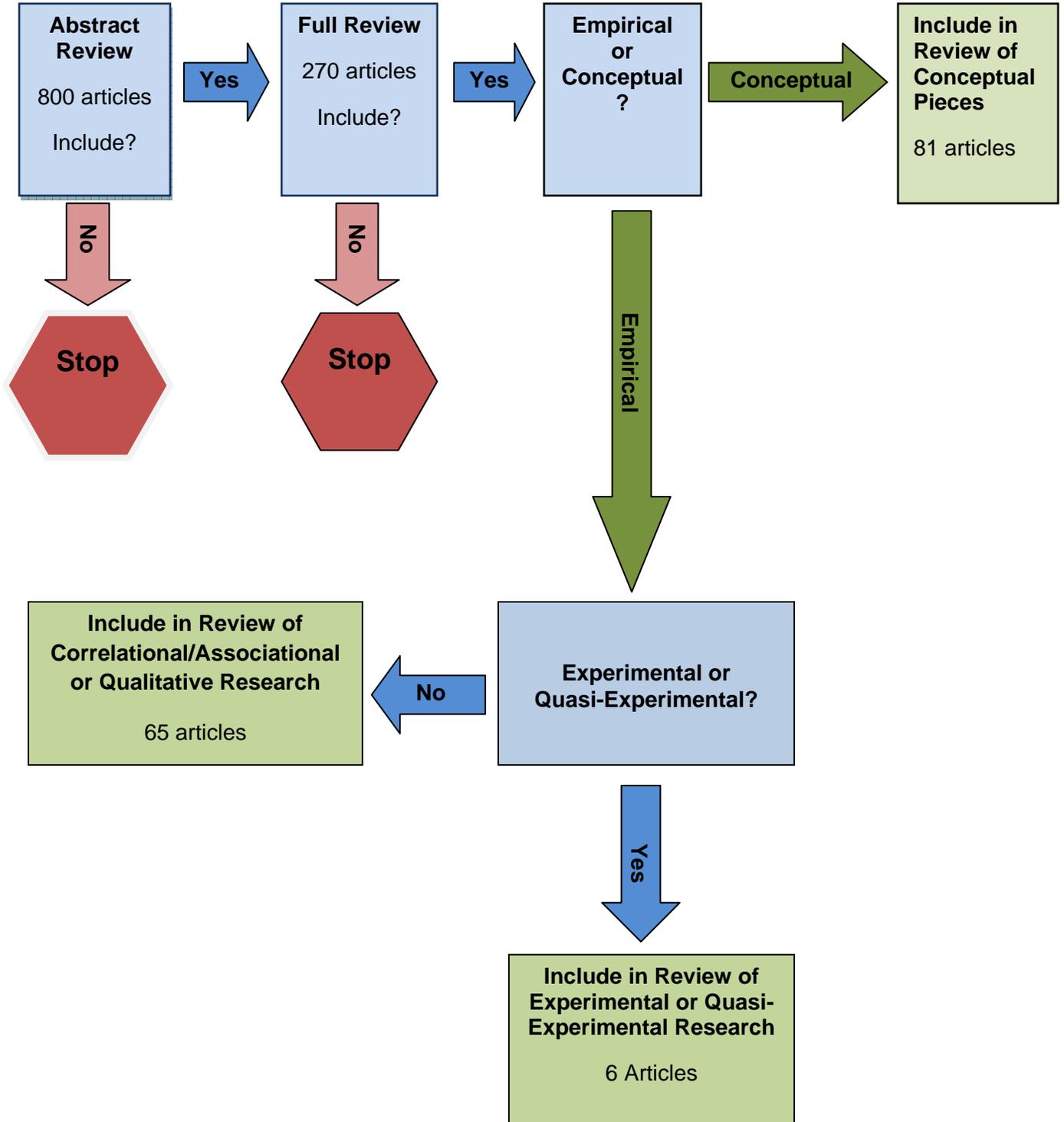
The process of retrieving the research for this review was completed in stages. Using the electronic databases and keywords presented earlier, as well as the results of hand-searching the critical journals, a search was undertaken for any literature that appeared related to the topics of family reunification or re-entry to care. Articles with titles that appeared to be relevant were retained. The abstracts of these articles were reviewed for relevance and those which were still judged to be relevant were reviewed in their entirety. After reading the full report, the reviewer made a final determination as to whether the article met the inclusion criteria for the systematic review. During the title review thousands of articles were screened. Ultimately the abstracts of 800 articles were reviewed for possible inclusion.

1. Total Number of Reunification and Re-entry Articles Reviewed

Figure 1 provides a summary of the articles retrieved for this systematic review.

After completing the title review, 800 entries remained for a full abstract review. Of the 800 entries that received the abstract review, 270 entries were categorized as having met the criteria for inclusion in the full review. Of these 270 entries, 54 reports addressed re-entry to care and 247 reports addressed reunification. In some cases ($n=19$) the article dealt with both reunification and re-entry so the total number of re-entry and reunification reports is greater than the 270 entries that were screened. Of the 270 articles that passed the abstract review, 128 were empirical. However, after the full review, only 71 of the empirical articles met the criteria for inclusion and were included in the analysis. The other 199 entries screened in during the abstract review were identified as conceptual pieces which included literature reviews, systematic reviews, and other theoretical pieces associated with re-entry and reunification. After the full review, 81 of the conceptual pieces met the inclusion criteria and were determined to address issues related to reunification or re-entry. A description of the conceptual literature is presented later in the report.

Figure 1. Article Review Process



2. Number of Articles by Population: Abused, Neglected and Unruly Youth

Each empirical article was coded according to the population that was the focus of the research. The options for population included a) abused, b) neglected, c) unruly or d) other (two or more populations studied). In many cases the population was not explicitly stated and the reviewers inferred the population from reading the article. In many cases, however, the population of children included in the study could not be identified precisely. Of the 67 studies that identified a population of interest in their report, 58 of them included all children in care regardless of reason. Five studies were interested in only unruly children and four of the studies were interested in only abused children. Given the combined interest in all populations, specific analysis of each population independently was not appropriate for this review.

3. Number of Articles by Rating on the Maryland Scale of Scientific Methods

There were 71 empirical articles judged to be appropriate for inclusion. The others did not meet the inclusion criteria and were not relevant for family reunification or re-entry to care. The empirical articles judged to be relevant for the review were categorized as follows in terms of their scientific rigor.

Table 9. Frequency of Maryland Scale Ratings.

Level 0: Qualitative Studies	8
Level 1: Single group or correlational	40
Level 2: Group comparison (non-equivalent groups)	12
Level 3: Group comparison (equivalent groups)	5
Level 4: Quasi-experimental	3
Level 5: Experimental	3
Total	71

Only Level 4 and Level 5 studies are able to provide some degree of causal analysis. The paucity of rigorous research on programs to increase successful reunification and decrease re-entry to care limits the definitive conclusions that can be gleaned from the existing research.

V. Results

Despite increasingly strident calls for the use of evidence-based practices in child welfare, the available research lacks the rigor needed to guide practice and policy decisions. Most of the studies evaluating the effectiveness of various program models for improving family reunification outcomes lack comparable control groups and are limited in the causal conclusions that can be drawn. The most rigorous research designs use an experimental or quasi-experimental approach which allows the researcher to examine the effectiveness of the program or policy while ruling out alternative explanations for the observed outcomes. Implementing experimental or quasi-experimental designs in applied settings presents many challenges. Nonetheless, five of the studies (reported in six articles) identified in this review were judged to be either experimental or quasi-experimental.

The other empirical studies included in this review used designs that do not adequately eliminate alternative explanations for the observed outcomes. That is, even if the program appears to be effective in promoting successful family reunifications, there could be other undetected factors that are actually responsible for the positive outcomes. With less rigorous designs, it is impossible to rule out other explanations. That does not mean, however, that these studies are without value. Promising practices can be identified and subjected to more rigorous research. In addition, common themes and variables that appear to be related to program success can be identified. These can provide a starting point for designing reunification programs which are subsequently evaluated using experimental or quasi-experiment research designs.

The results of the systematic review are presented in two sections. *Section A* presents an analysis of the available empirical research. First, those studies judged to be a level 4 (quasi-experimental) or 5 (experimental) on the Maryland Scale of Scientific methods are presented. Detailed information is presented on 1) the outcome variables and measures used, 2) the treatment programs evaluated, and 3) the treatment fidelity for the quasi- and experimental research. Section A also examines the trends and common factors identified in the non-experimental literature (Levels 0-3 on the Maryland Scale).

To complete the review of the available literature on reunification and re-entry, *Section B* presents a summary of the current “trends” and assumptions guiding services on reunification. The information in section two is drawn from the conceptual articles that were reviewed and reflects the common thinking on how best to increase successful reunification and reduce re-entry to care for children served by the child welfare system. The factors presented in Section B are not based on empirical research but may be important variables in future empirical research.

A. Analysis of the Empirical Literature

1. Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Studies

Six articles were identified as experimental or quasi-experimental. These articles present the evaluations of five models (the original Walton research and the five year follow-up were analyzed separately). Table 10 presents a summary of the models employed and the reunification/re-entry outcome for these studies. Each of these studies has been reported in several published and unpublished articles. For example, Walton's 1991 dissertation resulted in numerous publications (Fraser, Walton, Lewis, Pecora & Walton, 1996; Lewis, Walton and Fraser, 1995; Walton, Fraser, Harlin & Lewis, 1995; Walton, Fraser, Lewis, Pecora, Walton, 1993). A later article by Walton (1998) presented a six-year follow-up study of Walton's 1991 research on in-home family reunification.

Table 10. Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research on Reunification and Re-entry.

Authors:	Treatment model:	Outcome variables:		Findings:
		Reunification	Re-entry	
Choi, S. (2006 & 2007)	Service matching and recovery coaches (services to substance abusing mothers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likelihood of reunification • Substance abuse treatment completion 		<p>Matched services seemed to lead to a high likelihood of reunification.</p> <p>Mothers who received matched concrete services were more likely to achieve reunification than those with unmatched needs or no needs.</p> <p>These findings are correlational in nature.</p>
Fisher, Burraston & Pears (2005)	Early Intervention Foster Care Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of time in care • Number of placements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occurrence of re-entry to care 	<p>Unable to draw conclusions regarding effectiveness of the intervention.</p> <p>However, children who did not receive the EIFC were more likely to have failed permanent placements and reenter care.</p>

		Outcome variables:		
Jones, Neuman and Shyne (1976)	Intensive Family Preservation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length of time in care 		No differences found between group who received intensive family preservation services and group who received regular services. Conclusions cannot be drawn about service effectiveness.
Stein & Gambrill (1979)	Intensive services designed to enhance parental decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely permanency decisions 		Children who received the intervention were more likely to be "heading out of care" at the end of the study. Unable to draw further conclusions from research.
Walton & colleagues (1991 1996 & 1998)	Homebuilders Family Preservation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of days in home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family functioning (parental attitudes, family assessment, & self-esteem) 	Children who received the intervention were more likely to be in their biological home at the end of 90 days and 12 months. However results were somewhat inconclusive. The six year follow-up indicated that children who received the intervention were more likely to be stable at that time.

Choi (2006, 2007) evaluated the use of a recovery coach to help substance abusing parents achieve reunification. This service was provided to parents while their children were in care. The recovery coach assisted parents in completing substance abuse treatment. Choi examined three outcome variables in an effort to evaluate the use of a recovery coach to facilitate recovery and thus improve the likelihood of reunification of substance abusing mothers with their children. She examined reunification, treatment completion and service matching as dichotomous outcome variables. Measurement of these was indicated by determining whether or not services were matched to need, whether treatment was completed and if children were reunified with their families. Although this research was described as a “traditional experimental design” there is not enough information provided to adequately assess this. Randomization occurred at the agency level while the analyses were done for the mothers and children. Without more detail it is impossible to fully evaluate the rigor of the study. Choi notes that statistically equivalent groups were established at the parental level at the onset of the research, but even though several analyses were performed on child-level data, no information is given on the statistical equivalence for the children. The analyses on child data is therefore possibly compromised. For the matched services analysis, it was impossible to distinguish between the treatment and control groups – both received matched services. Matched services seemed to lead to a high likelihood of reunification but it was impossible to rule out other explanations for the results. Additionally, Choi did not report treatment fidelity for the implementation of recovery coaches, nor for the implementation of the service matching portion of the experiment.

Fisher, Burraston & Pears (2005) evaluated The Early Intervention Foster Care Program (EIFC) in an effort to increase the success of permanent placements, to reduce

the number of foster care placements and to reduce the length of time in foster care. The EIFC service included children, foster parents and biological parents. It was provided both while children were in care and post-reunification. The EIFC program included mental health services and parenting services for biological parents. In an effort to evaluate permanency outcomes for foster children who were less than four years old, Fisher et al. (2005) gathered data on the type of permanent placement used, the number of foster care placements, the length of time in foster care and re-entry to care. Type of permanent placement was a categorical variable, relying upon the following categories: reunification with parents, adoption by relative and adoption by non-relative. The success of the permanent placement was measured in terms of re-entry to care. This was a dichotomous variable that identified whether or not the child reentered care. It is important to note that the child may have reentered care from a relative placement, adoptive home, or biological home.

Jones, Neuman and Shyne (1976) evaluated an Intensive Family Preservation Services program to determine whether or not the service prevented a child's initial placement in care, and, if the child was placed in care, how long they remained in care. These services were provided to the child, the foster parents and the parents, and included individual counseling, marital/couples counseling, material assistance, mental health services, parenting programs and substance abuse treatment. The services also included increased contact with the caseworker. These services were provided prior to placement in care, during care and post-reunification. Jones, Neuman and Shyne considered initial placement in care and the length of time in care as their outcome variables in their evaluation of intensive family services. Although preventing placement in care was the primary objective of the program, this study examined reunification in terms of the number of days a child spent in foster care. The initial placement in care

was a dichotomous variable, indicating whether or not the child was placed in care. The second variable was interval in nature, indicating the amount of time in days that the child spent in care prior to reunification with their family. Treatment fidelity may have been a problem in this research. The authors reported implementation difficulties at one site. Furthermore, the experimental and control groups were compared on the number of contacts and types of services received but no significant differences were found indicating that the two groups received similar services despite their experimental assignments. This severely limits conclusions that can be made about the impact of the intervention.

In the Alameda project, Stein and Gambrill (1979) evaluated the use of an intensive service to facilitate parental decision making in terms of permanency plans for their child/children over a two year period. The intensive services were not thoroughly described in the research. However, it appears that they relied upon contracts between parents and counselors and parents and caseworkers that encouraged parental involvement in decision making about their child's permanency plans. The dichotomous variable that was evaluated was whether or not a decision was made regarding the permanency plans for a child. Results suggested that children in the experimental group were more likely to achieve permanency plans than those who did not receive the service. Permanency plans included reunification with natural parents, adoption, or placement in kinship or long term care. No distinction of those who reunified is available.

The research by Walton and her colleagues evaluated an intensive family preservation services program that was based on the Homebuilders model. This program provided services to the children and biological parents both pre- and post-reunification. These services included family preservation services, individual counseling, material assistance, and parenting programs. The original research was reported in 1991 and the

results of a six-year follow-up were reported in 1998. The results of both phases of the research were examined together for the systematic review. Walton and her colleagues collected data on the level of family functioning and the location of the child after reunification to determine the level of family success. Data were collected from families at the end of services, 90 days after, one year after, and six years after completing the program. The level of family functioning was measured using several scales. The Index of Parental Attitudes, with a reported reliability score of .90, The Family Assessment scale with a reported reliability score of .90 and The Index of Self-Esteem with a reported reliability score of .70 were all utilized to evaluate family functioning. In addition, surveys administered to the parents at 90 days and 6 months were utilized to gauge family functioning as well. Data on the total number of days a child was under supervision of the Department of Child and Family Services and the total number of days the child was home were the outcome variables used to measure family stability. Both of these were interval in nature and were measured in the number of days. Walton and her colleagues say very little about treatment fidelity and efforts to insure that the program was implemented as intended. This could be a serious limitation of the research. Another problem is the high rate of re-entry to care for those in the experimental condition. An early report (Walton & Fraser, 1993) indicated that 16.7% of the control group who were reunited with their families subsequently returned to out-of-home care, while 30.3% of the experimental group re-entered out-of-home care for some period of time. However, Walton and Fraser (1993) report that, "Across the 15-month period (from entry into the project), 44 (77.2%) of the 57 children in the experimental group not only returned home but ultimately stayed or returned there—compared to 25 (47.2%) of the 53 children in the control (Chi square = 10.6, df=1, $p < 0.01$)" (p.6). So, although children in the experimental group tended to spend more time at home and were more likely to be there at the end of 90 days and 12

months, the number of cases re-entering the system at some point was higher for the experimental group.

a) ***Findings and Limitations of the Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Research***

These five studies offer the strongest research designs to evaluate which treatment programs are most likely to promote family reunification within 12 months and to reduce the occurrence of return to care. Although each uses a rigorous research design, there are important weaknesses that limit the conclusions that can be drawn.

Choi (2006) studied the use of recovery coaches for substance abuse treatment to increase the likelihood of reunification, however no statistical significance was found between the treatment and control groups. Using correlational analysis methods, she found that mothers who complete substance abuse treatment were more likely to be reunified with their children. Additional findings indicated that problems with job training, education, parenting skills, domestic violence, and mental health reduced the likelihood of reunification. Further, mothers who received matched services in transportation, housing, childcare, substance abuse treatment and counseling were also more likely to achieve reunification than those with unmatched needs or no needs. Families that require and receive concrete services are more likely to reunify. Choi relied upon many associational and linear modeling statistical analysis techniques when the experimental components of her study did not indicate any significant difference between the treatment and control groups. As a result, the statistically significant findings are not based on an experimental analysis but are correlational in nature.

Fisher et al. (2005) were unable to draw conclusions regarding the effectiveness of the EIFC in their study. However, one statistically significant finding was that children in the control group were more likely to have failed permanent placements and thus re-

enter care. Also, some control group children had two permanent placement failures resulting in re-entry to care while those in the experimental group who did have a permanent placement failure only had one failure. They reported that most permanent placement failures for both experimental and control groups occurred between 8-14 months of entering placement. Their findings suggest that children who had more than one placement prior to the study had an increased likelihood of failed permanency.

Jones et al. (1976) relied upon an experimental design that was split into four groups to evaluate Intensive Family Services. There were two preventative and rehabilitative groups in Upstate New York and in New York City. Their findings suggest that families who receive the Intensive Family Preservation Services are more likely to avoid initial placement of their children in foster care. Most findings in this study were related to placement prevention and will not be discussed here. However, the authors also found that use of the service decreased the amount of time a child spent in foster care. One statistically significant finding in the New York City group indicated that children who received the intervention spent less days in care than those who did not. Sampling and assignment were problematic in this study, as assessment as to whether the family would benefit from the service was used to determine whether or not the family was placed in the experimental or control group. Therefore, conclusions cannot be drawn about the effectiveness of the service as families believed to benefit from the service were those who received the intervention.

The challenges faced by Stein and Gambrill (1979) were somewhat indicative of the period of time in which they conducted their research. Their conclusions suggest that children who received the decision making services were likely to be "heading out of care" at the study end or the one year follow-up. Their report was brief and offered limited information in terms of methodology, sampling, and intervention description. While this

research included a one year follow-up of the original study, the language used to describe their outcomes presented limitations. “Heading out of care” was utilized to describe the child’s status at both the study ending and the one year follow-up. Unfortunately, this language is ambiguous and limits conclusions about reunification.

In the initial phase of study, Walton (1996) indicated that the findings are inconclusive. She suggested that the treatment may have served as a confounding variable in this situation and that the treatment and control groups may not have been equivalent. In the six year follow-up of the original study, Walton indicates that families who received the intervention were more stable (together at the time data were collected) at the six year review than those who did not, but data on number of re-entries to care were not reported. Failing to analyze the re-entry events for families receiving the intensive family preservation services is a critical limitation of this research.

2. Empirical, Non-Experimental Research

There have been many non-experimental studies conducted on factors that are associated with timely family reunification, successful reunification, and conditions contributing to re-entry to care. Some of these studies have been conducted as evaluations of programs to improve reunification outcomes and others have analyzed existing administrative data to statistically reveal those factors most often correlated with successful reunification. In looking at the entirety of this research, it is clear that some factors emerge in many of the studies while others are identified by only one or two researchers. Although correlational in nature, many of these studies are very comprehensive, well conceptualized, and methodologically sophisticated. For example, a recent two year longitudinal study by Barber and Delfabbro tracked 235 children served by the Australian child welfare system. Following an extensive review of the research literature, Barber and Delfabbro included a large number of variables in their research to

analyze the impact of numerous child, family/parent, and service factors on the service outcomes for children. Their work has implications for designing effective reunification services. Other especially strong empirical studies such as those evaluating the Missouri reunification program (Lewandowski & Pierce, 2002, 2004) and the work done by Kirk and his colleagues on the North Carolina approach are noteworthy. A summary of the factors that have been found to be associated with reunification outcomes or likelihood of re-entering care is provided in Appendix C. This information will be described in three sections organized by child characteristics, family characteristics and service characteristics. Although causal conclusions cannot not be drawn from this research, those findings that are replicated across studies suggest factors that might be included in innovative programs for reunification and provide direction for future experimental research.

a) ***Child Characteristics***

A number of child characteristics have been correlated with length of time in out of home care, time to reunification, and the likelihood of re-entering care. Two of the most commonly reported findings were that the child's age and racial/ethnic heritage are associated with reunification and re-entry outcomes. There is general agreement that infants and children under 2 years of age and teenagers have higher rates of re-entry and less successful reunification as measured by time in care and time to reunification (McDonald, Bryson, Poertner, 2006; Epstein, et al., 1998; Wulczyn, 1991; Fuller, 2005; Miller, 2004; Festinger, 1996; Marsh, Ryan, Choi & Testa 2006; Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Fuller, Wells, & Cotton, 2001; Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks, 2006; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Shaw, 2006; Wells & Guo, 1999; Grogan-Kaylor, 2001; Webster, Shlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart, 2005; Courtney, 1995; Farmer, 1996; Vanderploeg, et al., 2007; Courtney, Piliavin & Wright, 1997; Grogan-Kaylor, 2000). The child's race or

ethnicity seemed to affect the likelihood of reunification and re-entry to care. The findings suggest that minority children often remain in care longer or re-enter care more frequently. (Albers, Reilly & Rittner, 1993; Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks, 2006; Shaw, 2006; Wells & Guo, 1999; Grogan-Kaylor, 2001; Terling, 1999; Jones, 1998; Webster, Shlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart, 2005).

Another significant factor related to successful reunification or decreased re-entry was the type and nature of the child's problems. Children with health problems or behavioral problems were less likely to reunify or were more likely to re-enter care (Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks, 2006; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Turner, 1984; Grogan-Kaylor, 2001; Romney, Litrownik, Newton & Lau, 2006; Jones, 1998; Courtney, Pilavin & Wright, 1997; Grogan-Kaylor, 2000).

The child's gender has also been examined for a possible association with successful reunification or re-entry to care. There are contradictory findings in this area however, and some researchers reported no differences in reunification or re-entry as a result of gender (Epstein, et al., 1998; Wulczyn, 1991; Orlebeke & Melamid, 2000; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Wells & Guo, 1999; Vanderploeg et al., 2007).

b) ***Parent/Family Characteristics***

There are many family or parent characteristics identified in the research that are correlated with reunification outcomes including 1) parental engagement (i.e., involvement and contact), 2) parental constellation, and 3) the presence of parental problems. Many studies have concluded that parental engagement as measured by involvement or family contact is associated with successful reunification (i.e., shorter time in care and fewer re-entries to out-of-home care). Some studies have indicated that parental involvement in case planning is likely to increase the success of reunification and decrease re-entry to care (Tam & Ho, 1996; Fein, 1993; Leathers, 2002; Turner, 1984; Miller, Fisher, Fetrow &

Jordan, 2006; Farmer, 1996). Other studies suggest that parental visitation increases the likelihood of reunification and/or decreases the risk of re-entry (Leathers, 2002; Mech, 1985; Grigsby, 1990; Noble, 1997). One study suggests that regular visits in the home by the child is associated with successful reunification and decreased risk of re-entry (Farmer, 1996), unless the visitation is a negative experience. In that case, visitation can lead to a reduced likelihood of successful reunification (Block and Libowitz, 1983). Tam and Ho (1996) also report that increased contact, in general, between parents and children increases the likelihood of successful reunification. Despite the widespread agreement that parental visits and family contact during placement has a positive impact on reunification outcomes, a comprehensive study by Barber and Delfabbro (2004, p.136) concluded that:

- *Parental contact does not necessarily decline over long periods of out-of-home care,*
- *Children who have frequent contact with their parents in the early months of placement are more likely to be reunified,*
- *Over time, there is little correlation between changes in the frequency of contact and the likelihood of reunification, and*
- *Family contact and reunification are correlated but not causally related.*

Barber and Defabbro speculate that parental involvement and contact may serve as a proxy for something more important to reunification, such as the general status and quality of the relationship between the child and parents. None of the studies specifically examined the role of fathers in reunification and this could be an area for future research.

Articles by Hess and Folaron (Hess and Folaron, 1991; Hess et al., 1992) have examined the role of parental “ambivalence” in re-entry to care. Ambivalent parents (i.e., those who had “deeply felt or consistent ambivalence about parenting”) were found to be

more likely to have requested a child's placement both initially and again at re-entry; to refuse at least one service; and to be inconsistent in attendance at court meetings, in visits with their children, and in their participation in services (Hess & Folaron, 1991). Their work in this area is consistent with earlier studies showing that parental ambivalence can be expressed through reluctance to have children home and by the parents' failure to engage in behaviors that are likely to lead to successful reunification. Research by Littell (Littell, 2001; Littell & Tajima, 2000) on parental compliance and cooperation is also consistent with the findings on parental ambivalence, as is the work of Barber and Delfabbro (2004) discussed previously. Additionally, the greater the numbers of parental problems, the more likely the parents were to request placement. Parental request for placement then increased the likelihood of return to foster care (Turner, 1984).

Findings regarding the reason that a child was placed in care were also common. This included abuse, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and dependency. The most common finding of this nature was that the reason for placement was associated with the likelihood for successful reunification, i.e., the length of time in care or the risk for re-entry (Miller, 2004; Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks, 2006; Wells & Guo, 1999, 2004; Terling, 1999; Webster, Shlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart, 2005; Grogan-Kaylor, 2000). Several authors reported that removal for neglect slowed the reunification speed (Wells & Guo, 1999; Courtney, Pilavin & Wright, 1997; Wells & Guo, 2006). However, it should be noted that children who were removed as a result of behavior problems were less likely to reunify than those removed as a result of neglect (Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Landy & Munro, 1998).

Substance abuse by parents was also associated with failed reunification and increased re-entry (Epstein et al., 1998; Shaw, 2006; Terling, 1999; Courtney, Pilavin & Wright, 1997; Vanderploeg et al., 2007). Many of these findings suggest that if parents

continue substance use, reunification will be slowed or the risk of re-entering care increased. One study suggested that parental involvement in drug dependency courts delayed reunification (Boles, Young, Moore & DiPirro-Beard, 2007). Noble (1997) reported that participation in substance abuse treatment day programs and long term participation in substance abuse treatment were related to successful reunification as well. Additional parental problems that were likely to increase the risk of re-entry to care were mental illness, incarceration, and health problems (Fuller, 2005; Fuller, Wells, & Cotton, 2001; Block & Libowitz, 1983). Additional findings of this nature suggested that improvement in parental problems is related to success of reunification (Marsh, Ryan, Choi & Testa, 2006; Gregoire & Schultz, 2001) and that the number of caregiver problems is related to re-entry or reunification (Festinger, 1996; Marsh, Ryan, Choi, & Testa, 2006). Parental characteristics such as competence (Terling, 1999) were associated with successful reunification and parental inability to cope often led to re-entry (Block and Libowitz, 1983). Notably, Marsh, Ryan Choi & Testa (2006) suggested that there was no difference in reunification rates of families dealing with mental illness, domestic violence or housing problems. Miller (2004) reported that parents with disabilities or without adequate housing were less likely to achieve successful reunification. Also, return to inadequate housing or a dangerous environment increases the likelihood of re-entry to care (Jones, 1998). Decreased parental attachment to the child was also associated with longer time in care (McWey & Mullins, 2004). Three authors reported findings regarding family history with the Child Protective Services agency and its association with the risk of re-entry or reunification failure (Terling, 1999; Vanderploeg et al., 2007; Noble, 1997).

Findings regarding family constellation were common. Several studies suggested that children returning to single parent homes were more likely to reunify than those returning to two parent homes (Fuller, 2005; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Wells & Guo, 1999;

Courtney, Piliavin & Wright, 1997). Fuller, Wells and Cotton (2001) reported findings that supported the possibility that multiple children (siblings) returning to the home at the same time can increase the risk of re-entry, and that the number of children in a home increases the risk of re-entry.

Income, receiving concrete services and welfare reform all were suggested to be related to re-entry and reunification. Wells and Guo (2006, 2004) reported that families reunified more quickly prior to welfare reform. Also, many studies suggested that the greater the income of the parents the less likely children were to re-enter care and the more successful reunification would be (Wells & Guo, 1999; Landy & Munro, 1998; Grogan-Kaylor, 2001; Wells & Guo, 2006). Lewis, Walton, and Fraser (1995) reported that families who were receiving basic concrete services were more likely to have children reenter care. No explanation was given for this finding that seems to contradict other research.

c) ***Service Characteristics***

Several service characteristics were also identified in terms of their impact on re-entry or reunification. These are divided into three categories: placement characteristics, service provision and kinship care. Findings regarding placement characteristics were common. The length of time in placement was suggested to increase the risk of re-entry (Wulczyn, 1991; Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Fuller, Wells, & Cotton, 2001; Grigsby, 1990). The number of placements a child experienced was also associated with reunification and re-entry (Tam & Ho, 1996; Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Wells & Guo, 1999; Grigsby, 1990). Other findings suggested that placement in treatment foster care increased the likelihood of reunification (Webster, Shlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart, 2005) while placement in group homes or hospitalization settings decrease the likelihood of successful reunification (Wells & Guo, 1999, 2006).

Farmer (1996) also suggests that the characteristics of the first placement impact reunification for unruly youth.

Many types of services were found to be related to reunification success or risk of re-entry to care. These services will be discussed at length in the discussion on program models, however characteristics of these services will be discussed here. Farmer (1996) suggested that access to an adequate support network for families and unruly youth is necessary to prevent re-entry to care. One study noted that risk assessment and parental cooperation with service agencies was not related to successful reunification or re-entry but time after reunification was related to re-entry (Terling, 1999). Families with unmet service needs at the time of reunification were likely to have children re-enter care (Festinger, 1996). Families without a service plan for reunification were less likely to achieve reunification (Tam & Ho, 1996). Fein and Maluccio (1984) suggest that basic supports after reunification are necessary to reduce the risk of re-entry to care.

The final category of service characteristics involves that of placement with relatives or with siblings. Many studies indicate that placement in kinship care will increase the amount of time until reunification and possibly decrease the likelihood of achieving permanency (Fuller, 2005; Miller, 2004; Miller, Fox, Garcia-Beckwith, 1999; Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes, 2006; Wulczyn, Orlebeke & Melamid, 2000; Fuller, Wells, & Cotton, 2001; Courtney, 1995). Two reasons were offered for this finding: that kinship care providers did not want to damage relationships with the biological parents of the children and that if the child was doing well in the kinship setting there was no need to seek permanency through reunification. Related to this were findings regarding children being placed in the same placements as their siblings. Tam and Ho (1996) reported that siblings placed in the same facility inhibited the child's return home; however other authors

suggested that siblings placed in the same setting increased the likelihood of reunification (Webster, Shlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart, 2005; Leathers, 2005).

3. Program Models

There are a number of program models currently being used around the country to promote successful family reunification. Most of them address some combination of the factors identified in the empirical literature but they differ significantly on when the services are offered (pre- or post-reunification), the use of assessment tools to guide reunification efforts, how long the families receive services, the intensity of the services, who delivers the services, and how the service outcomes are monitored. There are seven general types of service currently offered to increase successful reunification and reduce re-entry rates. They are 1) intensive family preservation/reunification programs, 2) recovery coaches and services matching, 3) early intervention foster care, 4) concurrent planning, 5) court-based services, 6) the Manatee model, and 7) an assessment and treatment model. Table 11 provides a summary for each.

a) *Intensive Family Preservation/Reunification Services (IFPS) Models*

Kirk and Griffith (2005) completed an analysis of states using Intensive Family Reunification Services (IFRS) in conjunction with their work on the North Carolina Family Assessment Scale for Reunification (NCFAS-R). Their review indicated that there were seven states utilizing some version of the IFRS program model. They include Colorado, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Washington. The key components of this model are rapid referral response, caseworker availability 24 hours a day, and meetings with family on evenings and weekends. The caseloads of the workers providing these services range from two to five families and services last between six and 52 weeks. The NCFAS-R is utilized to assess families for reunification readiness and evaluate service provision. Kirk and Griffith suggest that families who received these

services had a decrease in problem range, decrease in moderate to serious problem levels and a reduction in safety problems.

The NCFAS-R is a seven domain scale used to assess the family's readiness for reunification (Kirk & Griffith, 2005). The NCFAS-R is an extension of the North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (NCFAS) which is utilized to assess families involved with Child protective services in conjunction with IFPS. The NCFAS-R relies upon the five domains that are included in the NCFAS and then two additional domains. In terms of reliability for this assessment tool, a Chronbach's Alpha statistic was completed on each of the domains and the statistic ranged from 0.71 to 0.93, all very good. The original domains on the NCFAS are environment, parental capability, family intervention, family safety, and child-wellbeing. The NCFAS-R evaluates parental ambivalence and reunification readiness, as well. The NCFAS-R is a tool that is used to evaluate change during the IFRS period. The worker collects data in each of the domains at the beginning of the service period and at the end. Then, the change for each domain is calculated. This allows for determination of areas that have improved and areas that still need improvement and thus permits CPS staff to assess program effectiveness for each family.

Jones, Neuman and Shyne (1976) describe an Intensive Family Services model in New York which is designed to avert foster care or reduce the amount of time in care that included increased contact with parents, family members and children by the worker assigned to the case. Families received counseling, financial assistance, medical service, placement, help with housing, family life education, education in home management, vocational counseling, recreation or cultural enrichment, tutoring, day care and home maker services. These services were provided at one of two time periods in the case. The first period of service provision is prior to placement in foster care. This service is utilized in an effort to prevent subsequent placement of children in care. The second time

period is that immediately prior to and immediately following reunification. The goal of the service at this time is to shorten time in foster care as well as prevent subsequent re-entry to care. The author reports that children who received the intervention spent fewer days in foster care than those who did not. Also they report that children who were in foster care and received the intervention were more likely to return home than those who did not. Improvement in the problems of the children and families was evident after receipt of the intervention. It should be noted that while these findings are promising many are not statistically significant.

The Boyssville of Michigan (1991) family reunification project relied upon a Homebuilders model that provided up to eight weeks of services: three to five weeks of family preservation services prior to reunification, and three to five weeks of family preservation services after reunification. The goal of this model was to achieve successful reunification. In this model, workers were assigned a case load of no more than two families and worked with the families using cognitive and behavioral approaches, providing soft and hard services and relying upon behaviorally specific goals.

The Homebuilders model is based on the philosophy that children have a right to remain in their homes with their families and that families have a right to nurture and care for their children. The focus of child protective services should be the family and that service provision needs to embrace diversity and respect race, culture, and religion. Further, the model operates on values that place the importance of safety first and is based on the premise that families can change and that they all should be given an opportunity to do so. The Homebuilders model is a strengths-based approach that requires worker flexibility and availability to the family 24 hours a day. Although the sample was very small (39), early results indicated that family functioning was increased by this program and that the length of time in care was decreased.

In the same vein as the Boysville Model, Walton, Fraser, Harlin and Lewis(1993), evaluated another family reunification model based on the Homebuilders. Their model was similar in nature in that intensive home-based services were provided but services lasted less than 90 days and focused on providing concrete services and skills training. The initial results suggest that children who received the intervention were likely to return home sooner, however not all were likely to remain there and re-entry was high among the experimental group. Walton (1998) evaluated this model in a six year follow-up study and found that families who received the model were more stable after six years than those who did not.

Lewandowski and Pierce (2002, 2004) evaluated Missouri's Family Centered out of home care model designed to enhance reunification. This model is much like traditional family preservation models and relies upon a smaller family to worker ratio to achieve the intended results. The ideal case load for a worker in this approach is twelve families. This is a larger number than other family preservation services, however is smaller than traditional case loads for workers providing CPS services. The family social worker facilitates collaboration between the many agencies involved with the family and provides continual family assessments which are not limited by a structured schedule. This model relies on a support team concept which includes the family social worker, the foster care agency worker, the guardian ad litem, attorneys, school personnel and other natural helpers that may be involved with the family. Families are encouraged to be active participants in the reunification process. The family meets with the support team within 72 hours of placement and then at frequent intervals throughout the case duration. These meetings facilitate interaction and collaboration amongst the many individuals involved in the case. As a result of this process, families receive a range of services such as counseling, parenting, financial assistance and other concrete services. The family

preservation service tended to be more successful at reunifying children who had been in out-of-home care longer.

Berry and McCauley (2005) developed and evaluated the Intensive Reunification Program in Kansas. This program requires intensive participation from foster care staff and parents. Several of the program components are a) behavior modeling and opportunity to practice new behaviors, b) increased contact between parents and children, and c) social workers, volunteers, and family support workers who “coach” parents and provide positive feedback in real-life settings. Each week, there are two sessions between the parents and children. These are held for two hours each night in a local fellowship hall. These meetings are structured and involve a group meal during the first half hour, a fun activity between parents and children for the second half hour, and the final hour is spent in parent education and peer support groups. Preliminary evaluation suggests that the program had greater success with families who were referred for neglect rather than other types of abuse, however no comparative evaluation is available.

Fein and Staff (1993) evaluated a reunification services program through Casey Family Services which serves the four New England states. This program provides training in parenting skills, mental health counseling, respite care, coaching in homemaking, budgeting assistance, help with job training and apartment-hunting, transportation, and support for substance abuse treatment. The services are delivered by a two-person casework team who has contact with the family three to four times a week. Initial evaluation of this program was positive and did result in the successful reunification of families with multiple problems.

b) ***Recovery Coaches and Service Matching Program***

Choi (2006) evaluated a very different model that employed recovery coaches and service matching for mothers in Illinois who had their children removed as a result of

substance abuse issues. The recovery coach idea was adapted from substance abuse programs. In this model, a coach is assigned to work with the mother in achieving sobriety and to help facilitate reunification. Service matching was the language used to describe the provision of services that matched the needs of the mother to the services provided. This matching process was considered from two perspectives. One, the agency working with the mother identified service needs and the mother identified her perception of her service needs. Then, services were provided in an effort to address these needs. Choi's results suggested that mothers who received services that met their perceived needs were more successful.

c) ***Early Intervention Foster Care (EIFC) Program (Oregon)***

Fisher, Burraston and Pears (2005) evaluated the Early Intervention Foster Care Program which is designed to enhance reunification. This program is an extension of the Oregon Multidimensional treatment foster care program for adolescents and is designed for use with pre-school age children in care. The program requires pre-service and in-service training of foster parents, ongoing and intensive support from program staff, and individual counseling for children and parent training. The intervention emphasizes encouragement for prosocial behavior, consistent limit setting and close supervision of the child. Preliminary evaluations were inconclusive regarding program success.

The Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care program was developed for youth who exhibit anti-social or problem behavior (Fisher & Chamberlain, 2000). This model relies upon the use of close supervision of youth by caseworkers with small caseloads. Much like the EIFC model, foster parents receive pre-service and in-service training and ongoing support. Caseworkers are available 24 hours a day to address family questions, concerns and crises. The program relies upon a points-based behavior management for youth in the foster home. This model has three privilege levels and a youth must earn

points to move through those levels. In addition, peer associations are closely monitored, and a treatment team is used to assist with service provision. This model has only been evaluated in terms of re-arrest and re-incarceration rates, however it may be an effective tool in prevention reunification as well. Given the outcome measures used, this model was not addressed in the empirical portion of the report and has only been included as one of many program model descriptions.

d) ***Concurrent Planning Models***

Frame, Berrick and Coakely (2006) discuss the use of concurrent planning in California in an effort to facilitate permanency planning and reunification. This model of concurrent planning relies on several components to achieve reunification. They are a) assessing the family's prognosis for reunification within the first 90 days of placement, b) developing simultaneous plans for the child so that if reunification fails additional plans for permanency are readily available, c) placement in a home that has caregivers who are willing to adopt but will support reunification as well, d) full disclosure to birth parents of the effects of out-of-home care on a child and timelines for reunification and permanency, e) frequent parental visits, even with ambivalent parents, f) a focus on timely permanency as the goal, g) having parents and caseworkers develop written plans that include small attainable goals, and h) drawing conclusions about the success of the case based on observed parental behavior (Katz 1996, 1999). A qualitative evaluation of this model was conducted so it is impossible to determine if the program was responsible for those who achieved successful reunification.

e) ***Court-based Programs***

Courtney and Blakey (2003) evaluate an expedited court review process as a tool to increase permanency for children. This process relied upon court reviews every 90 days rather than every 180 days in an effort to bring all involved parties together more

frequently which would subsequently limit the time in care and speed the permanency planning process. The evaluation of this program suggests that children who received the increased review were more likely to achieve permanency or reunify within 14 months than those who did not receive the review.

f) ***Manatee Model (Florida)***

Yampolskaya, Kershaw and Banks (2005) discuss the Manatee Model (Florida) as a tool for achieving reunification. The Manatee Model is designed for use with youth between 8 and 18 years of age who are in out-of-home care, have serious emotional and behavioral problems and are at risk for lengthy stays in care. The program serves 60 children annually and offers case management, long-term residential services, placement counseling and adoption. This is an approach designed to meet the needs of children with many issues. A two year longitudinal evaluation of this model found that children with complex needs, especially health issues, were most likely to be in lengthy out-of-home placements. This was especially true of the program participants. Other factors that had an impact on the length of placement were the age of the child and whether the child was from a single-parent household. This study did not include a control group and was correlational only; nonetheless it showed some success for those who participated in the program.

g) ***Assessment and Treatment Model***

Zeanah et al. (2001) discuss the use of an assessment and treatment program in Louisiana for children 48 months or younger in foster care due to maltreatment. This program includes 15 to 20 hours of face-to-face contact with parents (or other primary caregiver) to help them understand the importance of the parent-child relationship and to accept responsibility for occurrences of maltreatment. Home visits and clinical observations, standardized instruments and naturalistic observations are all utilized to

assess the relationships. The end of the assessment phase is marked by a conference between all involved professionals, feedback for parents and recommendations to the juvenile court. During the intensive treatment program which follows the assessment phase, a court-ordered case plan for the family is implemented with the goal of helping the family take responsibility for the maltreatment of their child. The family may also receive services such as individual counseling, dyadic psychotherapy with young children, medication and crisis intervention. Evaluation of this intervention suggests that it reduced maltreatment recidivism, but reunification rates for those in the intervention group were lower for those in the program. The authors speculate that the intense scrutiny of the parents during the intervention lead to an increased number of parental rights terminations.

Table 11. Program Models for Improving Reunification and Decreasing Re-entry to Care.

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
Intensive Family Preservation/Reunification Services	Intensive Family Reunification Services (Kirk & Griffith)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid referral response • 24 hour availability • Evening and weekend meetings • Small caseloads (2-5) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kirk and Griffith's 2005 review suggests decrease in problems, decrease in moderate to serious problem levels and decrease in safety problems. 2. Further empirical analysis is required to draw conclusions. 	No Empirical evaluation. Only descriptive analysis.

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
	Intensive Family Service Model (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased worker contact with parents, family members and children • Counseling • Financial Assistance • Medical Service • Placement • Housing assistance • Family life education • Vocational counseling • Recreation or Cultural Enrichment • Tutoring • Day Care • Home maker services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decrease in the amount of time in care 2. Increase in the number of children returning home 3. Improvement in family problems 	Experimental
	Boysville of Michigan based on Homebuilders Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 families per worker • Family preservation services prior to reunification and post reunification • Use of cognitive and behavioral approaches with family • Provision of Soft and Hard Services • Worker flexibility and availability 24 hours a day 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in family functioning 2. Decrease in the amount of time in care 	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.
	Walton, Fraser, Harlin & Lewis (1993) based on Homebuilders model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 90 days of service • Home-based • Provision of concrete services and skills training 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decreased time in care 2. Increased family stability at six year follow-up 	Quasi-experimental

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
	Family Centered Out of Home Care (Lewandowski & Pierce)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small family to worker ratio (12:1) • Worker facilitates collaboration between many agencies to provide services for the family • Continuous family assessments • Support team consisting of involved parties from the court system, CPS, the foster care agency and other individuals • Family meets with support team at regular intervals to assess progress and identify additional needs. 	1. Successful reunification of children who had been in out of home care for longer periods of time.	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.
	Intensive Reunification Program – Kansas (Berry & McCauley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation from parents and foster care staff and families • Behavior modeling and opportunities to practice new behaviors • Increased contact between parents and children • Professional “coaching” of parents to provide support and feedback • Twice weekly group dinner, activity and education/_support session 	1. Program was more successful with neglect cases, but no comparative evaluation was conducted.	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
	Reunification Services Program (Fein & Staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental skills training • Mental health counseling • Respite care • Homemaking services • Budgeting assistance • Job training • Apartment location assistance • Transportation assistance • Substance abuse treatment support • Two-person caseworker team delivered services to family 	1. Initial reunification may have been successful, however needs empirical evaluation	No empirical evaluation
Recovery Coach and Service Matching	Recovery Coach and Service Matching (Choi)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of supportive person assigned to work with mother through recover process. • Use of services that were intended to match the specific needs of the mother from both agency and maternal perspectives 	1. Service matching increased success of mothers in recovery and therefore success of reunification as well.	Experimental
Early Intervention Foster Care Program	Early Intervention Foster Care Program – Oregon (Fisher et al.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of the Multi-dimensional treatment foster care program for adolescents designed for use with preschool aged children • Pre-service and in-service training for foster parents • Ongoing and intensive support from program staff • Counseling for children • Parent training • Emphasis on concrete encouragement for prosocial behavior 	1. Needs further empirical evaluation as preliminary evaluations of success were inconclusive.	Experimental

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
	Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care – Oregon (Fisher & Chamberlain)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop for use with adolescents exhibiting anti-social behavior • Close supervision of youth by caseworkers (daily) • Small caseloads (10-12) • Pre-service and in-service training for foster parents • 24 hour a day case worker availability • Relies on a points-based behavior management program for the youth in the foster home. • Use of treatment team with clearly defined roles. • Close monitoring of peer associations 	1. Did not evaluate reunification or re-entry, relied upon arrest rates and reincarceration as outcomes. May be a useful intervention for reduction of re-entry or increased success of reunification.	Quasi-experimental
Concurrent Planning	Concurrent Planning (Frame et al.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of reunification prognosis within 90 days of placement • Development of simultaneous reunification and permanency plans for the child • Placement with caregivers who are willing to adopt but also support the reunification process • Full disclosure to birth parents of the plans and effects of out-of-home care • Frequent parental visits • Timely permanency is the goal • Case conclusions are made based upon observed parental behavior 	1. Qualitative evaluation conducted no conclusive evidence of success	Qualitative evaluation and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.

Type of Model	Program Name	Key Components	Outcomes	Level of Evaluation
Court-based services	Expedited Court Review Process (Courtney & Blakey)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased court reviews from 180 days to 90 days 	1. Permanency may be achieved more timely.	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.
Manatee Model	Manatee Model – Florida (Yampolskaya et al.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For children with emotional and behavioral problems • Case management • Long-term residential services • Placement • Counseling • Adoption 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Needs empirical evaluation 2. Children in Manatee model were in care longer 3. No difference in reunification rates 	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.
Assessment and Treatment	Assessments and Treatment for children under 48 months of age (Zeanah et al.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of relationships to understand importance and dynamics occurs via 15 to 20 hours of face-to-face contact with child and family members • After assessment, conference is conducted to provide feedback to parents and offer recommendations to the court • Treatment plan is implemented with the primary goal that the family will achieve accountability for the maltreatment of their child • Additional goals are identified and services such as counseling, psychotherapy, medication and crisis intervention are utilized to meet these goals 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation suggests that the intervention reduced maltreatment recidivism but not specifically return to care. 2. Results show more terminations of parental rights for those in intervention group. 	Correlational and therefore conclusions cannot be drawn about effectiveness.

4. Qualitative Research

Many qualitative studies were identified through this review. These studies relied upon qualitative methodologies such as case analysis, focus groups, and worker or parent interviews. Qualitative research is useful in developing theories or hypotheses regarding factors that may be critical to the success of reunification programs but that are not captured in the quantitative data. The conclusions from qualitative research are important to include in this review to identify new directions for services or critical outcome variables that should be included in future research, however it must be noted that these conclusions are not generalizable to a larger population.

Marcenko and Striepe (1997) used an ethnographic approach in conducting interviews with mothers about their experiences with reunification. They identified spirituality, family support, and belief in themselves as necessary qualities for reunification. Their findings suggest that mothers who felt that they had these qualities were more likely to have a positive reunification experience.

Carlson, Mattos, Smith and Everson (2006) interviewed case workers, substance abuse counselors and mothers about the stress of working toward sobriety and reunification at the same time. Results of their interviews suggest that mothers need coping skills to deal with the stress of reunification, increased parenting skills in order to be able to actively parent while in recovery and access to and use of formal and informal supports during and after the reunification process.

O'Neal (1999) conducted surveys and focus groups regarding parent satisfaction with the services they had received from the CPS agency in an effort to reduce foster care. The responses to parenting classes and substance abuse treatment were extremely positive, however the outcomes related to their satisfaction with CPS and their social workers were varied. This qualitative analysis was an attempt to evaluate parental

satisfaction with their services. These evaluations would suggest that parents found the parenting classes and substance abuse treatment most satisfying and raise questions about why their satisfaction with the CPS agencies and the social workers were varied.

Prutch (2003) conducted an exploratory study regarding factors that contribute to family reunification. This was accomplished through interviews with reunified parents and social workers. Parents identified various types of support as necessary during the very stressful reunification process. Concrete services such as transportation assistance, financial assistance, and housing assistance were mentioned as well as religious and family support. Some barriers to reunification were also identified. These were employment, housing, child care, and visitation. Services that were found to be helpful were parenting classes, residential substance abuse programs, counseling, and family decision meetings.

These qualitative studies offer direction in terms of future research and theory development. All of these studies examined parental experiences or satisfaction with reunification. The results suggest that parents or mothers need support in a variety of areas to include concrete services, substance abuse treatment, parenting skills, spirituality, and family support. Many of these findings are similar to correlational findings regarding concrete services and substance abuse treatment and this research mirrors the conceptual literature in this area as well. Issues such as parental supports and stress should be considered when developing a model to increase successful reunification and decrease the risk for re-entry to care.

B. Analysis of the Conceptual Literature

Many of the published articles on reunification and re-entry were judged to be conceptual in nature. That is, they presented information on theories about family reunification or presented the author's ideas on how to promote reunification and reduce re-entry to care based on their assessment of the research literature, their practice experience, or their hypotheses about what is needed in the field. Although this information is typically not included in a systematic review, given the limited amount of rigorous research in this area we decided to also review the conceptual literature for ideas that could be examined in future research. This section will present 1) a review of the theoretical foundations and assumptions that guide current practices, 2) child and family/parent factors that are believed to influence reunification outcomes, and 3) services that are typically reported to improve reunification and reduce re-entry to out-of-home care.

1. Theoretical Foundations and Assumptions

a) *Theoretical Foundations*

One trend observed in the conceptual literature on family reunification services is the support for one of two similar theoretical foundations: ecological (Howe, 1983; Stehno 1986; Milner 1987; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993; Corcoran, 2000) or systems theory (Stehno 1986; Asen, George, Piper, & Stevens, 1989; McAlpine, Marshall, & Doran 2001). Ecological theory views the person within the context of their environment. Human behavior is seen as interactional in nature; therefore, behaviors should be understood within their social context (Howe, 1983). It is a strength-based perspective that focuses on family competencies rather than pathology (Howe, 1983; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993). Similarly, systems theory acknowledges that children grow up within a larger context that includes family, friends, relatives, as well as the larger social and political environment.

Like the ecological perspective, systems theory is strength-based in nature and views behaviors as interactional attempts to function effectively within these larger systems (Asen, George, Piper, & Stevens, 1989).

b) ***Family-Centered Approach***

One of the most prevalent aspects in the conceptual literature is the use of a family-centered approach to services (Stehno 1986; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Lewandowski 2004; NAIC 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). Family-centered services identify the family rather than the child as the central unit of focus (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993). Aspects of family-centered care include: a strength-based view of families, parents functioning as partners on the treatment team, development of strong parent-worker relationships, and the provision of comprehensive services (Stehno 1986; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). These ideas are also seen in three of the previously identified treatment models (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne, 1976; Boysville of Michigan, 1991; Lewandowski & Pierce, 2004).

2. Child and Family Factors

a) ***Multi-problem families***

Many of the families who are engaged in child protective services experience multiple stressors and challenges that impact their ability to effectively and safely parent their children. Many parents are struggling with mental health, drug and alcohol, violence and poverty (Milner 1987; Marsh et al., 2006; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998). These families are less likely to experience successful reunification

(Biehal 2006). The conceptual literature recommends the provision of comprehensive services that target the specific needs of the individual families and include a combination of concrete and therapeutic services (Marsh et al., 2006; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996). The correlation between multi-problem families and reunification outcomes was also seen in the empirical literature (Fuller, 2005; Fuller, Wells, & Cotton, 2001; Block & Libowitz, 1983) and was addressed in three program models (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne, 1976; Choi 2006; Fein & Staff. 1993).

b) **Race**

One factor that was most commonly cited in the conceptual literature was that of race. African-American children are disproportionately represented in the nation's child protective services (Sinhara, 1998; Brooks & Webster, 1999; Hill, 2004). They are removed from their homes more often than other children, remain in care longer, are less likely to be reunified with their families, and are at higher risk of re-entering care (Courtney, 1992, 1994, & 1995; Barth, Courtney, Little & Scherman, 1995; Smokowski & Wodarski, 1996; White, 1996; Berrick & Albert, 1999; Malcuccio, 2000; Shaw, 2006). A study by White (1996) showed that minority children had fewer services offered to them than White children, had fewer parental visits, had more changes in case workers, and experienced more placement changes. Minority families also reported that they received fewer visits from their case workers, were less likely to be encouraged to visit with their children in care, and felt their case worker spent less time engaging them in problem-solving activities (White, 1996).

c) **Substance Abuse**

Parental substance abuse has been identified as a factor in reunification and re-entry into care (McAlpine, Marshall, & Doran 2001; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Malcuccio & Ainsworth 2003; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). Families affected by substance abuse also

experience a number of other stressors including poverty, inadequate housing, mental health issues, physical health issues, unsafe neighborhoods, neglect, and limited support networks (McAlpine, Marshall & Doran 2001; Maluccio & Ainworth 2003). Wingfield & Klemmner (2000) recommend five types of services for substance-abusing mothers: physical health care services, drug and alcohol treatment services, concrete supports; mental health services, and parenting services. This is similar to the findings in Choi's (2006) study on service matching with substance abusing mothers. Many substance abusing mothers have experienced childhood trauma which also suggests a need for gender-specific addiction services (Cordero & Epstein, 2005).

d) ***Neglectful Families***

Neglect is the most common type of maltreatment (Katz 1996). Children removed for neglect were less likely to reunify than those removed due to behavioral problems (Biehal 2006; Connell 2006), physical abuse (Marshall 1999; Wells 2004; Biehal 2006), or sexual abuse (Biehal 2006). This is also supported by the correlation research (Wells & Guo, 1999; Courtney, Pilavin & Wright, 1997; Wells & Guo, 2006). The conceptual literature highlighted that patterns of neglect and patterns of abuse are influenced by different factors, and interventions should address these differences appropriately (DePanfilis 1999; Petras, Massat, & Essex 2002; Dawson & Berry, 2002; NAIC 2004). Likewise, the types of neglect differ significantly in cause and treatment (NAIC 2004). For many types of neglect, the provision of material supports was identified as an important component of the reunification process as these families typically experience a number of barriers including inadequate housing, poverty and unemployment, and lack of transportation (DePanfilis 1999; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Petras, Massat, & Essex 2002; NAIC 2004). Additional interventions identified in the literature include: provision of parent education, linkage with community resources, parent support, mental health services, and crisis intervention

(Dawson & Berry, 2002; Petras, Massat, & Essex 2002; NAIC 2004). The literature also supports providing services for longer periods of time (Dawson & Berry, 2002; NAIC 2004).

e) **Poverty**

Studies show that poor children are more likely to be placed out of the home, to remain in care for longer periods of time and to re-enter foster care after reunification with their families (Courtney, 1992; Courtney, 1994; Courtney, 1995; Grogan-Kaylor, 2001; Hill, 2004; Wells 2004; Littell & Schuerman 1995; Sinohara, 1998; Smokowski & Wodarski, 1996; Barth, Courtney, Berrick, & Albert, 1999; Harburger 2004, Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Yampolskaya et al., 2006; Wells, 2006). The literature suggests that the challenges of poverty require advocacy and social action as well as direct practice with families (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993). Another challenge is to find the resources and support for families that make reunification possible. The literature also points to the need to address the concrete concerns that facilitated removal (Maluccio & Fein 1994; Corcoran, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002).

3. Services

a) **Case Workers Behaviors**

The empirical literature on the influence of case workers on reunification suggests that it is the behaviors of case workers that impact outcomes rather than their attributes. The ability to develop a helping relationship with parents and engage them in services is suspected to increase treatment effectiveness (Pecora & Maluccio, 2000). Likewise, worker behaviors such as setting of mutually agreed upon goals, providing services that clients find relevant and helpful, focusing on client strengths, spending sufficient time with the clients and providing necessary resources are suggested to promote family reunification when they are administered in a supportive and non-punitive manner

(Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine, 1993; Dawson & Berry, 2002). Other behaviors include incorporating the perspectives of the parents in treatment planning (Farmer 1996; Marsh 2006), the involvement of extended family members in the helping process (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine, 1993), teaching parents how to access community resources (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993), coordinating services across service systems (Carroll 1980; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993), clearly communicating expectations to families (Wilkes 1992), and frequent contact between the case worker and the parents (Milner 1987; White 1996; Noble 1997; Dawson & Berry 2002).

b) **Assessment**

Another trend in the conceptual literature is the need for effective assessments to help guide case planning and intervention selection (Wilkes 1992; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). Authors support using a timely (McCroskey & Meezan, 1998), comprehensive assessment process (Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005) that is culturally appropriate (Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). The literature also supports the involvement of parents and extended family members in the assessment and treatment planning process (Maluccio, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Crampton 2004; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005).

c) **Family Engagement**

Another common theme in the conceptual literature is the importance of effectively engaging families in services (Lewis, 1991; Rooney 1992; Corcoran, 2000, Dawson & Berry, 2002; NFPN, 2003; NAIC 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). The literature acknowledges that families with children in care are especially difficult to engage (Salter, Richardson, & Martin, 1985; Rooney 1992; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli,

2005). Some research suggests that case workers can increase engagement by spending more time with the families especially in their early stages of treatment (Dawson & Berry, 2002). Many of the treatment models identified in the empirical literature incorporate high levels of worker-family contact and intensity of service as a component (Jones, Neuman & Shyne, 1976; Boysille of Michigan, 1991; Walton, Fraser, Harlin, & Lewis, 1993; Lewandowski & Pierce, 2004; Berry & McCauley, 2005; Kirk & Griffith, 2005; Fein & Staff, 1993). The conceptual literature supports the creation of an empathetic and supportive relationship with parents, but Salter, Richardson, and Martin (1985) caution that the desire to be accepting cannot distract from the need to address the underlying behaviors or factors that led to the need for protective services.

d) **Concrete Services**

Another common theme within the conceptual literature is the need to provide concrete services to families (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; DePanfilis 1999; Maluccio, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; NAIC 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005) particularly during the engagement stage of involvement with the family (Dawson & Berry, 2002; NAIC 2004). The concrete services most often identified are assistance with housing (Maluccio, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002, Harburger 2004; NAIC 2004), employment (DePanfilis 1999; Maluccio, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002), transportation (Maluccio, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002; NAIC 2004), and childcare (DePanfilis 1999; Dawson & Berry, 2002; NAIC 2004). The literature also supports the partnership of child protective services and community-based organizations who address material assistance needs (DePanfilis 1999; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Harburger 2004; NAIC 2004). The role of concrete services can also be seen in the correlational (Fraser 1995; Fein & Maluccio, 1984; Prutch 2003) and empirical research (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne 1976;

Walton, Fraser, Harlin, & Lewis, 1993; Choi 2006; Boysville of Michigan 1991; Lewandowski & Pierce, 2004; Fein & Staff, 1993).

e) ***Social Supports***

The conceptual literature identifies the lack of social supports to the family as a risk factor in reunification and overall family functioning (Milner 1987; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; Corcoran, 2000; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005), and for re-entry into care (Farmer, 1996; Terling 1999). Social supports were also identified as an important component of post-reunification support to families (Carlson, Mattos, Smith & Everson, 2006). As such, assisting families in strengthening their support network was suggested to increase success (Dawson & Berry, 2002).

f) ***Mental Health Services***

The conceptual literature addresses the mental health needs of both the children in care and their parents (Asen, George, Piper, & Stevens, 1989; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine 1993; Berliner, L. & Kolko, D., 2000; Maluccio, 2000; Risley-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt & Teska, 2004; Chaffin 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Connell 2006). The research supports the provision of mental health services before and after reunification occurs (Asen, George, Piper, & Stevens, 1989; Berliner, L. & Kolko, D., 2000; Maluccio, 2000; Risley-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt & Teska, 2004). This component is also seen in a number of the empirically-tested program models (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne 1976; Choi 2006; Boysville of Michigan 1991; Walton, Fraser, Harlin & Lewis, 1993; Lewandowski & Pierce, 2004; Fein & Staff, 1993; Zeanah, et al., 2001; Yampolskaya, Kershaw, & Banks, 2005; Fisher, Burraston, & Pears, 2005). Partnerships with human service providers and universities are recommended to increase the availability of effective mental health services (Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004).

g) **Skill training**

The provision of services to increase parents' skill levels in a number of areas is discussed in the conceptual literature (Corcoran, 2000; Maluccio 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). Among the topic areas identified are: behavioral management techniques (Corcoran, 2000; Maluccio 2000), coping skills (Corcoran, 2000; Maluccio 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002), and problem-solving skills (Corcoran, 2000; Dawson & Berry, 2002). Skill development is identified as a treatment component in the empirical literature as well (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne, 1976; Block & Libowitz, 1983; Walton, Fraser, Harlin & Lewis, 1993; Terling, 1999; Carlson, Mattos, Smith & Evenson, 2006; Choi 2006). Nine studies also mention the provision of parenting skills as a component in the reunification process (Jones, Neuman, & Shyne, 1976; Walton, Fraser, Harlin & Lewis, 1993; O'Neal 1999; Prutch 2003; Lewandowski & Pierce, 2004; Berry & McCauley, 2005; Fisher, Burraston, & Pears, 2005; Carlson, Mattos, Smith & Evenson, 2006; Choi 2006).

h) **Visitation**

There is a substantial amount of conceptual literature that discusses visitation between parents and children in care and its role in reunification (Proch & Howard, 1984; Mech 1985; Lawder 1986; Milner 1987; Maluccio, Walsh, & Pine 1993; Laufer, 1994; Katz, 1996; Braziel, Day, & Stuck, 1996; White 1996; Noble 1997; Corcoran, 2000; Walsh & Pine, 2000; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Monck, Reynolds, & Wigfall, 2005; Biehal 2006). Although there is a correlation between visitation and reunification as Biehal (2006) points out, it is descriptive in nature. Visitation can be used as an opportunity to assess parents' investment in reunification (Proch & Howard, 1984; Katz, 1996) and their ability to effectively parent their children (Proch & Howard, 1984; Maluccio, Walsh, & Pine 1993; Corcoran, 2000; Walsh & Pine, 2000; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Monck, Reynolds, &

Wigfall, 2005). This time can also be an opportunity for parents to practice new skills they have learned, (Corcoran, 2000; Walsh & Pine, 2000; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Monck, Reynolds, & Wigfall, 2005) to strengthen the parent-child relationship (Proch & Howard, 1984; Maluccio, Walsh, & Pine1993; Walsh & Pine, 2000; Monck, Reynolds, & Wigfall, 2005; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005), and to allow the family to begin implementing new interactional patterns (Proch & Howard, 1984; Maluccio, Walsh, & Pine1993; Corcoran, 2000; Walsh & Pine, 2000). As such, the literature encourages visits that are long enough in duration to make this possible; occur in natural environments; and incorporate typical family activities such as meal preparation and going to the doctor. (Proch & Howard, 1984; Walsh & Pine, 2000).

i) **Agency Factors**

The conceptual literature discusses structural changes that may impact family reunification (Hartman 1993; Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine1993; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Pierce & Geremia 1999; Pecora, & Maluccio 2000; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005). For example, the size of case worker case loads (McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005), the provision of case worker training (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine1993; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998; Pecora, & Maluccio, 2000; NAIC 2004; Risely-Curtiss, Stromwall, Hunt, & Teska 2004), access to on-going supervision (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine1993; McCroskey & Meezan, 1998), flexibility in how and when workers conduct their work (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine1993), and worker empowerment (Maluccio, Warsh, & Pine1993) are all suggested to impact reunification outcomes.

4. Re-entry

Re-entry into out-of-home placement is another area addressed in the conceptual literature (Turner 1984; Maluccio & Fein 1994; Festinger 1994; Courtney 1995; Pierce &

Geremia 1999; Marshal 1999; Terling 1999; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Biehal 2006; Shaw, 2006). The service factors that were identified as potentially influencing re-entry include: limited case monitoring and planning (Turner 1984); fewer services in care (Festinger 1994); time in care (Courtney 1995); type of placement (Courtney 1995; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Shaw, 2006), and lack of aftercare services (Festinger 1994; Pierce & Geremia 1999).

Several child and family factors have been suggested to increase risk of re-entry including families having multiple problems (Turner 1984; Biehal 2006); children having multiple problems (Pierce & Geremia 1999; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005); the child's disability status or health problems (Courtney 1995; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Biehal 2006; Shaw, 2006); the family's social supports (Terling 1999); substance abuse (Terling 1999; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005); parental ambivalence (Pierce & Geremia 1999; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005); history of neglect (Marshal 1999; Terling 1999; Biehal 2006); race (Courtney 1995; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Shaw, 2006) and socioeconomic status (Courtney 1995; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Shaw, 2006; Boles 2007). Overall, the child's behavior problems and their parents' inability to effectively manage their behaviors was the most commonly cited reason for re-entry into care (Festinger 1994; Maluccio & Fein 1994; Pierce & Geremia 1999; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005; Biehal 2006).

Both the service and child/family factors associated with reunification in the conceptual literature mirror the items identified in the previously mentioned correlation literature. The conceptual literature suggests that children are returned home before the families' problems have been effectively addressed (Courtney 1995; Pierce & Geremia 1999; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005; Thomas, Chenot & Reifel 2005) and without the appropriate after-

care services to assist the family in successfully reuniting (Maluccio & Fein 1994; Courtney 1995; Pierce & Geremia 1999; Pine, Spath, & Gosteli, 2005).

5. Summary of the Conceptual Literature Review

There are a number of parallels between the conceptual and empirical literature.

This is to be expected as strong conceptual literature should come from a thorough understanding of the empirically-based research findings. Among the most prominent correlations between the two is in the area of service provision. Both areas support the utilization of a family-centered perspective in treatments, increased intensity of worker-family contact, the provision of concrete services, mental health interventions, drug and alcohol services, and skill development opportunities.

VI. Summary and Conclusions

The purpose of this systematic review was to identify effective or promising strategies for increasing family reunification and reducing the occurrence of re-entry to care. Using a variety of sources and multiple methods, this review provides a comprehensive picture of the empirical and non-empirical work on these topics.

The questions guiding this systematic review can be summarized as follows:

1. What interventions or “promising practices” appear to result in a) increasing successful family reunification and b) reducing re-entry to out-of-home care for abused, neglected, or unruly youth/children?
2. What factors are associated with successful family reunification and what factors are associated with re-entry to care?
3. What research is needed to develop more effective interventions for successful family reunification and to reduce re-entry to care following reunification?

After summarizing the quality of available research and the state of current knowledge on family reunification, the results of the systematic review will be applied to answer each of these critical questions.

A. **Assessing the Available Research on Reunification and Re-entry**

In 1994, Maluccio and Fein concluded that “...little research has been conducted on family reunification as such. Aggregating findings from existing studies is problematic due to methodological limitations in a number of respects: cross-sectional vs. cohort samples, lack of comparison groups, the unrepresentativeness of small samples, and

differences in operational definitions, data sources, and measurements” (p. 491). Eleven years later Bronson et al. (2005) reached a similar conclusion. They completed a rapid evidence assessment on re-entry to care to identify factors associated with re-entry to out-of-home care and programs that were effective in reducing re-entry. Only one experimental and one quasi-experimental study were identified in that report and the authors concluded that “The lack of rigorous evaluative research on interventions to reduce re-entry into foster care makes it impossible to identify “best practices” in this area” (Bronson et al., 2005, p. 25). The situation has improved, but not dramatically since that time.

As indicated throughout this report, there were only six experimental or quasi-experimental articles (five studies) identified through this review. Each of these articles reported on studies to evaluate the effectiveness of a program to increase reunification success; however, they all contained methodological limitations that are inherent in conducting research in applied settings. As a result, the correlational and qualitative research was also reviewed. These studies were helpful in drawing conclusions regarding factors associated with program effectiveness and successful reunification, but definitive conclusions regarding program success cannot be drawn from the non-experimental research.

There are numerous reasons for the lack of rigorous research on reunification and re-entry to care. Most of them have to do with the realities of conducting experimental research in applied settings. Other factors that impede rigorous research in this area are 1) difficulties in obtaining reliable data on reunification and re-entry (Lawder et al., 1986, Courtney, 1995), 2) shifting definitions of reunification and re-entry due to inconsistencies across states and changing legislation, 3) problems with program implementation and little information on treatment integrity, and 4) disagreements about whether reunification is

generally a desired outcome (Whittaker & Maluccio, 2002; Biehl, 2006, 2007). The implementation of the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSRs) addresses some of the definitional issues but more work is needed to support needed research in this area.

B. What Interventions or Promising Practices Appear to Promote Successful Family Reunification and Reduce the Likelihood of Re-entry to Care?

Although there are no definitive studies to guide program planning on reunification and re-entry, it is possible to synthesize the research that is available and identify practices that seem to increase the likelihood of successful reunification and reduce the likelihood of re-entry to out-of-home care. The conclusions that are drawn from this synthesis must be tentative until more rigorous research is available but, until then, they can guide practice and policy decisions and indicate directions for future research.

This review identified five experimental or quasi-experimental studies that examined program outcomes pertaining to family reunification or re-entry to care. There are some significant weaknesses for each of these studies but they represent the best available evidence at this time and provide service models that appear to be promising. Three of the experimental/quasi-experimental studies evaluated the effectiveness of intensive family services to support successful family reunification, one examined the importance of matching services to need, and one highlighted the benefits of working with parents to improve their skills in dealing with their unruly children. Although the results are somewhat inconsistent across studies, it is safe to conclude that these programs have some positive benefits for the participating families. A review of the correlational and qualitative research supports these claims as well. The common characteristics of these programs include 1) increased contact between workers and parents (small worker to family ratios, 24-hour availability), 2) parent contacts with child, 3) parenting skills training (including cognitive-behavioral models), 4) mental health and substance abuse services to

parents, 5) concrete services to the family (transportation, job training, housing, respite care, day care, home-maker assistance), and 6) social support networks. The research suggests that these services decrease the amount of time children spend in out of home care, improve family functioning, and increase family stability.

C. What factors are associated with successful family reunification and reduced re-entry to care?

Without a body of conclusive research on effective reunification services it is necessary to examine the entirety of the empirical literature for suggestions on promising practices and common themes. The following practices have been identified from the available empirical literature. None have yet been rigorously evaluated but all have preliminary support from the existing research and suggest practices that promise to assist reunifying families. These are categorized as pre-reunification services, post-reunification services, strategies to reduce re-entry to care, and special programs for unruly children/youth.

1. Pre-reunification Services

- Assess parental ambivalence about reunification and reunification readiness similar to that included in the North Carolina Family Assessment Scale for Reunification (NCFAS-R) and address issues that are identified.
- Prepare a detailed service plan for families.
- Involve parents in case planning and arrange regular contact with the child.
- Schedule regular home visits for the child.
- Identify family needs and match them with available community services prior to reunification.
- Provide parenting skills training to prepare parents to deal with behavioral difficulties exhibited by the child.
- Develop training programs for workers on how to engage parents.
- Work with parents, children, kinship caregivers, and foster parents to prepare for reunification.

2. Reunification Services

- Offer intensive, in-home services (described earlier) with low worker to family ratios.
 - Match services to client-identified needs for individualized programming.
 - Offer multi-component services to address the complex issues presented by family reunification. These would include mental health services for the parents, stress management support, concrete services (housing, financial, job, transportation), substance abuse programs, counseling, and homemaker assistance.
 - Anticipate family issues and provide preventive services based on pre-reunification assessments of family strengths and needs. Services should be in place at the time of reunification to prevent the need for re-entry to care.
 - Provide special health care services for children with health needs such as respite care, nurses and aides, and social supports.
 - Provide concrete services in an effort to minimize family stresses.
 - Offer different services for families with children in care due to neglect than for families with children in care due to other types of abuse or dependency.
- a) ***Reducing Re-entry to Care***
- Use assessment tools, such as NCFAS-R, to determine the appropriateness of reunification and the best timing for reunification.
 - Identify family factors that have been correlated with re-entry and provide specialized services. For example, develop programs for older youth who are reunifying and for parents with infants and young children.
 - Introduce cognitive-behavior programs to deal with child behavior problems and train parents in the use of behavioral parenting methods.
 - Maintain reunification services for at least 12 months after reunification.
- b) ***Special Considerations for Unruly Children***
- Work with courts to create expedited review processes.
 - Deal with parental ambivalence about reunification with [an](#) unruly child.
 - Provide services similar to the Multi-dimensional Treatment Foster Care program in Oregon and work with parents and foster parents to implement a consistent behavior management program.

D. **Research Needed to Develop More Effective Interventions**

Although there is an extensive body of literature on family reunification and re-entry to care, there is little rigorous, evaluative research on reunification programs. This review has identified five experimental or quasi-experimental studies that examined various approaches to promoting successful family reunification. These are important studies but the weaknesses in each reflect the difficulty of undertaking experimental research in applied settings.

Although rigorous research on reunification programs may be difficult, there is an increasing awareness of the need for this research. The current emphasis on evidence-based practices makes it clear that much of the research in social work is correlational in nature and unable to answer the critical practice and policy questions facing the field. Most of the research in this systematic review identified factors that are highly correlated with either successful reunification or re-entry to care. The current body of research, however, cannot reveal the causal factors connected with successful reunification nor can it identify what works best, for whom, and under what circumstances. Answers to these questions will require additional experimental or quasi-experimental studies that employ similar outcome measures that are appropriate for use in meta-analytic statistical methods, to sort out which families benefit the most from reunification services, when reunification is not the best outcome for a child, and which parts of a multi-component program are contributing the most to positive outcomes.

This review also revealed some significant gaps in the existing research. Most notably, the research indicating the need to engage parents throughout the reunification process does not specifically address the role of the father's involvement. There is also a paucity of research on the special issues facing the families of unruly children/youth during

reunification. Behavioral problems is one of the risk factors for re-entry to care yet few of the articles on reunification specifically addressed the service needs of unruly children.

VII. Future Directions and Next Steps

Even without extensive rigorous research to support the benefits of reunification services, it is evident that services to prepare families for reunification and to support them afterwards are likely to promote successful reunification and reduce incidences of re-entry to care. The exact nature of those services is not clear but there is considerable empirical evidence to suggest what should be included, at least until better research identifies the causal change agents.

Based on this systematic review, there are a number of possible next steps for addressing reunification and re-entry in Ohio. These range from relatively simple, inexpensive changes to more complex and costly modifications to child welfare services. An example of the former is to modify the CAPMIS family assessment tools by adding items on parental ambivalence and readiness for reunification to help workers determine the best time for reunifying families and to help them anticipate special services or supports that may be needed during and after the transition period. Other possible avenues for improving reunification outcomes are:

- Add content to the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program on reunification and re-entry. Workers can be trained to assess and prepare for possible issues that may hamper successful reunification.
- Work with community agencies to develop reunification services for families that provide supportive services and contacts for up to one year after reunification.
- Develop specialized reunification programs for those at greatest risk of re-entry: families reunifying with young children (under two) or adolescents, families dealing

with child health or behavioral issues, substance abuse or mental health services that incorporate reunification goals, families dealing with neglect, or families needing concrete, material resources for successful reunification.

- Create and implement reunification services that are provided to all families engaged in reunification that includes individualized pre-reunification services and post-reunification services.

This list is not inclusive and is intended only to offer suggestions for possible future directions.

Given the paucity of rigorous research on services to promote successful reunification and to reduce re-entry to care, Ohio can make significant contributions to knowledge in this area by supporting rigorous evaluations of any reunification services or supports that are implemented. There is still a great deal to be learned about who should be reunified, when reunification should occur and how to serve reunifying families. Continued research will provide answers to these critical questions and provide more evidence to guide practice and policies.

VIII. General References and Resource Materials

- Barber, J. G., & Delfabbro, P. H. (2004). *Children in foster care*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Barth, R. P., Berrick, J. D., Courtney, M., & Albert, V. (1994). *From child abuse to permanency planning: Child welfare services pathways and placements*. New York, NY: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Barth, R., Berrick, J. D., & Gilbert, N. (1994). *Child welfare research review* (Vol. 1 ed.). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Berrick, J. D., Barth, R., & Gilbert, N. (1997). *Child welfare research review*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Burford, G., & Hudson, J. (2000). *Family group conferencing: New directions in community-centered child and family practice*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Carrol, M. (1980). Collaboration with social work clients: A review of literature. *Child Welfare*, 59(7), 407-417.
- Child Welfare League of America. (2002). Family reunification. *Research Roundup*, (March), 1-15.
- Cohen, E. (2003). Getting the whole picture: CFSR, training and front line practice. Paper presented at the Sixth Annual National Training Evaluation Symposium, Berkeley, CA.
- Courtney, M., Needell, B., & Wulczyn, F. (2004). Unintended consequences of the push for accountability: The case of national child welfare performance standards. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 26, 1141-1154.
- Dubowitz, H. (1999). *Neglected children: Research, practice, and policy*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Dougherty, S. (2004). *Promising practices in reunification*. New York, NY: National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning, Hunter College School of Social Work.
- Family forever: Reunification through family-focused foster care. A discussion guide [with videotape]*(1999). . Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Haskins, R., Wulczyn, F., & Webb, M. B. (2007). Using high quality research to improve child protective practice: An overview. In F. Wulczyn, M. B. Webb & R. Haskins (Eds.), *Child protection: Using research to improve policy and practice*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute Press.
- Leading-edge child welfare data available to state agencies.(2004). *Policy and Practice of Public Human Services*, 62(3), 8-8.

- Littell, J. H., & Schuerman, J. R. (2002). What works best for whom? A closer look at intensive family preservation services. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 24(9), 673-699.
- Littell, J. H., & Schuerman, J. R. (1995). *A synthesis of research on family preservation and family reunification programs*. Department of Health and Human Services: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.
<http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/hsp/cyp/fplitrev.htm>
- Mallon, G.P. & Hess-McCartt, P. (Eds.). (2005). *Child welfare for the 21st century*, New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
- Marsh, P., & Triseliotis, J. (1993). *Prevention and reunification in child care*. London, UK: B.T. Batsford & British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering.
- National Coalition for Child Protection Reform. (2003). The trouble with child and family services reviews. (www.nccpr.org)
- Nelson, K. E. (1997). Family preservation—What is it? *Children and Youth Services Review*, 19(1-2), 101-118.
- Petticrew, M. & Roberts, H. (2006). *Systematic reviews in the social sciences: A practical guide*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.
- Rubin, A. (2008). *Practitioner's guide to using research for evidence-based practice*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Sherman, L.W. (1998). *Preventing Crime: What Works, What Doesn't, What's Promising*. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice,
(<http://www.preventingcrime.org/report/index.htm>)
- Wulczyn, F., Webb, M. B., & Haskins, R. (2007). *Child protection: Using research to improve policy and practice*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute Press.
- Wulczyn, F., Barth, R., Yuan, Y. T., Harden, B. J., & Landsverk, J. (2005). *Beyond common sense: Child welfare, child well-being, and the evidence for policy reform*. New Brunswick: Adline Transaction.
- Wulczyn, F. (2004). Family reunification. *The Future of Children*, 14(1), 95-113.

Website references:

- Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/index.htm#cfsr>
- California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare. *Reunification*
<http://www.cachildwelfareclearinghouse.org/>
- Child Trends. <http://www.childtrends.org/>

Campbell Collaboration. <http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/> Child Welfare Information Gateway. Reunification programs and practices (May 2007).
<http://basis.caliber.com/cwif/ws/library/docs/gateway/SearchForm>

Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Co-ordinating Centre, University of London. <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=53>

National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology
<http://www.nrccwdt.org/cfsr/resources.cfsr.html>

SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices.
<http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/>

SAMHSA's Guide to Evidence-based Practice (EBP) on the Web.
<http://www.samhsa.gov/ebpWebguide/index.asp>

Social Care Institute for Excellence. <http://www.scie.org.uk/>

University of Kansas Results Oriented Management in Child Welfare (2002, 2003).
<http://www.rom.ku.edu>

University of Minnesota, School of Social Work (March, 2006). Trial home visits:
Strengthening reunification practices, Practice Notes #18.
http://ssw.che.umn.edu/CASCW/pn_306.html

What Works Clearinghouse. <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>

APPENDIX A

Electronic Databases Used in Systematic Review

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
1. Social work abstracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included in multidisciplinary database searches. 	1. Google Scholar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Scholar is currently a beta service that indexes items Google considers "scholarly," including articles, theses, books, preprints, abstracts, conference proceedings, and technical reports. The OSU Libraries subscribes to the electronic version of many of these materials and may own the print copy
2. Sociological abstracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indexes to and abstracts of the literature of sociology from 1,800 journals published worldwide, including abstracts of journal articles published in Sociological Abstracts since 1974 and the enhanced bibliographic citations for relevant dissertations that have been added to the database since 1986. Also includes the Social Planning Policy and Development Abstracts (SOPODA) database with detailed journal article abstracts since 1980. SOPODA expands on the theoretical focus of the database with the applied aspects of sociology. 	2. Academic Search Premier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This multi-disciplinary database provides full text for nearly 4,500 journals, including full text for more than 3,600 peer-reviewed titles. PDF backfiles to 1975 or further are available for well over one hundred journals, and searchable cited references are provided for 1,000 titles. <i>Academic Search Premier</i> is updated on a daily basis via EBSCOhost.

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
3. psycINFO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides access to the international literature in psychology and material relevant to psychology in the related disciplines of education, medicine, business, sociology, psychiatry and communications. Includes journals and dissertations from 1967 to the present in one database, and book chapters and books from 1987 to the present in a second database. The databases are in English and the journals covered are in 30 languages from over 45 countries. The databases provide citations, content summaries (for all but the dissertations), and indexing using terms from the Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms. Book records also contain the book's table of contents. 	3. Web of Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts & Humanities Citation Index indexes 1,100 of the world's leading arts and humanities journals, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 6,800 major science and social science journals. Science Citation Index Expanded indexes 5,300 major journals across 164 scientific disciplines and contains searchable, full-length, English-language author abstracts for approximately 70 percent of the articles in the database. The Social Sciences Citation Index indexes 1,700 journals spanning 50 disciplines, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 3,300 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals. It contains searchable, full-length, English-language author abstracts for approximately 60 per cent of the articles in the database.
4. ERIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A U.S. national bibliographic database covering the journal and research literature in the field of education, educational research, teaching methods and practices, and educational systems. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, 775 journals are abstracted. 	4. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contains citations for dissertations and theses done at U.S., Canadian and some foreign institutions including some OSU Master's nursing theses.

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
5. Medline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>MEDLINE with Full Text</i> is the world's most comprehensive source of full text for medical journals, providing full text for nearly 1,200 journals indexed in <i>MEDLINE</i>. This wide-ranging file contains full text for many of the most used journals in the <i>MEDLINE</i> index - with no embargo. With full-text coverage dating back to 1965, <i>MEDLINE with Full Text</i> is the definitive research tool for medical literature. 	5. C2 library (Campbell Collaboration)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.campbellcollaboration.org/frontend.aspx The C2-RIPE database contains approved Campbell titles, protocols, completed reviews, and abstracts or one-page plain English summaries.
6. What works for children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.whatworksforchildren.org.uk/ This website is for practitioners working with children in child public health and social care and interested in finding out about evidence from research. In our resources section you will find our Evidence Guide, EvidenceNuggets and research briefings, weblinks, and other resources to help you and your organization make use of evidence from research. 	6. Cochrane library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Web-based database from OVID that combines two leading evidence-based medicine (EBM) resources: The Cochrane Collaboration's Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews and Best Evidence, containing ACP Journal Club and Evidence-Based Medicine from the American College of Physicians and the British Medical Journal Publishing Group.
7. Social Programs that Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.evidencebasedprograms.org/ This site summarizes the findings from well-designed randomized controlled trials that have particularly important policy implications. 	7. WorldCat Dissertations and Theses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All materials catalogued by OCLC
8. Social Care online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.scie-socialcareonline.org.uk/ The UK's most extensive free 	8. International Bibliography of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IBZ contains over 2,550,000 journal articles from about 10,780 journals from 1983

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
	<p>database of social care information. With everything from research briefings, to reports, government documents, journal articles, and websites and you find it all with the click of a button. Updated daily by SCIE's experienced information managers.</p>	<p>Periodical Literature (IBZ)</p>	<p>to the present. On an annual basis approximately 120,000 new entries are added, with updates appearing monthly. Entries are mainly from the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts. The database can be searched via the main index, subjects, subject headings, publication year, volume and issue, author, title keyword, language, journal title, publisher, and ISSN.</p>
<p>9. Information for Practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.nyu.edu/socialwork/ip/ • Social work news and research from around the world 	<p>9. Social Sciences Citation Index</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts & Humanities Citation Index indexes 1,100 of the world's leading arts and humanities journals, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 6,800 major science and social science journals. • Science Citation Index Expanded indexes 5,300 major journals across 164 scientific disciplines and contains searchable, full-length, English-language author abstracts for approximately 70 percent of the articles in the database. • The Social Sciences Citation Index indexes 1,700 journals spanning 50 disciplines, as well as covering individually selected, relevant items from over 3,300 of the world's leading scientific and technical journals. It contains searchable, full-length, English-language author abstracts for approximately 60 per cent of the articles in the database.

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
10. Hadley Centre for Adoption and Foster Care Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.bristol.ac.uk/sps/research/fpcw/hadley/default.shtml • Promotes best practice in this field by linking research, practice and training in order to provide these children with stable and predictable family experiences. The intention is to promote scientifically rigorous research and evaluation and to develop ways of disseminating research findings that will be of direct use to practitioners and will influence policy makers. 	10. SocIndex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>SocINDEX with Full Text</i> is the world's most comprehensive and highest quality sociology research database. The database features more than 1,910,000 records with subject headings from a 19,300 term sociological thesaurus designed by subject experts and expert lexicographers. <i>SocINDEX with Full Text</i> contains full text for 397 "core" coverage journals dating back to 1908, and 150 "priority" coverage journals. This database also includes full text for more than 720 books and monographs, and full text for 6,743 conference papers.
11. Family and Society Studies Worldwide and Child Abuse, Child Welfare and Adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.nisc.com/factsheets/qfsd.asp • Covers popular issues as well as meeting the requirements of professionals in all fields of social work, social science and family practice. The quality and quantity of literature cited have been increased, and the scope is international including new areas of research and types of publications. 	11. Social Sciences Index	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wide assortment of the most important English-language journals published in the U.S. and elsewhere with full text and page images from scores of key publications, plus abstracting and indexing of hundreds of others.
12. Children's House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://child-abuse.com/childhouse/ • An interactive resource center - a meeting place for the exchange of information that serves the well being of children. 	12. Dutch Research Database (NOD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.onderzoekinformatie.nl/en/oi/nod/ • The Dutch Research Database (NOD) is a publicly available online database with information on scientific research, researchers and research institutes, and is with this the national showcase of research information. The NOD covers all scientific disciplines (multidisciplinary).

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
13. Centre for Research on Families and Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.crfr.ac.uk/ • CRFR generates high quality research on families and relationships and disseminates it widely. 	13. Knowledge Base: Social Sciences in Eastern Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.cee-socialscience.net/ • Designed to provide an ongoing overview of the development of social sciences in Central and Eastern Europe. It intends to offer a living and long term mapping of the disciplines in the region. It gives access to facts and background information and serves as a meeting point for experts.
14. Center for Evidence-Based Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/ • The Center for Evidence-Based Practice: Young Children with Challenging Behavior is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs to raise the awareness and implementation of positive, evidence-based practices and to build an enhanced and more accessible database to support those practices. 	14. Evidence Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.evidencenetwork.org
15. Australian Family and Society Abstracts Database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.aifs.gov.au/institute/info/icservices.html • The Institute's Library is dedicated to providing a nationally, and where possible internationally, accessible repository of Australian and overseas family research and information. 	15. Dissertation Abstracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center (OhioLINK) is a free online database of masters' theses and doctoral dissertations from graduate students in participating Ohio colleges and universities.

Disciplinary Databases		Multidisciplinary Databases	
16. Child Welfare Information Gateway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.childwelfare.gov/ • Provides access to information and resources to help protect children and strengthen families. A service of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services. 	16. Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.evidencebasedprograms.org/ • Summarizes the findings from well-designed randomized controlled trials that, in our view, have particularly important policy implications -- because they show, for example, that a social intervention has a major effect, or that a widely-used intervention has little or no effect.
17. PubMed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/ • A service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine that includes over 17 million citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles back to the 1950s. PubMed includes links to full text articles and other related resources. 	17. British Library Direct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://direct.bl.uk/bld/Home.do
		18. Australian Public Affairs Information Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.nla.gov.au/apais/ • Index to scholarly articles in the social sciences and humanities published in Australia, and to selected periodical articles, conference papers, book and newspaper articles on Australian economic, social, political and cultural affairs.
		19. Articles First	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ArticleFirst (OCLC) is an index of the items listed on table of contents pages of over 12,000 journals. This index covers articles, news stories, letters and other items on topics as diverse as business, humanities, medicine, popular culture, sciences, social sciences, and technology. For most items, the database also provides a list of libraries that hold the journal.

APPENDIX B

Articles Reviewed for the Systematic Review

- Abramson, S. (1991). Use of court-appointed advocates to assist in permanency planning for minority children. *Child Welfare Journal*, 70, 477-487.
- Adams, P. (1994). Marketing social change: The case of family preservation. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 16(5), 6.
- Administration for Children, Youth, and Families (DHHS). (1991). Boysville of michigan family reunification project. final report, may 17, 1989 - june 30, 1991. Washington, DC:
- Ahart, A., Bruer, R., Rutsch, C., & Zaro, S. (1992). *Final report: Intensive foster care reunification programs*. No. Contract No. HHS-100-91-0016). Calverton, MD: Macro International.
- Ainsworth, F. (1996). Parent education and training or family therapy: Does it matter which comes first? *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 25, 101-110.
- Ainsworth, F., Maluccio, A., & Small, R. (1996). Framework for family-centered group care practice: Guiding principles and practice implications. In D. J. Braziel (Ed.), *Family-focused practice in out-of-home care: A handbook and resource directory* (). Washington D.C.: CWLA Press.
- Ainsworth, F., & Maluccio, A. N. (1998). Kinship care: False dawn or new hope? *Australian Social Work*, 51(4), 3-8.
- Albers, E. C., Reilly, T., & Rittner, B. (1993). Children in foster care: Possible factors affecting permanency planning. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 10(4), 329-341.
- Aldgate, J. (1987). Residential care: A reevaluation of a threatened resource. *Child and Youth Care Quarterly*, 16(1), 48-59.
- Allen, M. P., Holden, D. J., & Reed, S. L. (1993). A constructivist study of the decision-making process in permanency planning. (M.A., California State University).
- Allen, M. J. (2004). Inside the "black box": Implementing the adoptions and safe families act in arizona. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences*, 65 (3), 1138-A.
- Allen, M., & Bissell, M. (2004). Safety and stability for foster children: The policy context. *The Future of Children*, 14(1), 49-73.
- Almeida, M. C., Hawkins, R. P., Meadowcroft, P., & Luster, W. C. (1989). *Evaluation of foster-family-based treatment in comparison with other programs: A preliminary analysis*. New York, NY, US: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.
- Alpert, L. T. (2005). Research review: Parents' service experience - A missing element in research on foster care case outcomes. *Child and Family Social Work*, 10(4), 361-366.

- American Humane Association. (2000). *Child welfare outcomes, 1998: Annual report*. Englewood, CO: American Humane Association.
- Anderson, G. R. (1997). Achieving permanency for all children in the child welfare system. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work, 5*(1-2), 1-9.
- Anderson, G. R., Ryan, A. S., & Leashore, B. R. (1997). The challenge of permanency planning in a multicultural society. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work, 5*(1/2), 1-9.
- Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1997). *Innovative programs. shortening children's stays in temporary care, part two. family to family: Tools for rebuilding foster care*. Baltimore, MD.: Annie E. Casey Foundation.
- Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1997). *Policies and practices. shortening children's stays in temporary care, part one. family to family: Tools for rebuilding foster care*. Baltimore, MD: Annie E. Casey Foundation.
- Ansary, S. J., & Perkins, D. F. (2001). Integrating family visitation and risk evaluation: A practical bonding model for decision makers. *Family Relations, 50*(3), 220-229.
- Aragon, S. L. (2004). Factors affecting successful family reunification: Characteristics in child social workers. (M.S.W, California State University).
- Arizona Department of Economic Security. (1994). *An analysis of arizona preservation services*. Arizona: Division of Social Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security. (1994). *Revisiting children*. Arizona: Division of Social Services, Administration for Children, Youth and Families.
- Armstrong, M., Kershaw, M. A., Sharrock, P., Vargo, A. C., Wallace, F., & Yampolskaya, S. (2004). *Special focus study: Family continuity programs, inc*. Florida: Florida Department of Children and Families.
- Asen, K., George, E., Piper, R., & Stevens, A. (1989). A systems approach to child abuse: Management and treatment issues. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 13*(1), 45-57.
- Atherton, C. (1993). Reunification -- parallels between placement in new families and reunifying children with their families. In P. Marsh, & J. Triseleotis (Eds.), *Prevention and reunification in childcare* (pp. 184-202). London, England: Batsford Ltd.
- AuClaire, P., & Schwartz, I. M. (1987). Are home-based services effective? A public child welfare agency's experiment. *Children Today, 16*, 6-10.
- AuClaire, P., & Swartz, I. M. (1986). *An evaluation of the effectiveness of intensive home-based services as an alternative to placement for adolescents and their families*. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.
- Bagdasaryan, S. (2005). Evaluating family preservation services: Reframing the question of effectiveness. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(6), 615-635.
- Bailey, C., Hurd, A. C., & Hanguay-Hill, T. (1993). A longitudinal study of a family maintenance program. (M.A., California State University, San Bernardino).

- Balestracci, K. M. B. (2001). Intensive family preservation services: Do they live up to their name? *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering*, 62 (3), 1346.
- Barbell, K. (1997). *Foster care today. A briefing paper*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America, Inc.
- Barber, J. G., & Delbabbro, P. H. (2004). *Children in foster care*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Barber, J. G., & Delfabbro, P. H. (2003). The first four months in a new foster placement: Psychosocial adjustment, parental contact and placement disruption. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, 30(2), 69-85.
- Barber, J. G., & Delfabbro, P. H. (2003). Placement stability and the psychosocial well-being of children in foster care. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 13(4), 415-431.
- Barratt, S., & Granville, J. (2006). *Kinship care: Family stories, loyalties, and binds*. Karnac Books, London, England.
- Barraza, M. A. (2000). Special parents: The life experiences of the parents of mentally retarded children before and after placement. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Barrios, L., de Haymes, Maria Vidal, & Kilty, K. (2004). *Safety, permanence and well-being of latino children: Child welfare practice and policy in the illinois child welfare system*. San Francisco, CA: Society for the Study of Social Problems.
- Barth, R. P. (1999). After safety, what is the goal of child welfare services: Permanency, family continuity or social benefit? *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 8(4), 244-253.
- Barth, R. P., & Berry, M. (1987). Outcomes of child welfare services under permanency planning. *Social Service Review*, 61(1), 71-90.
- Barth, R. P., Hacking, S., & Ash, J. R. (1988). Preventing child abuse: An experimental evaluation of the child parent enrichment project. *Journal of Primary Prevention*, 8(4), 201-217.
- Barth, R. P., Landsverk, J., Chamberlain, P., Reid, J., & Rolls, J. (2005). Parent training programs in child welfare services: Planning for a more evidence-based approach to serving biological parents. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 15(5), 353-371.
- Barth, P., & Price, A. (1999). Shared family care: Providing services to parents and children placed together in out-of-home care. *Child Welfare*, 78(1), 88-107.
- Barth, R. P., Snowden, L. R., Broeck, E. T., Clancy, T., Jordan, C., & Barusch, A. S. (1986). Contributors to reunification or permanent out-of-home care for physically abused children. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 9(2), 31-45.
- Barth, R. P. (1999). Setting performance goals for adoption services: Estimating the need for adoption of children in foster care. *Adoption Quarterly*, 2(3), 29-38.

- Barth, R. P. (2005). Foster home care is more cost-effective than shelter care: Serious questions continue to be raised about the utility of group care in child welfare services. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 29(6), 623-625.
- Barth, R. P., & Berry, M. (1994). Implications of research on the welfare of children under permanency planning. In R. P. Barth, J. D. Berrick & N. Gilbert (Eds.), *Child welfare research review, vol. 1*. (pp. 323-368). New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
- Barth, R. P., & Jonson-Reid, M. (2000). Outcomes after child welfare services: Implications for the design of performance measures. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 22(9-10), 763-787.
- Bartlett, E. A. (1991). The theoretical justification for psychological intervention of children in foster care who have suffered from trauma: Implications for permanency planning and treatment a project based upon an independent investigation. (M.S., Smith College).
- Bartlett, R. W. (1944). The problem of re-placement in foster home practice. (M.A.S.A., Ohio State University).
- Bartsch, D., & Kawamura, G. (1993). *Family preservation services in colorado*. Denver, CO: Colorado Division of Mental Health Department of Institutions.
- Bath, H. I., & Haapala, D. A. (1993). Intensive family preservation services with abused and neglected children: An examination of group differences. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 17(2), 213-225.
- Bath, H. I., & Haapala, D. A. (1994). Family preservation services: What does the outcome research really tell us? *Social Services Review*, 68(3), 386-404.
- Bearup, R. S., & Palusci, V. J. (1999). Improving child welfare through a children's ombudsman. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 23(5), 449-457.
- Beckerman, A. (1998). Charting a course: Meeting the challenge of permanency planning for children with incarcerated mothers. *Child Welfare*, 77(5), 513-529.
- Beckerman, A. (1994). Mothers in prison: Meeting the prerequisite conditions for permanency planning. *Social Work*, 39(1), 9-14.
- Bednar, S. G. (2001). Reuniting families and breaking the cycle: A research note. *Marriage and Family Review*, 33(4), 107-112.
- Beek, M. (2004). Review of children in foster care. *Child and Family Social Work*, 9(3), 309-310.
- Beeman, S. K., Kim, H., & Bullerdick, S. K. (2000). Factors affecting placement of children in kinship and nonkinship foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 22(1), 37-54.
- Begg, M. E. (1947). The implications of returning neglected children to parents : A study of six cases at children's services, cleveland, ohio, in which children, referred by court for placement, after a period of placement, were returned to their parents, with emphasis on the case work activity with the parents prior to the children's return to the home. (MSSA, Western Reserve University).

- Berrick, J. D., Barth, R. P., & Needell, B. (1994). A comparison of kinship foster homes and foster family homes: Implications for kinship foster care as family preservation. *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(1/2), 33-63.
- Berrick, J. D. (1998). When children cannot remain home: Foster family care and kinship care. *The Future of Children / Center for the Future of Children, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, 8*(1), 72-87.
- Berrick, J. D. (2000). What works in kinship care. In M. Kluger, G. Alexander & P. A. Curtis (Eds.), *What works in child welfare*. (pp. 127-137). Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Berrick, J. D., Needell, B., Barth, R. P., & Jonson-Reid, M. (1998). *The tender years: Toward developmentally sensitive child welfare services for very young children. child welfare series*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Berry, M. (1992). An evaluation of family preservation services: Fitting agency services to needs. *Social Work, 37*(4), 314-321.
- Berry, M. (1997). *The family at risk: Issues and trends in family preservation services*. South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press.
- Berry, M. (2002). Promising practices to engage families and support family preservation. *Family Preservation Journal, 6*(2), 41-58.
- Berry, M., McCauley, K., & Lansing, T. (2007). Permanency through group work: A pilot intensive reunification program. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal, 24*, 477-493.
- Berry, M. (1991). The assessment of imminence of risk of placement: Lessons from a family preservation program. *Children and Youth Services Review, 13*(4), 239.
- Berzin, S. C. (2006). Using sibling data to understand the impact of family group decision-making on child welfare outcomes. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(12), 1449-1458.
- Besinger, B. A., Garland, A. F., Litrownik, A. J., & Landsverk, J. A. (1999). Caregiver substance abuse among maltreated children placed in out-of-home care. *Child Welfare, 78*(2), 221-239.
- Bicknell-Hentges, L. (1995). The stages of the reunification process and the tasks of the therapist. In L. Combrinck-Graham (Ed.), *Children in families at risk: Maintaining the connections*. (pp. 326-349). New York: Guilford Press.
- Biehal, N. (2006). Reuniting families; is it always the best policy for 'looked after' children? *Childright, (224)*, 20-21.
- Biehal, N. (2006). Reuniting looked after children with their families. *Findings [Joseph Rowntree Foundations]* [Http://www.Jrf.Org.Uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/pdf/0056.Pdf](http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/pdf/0056.Pdf), (0056), 1-4.
- Biehal, N. (2007). Reuniting children with their families; reconsidering the evidence on timing, contact and outcomes. *British Journal of Social Work, 37*(5), 807-823.
- Biehal, N., & Wade, J. (1996). Looking back, looking forward: Care leavers, families and change. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4-5), 425-445.

- Bitonti, C. (2002). Formative evaluation in family preservation: Lessons from Nevada. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(9), 653-672.
- Block, N. M., & Libowitz, A. S. (1983). *Recidivism in foster care*. New York: Child Welfare League of America.
- Block, N. H. (1981). Toward reducing recidivism in foster care. *Child Welfare, 60*(9), 597-610.
- Blythe, B. J., Salley, M. P., & Jayaratne, S. (1994). A review of intensive family preservation services research. *Social Work Research, 18*(4), 213-224.
- Boles, S. M., Young, N. K., Moore, T., & DiPirro-Beard, S. (2007). The sacramento dependency drug court: Development and outcomes. *Child Maltreatment, 12*(2), 161-171.
- Bonecutter, F. J., & Gleeson, J. P. (1997). Broadening our view: Lessons from kinship foster care. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work, 5*(1), 99-119.
- Boots, S. W., & Geen, R. (1999). Family care or foster care? how state policies affect kinship caregivers. new federalism: Issues and options for states. *Series A, no. A-34, Assessing the New Federalism: An Urban Institute Program to Assess Changing Social Policies*,
- Bosch, J. A. (1996). Behavioral family therapy with abused children who have failed placement multiple times. (Psy.D., United States International University, College of Arts and Sciences, San Diego Campus).
- Boutilier, L. A. (1986). Evaluation of the parent-child reunification program : Impressions of caseworkers at the department for children and their families. (MSW, Rhode Island College).
- Braziel, D. J. (1996). *Family-focused practice in out-of-home care: A handbook and resource directory*. Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Brereton, M. H. (2000). The connecticut SAFE HOME model. (MSW, Southern Connecticut State University).
- Brettingham, M. (2007). When daddy lives in prison. *Times Educational Supplement, (4739)*, 10.
- Brindis, C. D., Clayson, Z., & Berkowitz, G. (1997). Options for recovery: California's perinatal projects. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, 29*(1), 89-99.
- Broadhurst, K., & Pendleton, T. (2007). Revisiting children 'home on trial' in the context of current concerns about the costs and effectiveness of the looked-after children system: Findings from an exploratory study. *Child and Family Social Work, 12*(4), 380-389.
- Bronson, D. E., Helm, L., Bowser, M., & Hughes, R. (2005). *Re-entry in child protective services: A rapid evidence assessment*. Columbus, OH: PCSAO.
- Brooks, D., & Barth, R. P. (1998). Characteristics and outcomes of drug-exposed and non drug-exposed children in kinship and non-relative foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 20*(6), 475-501.
- Brown, C. I. (1990). Family reunification (support service for at-risk families). *Children Today, 19*(6), 20.
- Brown, K. G. (1980). Barriers to permanent planning in children's foster care: A preliminary study. (MSW, University of Maryland).

- Brown, P. M., Abu Bakar, Z., Rickards, F. W., & Griffin, P. (2006). Family functioning, early intervention support, and spoken language and placement outcomes for children with profound hearing loss. *Deafness & Education International*, 8(4), 207-226.
- Buchanan, J. A. (1985). Theoretical considerations in permanency planning for abused children: A project based upon an independent investigation. (MS, Smith College).
- Buchwald, B. (2002). A residential group home program for children in miami-dade county's substitute care system (florida). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering*, 63 (6), 3000.
- Budd, K. S., Poindexter, L. S. M., Felix, E. D., & Naik-Polan, A. T. (2001). Clinical assessment of parents in child protection cases: An empirical analysis. *Law and Human Behavior*, 25(1), 93-108.
- Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., & Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. *Child Welfare Journal*, 85(3), 523-558.
- Bullock, R., Gooch, D., & Little, M. (1998). *Children going home: The re-unification of families*. Brookfield, VT: Ashgate Publishing Ltd.
- Bullock, R., Axford, N., Little, M., & Morpeth, L. (2003). Predicting the likelihood of family reunification in the foster care system: Patterns of separation and return. *DISKURS*, 13(2), 26-33.
- Burford, G., Pennell, J., MacLeod, S., Campbell, S., & Lyall, G. (1996). Reunification as an extended family matter. *Community Alternatives*, 8(2), 33-55.
- Burggraf, S. B. (1999). The efficacy of family preservation services for adolescents in the prevention of out-of-home placement and acute symptom reduction. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering*, 60 (2), 0821.
- Burrill, I. E. (1973). Who goes home? A comparative study of selected family, child placement, and social work intervention characteristics of neglected children who enter foster care and remain, and of neglected children who enter foster care and later return home. (MSW, Catholic University of America).
- Burry, C. L., & Wright, L. (2006). Facilitating visitation for infants with prenatal substance exposure. *Child Welfare*, (6), 899-918.
- Bush, I. R., & Sainz, A. (1997). Preventing substance abuse from undermining permanency planning: Competencies at the intersection of culture, chemical dependency, and child welfare. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work*, 5(1), 79-97.
- Bussey, M., Feagans, L., Arnold, L., Wulczyn, F., Brunner, K., & Nixon, R. (2000). *Transition from foster care: A state-by-state data base overview-executive summary*. Seattle, WA: Casey Family Programs.
- Bussiere, A. (2006). Permanence for older foster youth. *Family Court Review*, 44(2), 231-243.
- Cahn, K., & Johnson, P. (1993). *Children can't wait: Reducing delays in out-of-home care*. Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

- Cairns, B. (1984). The children's family trust: A unique approach to substitute family care? *British Journal of Social Work*, 14(5), 457-473.
- Calderon, N. R., & Hernandez, E. A. (2005). Child welfare workers' perceptions of reunification services: Are time frames feasible? (MSW, California State University, San Bernadino).
- Cantos, A. L., & Gries, L. T. (1997). Behavioral correlates of parental visiting during family foster care. *Child Welfare*, 76(2), 309.
- Carlo, P., & Shennum, W. A. (1989). Family reunification efforts that work: A three year follow-up study of children in residential treatment. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 6(3), 211-216.
- Carlo, P. (1985). Evaluating differential provision of didactic and experiential learning opportunities to parents of children in residential treatment: Impetus to family reunification. (Ph.D., University of Southern California).
- Carlo, P. (1991). Why a parental involvement program leads to family reunification: A dialogue with childcare workers. *Residential Treatment for Children & Youth*, 9, 37-48.
- Carlo, P. (1993). Parent education vs. parent involvement: Which type of efforts work best to reunify families? *Journal of Social Service Research*, 17(1), 135-150.
- Carlson, B. E., Matto, H., Smith, C. A., & Eversman, M. (2006). A pilot study of reunification following drug abuse treatment: Recovering the mother role. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 36(4), 877-902.
- Carlson, G. L. (2002). An examination of selected variables affecting the outcomes for adult former foster children placed in baltimore city: The impact of placement stability and type of out-of-home care. (Ph.D., University of Maryland, Baltimore County).
- Carman, G. O., & Small, R. W. (1988). *Permanence and family support: Changing practice in group child care*. Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Carten, A. J. (1996). Mothers in recovery: Rebuilding families in the aftermath of addiction. *Social Work*, 41(2), 214-223.
- Carter-Black, J. (2002). Issue in working with diverse populations - transracial adoption and foster care placement: Worker perception and attitude. *Child Welfare*, 81(2), 337.
- Cashmore, J., & Paxman, M. (2006). Predicting after-care outcomes: The importance of 'felt' security. *Child and Family Social Work*, 11(3), 232-241.
- Chaffin, M., Silovsky, J. F., Funderburk, B., Valle, L. A., Brestan, E. V., Balachova, T., et al. (2004). Parent-child interaction therapy with physically abusive parents: Efficacy for reducing future abuse reports. *Journal of Consulting & Clinical Psychology*, 72(3), 500-510.
- Chaffin, M., Bonner, B. L., & Hill, R. F. (2001). Family preservation and family support programs: Child maltreatment outcomes across client risk levels and program types. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 25(10), 1269.

- Chaffin, M., & Friedrich, B. (2004). Evidence-based treatments in child abuse and neglect. *Children & Youth Services Review, 26*(11), 1097-1113.
- Chamberlain, P. (1998). *Treatment foster care. family strengthening series (juvenile justice bulletin)*. Washington, D.C.: Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
- Chang, J., Rhee, S., & Weaver, D. (2006). Characteristics of child abuse in immigrant Korean families and correlates of placement decisions. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 30*(8), 881-891.
- Chapman, M. V., Wall, A., Barth, R. P., & National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being Research Group, US. (2004). Children's voices: The perceptions of children in foster care. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 74*(3), 293-304.
- Charles, C. (2002). Factors predicting permanency decisions in cases of child abuse and neglect. (Ph. D dissertation, Hofstra University). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses, Section 0086 (Part 0622)*, 95 pages.
- Charles, K., & Nelson, J. (2000). *Permanency planning: Creating lifelong connections. What does it mean for adolescents?*. Tulsa, OK: University of Oklahoma.
- Charles, P. G. (1985). Permanency planning: An overview of current knowledge. (MSW, University of Calgary).
- Charnley, H., & Langa, J. (1994). Community based interventions for separated children in Mozambique: The family tracing and reunification program. *Community Alternatives, 6*(1), 115-131.
- Chen, J. L. (2000). Outcomes for children in kin and non-kin placement in foster care. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Chernack, K. B. (2006). The lived experience of ethical decision making of child welfare caseworkers engaged in permanency planning. (DSW, Adelphi University).
- Chibnall, S. H. (1999). The meaning of motherhood, self-perceived maternal adequacy and treatment retention. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 60* (3), 1295.
- Child Welfare League of America. (2002). Family reunification. *Research Roundup*, (March), 1-15.
- Chisholm, R. (1987). Permanency planning and child placement law and policy: A slogan and its limitations. *Journal of Comparative Family Studies, 18*(2), 207-230.
- Choca, M. J., Minoff, J., Angene, L., Byrnes, M., Kenneally, L., Norris, D., et al. (2004). Can't do it alone: Housing collaborations to improve foster youth outcomes. *Child Welfare, 83*(5), 469-492.
- Choi, S. (2006). Case management and matched services for substance abusing mothers with co-occurring problems in child welfare: A study of service effectiveness with a randomized trial. (PhD, University of Illinois).
- Choi, S., & Ryan, J. P. (2007). Co-occurring problems for substance abusing mothers in child welfare: Matching services to improve family reunification. *Children and Youth Services Review, 29*(11), 1395-1410.

- Cimmarusti, R. A. (1995). Preparing child welfare agencies for family preservation and reunification programs. In L. Combrinck-Graham (Ed.), *Children in families at risk: Maintaining the connections* (pp. 350-372). New York: The Guilford Press.
- Claburn, W. E., Magura, S., & Chizeck, S. P. (1977). Case reopening: An emerging issue in child welfare services. *Child Welfare, 56*(10), 655-673.
- Claburn, W. E., Magura, S., & Resnick, W. (1976). Periodic review of foster care: A brief national assessment. *Child Welfare, 55*(6), 395-405.
- Clare, B. (2002). Family reunification: Rhetoric and risks. *Children Australia, 37*(3), 19-25.
- Clark, H. W. (2001). Residential substance abuse treatment for pregnant and postpartum women and their children: Treatment and policy implications. *Child Welfare, 80*(2), 179-198.
- Clark, H. B., Lee, B., Prange, M. E., & McDonald, B. A. (1996). Children lost within the foster care system: Can wraparound service strategies improve placement outcomes? *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 5*(1), 39-54.
- Clark, H. B., Prange, M. E., Lee, B., Stewart, E. S., McDonald, B. B., & Boyd, L. A. (1998). An individualized wraparound process for children in foster care with emotional/behavioral disturbances: Follow-up findings and implications from a controlled study. In Epstein MH, Kutash K, Duchnowski A. (Ed.), *Outcomes for children and youth with emotional and behavioral disorders and their families: Programs and evaluation best practices*. (pp. 513-542). Austin, TX: PRO-ED.
- Clark, J. (1995). *Kinship foster care: An overview of research findings and policy-related issues*. University Park, PA: The Pennsylvania State University.
- Clatworthy, B. (1999). Concurrent planning. *Representing Children, 12*(3), 176-181.
- Coates, G. E. (1995). The development of outcome measures for a family preservation and reunification program. (MA, Nova Southeastern University).
- Cohen, R., Wiley, S., Oswald, D. P., Eakin, K. B., & Best, A. M. (1999). Applying utilization management principles to a comprehensive service system for children with emotional and behavioral disorders and their families: A feasibility study. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 8*(4), 463-476.
- Coleman-Smith, R. M. (1991). Predictors of effective family reunification in a public social services agency. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Colton, M. (1988). *Dimensions of substitute child care*. Aldershot, England: Avebury.
- Combrinck-Graham, L. (1995). *Children in families at risk: Maintaining the connections*. New York: The Guilford Press.
- Compher, J. V. (1983). Home services to families to prevent child replacement. *Social Work, 28*(5), 360.
- Connell, C., Bergeron, N., Katz, K., Saunders, L., & Tebes, J. K. (2007). Re-referral to child protective services: The influence of child, family, and case characteristics of risk status. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 33*(5), 573-588.

- Connell, C. M., Katz, K. H., Saunders, L., & Tebes, J. K. (2006). Leaving foster care: The influence of child and case characteristics on foster care exit rates. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(7), 780-798.
- Constantino, J. N., Hashemi, N., Solis, E., Alon, T., Haley, S., McClure, S., et al. (2001). Supplementation of urban home visitation with a series of group meetings for parents and infants: Results of a "real-world" randomized, controlled trial. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 25*, 1571-1581.
- Cooney, N. L. (1997). *Voices heard : Adolescents, parents and providers interviewed regarding out of home placements.* (MSW, University of St. Thomas).
- Cooper, C. S. (1984). *An investigation of variables associated with the placement history of abused and neglected children.* (Ph.D., University of Kansas).
- Corcoran, J. (2000). Family interventions with child physical abuse and neglect: A critical review. *Children and Youth Services Review, 22*(7), 563-591.
- Cordero, A., & Epstein, I. (2005). Refining the practice of family reunification: "mining" successful foster care case records of substance-abusing families. In G. P. Mallon, & P. McCartt Hess (Eds.), *Child welfare for the twenty-first century: A handbook of practices, policies and programs.* (pp. 392-404). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Cordero, A. (2004). When family reunification works: Data-mining foster care records. *Families in Society, 85*(4), 571-580.
- Cortese, M., Krupate, T., & Richter, R. (2005). Engaging parents as a path to reunification : Surfacing values and dismantling assumptions. *ABA Child Law Practice, 24*, 86-86-89.
- County of San Mateo Human Services Agency. Children and Family Services. (2006). *Factors affecting re-entry into foster care in san mateo county. final report.* San Mateo, CA: SPHERE Institute.
- Courtney, M. (1994). Factors associated with the reunification of foster children with their families. *Social Service Review, 68*(1), 81-108.
- Courtney, M. (1993). Standardized outcome evaluation of child welfare services out-of-home care: Problems and possibilities. *Children and Youth Services Review, 15*(5), 349-369.
- Courtney, M. E. (1995). Re-entry to foster care of children returned to their families. *Social Service Review, 69*(2), 226-241.
- Courtney, M. E. (2000). Research needed to improve the prospects for children in out-of-home placement. *Children and Youth Services Review, 22*(9), 743-761.
- Courtney, M. E., & Blakey, J. (2003). Examination of the impact of increased court review on permanency outcomes for abused and neglected children. *Family Court Review, 41*(4), 471-479.
- Courtney, M. E., Piliavin, I., & Wright, B. R. E. (1997). Transitions from and returns to out-of-home care. *Social Service Review, 71*(4), 652.
- Courtney, M. E. (1993). Reunification of foster children with their families: The case of california's children. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 54* (6), 2321.

- Crampton, D. (2007). Research review: Family group decision-making: A promising practice in need of more programme theory and research. *Child & Family Social Work, 12*(2), 202-209.
- Crampton, D. S. (2004). Family involvement interventions in child protection: Learning from contextual integrated strategies. *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare, 31*(1), 175-198.
- Crimmins, D. B., Bradlyn, A. s., St. Lawrence, Janet S., & Kelly, J. A. (1984). A training technique for improving parent-child interaction skills of an abusive-neglectful mother. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 8*(4), 533-533-540.
- Cross, T. P., Leavey, J., Mosley, P. R., White, A. W., & Andreas, J. B. (2004). Outcomes of specialized foster care in a managed child welfare services network. *Child Welfare, 83*(6), 533-564.
- Crowder, S. T. (2006). Factors that contribute to reunification among african american children in foster care. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Culliman, D., Epstein, M. H., & Quinn, K. P. (1996). Patterns and correlates of personal, family, and prior placement variables in an interagency community based system of care. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 5*(3), 299-321.
- Curtis, P. A., Dale, G., Jr., & Kendall, J. C. (1999). *The foster care crisis: Translating research into policy and practice. child, youth, and family services series*. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press.
- Dagenais, C., Begin, J., Bouchard, C., & Fortin, D. (2004). Impact of intensive family support programs: A synthesis of evaluation studies. *Children and Youth Services Review, 26*(3), 249-263.
- Dance, C., Rushton, A., & Quinton, D. (2002). Emotional abuse in early childhood: Relationships with progress in subsequent family placement. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 43*(3), 395-407.
- Danzy, J., & Jackson, S. M. (1997). Family preservation and support services: A missed opportunity for kinship care. *Child Welfare, 76*(1), 31-44.
- Dartington Social Research Unit. (2002). *Going home?: Findings and guidance to help professionals make good judgments about the reunification of families*. Devon, UK: Warren House Press Publications.
- Davidson-Arad, B., Englechin-Segal, D., & Wozner, Y. (2003). Short-term follow-up of children at risk: Comparison of the quality of life of children removed from home and children remaining at home. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 27*(7), 733-750.
- Davies, L. J., & Bland, D. C. (1978). The use of foster parents as role models for parents. *Child Welfare Journal, 57*(6), 380-386.
- Davis, I., Landsverk, J., & Newton, R. (1997). Duration of foster care for children reunified within the first year of care. In J. Berrick, R. Barth & N. Gilbert (Eds.), *Child welfare research review* (pp. 272-293). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Davis, A. B., Foster, P. H., & Whitworth, J. M. (1984). Medical foster family care: A cost-effective solution to a community problem. *Child Welfare Journal, 63*(4), 341-349.

- Davis, I. P. (1980). *Troubled children & their families. before, during & after placement*. San Diego, CA: San Diego State University School of Social Work.
- Davis, I. P., Landsverk, J., Newton, R., & Ganger, W. (1996). Parental visiting and foster care reunification. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4), 363-382.
- Dawson, K., & Berry, M. (2002). Engaging families in child welfare services: An evidence-based approach to best practice. *Child Welfare, 81*(2), 293-318.
- De Paul, J., & Arruabarrena, I. (2003). Evaluation of a treatment program for abusive and high-risk families in Spain. *Child Welfare Journal, 82*(4), 413-441.
- Dean, H. E. (1990). The quality of parent-child visitation in foster care and its relation to family background, foster placement characteristics and planned outcome. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 51* (2), 636-A. (4)
- DeCelle, J. (1991). Placement outcomes of abused and neglected children of retarded parents : A longitudinal study of families discharged from the nekton in-home family program serving families in Ramsey county. (Plan B Paper, University of Minnesota, Duluth).
- Delfabbro, P. H., Barber, J. G., & Cooper, L. (2002). The role of parental contact in substitute care. *Journal of Social Service Research, 28*(3), 19-39.
- Delfabbro, P., Barber, J. G., & Cooper, L. (2003). Predictors of short-term reunification in South Australian substitute care. *Child Welfare, 82*(1), 27-51.
- Dellinger, S. A. (2007). A study of factors that contribute to family reunification of drug-exposed infants. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Denby, R. W., & Curtis, C. M. (2003). Why special populations are not the target of family preservation services: A case for program reform. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, 30*(2), 149-173.
- DePanfilis, D. (1999). Intervening with families when children are neglected. In H. Dubowitz (Ed.), *Neglected children : Research, practice, and policy* (pp. 211-236). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- DePanfilis, D., & Zuravin, S. (1999). Epidemiology of child maltreatment recurrences. *Social Service Review, 73*(2), 218-239.
- DePanfilis, D., & Zuravin, S. J. (2002). The effect of services on the recurrence of child maltreatment. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 26*(2), 187.
- DePanfilis, D., & Zuravin, S. J. (1999). Predicting child maltreatment recurrences during treatment. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 23*(8), 729-743.
- DeSena, A. D., Murphy, R. A., Douglas-Palumberi, H., Blau, G., Kelly, B., Horwitz, S. M., et al. (2005). Safe homes: Is it worth the cost? an evaluation of a group home permanency planning program for children who first enter out-of-home care. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 29*(6), 627-643.
- Dickens, J. (2002). The paradox of inter-country adoption: Analysing Romania's experience as a sending country. *International Journal of Social Welfare, 11*(1), 76-83.

- Dicker, S., Gordon, E., & Knitzer, J. (2001). *Improving the odds for the healthy development of young children in foster care. promoting the emotional well-being of children and families policy paper*. New York: NY: National Center for Children in Poverty.
- Digiorgio-Miller, J. (2002). A comprehensive approach to family reunification following incest in an era of legislatively mandated community notification. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, 35*(2)
- Dill, B. T. (1988). Our mothers' grief: Racial ethnic women and the maintenance of families. *Journal of Family History, 13*(4), 415-431.
- Doerre, Y. A., & Mihaly, L. K. (1996). *Home sweet home: Building collaborations to keep families together*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America, Inc.
- Doran, C. (1988). *A model treatment program that would work toward family unity and still provide safety*. Lexington, MA: Lexington Books.
- Dore, M. M., & Lee, J. M. (1999). The role of parent training with abusive and neglectful parents. *Family Relations, 48*(3), 313-325.
- Dore, M. M., & Harnett, J. M. (1995). The role of the volunteer in family-preservation services. *Families in Society, 76*(2), 67-75.
- Doris, J. L., Meguid, V., Thomas, M., Blatt, S., & Eckenrode, J. (2006). Prenatal cocaine exposure and child welfare outcomes. *Child Maltreatment, 11*(4), 326-337.
- Doswell, J. (2002). Removal, reunification, and re-entry : The state of foster care children and their substance-abusing parents. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Dougherty, S. (2004). *Promising practices in reunification*. New York, NY: National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning, Hunter College School of Social Work.
- Dowden, C., & Andrews, D. A. (2003). Does family intervention work for delinquents? results of a meta-analysis. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice, 45*(3), 327-342.
- Downie, R. D. (1976). Re-entry experiences and identity formation of third culture experienced dependent american youth an exploratory study. (Ph.D., Michigan State University).
- Drake, B., Jonson-Reid, M., & Sapokaite, L. (2006). Re-reporting of child maltreatment: Does participation in other public sector services moderate the likelihood of a second maltreatment report? *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal, 30*(11), 1201-1226.
- Drake, B., Jonson-Reid, M., Way, I., & Chung, S. (2003). Substantiation and recidivism. *Child Maltreatment, 8*(4), 248.
- Draper, K. K. The relationship between risk factors associated with child maltreatment and out-of-home placement . (Ph.D., Iowa State University).

- Drury-Hudson, J. (1999). Decision-making in child protection: The use of theoretical, empirical and procedural knowledge by novices and experts and implications for fieldwork placement. *The British Journal of Social Work, 29*(1), 147.
- Dubowitz, H., Feigelman, S., Harrington, D., & Starr, R. H. (1994). Children in kinship care: How do they fare? *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(1), 85-106.
- Ducharme, J. M., Atkinson, L., & Poulton, L. (2001). Errorless compliance training with physically abusive mothers: A single-case approach. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 25*(6), 855.
- Dudley, W. (1998). The permanency planning initiative of cook county : Immediate impact. (MS, DePaul University).
- Dunaway, L. (1985). The effects of senate bill 14, the family reunification act in california: An evaluation. (MA, Humboldt State University).
- Eamon, M. K. (1994). Poverty and placement outcomes of intensive family preservation services. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal, 11*(5), 349-361.
- Early, B. P., & Hawkins, M. J. (1994). Opportunity and risks in emerging family policy: An analysis of family preservation legislation. *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(5), 309-318.
- Eggertsen, L. M. (2006). Primary factors related to multiple placements for children in out-of-home care in utah. (Ph.D., University of Utah).
- Elwood, P. (2006). Review of one of the family: A handbook for kinship carers. *Child Care in Practice, 12*(2), 187-189.
- Emanuel, L. (2006). *The contribution of organizational dynamics to the triple deprivation of looked-after children*. London, England: Karnac Books.
- English, D. J., Marshall, D. B., Brummel, S., & Orme, M. (1999). Characteristics of repeated referrals to child protective services in washington state. *Child Maltreatment, 4*(4), 297-307.
- English, D. J., Edleson, J. L., & Herrick, M. E. (2005). Domestic violence in one state's child protective caseload: A study of differential case dispositions and outcomes. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(11), 1183-1201.
- Ephraim, S. E. (1994). The reunification rate of children placed in foster care. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Epstein, M. H., Jayanthi, M., Dennis, K., Dennis, K. L., Hardy, R., Fueyo, V., et al. (1998). Educational status of children who are receiving services in an urban family preservation and reunification setting. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 6*(3), 162.
- Erickson, P. E. Boysville of michigan. *Criminal Justice Review,*
- Erickson, P. E. (2000). Federal child abuse and child neglect policy in the united states since 1974: A review and critique. *Criminal Justice Review, 25,* 77-92.

- Eshom, J. A. (2007). An examination of the impact of trauma and multiple placements in foster children using the ego impairment index-2 on the rorschach. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering.*, 67 (9), 5398. (ProQuest Information & Learning, US)
- Essex, S., Gumbleton, J., & Luger, C. (1996). Resolutions: Working with families where responsibility for abuse is denied. *Child Abuse Review*, 5(3), 191-201.
- Evans, M. E., Armstrong, M. I., & Kuppinger, A. D. (1996). Family-centered intensive case management: A step toward understanding individualized care. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 5(1), 55-65.
- Falk, R. (1990). Family reunification in a residential facility. *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth*, 7(3), 39-49.
- Faller, K. C. (1993). *Child sexual abuse: Intervention and treatment issues*. Washington, D.C.: US Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect.
- Fanshel, D., Finch, S. J., & Grundy, J. F. (1989). Foster children in life-course perspective: The Casey family program experience. *Child Welfare Journal*, 68(5), 467-478.
- Farmer, E. (1993). Going home--what makes reunification work? In P. Marsh, & J. Triseliotis (Eds.), *Prevention and reunification in child care*. (pp. 147-166). London: B.T. Batsford Ltd.
- Farmer, E. (1996). Family reunification with high risk children: Lessons from research. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 18(4/5), 403-424.
- Farmer, E. M. Z., Wagner, H. R., Burns, B. J., & Richards, J. T. (2003). Treatment foster care in a system of care: Sequences and correlates of residential placements. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 12(1), 11-25.
- Faver, C. A., Crawford, S. L., & Combs-Orme, T. (1999). Services for child maltreatment: Challenges for research and practice. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 21(2), 89-109.
- Fein, E. (1993). Last best chance: Findings from a reunification services program. *Child Welfare*, 72(1), 1-11.
- Fein, E., & Maluccio, A. (1984). Children leaving foster care: Outcomes of permanency planning. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 8, 425-431.
- Fein, E., Maluccio, A., Hamilton, V., & Ward, D. (1983). After foster care: Outcomes of permanency planning for children. *Child Welfare*, 62(6), 485-558.
- Fein, E., & Staff, I. (1991). Implementing reunification services. *Families in Society*, 72(6), 335-343.
- Feldman, L. H. (1991). *Assessing the effectiveness of intensive family preservation services within an ecological context*. NJ: Department of Human Services, New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services, Bureau of research, Evaluation and Quality Assurance.
- Ferleger, N., Glenwick, D., Gaines, G., & Green, A. (1988). Identifying correlates of re-abuse in maltreating parents. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 12(1), 41-49.

- Fernandez, E. (1999). Pathways in substitute care: Representation of placement careers of children using event history analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review, 21*(3), 177-216.
- Fessler, S. R. (1991). Mothers in the correctional system: Separation from children and reunification after incarceration. (Ph.D., State University of New York at Albany).
- Festinger, T. (1994). *Returning to care: Discharge and re-entry in foster care*. Washington D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Festinger, T. (1996). Going home and returning to foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4/5), 383-402.
- Fetsch, R. J., Schultz, C. J., & Wahler, J. J. (1999). A preliminary evaluation of the colorado rethink parenting and anger management program. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 23*(4), 353.
- Fetters, N. L. (1982). Permanency planning for children in foster care. (MSW, California State University, Sacramento).
- Finch, S. J., Fanshel, D., & Grundy, J. F. (1986). Factors associated with the discharge of children from foster care. *Social Work Research and Abstracts, 22*(1), 10-18.
- Fine, P. M., & Pape, M. (1990). *Foster families: The demands and rewards of being a foster mother*. New York, NY: Plenum Press.
- Fisher, D., & Beech, A. (1998). Reconstituting families after sexual abuse; the offender's perspective. *Child Abuse Review, 7*(6), 420-434.
- Fisher, P. A., Burraston, B., & Pears, K. (2005). The early intervention foster care program: Permanent placement outcomes from a randomized trial. *Child Maltreatment, 10*(1), 61-71.
- Fisher, P. A., & Chamberlain, P. (2000). Multidimensional treatment foster care: A program for intensive parenting, family support, and skill building. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 8*(3), 155-164.
- Fisher, P., Burraston, B., & Pears, K. (2006). Permanency in foster care: Conceptual and methodological issues. *Child Maltreatment, 11*(1), 92-94.
- Fluke, J. D., Edwards, M., Kutzler, P., Kuna, J., & Tooman, G. (2000). Safety, permanency, and in-home services: Applying administrative data. *Child Welfare, 79*(5), 573-595.
- Folaron, G. (1993). The impact of family reunification the experiences of four families. (Ph.D., University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign).
- Folaron, G., & Hess, P. M. (1993). Placement considerations for children of mixed african american and caucasian parentage. *Child Welfare Journal, 72*(2), 113-125.
- Fong, R., Schwab, J., & Armour, M. (2006). Continuity of activities and child well-being for foster care youth. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(11), 1359-1374.

- Forrester, D. (2007). Patterns of re-referral to social services: A study of 400 closed cases. *Child and Family Social Work, 12*(1), 11-21.
- Fortune, C., & Lambie, I. (2006). Sexually abusive youth: A review of recidivism studies and methodological issues for future research. *Clinical Psychology Review, 26*(8), 1078-1095.
- Foster, B. A. (1986). A study of permanency planning as implemented in the massachusetts department of social services, 1980-1983. (Ph.D., Brandeis University).
- Frame, L. (2002). Maltreatment reports and placement outcomes for infants and toddlers in out-of-home care. *Infant Mental Health Journal, 23*(5), 517-540.
- Frame, L., Berrick, J. D., & Brodowski, M. L. (2000). Understanding re-entry to out-of-home care for reunified infants. *Child Welfare, 79*(4), 339-369.
- Frame, L., Berrick, J. D., & Coakley, J. F. (2006). Essential elements of implementing a system of concurrent planning. *Child and Family Social Work, 11*(4), 357-367.
- Frankel, H. (1988). Family-centered, home-based services in child protection: A review of the research. *Social Service Review, 62*(1), 137-157.
- Fraser, M. W., Walton, E., Lewis, R. E., Pecora, P. J., & Walton, W. K. (1996). An experiment in family reunification: Correlates of outcomes at one-year follow-up. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4/5), 335-361.
- Fraser, M. W., Nelson, K. E., & Rivard, J. C. (1997). Effectiveness of family preservation services. *Social Work Research, 21*(3), 138-153.
- Freundlich, M., & Avery, R. J. (2005). Planning for permanency for youth in congregate care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(2), 115-134.
- Freundlich, M., Avery, R. J., Munson, S., & Gerstenzang, S. (2006). The meaning of permanency in child welfare: Multiple stakeholder perspectives. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(7), 741-760.
- Freundlich, M., Heffernan, M., & Jacobs, J. (2004). Inter-jurisdictional placement of children in foster care. *Child Welfare, 83*(1), 5.
- Friedman, R. M., Baron, A., Lardieri, S., & Quick, J. (1982). Length of time in foster care: A measure in need of analysis. *Social Work, November*, 499-503.
- Fuller, T. L. (2005). Child safety at reunification: A case-control study of maltreatment recurrence following return home from substitute care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(12), 1293-1306.
- Fuller, T. L., Wells, S. J., & Cotton, E. E. (2001). Predictors of maltreatment recurrence at two milestones in the life of a case. *Children and Youth Services Review, 23*(1), 49-78.
- Gaffney, P. F. (1999). An alternative residential placement designed to meet the needs of adolescent foster children. (Ed.D., University of California, Los Angeles).

- Gammon, R. A. (2000). Racial and socioeconomic bias in social workers' decisions regarding family reunification. (Ph.D., California School of Professional Psychology).
- Gardner, H. (1998). The concept of family: Perceptions of adults who were in long-term out-of-home care as children. *Child Welfare, 77*(6), 681-700.
- Gardner, H. (1996). The concept of family: Perceptions of children in family foster care. *Child Welfare, 75*(2), 161-182.
- Gebel, T. J. (1996). Kinship care and nonrelative family foster care: A comparison of caregiver attributes and attitudes. *Child Welfare, 75*(1), 5-18.
- Gelles, R. J. (1993). Family reunification/family preservation: Are children really being protected? *Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 8*(4), 557-562.
- General Accounting Office. (1998). *Foster care: Agencies face challenges securing stable homes for children of substance abusers. report to the chairman, committee on finance, U.S. senate.* Washington, D.C.: Health, Education, and Human Services.
- General Accounting Office. (2003). *Child welfare and juvenile justice: Federal agencies could play a stronger role in helping states reduce the number of children placed solely to obtain mental health services.* Washington, D.C.: Health, Education, and Human Services.
- Genty, P. M. (1998). Permanency planning in the context of parental incarceration: Legal issues and recommendations. *Child Welfare, 77*(5), 543-559.
- George, R. (1990). The reunification process in substitute care. *Social Service Review, 64*(3), 422-457.
- Gershater-Molko, R. M., Lutzker, J. R., & Wesch, D. (2002). Using recidivism to evaluate project SafeCare: Teaching bonding, safety, and health care skills to parents. *Child Maltreatment, 7*(3), 277.
- Gershater-Molko, R. M. (1999). A comprehensive evaluation of project SafeCare : Health, safety, bonding, and recidivism in families reported for and at-risk for child maltreatment, and finishing treatment. (Ph.D., University of Kansas).
- Gerstenzang, S., & Freundlich, M. (2006). *A critical assessment of concurrent planning: What is the role in permanency planning?*. New York: Child Welfare League of America.
- Gibson, D., & Noble, D. N. (1991). Creative permanency planning: Residential services for families. *Child Welfare, 70*(3), 371-382.
- Gilbert, N. (1997). *Combating child abuse: International perspectives and trends.* New York: Oxford University Press.
- Gillespie, J. M., Byrne, B., & Workman, L. J. (1995). An intensive reunification program for children in foster care. *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal, 12*(3), 213-228.
- Glisson, C. (1994). The effect of services coordination teams on outcomes for children in state custody. *Administration in Social Work, 18*(4), 1-23.

- Goerge, R. M. (1994). *The effect of public child welfare worker characteristics and turnover on discharge from foster care*. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
- Gomez, C. (1996). An outcome and demographic profile of latina and non-latina clients with substance abuse issues in family reunification services. (M.S.W, San Jose State University).
- González, S. X. (1999). Foster parents' perceptions of the reunification process. (M.S.W., California State University, Long Beach).
- Gotelli, C. (1995). Assessment of foster placement outcomes. (M.S.W., California State University, Long Beach).
- Green, A. H., Power, E., Steinbook, B., & Gaines, R. (1981). Factors associated with successful and unsuccessful interventions with child abusive families. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 5(1), 45-45-52.
- Green, R. K., Johnson, A. K., Bremseth, M. D., & Tracy, E. (1996). No home, no family: Homeless children in rural ohio. *Human Services in the Rural Environment*, 19(2), 9-13.
- Greene, E. (1992). Child sexual abuse units: New direction in foster care. *Paper Presented at the Annual Conference of the National Black Child Development Institute (September 17-19, 1992)*.
- Green-Stroman, D. (2001). How do ethnicity, age, and gender affect family reunification of children in south carolina's foster care system? (Ph.D., University of South Carolina).
- Greenwood, J. M. (2005). Kinship care placement : Do grandparents' relationships with birthparents affect placement outcomes? (MSW, California State University, San Bernardino).
- Gregoire, K. A., & Schultz, D. J. (2001). Substance-abusing child welfare parents: Treatment and child placement outcomes. *Child Welfare*, 80(4), 433-452.
- Grella, C. E., & Greenwell, L. (2006). Correlates of parental status and attitudes toward parenting among substance-abusing women offenders. *Prison Journal*, 86(1), 89-113.
- Grigsby, R. K. Reuniting children with their families after foster care: An exploratory study of the family restoration process. (DSW, University of Pennsylvania).
- Grogan-Kaylor, A. (2001). The effect of initial placement into kinship foster care on reunification from foster care: A bivariate probit analysis. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 27(4), 1-31.
- Grogan-Kaylor, A. C. The effect of population level characteristics of the foster care caseload on reunification from foster care. (Ph.D., University of Wisconsin).
- Grogan-Kaylor, A. (2000). Who goes into kinship care? the relationship of child and family characteristics to placement into kinship foster care. *Social Work Research*, 24(3), 132.
- Groza, V., Maschmeier, C., Jamison, C., & Piccola, T. (2003). Siblings and out-of-home placement: Best practices. *Families in Society*, 84(4), 480-490.
- Gullickson, T. (1993). Review of reaching high-risk families: Intensive family preservation in human services. *Psyc Critiques*, 38(5), 550.

- Guo, S., & Wells, K. (2003). Research on timing of foster care outcomes: One methodological problem and approaches to its solution. *Social Service Review, 77*(1), 1-24.
- Gustavsson, N. S. (1986). Implementation of permanency planning legislation. (Ph.D., University of Southern California).
- Haight, W. L., Black, J. E., Mangelsdorf, S., Giorgio, G., Tata, L., Schoppe, S. J., et al. (2002). Making visits better: The perspectives of parents, foster parents, and child welfare workers. *Child Welfare, 81*(2), 173-202.
- Haight, W. L., Kagle, J. D., & Black, J. E. (2003). Understanding and supporting parent-child relationships during foster care visits: Attachment theory and research. *Social Work, 48*(2), 195-207.
- Haight, W., Ostler, T., Black, J., Sheridan, K., & Kingery, L. (2007). A child's-eye view of parent methamphetamine abuse: Implications for helping foster families to succeed. *Children and Youth Services Review, 29*(1), 1-15.
- Haist, M. P. (2005). After the adoption and safe families act: Permanency outcomes among children in kinship foster care. (Ph.D., University of Kentucky).
- Hamilton, Z. K., Sullivan, C. J., Veysey, B. M., & Grillo, M. (2007). Diverting multi-problem youth from juvenile justice: Investigating the importance of community influence on placement and recidivism. *Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 25*(1), 137-158.
- Harburger, D. S., & White, R. A. (2004). Reunifying families, cutting costs: Housing-child welfare partnerships for permanent supportive housing. *Child Welfare, 83*(5), 493-508.
- Harder, J. (2005). Prevention of child abuse and neglect: An evaluation of a home visitation parent aide program using recidivism data. *Research on Social Work Practice, 15*(4), 246-256.
- Hardin, M., & Tazzara, P. (1981). In American Bar Association (Ed.), *Termination of parental rights: A summary and comparison of grounds from nine model acts. planning for children in foster care project*. Washington, DC.: National Legal Resource Center for Child Advocacy and Protection.
- Harris, G., Poertner, J., & Joe, S. (2000). The parents with children in foster care satisfaction scale. *Administration in Social Work, 24*(2), 15.
- Harris, M. S., & Courtney, M. E. (2003). The interaction of race, ethnicity, and family structure with respect to the timing of family reunification. *Children and Youth Services Review, 25*(5), 409-429.
- Harris, M. S. (1998). Factors that affect family reunification of african american birth mothers and their children placed in kinship care. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 58* (8), 3308-A.
- Hartman, A. (1993). Introduction: Family reunification in context. In B. A. Pine, R. Warsh & A. N. Maluccio (Eds.), *Together again: Family reunification in foster care* (pp. xv-xxii). Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.

- Haskins, R., Wulczyn, F., & Webb, M. B. (2007). Using high quality research to improve child protective practice: An overview. In F. Wulczyn, M. B. Webb & R. Haskins (Eds.), *Child protection: Using research to improve policy and practice* (). Washington, DC: Brookings Institute Press.
- Hawkins, C. A., & Bland, T. (2002). Program evaluation of the crest project: Empirical support for kinship care as an effective approach to permanency planning. *Child Welfare, 81*(2), 271.
- Hegar, R. L. (2005). Sibling placement in foster care and adoption: An overview of international research. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(7), 717.
- Heneghan, A. M., Horwitz, S. W., & Leventhal, J. M. (1996). Evaluating intensive family preservation programs: A methodological review. *Pediatrics, 97*(4), 535-542.
- Henry, D. L. (2005). The 3–5–7 model: Preparing children for permanency. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(2), 197-212.
- Henry, J. (1999). Permanency outcomes in legal guardianships of abused/neglected children. *Families in Society, 80*(6), 561-568.
- Henry, J. (1999). Services to children at risk: Permanency outcomes in legal guardianships of abused and neglected children. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Human Services, 80*(6), 561.
- Herman, E. (2006). Review of children and youth in adoption, orphanages, and foster care: A historical handbook and guide. *Adoption Quarterly, 9*(4), 84-86.
- Herrenkohl, R. C. (1978). *The recurrence of abuse in child-abusing families. final report*. Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA: Center for Social Research.
- Herrick, M. A., & Piccus, W. (2005). Sibling connections: The importance of nurturing sibling bonds in the foster care system. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(7), 845-861.
- Hess, P., & Folaron, G. (1991). Ambivalence: A challenge to permanency for children. *Child Welfare, 70*, 403-424.
- Hess, P., & Folaron, G. (1992). Effectiveness of family reunification services: An innovative evaluative model. *Social Work, 37*(4), 304-311.
- Hess, P. M., & Proch, K. O. (1988). *Family visiting in out-of-home care: A guide to practice*. Washington D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Hess, P. (1982). Parent-child attachment is crucial for permanency planning. *Social Casework, 63*(1), 46-53.
- Hess, P. M. (1987). Parental visiting of children in foster care: Current knowledge and research agenda. *Children and Youth Services Review, 9*(1), 29-50.
- Hess, P. M. (1994). Supporting foster families in their support of families. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Problems, 2*(4), 24-27.
- Hess, P., Mintun, G., Moelhman, A., & Pitts, G. (1992). The family connection center: An innovative visiting program. *Child Welfare Journal, 71*(1), 77-88.

- Heying, K. R. (1985). Family-based, in-home services for the severely emotionally disturbed child. *Child Welfare Journal*, 64(5), 519-527.
- Hildreth, G. J., Van Laanen, G., Kelley, E., & Durant, T. (1980). Participation in and enjoyment of family maintenance activities by elderly women. *Family Relations*, 29(3), 386.
- Hoang, L. H. (2000). Reunification of incarcerated parents and their children. (M.S.W., California State University, Long Beach).
- Hodges, V., Morgan, L., & Johnston, B. (1993). Educating for excellence in child welfare practice: A model for graduate training in intensive family preservation. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*, 7(1), 31-48.
- Hohman, M. M., & Butt, R. L. (2001). How soon is too soon? addiction recovery and family reunification. *Child Welfare*, 80(1), 53-67.
- Holland, S., Faulkner, A., & Perez-del-Aguila, R. (2005). Promoting stability and continuity of care for looked after children: A survey and critical review. *Child and Family Social Work*, 10(1), 29-41.
- Holsinger, A. M. (1999). Opening the 'black box': Assessing the relationship between program integrity and recidivism. (Ph.D., University of Cincinnati). *UMI Dissertation Services*, 1, 210-216.
- Howe, G. W. (1983). The ecological approach to permanency planning: An interactionist perspective. *Child Welfare*, 62(4), 291-301.
- Howeth, T. R. (1992). Children's perceptions of services received in placement. M.S.W.). (California State University, Long Beach)
- Hudson, J., Nutter, R. W., & Galaway, B. (1994). Treatment foster care programs: A review of evaluation research and suggested directions. *Social Work Research*, 18(4), 198-210.
- Hughes, J. R., & Gottlieb, L. N. (2004). The effects of the webster-stratton parenting program on maltreating families: Fostering strengths. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 28(10), 1081.
- Hughes, D. J. (1992). A cost comparison of placement outcomes of treatment foster family care to residential care. (M.S.W., University of Calgary).
- Humphrey, K. R., Turnbull, A. P., & Turnbull, H. R. (2006). Perspectives of foster-care providers, service providers, and judges regarding privatized foster-care services. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*, 17(1), 2-17.
- Hunter, W. M., Coulter, M. L., Runyan, D. K., & Everson, M. D. (1990). Determinants of placement for sexually abused children. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 14(3), 407.
- Hurlbut, W. W. (1983). Child sexual abuse from the perspective of permanency planning. (M.S.W., Rhode Island College).
- Hussey, D. L., & Guo, S. (2005). Characteristics and trajectories of treatment foster care youth. *Child Welfare Journal*, 84(4), 485-506.
- Huxley, P. (1994). Outcome measurement in works with children. *Child Abuse Review*, 3(2), 120-133.

- Iglehart, A. P. (1994). Kinship foster care: Placement, service, and outcome issues. *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(1), 107-122.
- Ikesaki, J. H., & McCormack, L. M. (1979). Aspects of foster home placement: A study of contrast groups to discover differences between those children who need replacement and those who do not need replacement in sacramento county. (M.S.W., California State University, Sacramento).
- Ingram, C. (1996). Kinship care: From last resort to first choice. *Child Welfare, 75*(5), 550-566.
- Inkelas, M., & Halfon, N. (1997). Recidivism in child protective services. *Children and Youth Services Review, 19*(3), 139-161.
- Itzkowitz, A. (2006). *Children in placement: A place for family therapy*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Jackson, A. (1996). The reconnections and family admission programs: Two models for family reunification within melbourne, australia. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care, 8*(1), 53-75.
- Jackson, S. M. (1996). The kinship triad: A service delivery model. *Child Welfare, 75*(5), 583-599.
- Jackson, S., & Mathews, J. L. (1999). *Supporting the kinship triad*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Jacobs, J., & Freundlich, M. (2006). Achieving permanency for LGBTQ youth. *Child Welfare, 85*(2), 299-316.
- Jaffe, D. B. (2004). A study of reunification and recidivism in family foster care. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- James, S., Leslie, L. K., Hurlburt, M. C., Slymen, D. J., Landsverk, J., Davis, I., et al. (2007). "Children in out-of-home care: Entry into intensive or restrictive mental health and residential care placements": Erratum. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 15*(1), 64.
- Jaudes, P. K., & Bilaver, L. A. (2004). The child welfare response to serious nonaccidental head trauma. *Child Welfare Journal, 83*, 27-48.
- Jimenez, S. A., & Stooksbury, L. H. (2005). The utilization of parent-child visitations for reunification and stability among children and families. (MSW, California State University, San Bernardino).
- Jimenez, M. A. (1990). Permanency planning and the child abuse prevention and treatment act: The paradox of child welfare policy. *Journal of Sociology & Social Welfare, 17*(3; 3), 55-72.
- Johnson, P. R. (2001). Decision-making in permanency planning and family reunification. (Ph.D dissertation, The University of Chicago). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses 2001, 0330* (0452)
- Johnson, K., & Wagner, D. (2005). Evaluation of michigan's foster care case management system. *Research on Social Work Practice, 15*(5), 372-380.
- Johnson, P. R., Yoken, C., & Voss, R. (1995). Family foster care placement: The child's perspective. *Child Welfare, 74*(5), 959.
- Jones, M. A. (1984). Evaluation of a program to prevent entry into foster care. (DSW, Columbia University).

- Jones, M. A., Neuman, R., & Shyne, A. W. (1976). *A second chance for families: Evaluation of a program to reduce foster care*. New York: Child Welfare League of America.
- Jones, L. (1998). The social and family correlates of successful reunification of children in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 20*, 305-323.
- Jones, M. A., Magura, S., & Shyne, A. W. (1981). Effective practice with families in protective and preventive services: What works? *Child Welfare, 60*(2), 67-80.
- Jones, M., & Biesecker, J. (1980). Training in permanency planning: Using what is known. *Child Welfare, 59*(8), 481-489.
- Jonson-Reid, M. (2003). Foster care and future risk of maltreatment. *Children and Youth Services Review, 25*(4), 271-294.
- Jonson-Reid, M., & Barth, R. P. (2003). Probation foster care as an outcome for children exiting child welfare foster care. *Social Work, 48*(3), 348-361.
- Jonson-Reid, M., & Barth, R. P. (2000). From placement to prison: The path to adolescent incarceration from child welfare supervised foster or group care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 22*(7), 493.
- Kahn, J. M. (2006). Risk factors for child welfare system recidivism. (Ph.D dissertation, Columbia University 2006). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses, Section 0054 (Part 0452)*, 133 pages.
- Kalland, M., & Sinkkonen, J. (2001). Finnish children in foster care: Evaluating the breakdown of long-term placements. *Child Welfare, 80*(5), 513-527.
- Kapp, S. A., & Vela, R. H. (2004). The parent satisfaction with foster care services scale. *Child Welfare, 83*(3), 263-287.
- Kapp, S. A., & Vela, R. H. (2004). The unheard client: Assessing the satisfaction of parents of children in foster care. *Child & Family Social Work, 9*(2), 197-206.
- Karoll, B. R., & Poertner, J. (2002). Judges', caseworkers', and substance abuse counselors' indicators of family reunification with substance-affected parents. *Child Welfare, 81*(2), 249-269.
- Karoll, B. R., & Poertner, J. (2003). Indicators for safe family reunification: How professionals differ. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, 30*(3), 139-160.
- Katz, L. (1990). Effective permanency planning for children in foster care. *Social Work, 35*(3), 220-227.
- Katz, L. (1996). Permanency action through concurrent planning. *Adoption & Fostering, 20*(2), 8-13.
- Katz, L. (1999). Concurrent planning: Benefits and pitfalls. *Child Welfare, 78*(1), 71-87.
- Katz, L., & Robinson, C. (1991). Foster care drift: A risk-assessment matrix. *Child Welfare, 70*(3), 347-358.
- Kauffman, J. E. (1997). Reuniting children with their families after foster care: An exploratory study of the family reunification process. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 57* (11), 7228.

- Kaufman, J., & Grasso, D. (2006). The early intervention foster care program: A glass half full: Comment. *Child Maltreatment, 11*(1), 90-91.
- Kaufman, J., & Zigler, E. F. (1996). *Child abuse and social policy*. Cambridge University Press, New York, NY, US.
- Kaye, H. J. S. (2007). Seizing the opportunity to make good on our promises to at-risk youth. *Family Court Review, 45*(3), 361-365.
- Kearney, E. N. (2002). Long term outcome of a parenting group intervention : An investigation into the generalisation and maintenance of treatment effects post intervention : & research portfolio. part 1. (D. Clinical Psychology, University of Glasgow).
- Keller, T. E., Wetherbee, K., Le Prohn, N. S., Payne, V., Sim, K., & Lamont, E. R. (2001). Competencies and problem behaviors of children in family foster care: Variations by kinship placement status and race. *Children and Youth Services Review, 23*(12), 915.
- Kelsoe, P. L. (1990). Family reunification decisions in cases of child sexual abuse: A survey of social service professionals. (Ph.D., Claremont Graduate School).
- Kemp, S. P., & Bodonyi, J. M. (2002). Beyond termination: Length of stay and predictors of permanency for legally free children. *Child Welfare, 81*(1), 58-86.
- Keniston, R., Nash, K., & Ouderkirk, W. (1981). *Child welfare reform act: Training for permanency planning*. Albany, NY: Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, State University of New York.
- Kerman, B., Wildfire, J., & Barth, R. P. (2002). Outcomes for young adults who experienced foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(5), 319-344.
- Kernan, E., & Lansford, J. E. (2004). Providing for the best interests of the child?: The adoption and safe families act of 1997. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 25*(5), 523-539.
- Ketring, S. A. (1999). Poverty and negative life events as factors influencing ecosystemic therapy: A study of family preservation outcome. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 60* (6), 2948.
- Khoo, E. G., Hyvonen, U., & Nygren, L. (2003). Gatekeeping in child welfare: A comparative study of intake decisionmaking by social workers in canada and sweden. *Child Welfare, 82*(5), 507-525.
- Kinney, S. (2003). *Chapter three: Public-private partnerships in child welfare: Three county models in florida*. Retrieved 2/1, 2008, from <http://www.ssw.upenn.edu/crysp/reports/privatization/Chapter3.pdf>
- Kinney, J., Haapala, D., & Booth, C. (1991). *Keeping families together. the homebuilders model*. New York: Walter d Gruyter.
- Kirk, R. (2001). *Tailoring intensive family preservation services for family reunification cases. phase 2: Field testing and validation of the North Carolina family assessment scale for reunification*. Project report presented to the National Family Preservation Network and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

- Kirk, R. S. (2000). *A retrospective study of the effectiveness of intensive family preservation services. final report*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Division of Social Services.
- Kirk, R. S., & Griffith, D. P. (2004). Intensive family preservation services: Demonstrating placement prevention using event history analysis. *Social Work Research, 28*(1), 5-16.
- Kirk, R. S., & Griffith, D. P. (2005). *Annual report on intensive family preservation services*. Raleigh NC: North Carolina Division of Social Services.
- Kleinfelder, C. A. (2003). Child welfare workers' perceptions of parental capacity in regard to parent-child visitation during the reunification process. (M.S.W., California State University, Stanislaus).
- Klopfer, L. M., & Mills, G. M. (1994). A longitudinal study of a family maintenance program. (M.S.W., California State University, San Bernardino).
- Kluger, M. P., Alexander, G., & Curtis, P. A. (2000). *What works in child welfare*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Knepper, P. E., & Barton, S. M. (1997). The effect of courtroom dynamics on child maltreatment proceedings. *Social Service Review, 71*(2), 288-308.
- Knight, M. O., Chew, J., & Gonzalez, E. (2005). *The child welfare system: A map for the bold traveler*. Binghamton, NY: Haworth Social Work Practice Press.
- Knitzer, J., & Bernard, S. (1997). *The new welfare law and vulnerable families: Implications for child Welfare/Child protection systems. children and welfare reform issue brief 3*. New York: National Center for Children in Poverty.
- Kopels, S., & Rycraft, J. R. (1993). The U.S. supreme court rules on reasonable efforts: A blow to child advocacy. *Child Welfare, 72*(4), 397-406.
- Kortenkamp, K., Geen, R., & Stagner, M. (2004). The role of welfare and work in predicting foster care reunification rates for children of welfare recipients. *Children and Youth Services Review, 26*(6), 577-590.
- Kosonen, M. (1996). Maintaining sibling relationships--neglected dimension in child care practice. *British Journal of Social Work, 26*(6), 809-822.
- Krajewski, C. A. (2003). Incidence of and possible contributing factors leading to child removal following family reunification. (MSW, Southern Connecticut State University).
- Krona, D. A. (1980). Parents as treatment partners in residential care. *Child Welfare, 59*(2), 91-96.
- Krymow, V. (1979). Obstacles encountered in permanent planning for foster children. *Child Welfare, 58*(2), 97-104.
- Kufeldt, K., & Allison, J. (1990). Fostering children--fostering families. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care, 2*(1), 1-17.

- Kushner, L. M. (1987). A matching process: More effective placement procedures for court dependent children. (M.A., California State University, San Bernardino).
- Kutash, K., & Robbins Rivera, V. (1996). *What works in children's mental health services?: Uncovering the answers to critical questions*. Baltimore: Paul H Brooks Publishing Co.
- Laird, A. M. (2006). Experiences of out-of-home placements on children and adolescents: The voices of adults who have phased out of foster care. M.S.W.). (University of St. Thomas)
- Landsman, M. J., Groza, V., Tyler, M., & Malone, K. (2001). Outcomes of family-centered residential treatment. *Child Welfare Journal*, 80(3), 351-379.
- Landsman, M. J., Thompson, K., & Bother, G. (2003). Using mediation to achieve permanency for children and families. *Families in Society*, 84(2), 229-239.
- Landsverk, J., Davis, I., Ganger, W., & Newton, R. (1996). Impact of child psychosocial functioning on reunification from out-of-home placement. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 18(4), 447-462.
- Landy, S., & Munro, S. (1998). Shared parenting: Assessing the success of a foster parent program aimed at family reunification. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 22(4), 305-318.
- Lau, A. S. (2003). Going home: The complex effects of reunification on the internalizing problems among children in foster care. *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, 31(4), 345-359.
- Laufer, Z. (1994). The "no man's" land of home weekends for children in residential care. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 18(11), 913-921.
- Laufer, Z. (1996). The family group care "cluster": Hopes and risks. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care*, 8(1), 43-51.
- Lawder, E. A., Poulin, J. E., & Andrews, R. G. (1986). A study of 185 foster children 5 years after placement. *Child Welfare*, 65(3), 241-251.
- Leach, J. W. (1994). An analysis of the fragmented foster care system with a view toward systemic reconstruction: A review of the literature. (Doctoral Research Report, Biola University).
- Leashore, B. R. (1997). African american men, child welfare, and permanency planning. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work*, 5(1-2), 1-9.
- Leathers, S. J. (2002). Parental visiting and family reunification: Could inclusive practice make a difference. *Child Welfare*, 81(4), 595-616.
- Leathers, S. J. (2005). Separation from siblings: Associations with placement adaptation and outcomes among adolescents in long-term foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 27(7), 793-819.
- Lee, W. Y. (2001). Process and criteria of selecting foster parents: A national comparative study of state foster care systems. *Dissertation Abstracts International Section A: Humanities and Social Sciences*, 62 (4), 1601.

- Lehman, C. M., Liang, S., & O'Dell, K. (2005). Impact of flexible funds on placement and permanency outcomes for children in child welfare. *Research on Social Work Practice, 15*(5), 381-388.
- Leschied, A. W., Chiodo, D., Whitehead, P. C., & Hurley, D. (2005). The relationship between maternal depression and child outcomes in a child welfare sample: Implications for treatment and policy. *Child and Family Social Work, 10*(4), 281-291.
- Levin, A. E. (1992). Groupwork with parents in the family foster care system: A powerful method of engagement. *Child Welfare, 71*(5), 457-473.
- Levitt, K. L. (1981). A canadian approach to permanent planning. *Child Welfare, 60*(2), 109-112.
- Lewandowski, C., & Pierce, L. (2004). Does family-centered out-of-home care work? comparison of a family-centered approach and traditional care. *Social Work Research, 28*(3), 143-151.
- Lewandowski, C. A., & Pierce, L. (2002). Assessing the effect of family-centered out-of-home care on reunification outcomes. *Research on Social Work Practice, 12*(2), 205-221.
- Lewis, K. G. (1995). Sibling therapy: One step in breaking the cycle of recidivism in foster care. In L. Combrinck-Graham (Ed.), *Children in families at risk: Maintaining the connections*. (pp. 301-325). New York: Guilford Press.
- Lewis, R. E. (1994). Application and adaptation of intensive family preservation services to use for the reunification of foster children with their biological parents. *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(5), 339-361.
- Lewis, R. E., & Callaghan, S. A. (1993). The peer parent project: Compensating foster parents to facilitate reunification of children with their biological parents. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care, 5*(1), 43-65.
- Lewis, R. E., Walton, E., & Fraser, M. W. (1995). Examining family reunification services: A process analysis of a successful experiment. *Research on Social Work Practice, 5*(3), 259-282.
- Liberti, V. (1988). Assessment of family involvement in the residential treatment placement of children and youth : A thesis submitted to the school of social work. (M.S.W., Southern Connecticut State University).
- Liles, L. (1986). Permanency planning : An evaluative study. (MSW, California State University, Sacramento).
- Limba, G. E., Chance, T., & Brown, E. F. (2004). An empirical examination of the indian child welfare act and its impact on cultural and familial preservation for american indian children. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 28*(12), 1279-1289.
- Lindsey, D. (1991). Factors affecting the foster care placement decision: An analysis of national survey data. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 61*(2), 272-281.
- Lindsey, D., Martin, S., & Doh, J. (2002). The failure of intensive casework services to reduce foster care placements: An examination of family preservation studies. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(9), 743-775.

- Link, M. K. (1996). Permanency outcomes in kinship care: A study of children placed in kinship care in erie county, new york. *Child Welfare, 75*(5), 509.
- Lipien, L., & Forthofer, M. S. (2004). An event history analysis of recurrent child maltreatment reports in florida. *Child Abuse & Neglect, 28*(9), 947-966.
- Litrownik, A. J., Newton, R., Mitchell, B. E., & Richardson, K. K. (2003). Long-term follow-up of young children placed in foster care: Subsequent placements and exposure to family violence. *Journal of Family Violence, 18*(1), 19-28.
- Littauer, C. (1980). Working with families of children in residential care. *Child Welfare, 59*(4), 225-234.
- Littell, J. H. (1997). Effects of the duration, intensity, and breadth of family preservation services: A new analysis of data from the Illinois family first experiment. *Children and Youth Services Review, 19*, 19-41.
- Littell, J. H. (2001). Client participation and outcomes of intensive family preservation services. *Social Work Research, 25*(2), 103.
- Littell, J. H., & Schuerman, J. R. (2002). What works best for whom? A closer look at intensive family preservation services. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(9), 673-699.
- Littell, J. H., & Schuerman, J. R. (1995). *A synthesis of research on family preservation and family reunification programs*. Department of Health and Human Services: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation.
- Littell, J. H., & Tajima, E. A. (2000). A multi-level model of client participation in intensive family preservation services. *Social Service Review, 74*, 405-435.
- Little, M. (1996). Teaching family reunification: A sourcebook. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4), 489-491.
- Litzelfelner, P. (2000). The effectiveness of CASAs in achieving positive outcomes for children. *Child Welfare, 79*(2), 179.
- Liu, E. S. (2005). Perceived parent-child adjustment in the family reunification among a group of runaway adolescents in hong kong. *Journal of Adolescence, 28*(6), 687-707.
- Loar, L. (1998). Making visits work. *Child Welfare, 77*(1), 41-58.
- Lodermeier, J., Hammond, D., Henderson, H., & Carvalho, N. (2002). Factors affecting timely permanency planning for children in care. *Canadian Social Work Journal, 4*(1), 136-153.
- Lu, Y. E., Landsverk, J., Ellis-Macleod, E., Newton, R., Ganger, W., & Johnson, I. (2004). Race, ethnicity, and case outcomes in child protective services. *Children and Youth Services Review, 26*(5), 447-461.
- Lutzker, J. R., & Rice, J. M. (1984). Project 12-ways: Measuring outcomes of a large in-home service for treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 8*(4), 519-524.

- Lutzker, J. R., & Rice, J. M. (1987). Using recidivism data to evaluate project 12-ways: An ecobehavioral approach to the treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect. *Journal of Family Violence*, 2(4), 283-290.
- Maas, H. S. (1969). Children in long-term foster care. *Child Welfare*, XLVIII(6 (June 1969))
- Macdonald, G. (2001). *Effective interventions for child abuse and neglect: An-evidenced-based approach to planning and evaluating interventions*. Chichester, England: John Wiley & Sons.
- MacMahon, J. R. (1997). Perinatal substance abuse: The impact of reporting infants to child protective services. *Pediatrics*, 100(5), E1.
- Macmillan, H. L., Thomas, B. H., Jamieson, E., Walsh, C. A., Boyle, M. H., Shannon, H. S., et al. (2005). Effectiveness of home visitation by public-health nurses in prevention of the recurrence of child physical abuse and neglect: A randomised controlled trial. *Lancet*, 365(9473), 1786-1793.
- Maestas, A. (2007). Reducing placement instability in family foster care. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering*, 67 (10), 6067.
- Maluccio, A. N., Warsh, R., & Pine, B. (1993). Family reunification: An overview. In B. A. Pine, R. Warsh & A. N. Maluccio (Eds.), (pp. 3-19). Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America, Inc.
- Malm, K., Bess, R., Leos-Urbel, J., Geen, R., & Markowitz, T. (2001). *Running to keep in place: The continuing evolution of our nation's child welfare system*. Washington, DC: Urban League.
- Maluccio, A. (1999). Foster care and family reunification. In P. Curtis, G. Dale & J. Kendall (Eds.), *The foster care crisis: Translating research into policy and practice*. (pp. 211-224). Lincoln, NE, US: University of Nebraska Press.
- Maluccio, A. (2000). What works in family reunification. In M. P. Kluger, G. Alexander & P. A. Curtis (Eds.), *What works in child welfare* (pp. 163-169). Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Maluccio, A. N., Abramczyk, L. W., & Thomlison, B. (1996). Family reunification of children in out-of-home care: Research perspectives. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 18(4/5), 287-305.
- Maluccio, A., & Ainsworth, F. (2005). Family reunification practice with parents who abuse drugs. In G. P. Mallon, & P. M. Hess (Eds.), *Child welfare for the twenty-first century* (pp. 349-354). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Maluccio, A., & Fein, E. (1985). Growing up in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 7, 123.
- Maluccio, A., & Fein, E. (1987). Effects of permanency planning on foster children: A response. *Social Work*, 32(6), 546-548.
- Maluccio, A. N., & Ainsworth, F. (2003). Drug use by parents: A challenge for family reunification practice. *Children & Youth Services Review*, 25(7), 511-533.
- Maluccio, A. N., Canali, C., & Vecchiato, T. (2002). *Assessing outcomes in child and family services: Comparative design and policy issues*. Hawthorne, NY: Aldine De Gruyter.

- Maluccio, A. N., Fein, E., & Olmstead, K. A. (1986). *Permanency planning for children: Concepts and methods*. New York, NY: Routledge, Chapman, and Hall.
- Maluccio, A. N., Krieger, R., & Pine, B. A. (1990). *Reconnecting families: Family reunification competencies for social workers*. West Hartford, CT: Center for the Study of Child Welfare, the University of Connecticut, School of Social Work.
- Maluccio, A. N., Warsh, R., & Pine, B. A. (1993). Rethinking family reunification after foster care. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care*, 5(2), 1-17.
- Maluccio, A. N. (1994). Protecting children by preserving their families. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 16(5), 295-307.
- Maluccio, A. N. (1998). Assessing child welfare outcomes: The American perspective. *Children & Society*, 12(3), 161-168.
- Maluccio, A. N., Fein, E., & Davis, I. P. (1994). Family reunification: Research findings, issues, and directions. *Child Welfare*, 73(5), 489-504.
- Maluccio, A. N., & Fein, E. (1983). Permanency planning: A redefinition. *Child Welfare*, 62(3), 195-201.
- Maluccio, A. N., Fein, E., Hamilton, J., Klier, J. L., & Ward, D. (1980). Beyond permanency planning. *Child Welfare*, 59(9), 515-530.
- Mapp, S. C., & Steinberg, C. (2007). Birthfamilies as permanency resources for children in long-term foster care. *Child Welfare*, 86(1), 29.
- Marcenko, M. O., Spence, M., & Samost, L. (1996). Outcomes of a home visitation trial for pregnant and postpartum women at-risk for child placement. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 18(3), 243.
- Marcenko, M. O., & Strieppe, M. I. (1997). A look at family reunification through the eyes of mothers. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care*, 9(1), 33-48.
- Marsh, P., & Triseliotis, J. (1993). *Prevention and reunification in child care*. London, UK: B.T. Batsford & British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering.
- Marsh, J. C., Ryan, J. P., Choi, S., & Testa, M. F. (2006). Integrated services for families with multiple problems: Obstacles to family reunification. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 28(9), 1074-1087.
- Marshall, D. B., & English, D. J. (1999). Survival analysis of risk factors for recidivism in child abuse and neglect. *Child Maltreatment*, 4(4), 287.
- Martin, C. (1990). Is contact with biological parents always good? the prevalence of negative effects exhibited by children in out-of-home care. (MA, West Virginia University).
- Mason, M. D. (1985). Post-placement and post-adoption services for families. (MSW, University of British Columbia).
- Maynard, J. (2005). Permanency mediation: A path to open adoption for children in out-of-home care. *Child Welfare Journal*, 84(4), 507-526.

- Maza, P. L. (1999). Boarder babies and placement in foster care. *Clinics in Perinatology*, 26(1), 201.
- McAlpine, C., Marshall, C. C., & Doran, N. H. (2001). Combining child welfare and substance abuse services: A blended model of intervention. *Child Welfare*, 80(2), 129-149.
- McCallion, P. (1993). Social worker orientations to permanency planning with older parents caring at home for family members with developmental disabilities. (Ph.D., Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy).
- McCarthy, Gael D. E. (2006). Doing well and doing poorly in care: Caregivers' attachment status and other risk and resilience predictors of children's outcomes in kinship, foster, and adoptive placements. (Ph. D dissertation, Smith College School for Social Work). *Proquest Dissertation and Theses, Section 0201 (Part 0452)*, 170 pages.
- McCroskey, J. Y., Nishimoto, R., & Subramanian, K. (1991). Assessment in family support programs: Initial reliability and validity testing of the family assessment form. *Child Welfare*, 70(1), 19-34.
- McDonald, T., Bryson, S., & Poertner, J. (2006). Balancing reunification and re-entry goals. *Children Services Review*, 28, 47-58.
- McDonald, T. P., Poertner, J., & Jennings, M. A. (2007). Permanency for children in foster care: A competing risks analysis. *Journal of Social Service Research*, 33(4), 45-56.
- Mceuin, C. L. (2006). Family reunification initiative: A needs assessment and family reunification program to address the challenges that female offenders and their dependent children face in family reunification. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering*, 67 (1), 601.
- McFadden, E. J., & Downs, S. W. (1995). Family continuity: The new paradigm in permanence planning. *Community Alternatives*, 7(1), 39-60.
- McIntosh, M. M. (2002). Barriers to reunification in the child welfare system: An analysis of kinship and non-kinship placements. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- McMillen, J. C., & Tucker, J. (1999). The status of older adolescents at exit from out-of-home care. *Child Welfare Journal*, 78(3), 339-362.
- McRoy, R., Mica, M., Freundlich, M., & Kroll, J. (2007). Making MEPA-IEP work: Tools for professionals. *Child Welfare Journal*, 86(2), 49-66.
- McSherry, D., Larkin, E., & Iwaniec, D. (2006). Care proceedings: Exploring the relationship between case duration and achieving permanency for the child. *British Journal of Social Work*, 36(6), 901-919.
- Mcwey, L. M., & Mullis, A. K. (2004). Improving the lives of children in foster care: The impact of supervised visitation. *Family Relations*, 53(3), 293-300.
- Meadowcroft, P., & Thomlison, B. (1994). Treatment foster care services: A research agenda for child welfare. *Child Welfare*, 73(5), 565-581.
- Mech, E. V. (1985). Parental visiting and foster placement. *Child Welfare*, 64(1), 67-72.

- Meezan, W., & McCroskey, J. (1996). Improving family functioning through intensive family preservation services: Results of the los angeles experiment. *Family Preservation Journal*, , 9.
- Merritt, D. H. (2006). Should I stay or should I go now? children's perceptions of permanency while living in out of home placements. (Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles).
- Messing, J. T. (2006). From the child's perspective: A qualitative analysis of kinship care placements. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 28(12), 1415-1434.
- Miller, K. E., Fisher, P. A., Fetrow, B., & Jordan, K. (2006). Trouble on the journey home: Reunification failures in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 28, 260-274.
- Miller, M. (2004). *Decline in washington's family reunifications: What influenced this trend?* Washington State Institute for Public Policy.
- Miller, B. V., Fox, B. R., & Garcia-Beckwith, L. (1999). Intervening in severe physical child abuse cases: Mental health, legal, and social services. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 23, 905-914.
- Miller, K., Fein, E., Bishop, G., Stilwell, N., & Murray, C. (1984). Overcoming barriers to permanency planning. *Child Welfare*, 63(1), 45-55.
- Minty, B. (1999). Outcomes in long-term foster family care. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 40(7), 991-999.
- Mitchell, D. (1995). Reunited. *Journal Community Care*, (1060), 14-15.
- Moffatt, P., & Thoburn, J. (2001). Outcomes of permanent family placement for children of minority ethnic origin. *Child and Family Social Work*, 6(1), 13-21.
- Molin, R., & Palmer, S. (2005). Consent and participation: Ethical issues in the treatment of children in out-of-home care. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 75(1), 152-157.
- Monck, E., Reynolds, J., & Wigfall, V. (2004). Using concurrent planning to establish permanency for looked after young children. *Child and Family Social Work*, 9(4), 321-331.
- Monck, E., Reynolds, J., & Wigfall, V. (2005). The role of contact in concurrent planning: The experiences of birth parents and carers. *Adoption Quarterly*, 9(1), 13-34.
- Moore, M. M. (1981). Some implications of developmental theory for permanency planning: The importance of the formation of a cohesive, enduring sense of self. A project based upon an investigation at child and family services in hartford, connecticut. (MS, Smith College).
- Morris-Bilotti, S. (1992). *"Thoughts" about preserving and empowering families through co-parenting partnerships*. Springfield, IL: Illinois State Dept. of Children and Family Services.
- Morton, E. S., & Grisby, R. K. (1993). *Advancing family preservation practice*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications.
- Moyers, S., Farmer, E., & Lipscombe, J. (2006). Contact with family members and its impact on adolescents and their foster placements. *British Journal of Social Work*, 36(4), 541-559.

- Mudd, H. K. (2004). Child maltreatment assessment and recidivism: A study of Kentucky child protective services. (Ph.D., University of Louisville).
- Muñoz, D. F. (2000). Out-of-home placement for youths: Can kinship foster care compete with traditional foster care? (M.A., San Diego State University).
- Murray, L. (1984). A review of selected foster care--adoption research from 1978 to mid-1982. *Child Welfare*, 63(2), 113-124.
- Naik-Polan, A. T. (2001). A case study of mothers in a comprehensive family reunification program. (MA, DePaul University).
- National Family Preservation Network. (2006). *An effective child welfare system & evidence-based practice for the child welfare system*. Buhl, ID: National Family Preservation Network.
- National Research Council. (1993). *Understanding child abuse and neglect*. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.
- National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency Planning. (2003). *NRCFCPP concurrent planning curriculum: Concurrent planning for timely permanency*. New York: National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency Planning/Hunter College of Social Work.
- Needell, B. (1996). Placement stability and permanence for children entering foster care as infants. (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley).
- Nelson, R. H., Mitrani, V. B., & Szapocznik, J. (2000). Applying a family-ecosystemic model to reunite a family separated due to child abuse: A case study. *Contemporary Family Therapy*, 22(2), 125-146.
- Nelson, J. P. (1986). An experimental evaluation of a home-based family-centered program model in a public child protection agency. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 46(10), 3158.
- Nelson, K. E., & Landsman, M. J. (1992). *Alternative models of family preservation: Family-based services in context*. Springfield, IL: Charles C Thomas.
- Nilsen, W. (2007). Fostering futures: A preventive intervention program for school-age children in foster care. *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 12(1), 45-63.
- Noble, L. (1997). The reunification outcomes of drug exposed infants with their mothers in Stanislaus county. (MSW, California State University, Stanislaus).
- Nugent, W. R., Carpenter, D., & Parks, J. (1993). A statewide evaluation of family preservation and family reunification services. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 3(1), 40-65.
- O'Connor, L. A., Morgenstem, J., Gibson, F., & Nakashian, V. (2005). "Nothing about me without me": Leading the way to collaborative relationships with families. *Child Welfare*, 84(2), 153-170.
- O'Donnell, J. M. (2001). Paternal involvement in kinship foster care services in one father and multiple father families. *Child Welfare*, 80(4), 453-479.

- Olson, B. L. (1998). Multiple out-of-home placements and children's psychosocial functioning. (Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Omaha).
- Omang, J., & Bonk, K. (1999). Family to family: Building bridges for child welfare with families, neighborhoods, and communities. *Journal of the American Public Human Services Association, 57*(4), 15.
- O'Neal, C. (1999). An evaluation of family reunification services in one California county from the consumer perspective. (MSW, California State University, Stanislaus).
- Oosterman, M., Schuengel, C., Slot, N. W., Bullens, R. A. R., & Doreleijers, T. A. H. (2007). Disruptions in foster care: A review and meta-analysis. *Children and Youth Services Review, 29*(1), 53-76.
- O'Reilly, J. P. (1999). In search of permanency planning in the relative foster care system at youth welfare services. (MS, DePaul University).
- Orme, J. G., Buehler, C., McSurdy, M., Rhodes, K. W., Cox, M. E., & Patterson, D. A. (2004). Parental and familial characteristics of family foster care applicants. *Children & Youth Services Review, 26*(3), 307-329.
- OrtizCarrizosa, S. M. (1996). The reunification of children with their families in Paraguay: An implementation case study. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 56* (11), 4557-A. (4)
- Ott, J. S., & Langer, M. (1987). *Alternatives to institutionalization: Application of permanency planning principles to services for children with developmental disabilities*. Cambridge, MA: Human Services Research Institute.
- Outley, A. (2006). Overcoming barriers to permanency: Recommendations for juvenile and family courts. *Family Court Review, 44*(2), 244-257.
- Palmer, S. E. (1996). Placement stability and inclusive practice in foster care: An empirical study. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(7), 589.
- Pardeck, J. T., Murphy, J. W., & Fitzwater, L. (1985). Profile of the foster child likely to experience unstable care: A re-examination. *Early Child Development and Care, 22*(2), 137-146.
- Parkinson, P. (2003). Child protection, permanency planning and children's right to family life. *International Journal of Law, Policy and the Family, 17*(2), 147-172.
- Paschall, M. G. (1992). Family reunification center : A study in environmental psychology. (B.I.D., Auburn University).
- Paulman, R. E. (1990). Case planning and permanency outcomes their relationship in foster care cases in Maryland. (Ed.D., University of Maryland, College Park).
- Paulson, R. I., Armstrong, M., Brown, E., Jordan, N., Kershaw, M. A., Vargo, A., et al. (2002). *Evaluation of the Florida department of children and families community-based care initiative in Manatee, Sarasota, Pinellas and Pasco counties*. Tallahassee, FL: Florida Department of Children and Families.

- Pears, K., & Fisher, P. A. (2005). Developmental, cognitive, and neuropsychological functioning in preschool-aged foster children: Associations with prior maltreatment and placement history. *Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics: JDBP*, 26(2), 112.
- Pearson, C. L. (1985). *The maryland foster family reunification project evaluation report*. 311 West Saratoga Street, Baltimore, MD 21201: Social Service Administration, State of Maryland Department of Human Resources.
- Pecora, P. J., Fraser, M. W., Nelson, K. E., McCroskey, J., & Meezan, W. (1995). *Evaluating family based services*. Hawthorne, NT: Aldine de Gruyter.
- Pecora, P. J., Fraser, M. W., & Haapala, D. A. (1992). Intensive home-based family preservation services: An update from the FIT project. *Child Welfare Journal*, 71(2), 177-188.
- Pecora, P. J., & Maluccio, A. N. (2000). *What works in family foster care*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Pelton, L. H. (1991). Beyond permanency planning: Restructuring the public child welfare system. *Social Work*, 36(4), 337-343.
- Pence, D. M. (1993). Family preservation and reunification in intrafamilial sexual abuse cases: A law enforcement perspective. *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*, 2(2), 103-108.
- Perry, B. L. (2006). Understanding social network disruption: The case of youth in foster care. *Social Problems*, 53(3), 371-391.
- Petras, D. D., Massat, C. R., & Essex, E. L. (2002). Overcoming hopelessness and social isolation: The ENGAGE model for working with neglecting families toward permanence. *Child Welfare*, 81(2), 225-248.
- Pierce, L., & Geremia, V. (1999). Family reunion services: An examination of a process used to successfully reunite families. *Family Preservation Journal*, 4(1), 13.
- Pinderhughes, E. E., Harden, B. J., & Guyer, A. E. (2007). *Children in foster care*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Pine, B. A., Spath, R., & Gosteli, S. (2005). Defining and achieving family reunification. In G. P. Mallon, & P. M. Hess (Eds.), *Child welfare in the twenty-first century* (pp. 378-391). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Pine, B. A., Warsh, R., & Maluccio, A. N. (1993). *Together again: Family reunification in foster care*. Washington, D.C.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Pittsinger-Kazimer, L. E. (1998). The effect of a collaborative interdisciplinary transition program on the permanency of placements for children in emergent need of out-of-home (foster) care. (M.S.N., Yale University).
- Poertner, J. (1998). *Child safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes: An update of categories, measures and indicators*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Social Work: Children and Family Research Center.

- Poirer, M., & Simard, M. (2006). Parental involvement during the placement of a child in family foster care: Factors associated with the continuation of parental roles. *Child & Youth Care Forum, 35*(3), 277-288.
- Poland, D. C., & Groze, V. (1993). Effects of foster care placement on biological children in the home. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal, 10*(2), 153-164.
- Porter, F. S., & Huffine, C. (2006). *Foster care programs*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Publishing.
- Potocky, M., & McDonald, T. P. (1996). Evaluating the effectiveness of family preservation services for the families of drug-exposed infants: A pilot study. *Research on Social Work Practice, 6*(4), 524-535.
- Potter, C. C., & Klein-Rothschild, S. (2002). Getting home on time: Predicting timely permanence for young children. *Child Welfare, 81*(2), 123.
- Poulsen, M. K. (1994). The development of policy recommendations to address individual and family needs of infants and young children affected by family substance use. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education, 14*(2), 275-291.
- Prebble, J. (2006). Plight of foster children. *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health, 42*(7), 480.
- Prutch, A. J. (2003). Contributing factors to family reunification: An exploratory study from the perspective of reunified parents and family reunification social workers. (MSW, California State University, Stanislaus).
- Ramseyer, J. H. (1986). Permanency planning for children in foster care, 1970-1980. (Ph.D., University of Chicago).
- Redding, R. E., Fried, C., & Britner, P. A. (2000). Predictors of placement outcomes in treatment foster care: Implications for foster parent selection and service delivery. *Journal of Child and Family Studies, 9*(4), 425-447.
- Reed, R. S. (1996). Recidivism among nebraska's foster children 1987-1992. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 57* (2), 1506.
- Reid, J. H. (1959). Children in need of parents. In H. Maas, & R. E. Engler (Eds.), *Action called for-recommendations* (). New York: Columbia University Press.
- Reyes-Ibarra, A. M. (2003). Best practices and policies for child safety, well-being and permanency in family foster care. (MSW, California State University, Long Beach).
- Risley-Curtiss, C. (2004). Identifying and reducing barriers to reunification for seriously mentally ill parents involved in child welfare cases. *Families in Society, 85*(1), 107-107-119.
- Robertson, D. K. (2006). Use of the North Carolina family assessment scale for reunification in the state of utah division of child and family services. (Ph.D., University of Utah).
- Rodrigo, M. J., Correa, A. D., Maiquez, M. L., Martin, J. C., & Rodriguez, G. (2006). Family preservation services on the canary islands: Predictors of the efficacy of a parenting program for families at risk of social exclusion. *European Psychologist, 11*(1), 57-70.

- Roley, J. H. (1995). The design of an effective family reintegration and aftercare program for youth successfully leaving residential care. (M.A, Nova Southeastern University).
- Romney, S., Litrownik, A., Newton, R., & Lau, A. (2006). The relationship between child disability and living arrangement in child welfare. *Child Welfare, 85*(6), 965-984.
- Rooney, R. H. (1992). *Strategies for working with involuntary clients*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Rosenfeld, A. A., Pilowsky, D. J., Fine, P., Thorpe, M., Fein, E., Simms, M. D., et al. (1997). Foster care: An update. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 36*(4), 448-457.
- Rossi, P. H. (1992). Assessing family preservation programs. *Children and Youth Services Review, 14*(1), 77-97.
- Rousseau, C., Rufagari, M., Bagilishya, D., & Measham, T. (2004). Remaking family life: Strategies for re-establishing continuity among congolese refugees during the family reunification process. *Social Science and Medicine, 59*(5), 1095-1108.
- Rubin, D. M., Alessandrini, E. A., Feudtner, C., Mandell, D. S., Localio, A. R., & Hadley, T. (2004). Placement stability and mental health costs for children in foster care. *Pediatrics, 113*(5), 1336.
- Rubin, A. (1997). The family preservation evaluation from hell: Implications for program evaluation fidelity. *Children and Youth Services Review, 19*(1-2), 77-99.
- Rudenberg, M. B. (1990). The comparison between familial and nonfamilial out-of-home placement on the self-esteem and behavior of children. (Ph.D., United States International University, San Diego).
- Rushton, A. (1989). Post-placement services for foster and adoptive parents-support, counseling or therapy? *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 30*(2), 197-204.
- Ryan, J. P., & Testa, M. F. (2005). Child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency: Investigating the role of placement and placement instability. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(3), 227.
- Ryan, J. P., Garnier, P., Zyphur, M., & Zhai, F. (2006). Investigating the effects of caseworker characteristics in child welfare. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(9), 993-1006.
- Ryan, J. P., Marsh, J. C., Testa, M. F., & Louderman, R. (2006). Integrating substance abuse treatment and child welfare services: Findings from the illinois alcohol and other drug abuse waiver demonstration. *Social Work Research, 30*(2), 95-107.
- Ryan, J. P., & Schuerman, J. R. (2004). Matching family problems with specific family preservation services: A study of service effectiveness. *Children and Youth Services Review, 26*(4), 347.
- Ryan, J. P., & Yang, H. (2005). Family contact and recidivism: A longitudinal study of adjudicated delinquents in residential care. *Social Work Research, 29*(1), 31-39.
- Rzepnicki, T. L., Schuerman, J. R., & Johnson, P. (1997). Facing uncertainty: Reuniting high-risk families. In J. D. Berrick, R. P. Barth & N. Gilbert (Eds.), *Child welfare research review* (pp. 229-251). New York: Columbia University Press.

- Rzepnicki, T. L. (1987). Recidivism of foster children returned to their own homes: A review and new directions for research. *Social Service Review*, 61(1), 56-70.
- Saint-Jacques, M., Cloutier, R., Pauze, R., Simard, M., Gagne, M., & Poulin, A. (2006). The impact of serial transitions on behavioral and psychological problems among children in child protection services. *Child Welfare*, (6), 941-964.
- Salter, A. C., Richardson, C. M., & Martin, P. A. (1985). Treating abusive parents. *Child Welfare*, (4), 327-341.
- Sanchirico, A., & Jablonka, K. (2000). Keeping foster children connected to their biological parents: The impact of foster parent training and support. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 17, 185-203.
- Sanson, A., & Lewis, V. (2001). Children and their family contexts. *Family Matters*, 2001(59), 4.
- Scannapieco, M. (1994). Home-based services program: Effectiveness with at risk families. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 16(5), 363-377.
- Scannapieco, M., & Heger, R. L. (2002). Kinship care providers: Designing an array of supportive services. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 19(4), 315-327.
- Scarlett, J. M., & Wing, B. A. (2002). Child abuse and domestic abuse: Factors in reunification. (MSW, University of California, San Bernadino).
- Schatz, M. S., & Bane, W. (1991). Empowering the parents of children in substitute care: A training model. *Child Welfare Journal*, 70(6), 665-678.
- Schatz, M. S. (1991). *Drinking, drugs and youth: Use and abuse. fostering families. A specialized training program designed for foster care workers and foster care parents*. Colorado Springs, CO: Colorado State University.
- Schiff, M. (2006). Leaving care: Retrospective reports by alumni of israeli group homes. *Social Work Research*, 51(4), 343-353.
- Schmidt-Tieszen, A. B. Walking a tightrope: The role of resource parents in concurrent planning. (Ph.D., University of Kansas).
- Schneiderman, M., Connors, M. M., Fribourg, A., Gries, L., & Gonzales, M. (1998). Mental health services for children in out-of-home care. *Child Welfare*, 77(1), 29.
- Schwartz, A. E. (2006). Facing connective complexity: A comparative study of the effects of kinship foster care and non-kinship foster care placements on the identity of african american adolescents. *Dissertation Abstracts International Section A: Humanities and Social Sciences*, 67 (4), 1537.
- Seltzer, M. M., & Bloksberg, L. M. (1987). Permanency planning and its effect on foster children: A review of the literature. *Social Work Research*, 32(1), 65.
- Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. (1996). *Improving the well-being of abused and neglected children*. Washington, D.C.: Congress of the U.S.

- Server, J. C., & Janzen, C. (1982). Contraindications to reconstitution of sexually abusive families. *Child Welfare, 61*(5), 279-288.
- Shaw, T. V. (2006). Re-entry into the foster care system after reunification. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(11), 1375-1390.
- Sheagren, J. (1985). After foster care: Outcomes of permanency planning for Children/No one ever asked us... A postscript to foster Care/Recidivism in foster care. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal, 2*(2), 125-127.
- Shepard, M., & Raschick, M. (1999). How child welfare workers assess and intervene around issues of domestic violence. *Child Maltreatment, 4*(2), 148.
- Sherburne Hawkins, S., & Manne, S. L. (2004). Family support in the aftermath of trauma. In D. R. Catherall (Ed.), *Handbook of stress, trauma, and the family* (pp. 231-260). New York: Brunner-Routledge.
- Shinohara, M. (1998). Impact of race and type of out-of-home placement on provision of treatment services and child welfare outcomes. (MA, San Diego State University).
- Shireman, J. (1987). *A second chance for families: Follow-up of a program to prevent foster care / identity formation in the adopted adolescent: The delaware family study*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Shoultz, B. (1994). *Permanency planning in michigan: From philosophy to reality*. Washington, DC: Research and Training Center on Community Integration, Center on Human Policy.
- Shuerman, J. R., Rzepnicki, T. L., Littell, J. H., & Chak, A. (1993). *Evaluation of the Illinois family first placement prevention program: Final report*. Chicago, IL: Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.
- Siegel, G., & Loman, A. (2000). *Missouri family assessment and response demonstration impact evaluation: Digest of findings and conclusions*. available on <http://www.iarstl.org/>: Institute of Applied Research.
- Simmel, C., & Price, A. (2002). The shared family care demonstration project: Challenges of implementing and evaluating a community-based project. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(6-7), 455-470.
- Simmons, B. P. (1997). Legal guardianship: Analyzing child welfare's alternative to adoption and long-term foster care. (Ph.D, University of California, Berkeley). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses 1997, 0028* (0630), 1-179.
- Simms, M. D., & Bolden, B. J. (1991). The family reunification project: Facilitating regular contact among foster children, biological families, and foster families. *Child Welfare Journal, 70*(6), 679-690.
- Sinclair, I., & Wilson, K. (2003). Matches and mismatches: The contribution of carers and children to the success of foster placements. *British Journal of Social Work, 33*(7), 871-884.
- Sisto, G. W. (1985). Therapeutic foster homes for teenage mothers and their babies. *Child Welfare, 64*(2), 157-163.

- Skelly, M. P. (1997). A study of recidivism in reports of child maltreatment. (MS, University of Wisconsin, Stout).
- Slaght, E. F. (1993). Reexamining risk factors in foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 15(2), 143-154.
- Smith, C. (1993). Restoring children from foster care to their parents. In P. Marsh, & J. Triseliotis (Eds.), *Prevention and reunification in child care* (pp. 167-183). London: B.T. Batsford Ltd.
- Smith, C. J., Rudolph, C., & Swords, P. (2002). Kinship care: Issues in permanency planning. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 24(3), 175.
- Smith, B. D. (1999). Parental drug use, treatment compliance and reunification: Client classifications and the common wisdom in child welfare. (Ph.D., University of Chicago).
- Smith, B. D. (2003). How parental drug use and drug treatment compliance relate to family reunification. *Child Welfare*, 82(3), 335-365.
- Smith, C. (2006). Review of foster children: Where they go and how they get on. *British Journal of Social Work*, 36(3), 502-503.
- Smith, C. J. (1997). Effects of social worker perceptions of case management and the organizational environment on permanency planning outcomes for african american foster care children. (DSW, Howard University).
- Smith, D. K. (2004). Risk, reinforcement, retention in treatment, and reoffending for boys and girls in multidimensional treatment foster care. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*, 12(1), 38-48.
- Smith, D. K., Johnson, A. B., Pears, K. C., Fisher, P. A., & DeGarmo, D. S. (2007). Child maltreatment and foster care: Unpacking the effects of prenatal and postnatal parental substance use. *Child Maltreatment*, 12(2), 150-160.
- Smith, N. A. Understanding the lack of family reunification success for chemically dependent mothers and their children: A presentation of consumer and service provider perspectives. (Ph.D., State University of New York, Albany).
- Smith, N. (2002). Reunifying families affected by maternal substances abuse: Consumer and service provider perspectives on the obstacles and the need for change. *Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions*, 2(1), 33-53.
- Smith, N. A. (2006). Empowering the 'unfit' mother: Increasing empathy, redefining the label. *Affilia*, 21(4), 448-457.
- Smith, S. A. (1979). A study of a state's foster care casework practice, institutional barriers, and rate of permanent planning. (M.S., George Peabody College for Teachers).
- Smith, S. (1995). Permanence revisited--some practice dilemmas. *Adoption and Fostering*, 19(3), 11.
- Smokowski, P. R., & Wodarski, J. S. (1996). The effectiveness of child welfare services for poor, neglected children: A review of the empirical evidence. *Research on Social Work Practice*, 6(4), 504-523.

- Snyder, H. (2004). An empirical portrait of the youth re-entry population. *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, 2(1), 39-55.
- Sonenstein, F., Malm, K., & Billing, A. (2002). *Study of fathers' involvement in permanency planning and child welfare casework*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human services, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. from <http://aspe.hhs.gov.proxy.lib.ohio-state.edu/hsp/CW-dads02/>
- Sowa, A. J. (1994). Kinship care and foster care: An examination of variables related to placement. (MA, San Diego State University).
- Spaid, W. M., & Fraser, M. (1991). The correlates of success/failure in brief and intensive family treatment: Implications for family preservation services. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 13(1), 77-99.
- Staff, I., & Fein, E. (1994). Inside the black box: An exploration of service delivery in a family reunification program. *Child Welfare*, 73(3), 195-214.
- Staff, I., & Fein, E. (1995). Stability and change: Initial findings in a study of treatment foster care placements. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 17(3), 379-389.
- Staudt, M. M., Scheuler-Whitaker, L., & Hinterlong, J. (2001). The role of family preservation therapists in facilitating use of aftercare services. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 25(6), 803-817.
- Steckwren, J. N. (2003). Rates of, factors associated with, and correlates of child abuse recidivism among families that have had involvement with child protective services. (Ph. D dissertation, California State University, Fresno and University of California, Davis). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses*, 135 (0452), 2649.
- Steele, M. H. (1981). A pilot study on the effects of parental participation in family therapy during a child's placement in residential treatment. (M.S.W., University of Houston).
- Stehno, S. M. (1986). Family-centered child welfare services: New life for a historic idea. *Child Welfare Journal*, 65, 231-240.
- Stein, T. J., & Gambrill, E. (1979). The alameda project: A two year report and one year follow-up. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 3, 521-528.
- Stein, T. J. (1982). Permanency planning: A dialogue. *Social Work Research*, 27(5), 457-458.
- Stein, T. J. (2000). The adoption and safe families act: Creating a false dichotomy between parents' and childrens' rights. *Families in Society*, 81(6), 586-586.
- Steinhauer, P. D., Johnston, M., Hornick, J. P., & Barker, P. (1989). The foster care research project: Clinical impressions. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 59(3), 430-441.
- Steward, D. S., & O'Day, K. R. (2000). *Permanency planning and attachment: A guide for agency practice*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
- Stokes, J. C., & Strothman, L. J. (1996). The use of bonding studies in child welfare permanency planning. *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 13(4), 347-367.

- Stone, S. (2007). Child maltreatment, out-of-home placement and academic vulnerability: A fifteen-year review of evidence and future directions. *Children and Youth Services Review, 29*(2), 139-161.
- Strijker, J., Zandberg, T., & van der Meulen, B. F. (2002). Taxonomy of foster children in foster homes. *International Journal of Child and Family Welfare, 5*(1), 18-27.
- Strijker, J., Zandberg, T., & Van der Meulen, B. F. (2005). Typologies and outcomes for foster children. *Child and Youth Care Forum, 34*(1), 43-55.
- Suarez-Orozco, C., Todorova, I. L. G., & Louie, J. (2002). Making up for lost time: The experience of separation and reunification among immigrant families. *Family Process, 41*(4), 625-643.
- Sundell, K., & Vinnerljung, B. (2004). Outcomes of family group conferencing in sweden. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 28*(3), 267.
- Sunseri, P. A. (2005). Children referred to residential care: Reducing multiple placements, managing costs and improving treatment outcomes. *Residential Treatment for Children and Youth, 22*(3), 55-66.
- Swenson, C. C., Randall, J., Henggeler, S. W., & Ward, D. (2000). The outcomes and costs of an interagency partnership to serve maltreated children in state custody. *Children's Services: Social Policy, Research, & Practice, 3*, 191-209.
- Taban, N., & Lutzker, J. R. (2001). Consumer evaluation of an ecobehavioral program for prevention and intervention of child maltreatment. *Journal of Family Violence, 16*(3), 323-330.
- Takahashi-Kelso, A. M. (2002). Mothers in reunification: An uneasy reunion between love and hate. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 63* (4), 2077.
- Talbot, E. B. P. (2001). Successful family reunification: The contribution of clinical social work. *Dissertation Abstracts International Section A: Humanities and Social Sciences, 62* (1), 335.
- Tam, T. S. K., & Ho, M. K. W. . (1996). Factors influencing the prospect of children returning to their parents from out-of-home care. *Child Welfare, 73*(3), 253-268.
- Taylor, S. J. (1992). *Permanency planning for children with developmental disabilities in pennsylvania: The lessons of project star*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Center on Human Policy.
- Taylor, S. J., & Lakin, K. C. (1988). *Permanency planning for all children and youth: Policy and philosophy to govern out-of-home placement decisions*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Center on Human Policy.
- Taylor, S. J., Lakin, K. C., & Hill, B. K. (1989). Permanency planning for children and youth: Out-of-home placement decisions. *Exceptional Children, 55*(6), 541-549.
- Taylor-Brown, S., Aronstein, D. M., & Thompson, B. J. (1998). *Section III: People in special circumstances: Part A: Services for children and families: Talking with parents about permanency planning*. Philadelphia, PA: Haworth Press.
- Teare, J. F., Furst, D. W., Peterson, R. W., & Authier, K. (1992). Family reunification following shelter placement: Child, family, and program correlates. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 62*(1), 142-146.

- Teare, J. F., Becker-Wilson, C. Y., & Larzelere, R. E. (2001). Identifying risk factors for disrupted family reunifications following short-term shelter care. *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, 9*(2), 116-122.
- Tegeder, B. A. (1994). Factors associated with the duration of foster care and the achievement of permanency planning. ProQuest Information & Learning, US). *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 55* (2), 633.
- Templeman, S. B. (1999). Evaluating family preservation services from a community well-being perspective: A time series analysis of virginia's comprehensive services act for at risk youth and families. *Dissertation Abstracts International Section A: Humanities and Social Sciences, 59* (7), 2722.
- Ten Broeck, E., & Barth, R. P. (1986). Learning the hard way: A pilot permanency planning program. *Child Welfare, 65*(3), 281-294.
- Terling, T. (1999). The efficacy of family reunification practices: Re-entry rates and correlates of re-entry for abused and neglected children reunited with their families. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 23*(12), 1359-1370.
- Terling, T. L. (1999). Family reunification practices of child protective services: Interventions and outcomes. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 59* (9), 3663-A.
- Terling-Watt, T. (2001). Permanency in kinship care: An exploration of disruption rates and factors associated with placement disruption. *Children and Youth Services Review, 23*(2), 111.
- Testa, M. F. (2001). Kinship care and permanency. *Journal of Social Service Research, 28*(1), 25-43.
- Testa, M. F., Shook, K. L., Cohen, L. S., & Woods, M. G. (1996). Permanency planning options for children in formal kinship care. *Child Welfare, 75*(5), 451.
- Testa, M. F., & Slack, K. S. (2002). The gift of kinship foster care. *Children and Youth Services Review, 24*(1), 79-108.
- The Emerson-Davis Family Development Ctr, NY, US. (2000). Supportive residential services to reunite homeless mentally ill single parents with their children. *Psychiatric Services, 51*(11), 1433-1435.
- The National Resource Center on Family Based Services. (1988). *Factors contributing to success and failure in family based child welfare services: Final report*. Iowa City: the National Resource Center on Family Based Services.
- Thomas, M., Chenot, D., & Reifel, B. (2005). A resilience-based model of reunification and re-entry: Implications for out-of-home care services. *Families in Society, 86*(2), 235-243.
- Thomlison, B. (1993). Child, family, and service characteristics associated with placement outcome in treatment foster family care programs. (Ph.D., University of Toronto).
- Thomlison, B. (1991). Family continuity and stability of care: Critical elements in treatment foster care programs. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care, 3*(2), 1-18.
- Thomlison, B. (2003). Characteristics of evidence-based child maltreatment interventions. *Child Welfare, 82*(5), 541-569, 29p.

- Thomlison, B., Maluccio, A. N., & Abramczyk, L. W. (1996). The theory, policy, and practice context of family reunification: An integrated research perspective. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4), 473-488.
- Thompson, K. M., Wonderlich, S. A., Crosby, R. D., Ammerman, F. F., Mitchell, J. E., & Brownfield, D. (2001). An assessment of the recidivism rates of substantiated and unsubstantiated maltreatment cases. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 25*(9), 1207.
- Thompson, S. J., Kost, K. A., & Pollio, D. E. (2003). Examining risk factors associated with family reunification for runaway youth: Does ethnicity matter? *Family Relations, 52*(3), 296-304.
- Thompson, S. J., Safyer, A. W., & Pollio, D. E. (2001). Differences and predictors of family reunification among subgroups of runaway youths using shelter services. *Social Work Research, 25*(3), 163-172.
- Thornton, J. L. (1991). Permanency planning for children in kinship foster homes. *Child Welfare, 70*(5), 593-602.
- Tiddy, S. G. (1986). Creative cooperation: Involving biological parents in long-term foster care. *Child Welfare Journal, 65*(1), 53-62.
- Tilbury, C., & Osmond, J. (2006). Permanency planning in foster care: A research review and guidelines for practitioners. *Australian Social Work, 59*(3), 265-280.
- Timmer, S. G., Urquiza, A. J., Herschell, A. D., McGrath, J. M., Zebell, N. M., Porter, A. L., et al. (2006). Parent-child interaction therapy: Application of an empirically supported treatment to maltreated children in foster care. *Child Welfare, 6*(6), 919-939.
- Tracy, E. M. (1991). *Defining the target population for family preservation services*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.
- Traglia, J. J., Pecora, P. J., Paddock, G., & Wilson, L. (1998). A comprehensive approach to permanency planning. *Families in Society, 79*(1), 98-99.
- Turner, J. (1984). Predictors of recidivism in foster care: Exploratory models. *Social Work Research and Abstracts, 20*(2), 15-20.
- Turner, J. (1984). Reuniting children in foster care with their biological parents. *Social Work, 29*, 501-505.
- Turner, J. (1986). Successful reunification of foster care children with their biological parents: Characteristics of parents and children. *Child Care Quarterly, 15*(1), 50-54.
- Turner, J. (1993). Evaluating family reunification programs. In B. A. Pine, R. Warsh & A. Maluccio (Eds.), *Together again: Family reunification in foster care* (pp. 179-198). Washington, D.D.: Child Welfare League of America.
- Twomey, J. E., Soave, R., Gil, L., & Lester, B. M. (2005). Permanency planning and social service systems: A comparison of two families with prenatally substance exposed infants. *Infant Mental Health Journal, 26*(3), 250-267.

- Tyler, R., Howard, J., Espinosa, M., & Doakes, S. S. (1997). Placement with substance-abusing mothers vs. placement with other relatives: Infant outcomes. *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal*, 21(4), 337.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Children's Bureau. (1997). *National study of protective, preventive and reunification services delivered to children and their families*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
- Unrau, Y. A. (1995). Defining the black box of family preservation services: A conceptual framework for service delivery. *Community Alternatives: International Journal of Family Care*, 7(2), 49-60.
- Unrau, Y. A. (2007). Research on placement moves: Seeking the perspective of foster children. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 29(1), 122-137.
- Valiente, C., Fabes, R., Eisenberg, N., & Spinrad, T. (2004). The relations of parental expressivity and support to children's coping with daily stress. *Journal of Family Psychology*, 18(1), 97-106.
- Van Hook, M. (1994). Emergency shelter placement of rural children: Placement and discharge patterns. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 16(5), 379-397.
- Vanderploeg, J. J., Connell, C. M., Caron, C., Saunders, L., Katz, K. H., & Kraemer Tebes, J. (2007). The impact of parental alcohol or drug removals on foster care placement experiences: A matched comparison group study. *Child Maltreatment*, 12(2), 125-136.
- Vázquez, H. R. C. (2006). A solution-focused parenting program for family reunification: A process evaluation. (M.S.W., California State University, Stanislaus).
- Verrechia, M. A. (1987). Outcomes of the parent-child reunification program: A test for permanence over time. (M.S.W., Rhode Island College).
- Vitulano, L. A., Nagler, S., Adnopolz, J., & Grigsby, R. K. (1990). Preventing out-of-home placement for high-risk children. *The Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine*, 63(4), 285.
- Voices for America's Children. (2004). *Promising practices in child welfare: Family reunification. A review of current strategies*. Washington, DC: Voices for America's Children.
- Volkmar, F. R., Nordhaus, B., Provence, S., & Leckman, J. F. (1990). A custody and placement evaluation of an infant with a psychotic, mentally retarded mother. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 29(4), 661-666.
- Waddell, C., Macmillan, H., & Pietrantonio, A. M. (2004). How important is permanency planning for children? considerations for pediatricians involved in child protection. *Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics*, 25(4), 285-292.
- Wade, K. S. (2000). An investigation of the outcome of permanency planning in relationship to placement stability in long-term foster care. (M.S.W., California State University, Stanislaus).
- Wagner, M. W. (2003). *Families for reunification: A mediating group model for birth parent self-assessment*. New York, NY: Haworth Press.

- Waldfoegel, J. (2000). Child welfare research: How adequate are the data? *Children and Youth Services Review, 22*(9-10), 705-741.
- Walters, B. J. (2006). Evaluating the efficacy of michigan's families first program. (Ph.D., Boston College).
- Walton, E. (1998). In-home family focused reunification: A six-year follow-up of a successful reunification experiment. *Social Work Research, 22*(4), 205-214.
- Walton, E., Fraser, M. W., Harlin, C., & Lewis, R. E. (1995). Intensive family reunification services: A conceptual framework and case example. *Family Preservation, 34*(2), 51-67.
- Walton, E. (1991). The reunification of children with their families: A test of intensive family treatment following out-of-home placement. *Dissertation Abstracts International, A: The Humanities and Social Sciences, 52* (6), 2289.
- Walton, E. (1996). Family functioning as a measure of success in intensive family preservation services. *Journal of Family Social Work, 1*(3), 67-82.
- Walton, E. (1997). Enhancing investigative decisions in child welfare: An exploratory use of intensive family preservation services. *Child Welfare, 76*(3), 447-461.
- Walton, E., Fraser, M. W., Lewis, R. E., Pecora, P. J., & Walton, W. K. (1993). In-home family-focused reunification: An experimental study. *Child Welfare, 72*(5), 473-487.
- Ward, H., & Skuse, T. (2001). Performance targets and stability of placements for children long looked after away from home. *Children and Society, 15*(5), 333.
- Ward, M. R. (1998). Judicial decision making in dependency cases: Factors affecting decisions on permanent child placement. (Ph.D., University of Florida).
- Warsh, R., Pine, B. A., & Maluccio, A. N. (1996). *Reconnecting families: A guide to strengthening family reunification services*. Washington, D.C: Child Welfare League.
- Warsh, R. (1994). *Teaching family reunification: A sourcebook*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Washington, K. M. (2007). Factors contributing to attrition and placement breakdown in foster care. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 67* (9), 5428.
- Watson, M. (2006). Comparison and outcome of the connecticut department of children and families safe home programs. *Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering, 66* (7), 3963.
- Way, I., Chung, S., Jonson-Reid, M., & Drake, B. (2001). Maltreatment perpetrators: A 54-month analysis of recidivism. *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal, 25*(8), 1093-1108.
- Webster, D., Barth, R. P., & Needell, B. (2000). Placement stability for children in out-of-home care: A longitudinal analysis. *Child Welfare, 79*(5), 614-632.

- Webster, D., Shlonsky, A., Shaw, T., & Brookhart, M. A. (2005). The ties that bind II: Reunification for siblings in out-of-home care using a statistical technique for examining non-independent observations. *Children and Youth Services Review, 27*(7), 765-782.
- Weiner, A., & Weiner, E. C. (1990). *Expanding the options in child placement: Israel's dependent children in care from infancy to adulthood*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America.
- Welbourne, A. M., & Mazuryk, G. F. (1980). Intra-agency intervention: An innovative therapeutic program for abuse prone mothers. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 4*(3), 199-203.
- Wells, K., & Tracy, E. (1996). Reorienting intensive family preservation services in relation to public child welfare practice. *Child Welfare, 75*, 667-692.
- Wells, K., & Wittington, D. (1993). Child and family functioning after intensive family preservation services. *Social Services Review, ,* 193.
- Wells, K., & Guo, S. (2006). Welfare reform and child welfare outcomes : A multiple-cohort study. *Children and Youth Services Review, 28*(8), 941-960.
- Wells, K., & Guo, S. (2004). Reunification of foster children before and after welfare reform. *Social Service Review, 78*(1), 74.
- Wells, K., & Guo, S. (1999). Reunification and re-entry of foster children. *Children and Youth Services Review, 21*(4), 273-294.
- Wells, K. (1995). *Family preservation services in context: Origins, practices, and current issues*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.
- Wells, K., & Biegel, D. E. (1991). *Family preservation services: Research and evaluation*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Wells, K., & Freer, R. (1994). Reading between the lines: The case for qualitative research in intensive family preservation services. *Children and Youth Services Review, 16*(5), 399-415.
- Werrbach, G. B. (1993). The family reunification role-play. *Child Welfare, (6)*, 555-568.
- Westat, Inc., Chapin Hall Center for Children. (2002). *Evaluation of family preservation and reunification programs: Final report*. Arlington, VA.: James Bell Associates, Inc.
- Wheeler, C. E. (1986). *Evaluation report: Intensive family services pilot program*. Baltimore MD: Social Services Administration, State of Maryland Department of Human Resources.
- Whitaker, J. M., & Severy, L. J. (1984). Service accountability and recidivism for diverted youth: A client- and service-comparison analysis. *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 11*(1), 47-74.
- White, M. E., Albers, E., & Bitonti, C. (1996). Factors in length of foster care: Worker activities and parent-child visitation. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare, 23*(2), 75-84.

- White, T. M. (2003). An evaluation of the impact of the adoption and safe families act of 1997 on permanency-related outcomes for foster children in six states. (Ph. D dissertation, University of Pennsylvania). *Proquest Dissertations and Theses, 0175 (0452)*, 186 pages.
- White, M. (1993). Family reunification a study of the relationships among visitation, social worker activities, and the length of stay in foster care. (M.S.W., University of Nevada, Reno).
- Whittaker, J. K. (2006). *Residential care in the US*. London, England: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Whittaker, J. K., & Maluccio, A. N. (2002). Rethinking "child placement": A reflective essay. *Social Service Review, 76(1)*, 108-134.
- Widom, C. S., Raphael, K. G., & DuMont, K. A. (2004). The case for prospective longitudinal studies in child maltreatment research: Commentary on dube, williamson, felitti, and anda (2004). *Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal, , 715-722*.
- Wigfall, V., Monck, E., & Reynolds, J. (2006). Putting programme into practice: The introduction of concurrent planning into mainstream adoption and fostering services. *British Journal of Social Work, 36(1)*, 41-55.
- Wiig, J. D., Widom, C. S., & Tuell, J. A. (2003). *Understanding child maltreatment and juvenile delinquency: From research to effective program, practice, and systemic solutions*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Wildfire, J., Barth, R., & Green, R. (2007). Predictors of reunification. In F. Wulczyn, M. B. Webb & R. Haskins (Eds.), *Child protection: Using research to improve policy and practice* (). Washington, DC: Brrokings Institute Press.
- Wilkes, J. R. (1992). Children in limbo: Working for the best outcome when children are taken into care. *Canada's Mental Health, 40(2)*, 2-5.
- Williams, C. W. (1997). Personal reflections on permanency planning and cultural competency. *Journal of Multicultural Social Work, 5(1/2)*, 9-18.
- Williams, J., McWilliams, A., Mainieri, T., Pecora, P. J., & La Belle, K. (2006). Enhancing the validity of foster care follow-up studies through multiple alumni location strategies. *Child Welfare Journal, 85(3)*, 499-521.
- Williams, M. (1996). Maintaining family ties and reconnecting families: An essay review. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18(4)*, 463-468.
- Williams, M. (1996). Reconnecting families: A guide to strengthening family reunification services. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18(4)*, 463-468.
- Wilson, K. (2006). *Foster family care in the UK*. . London, England: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
- Wodarski, J. S. (1981). Treatment of parents who abuse their children: A literature review and implications for professionals. *Child Abuse and Neglect, 5(3)*, 351-360.
- Wolfe, L. (1996). Characteristics of children identified by case workers for family reunification an exploratory study. (MSW, University of Calgary).

- Wood, J. M. (1997). Risk predictors for re-abuse or re-neglect in a predominantly hispanic population. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 21(4), 379-389.
- Woodford, M. S. (1999). Home-based family therapy: Theory and process from "friendly visitors" to multisystemic therapy. *Family Journal*, 7(3), 265-269.
- Woods, A. M. (1957). A study of impediments to permanent planning for children in foster care. (M.S.S., State University of New York at Buffalo).
- Wright, L. E. (2001). *Toolbox no. 1: Using visitation to support permanency. toolboxes for permanency*. Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America.
- Wulczyn, F., Webb, M. B., & Haskins, R. (2007). *Child protection: Using research to improve policy and practice*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute Press.
- Wulczyn, F. (1991). Caseload dynamics and foster care re-entry. *Social Service Review*, 65(1), 133-156.
- Wulczyn, F., Barth, R., Yuan, Y. T., Harden, B. J., & Landsverk, J. (2005). *Beyond common sense: Child welfare, child well-being, and the evidence for policy reform*. New Brunswick: Adline Transaction.
- Wulczyn, F. (2004). Family reunification. *The Future of Children*, 14(1), 95-113.
- Wulczyn, F., Kogan, J., & Harden, B. J. (2003). Placement stability and movement trajectories. *Social Service Review*, 77(2), 212.
- Wulczyn, F., Orlebeke, B., & Melamid, E. (2000). Measuring contract agency performance with administrative data. *Child Welfare*, 79(5), 457-474.
- Wyskiel, K. (1999). Factors that impede permanency planning for children in foster care. (M.S.W., Southern Connecticut State University).
- Yampolskaya, S., Kershaw, M. A., & Banks, S. (2006). Predictors of successful discharge from out-of-home care among children with complex needs. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 15(2), 195-205.
- Yeager, S. B. (1993). The effect of the frequency of parental visiting on the length of placement of children in short term foster care. (M.A., Loyola University of Chicago).
- Youth Law Center. (2000). *Making reasonable efforts: A permanent home for every child*. San Francisco, CA: Youth Law Center.
- Yuan, Y. Y., McDonald, W. R., Wheeler, C. E., Struckman-Johnson, D., & Rivest, M. (1990). *Evaluation of AB 1562 in-home care demonstration projects, volume 1: Final report*. Sacramento, CA: Walter R. McDonald & Associates.
- Yuan, Y. T., & Struckman-Johnson, D. L. (1991). *Placement outcomes for neglected children with prior placements in family preservation programs*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Zeanah, C. H., Larrieu, J. A., Heller, S. S., Valleriere, J., Hinshaw-Fuselier, S., Aoki, Y., et al. (2001). Evaluation of a preventive intervention for maltreated infants and toddlers in foster care. *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, 40(2), 214-221.

APPENDIX C

Factors Correlated with Reunification and Re-entry (ordered from least to most frequently reported in available research)

Correlational finding	Authors who identified this finding	# of studies
Basic supports after foster care assist with reunification success	Fein & Maluccio (1984)	1
Inadequate housing less likely to reunify	Miller (2004)	1
Parental disability less likely to reunify	Miller (2004)	1
Families/Children without a plan for return were less likely to reunify	Tam & Ho (1996)	1
Parental contact with child increases likelihood of reunification	Tam & Ho (1996)	1
Siblings placed in same facility inhibited the child's return home	Tam & Ho (1996)	1
Unmet service needs increases risk of re-entry	Festinger (1996)	1
Decreased attachment associated with time in care	McWey & Mullins (2004)	1
No difference in reunification rates between families dealing with mental illness, domestic violence or housing problems	Marsh, Ryan, Choi & Testa (2006)	1
Parental inability to cope increased likelihood of re-entry	Block & Libowitz (1983)	1
Negative visitation experiences increases risk for re-entry	Block & Libowitz (1983)	1
Risk assessment and parental	Terling (1999)	1

Correlational finding	Authors who identified this finding	# of studies
compliance is not associated with re-entry		
Length of time after reunification associated with risk for re-entry	Terling (1999)	1
Parental competence associated with risk for re-entry	Terling (1999)	1
Drug Dependency Court increased re-entry	Boles, Young, Moore & DiPirro-Beard (2007)	1
Inadequate housing or dangerous environment increased risk for re-entry	Jones (1998)	1
Placement in treatment foster care increases likelihood of reunification	Webster, Schlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart (2005)	1
Placement in group home or hospital slows reunification, children in foster care or kinship care more likely to reunify	Wells & Guo (1999); Wells & Guo (2006)	1
Regular visits home increased success of reunification	Farmer (1996)	1
First placement associated with success of reunification	Farmer (1996)	1
Support networks	Farmer (1996)	1
Number of children associated with re-entry	Fuller (2005); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001)	2
Siblings and index child returning at the same time increase risk of re-entry	Fuller (2005); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001)	2
Families receiving concrete services more likely to reenter care	Lewis, Walton & Fraser (1995); Jones (1998)	2
Number of caregiver problems is related to re-entry or reunification	Festinger(1996) ; Marsh, Ryan, Choi, & Testa (2006)	2
Improvement in parental problem was associated with	Marsh, Ryan, Choi & Testa (2006); Gregoire & Schultz (2001)	2

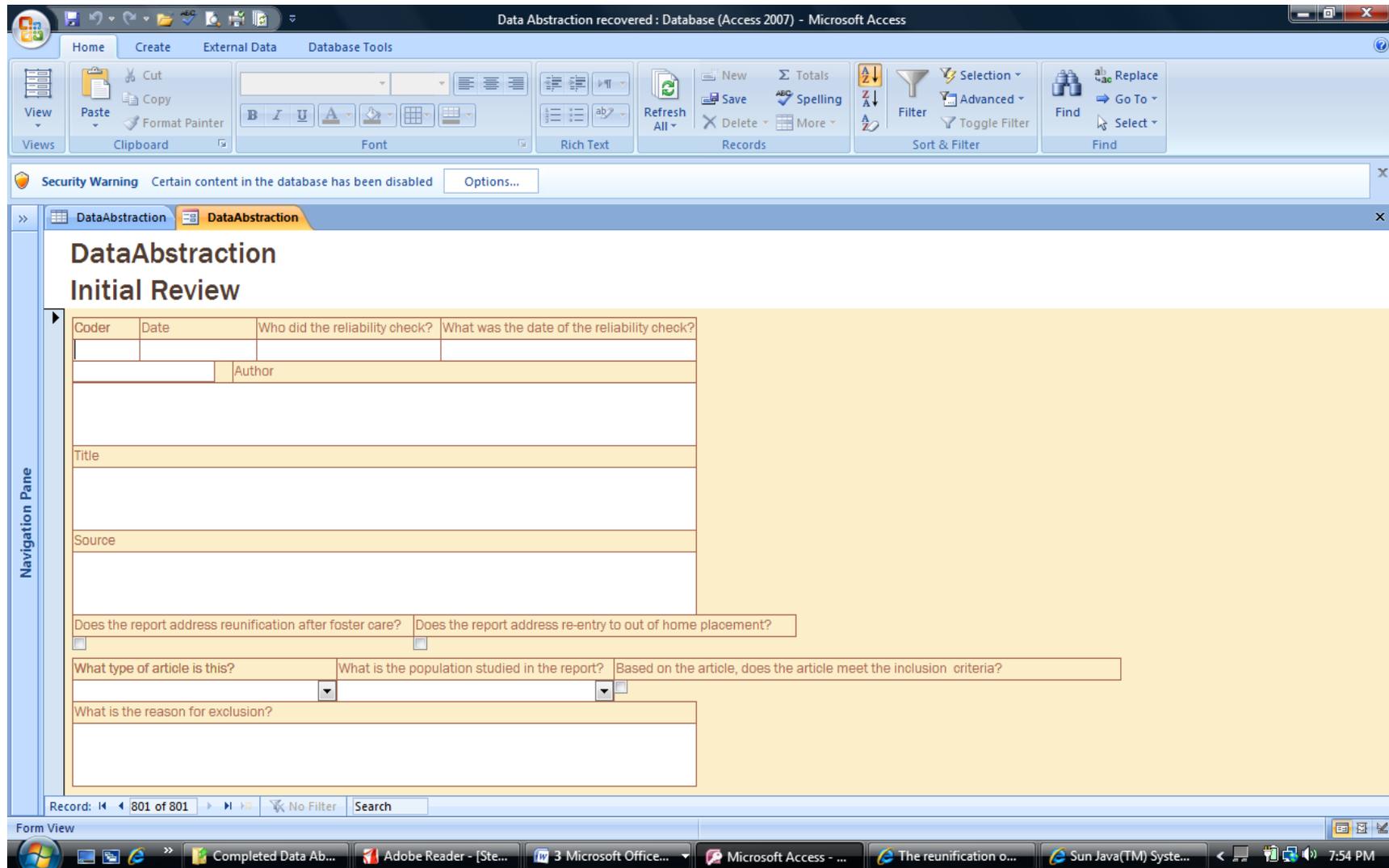
Correlational finding	Authors who identified this finding	# of studies
reunification and/or decreased risk of re-entry		
Children removed because of behavioral problems were more likely to reunify than neglect	Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes (2006); Landy & Munro (1998)	2
Post welfare reform associated with greater time in care	Wells & Guo(1999); Wells & Guo (2006)	2
History with CPS associated with risk for re-entry	Terling (1999); Vanderploeg, Connell, Caron, Saunders, Katz, & Tebes (2007); Noble (1997)	3
Placement with siblings increases likelihood of reunification	Webster, Schlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart (2005); Leathers (2005)	2
Parental visitation increases is correlated with reunification	Leathers (2002); Mech (1985); Grigsby (1990); Noble (1997)	4
Parental Mental Illness likely to increase risk of re-entry; Parental mental health problems, health problems or incarceration more likely to reenter care	Fuller (2005); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001); Block & Libowitz (1983)	3
Number of placements decreased reunification likelihood or increased re-entry risk	Tam & Ho (1996); Connel, Katz, Saunders & Tebes; Block & Libowitz (1983); Wells & Guo (1999); Grigsby (1990)	3
Neglect slows reunification speed	Wells & Guo (1999); Courtney, Pilavin & Wright (1997); Wells & Guo (2006)	3
Length of time in placement is associated with re-entry	Wulczyn(1991); Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes(2006); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001); Grigsby (1990)	4
Single parent likely to increase risk of re-entry	Fuller (2005); Block & Libowitz (1983); Wells & Guo (1999); Courtney, Pilavin & Wright (1997)	4
Income associated with reunification speed	Wells & Guo (1999); Landy & Munro (1998); Grogan-Kaylor (2001); Wells & Guo (2006)	4
Substance abuse treatment increases the likelihood of	Noble (1997)	1

Correlational finding	Authors who identified this finding	# of studies
successful reunification		
Substance abuse by parents negatively impacts length of time to reunification and reunification success	Epstein, Jayanthi, Dennis, Dennis, Hardy, Fueyo, Frankenberry & McKelvey (1998); Shaw (2006); Terling (1999); Courtney, Pilavin & Wright (1997); Vanderploeg, Connell, Caron, Saunders, Katz, & Tebes (2007);	5
Gender of child is associated with re-entry	Epstein, Jayanthi, Dennis, Dennis, Hardy, Fueyo, Frankenberry & McKelvey (1998); Wulczyn (1991), Orlebeke & Melamid (2000); Block & Libowitz (1983); Wells & Guo (1999); Vanderploeg, Connell, Caron, Saunders, Katz, & Tebes (2007)	5
Children who received the model were in care less time and had significant improvements	Lewandowski & Pierce (2004); Gibson & Noble (1991); Zeanah, Larrieu, Heller, Vallierere, Hinshaw-Fuselier, Aoki & Drilling (2001); Berry & McCauley; Carlo & Shennum (1989); Grigsby (1990)	6
Reason for placement associated with reunification	Miller (2004); Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks (2006); Wells & Guo (1999); Wells & Guo (2004); Terling (1999); Webster, Schlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart (2005)	6
Placement in kinship care increases risk of re-entry and/or decreases likelihood of reunification	Fuller(2005); Miller (2004); Miller, Fox, Garcia-Beckwith (1999); Connel, Katz, Saunders & Tebes; Wulczyn, Orlebeke & Melamid (2000); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001); Courtney (1995)	7
Parental involvement increases likelihood of reunification, less case planning and case monitoring increases risk of re-entry	Tam & Ho (1996); Fein (1993); Leathers (2002); Turner (1984); Miller, Fisher, Fetrow & Jordan (2006); Farmer (1996)	8
Emotional problems, disability or child health problems less likely to reunify or more likely to reenter care	Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes (2006); Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks (2006); Block & Libowitz (1983); Turner (1984); Grogan-Kaylor (2001); Romney, Litrownik, Newton & Lau (2006); Jones (1998); Courtney, Pilavin & Wright	8

Correlational finding	Authors who identified this finding	# of studies
	(1997)	
Race/Ethnicity is associated with re-entry or reunification	Albers, Reilly, & Rittner (1993); Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes (2006); Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks (2006); Shaw (2006); Wells & Guo (1999); Grogan-Kaylor (2001); Terling (1999); Jones (1998); Webster, Schlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart (2005)	9
Re-entry to care and reunification are associated with the age of the child	McDonald, Bryson, Poertner (2006); Epstein, Jayanthi, Dennis, Dennis, Hardy, Fueyo, Frankenberry & McKelvey (1998); Wulczyn (1991); Fuller (2005); Miller (2004); Festinger (1996); Marsh, Ryan, Choi & Testa (2006); Connell, Katz, Saunders & Tebes (2006); Fuller, Wells, & Cotton (2001); Yampolskaya, Kershaw & Banks (2006); Block & Libowitz (1983); Shaw (2006); Wells & Guo (1999); Grogan-Kaylor (2001); Webster, Schlonsky, Shaw & Brookhart (2005); Courtney (1995); Farmer (1996); Vanderploeg, Connell, Caron, Saunders, Katz, & Tebes (2007); Courtney, Pilavin & Wright (1997)	17

APPENDIX D

Access Data Abstraction Forms



Abstract Review Form

Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access

Home Create External Data Database Tools

View Paste Copy Format Painter Font Rich Text Refresh All New Save Spelling Delete More Filter Selection Advanced Find Replace Go To Select Find

Security Warning Certain content in the database has been disabled Options...

All Access Objects DataAbstraction DataAbstraction1

Tables DataAbstraction

Queries Abstract review inclusion/... Conceptual Query DataAbstraction Query DataAbstraction Query1 empirical query1 Empirical results Include after full review Intervention and outcome Intervention Query Outcome Query Population Query Reentry Query Research Design Query Reunification Query Scientific Rigor Type of Article Query

Forms Abstract Article Conclusion

DataAbstraction1

Title

Outcome Variable #1

What was outcome variable #1?

What measure was used for outcome variable #1?

Treatment group number?	Treatment group mean?
	0

What was the Standard Deviation for the treatment group for outcome variable #1? Outcome variable #1 Comparison Group Number

	0
--	---

Outcome variable #1 Comparison Group Mean	Outcome variable #1 Comparison Group Standard Devia
	0

What was outcome variable #2?

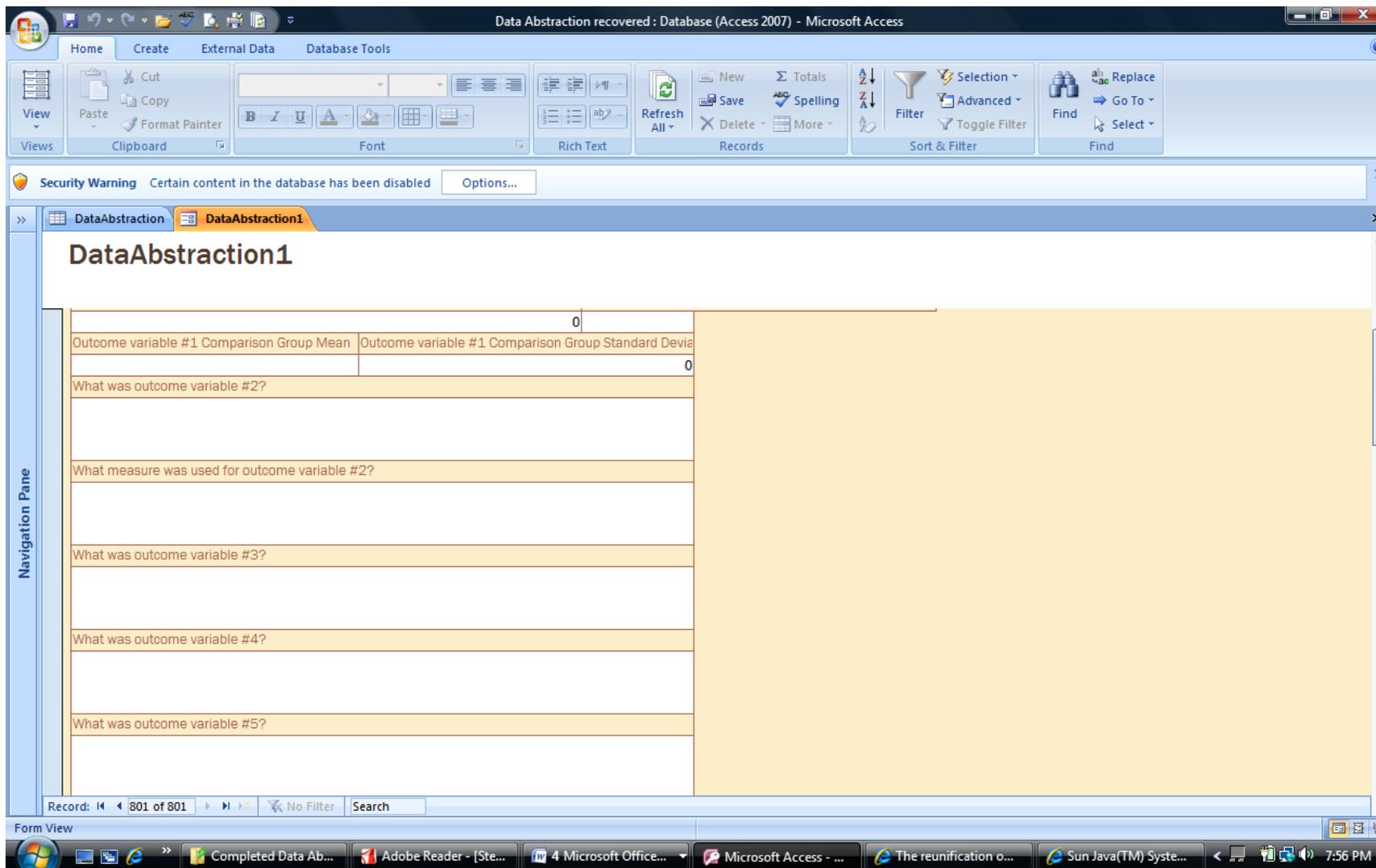
What measure was used for outcome variable #2?

Record: 801 of 801 No Filter Search

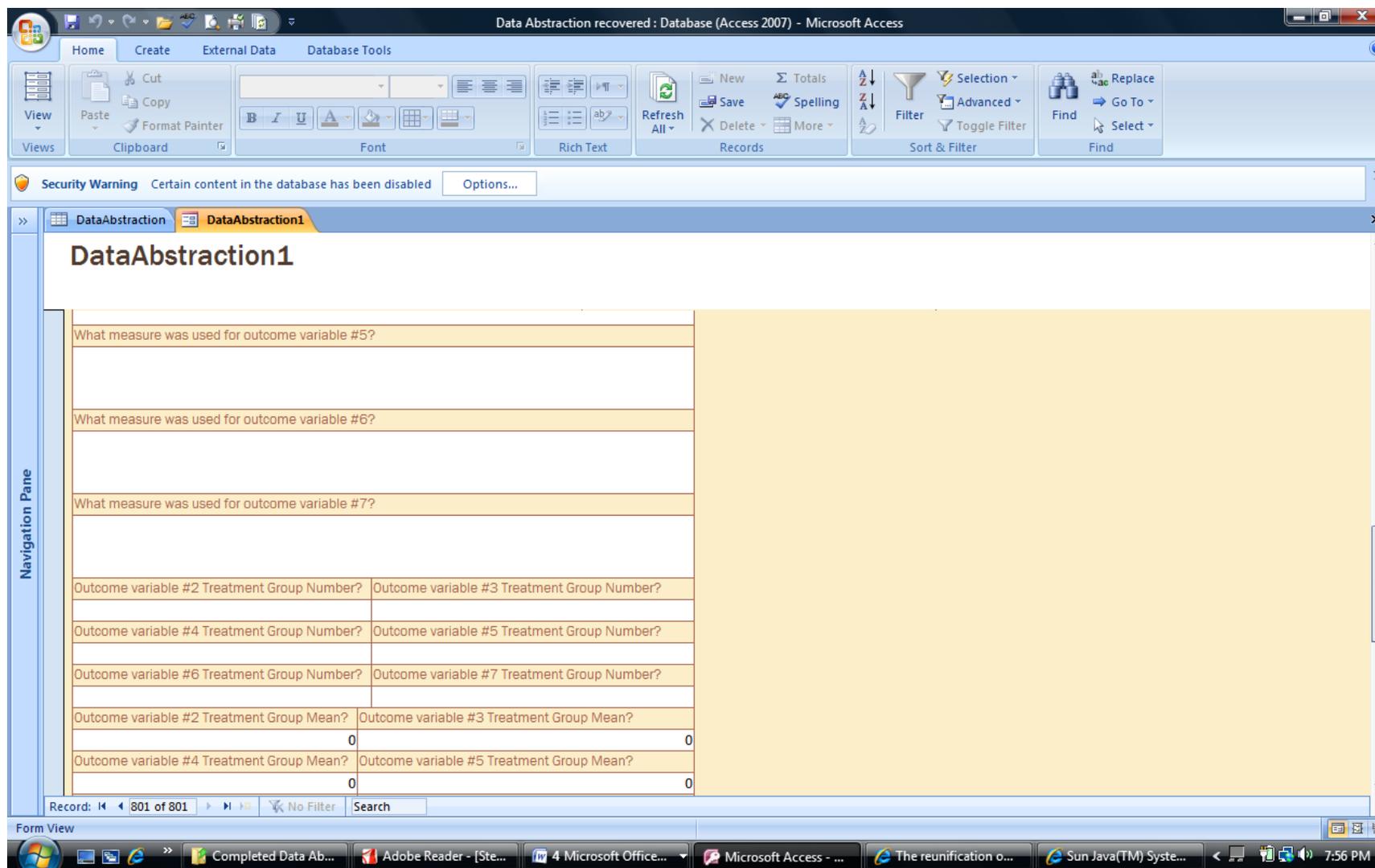
Form View

Completed Data Ab... Adobe Reader - [Ste... 4 Microsoft Office... Microsoft Access - ... The reunification o... Sun Java(TM) Syste... 7:55 PM

Screen 1 of article form



Screen 2 of Article Form



Screen 3 of Article Form

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007)". The ribbon includes "Home", "Create", "External Data", and "Database Tools". A security warning is visible: "Security Warning Certain content in the database has been disabled". The main window displays a form titled "DataAbstraction1" with a table of data. The table has two columns and multiple rows, with some cells containing the value "0". A "Navigation Pane" is visible on the left side. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Record: 801 of 801" and "No Filter". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows "7:57 PM".

Outcome variable #4 Treatment Group Standard Deviation?	Outcome variable #6 Treatment Group Sta
0	
Outcome variable #7 Treatment Group Standard Deviation?	Outcome variable #5 Treatment Group Sta
0	
Outcome variable #2 Comparison Group Number?	Outcome variable #3 Comparison Group Number?
Outcome variable #4 Comparison Group Number?	Outcome variable #5 Comparison Group Number?
Outcome variable #6 Comparison Group Number?	Outcome variable #7 Comparison Group Number?
Outcome variable #2 Comparison Group Mean?	Outcome variable #3 Comparison Group Mean?
0	0
Outcome variable #4 Comparison Group Mean?	Outcome variable #5 Comparison Group Mean?
0	0
Outcome variable #6 Comparison Group Mean?	Outcome variable #7 Comparison Group Mean?
0	0
Outcome variable #2 Comparison Group Standard Deviation?	Outcome variable #3 Comparison Group
	0
Outcome variable #4 Comparison Group Standard Deviation?	Outcome variable #5 Comparison Group
	0
Outcome variable #6 Comparison Group Standard Deviation?	Outcome variable #7 Comparison Group
	0

Screen 4 of Article Form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007)". The current view is "Form View" for a table named "Intervention". The form is titled "Intervention" and contains the following fields:

- Title
- What treatment or intervention did the subjects receive?
- Who received Intervention #1? (dropdown)
- When were services for Intervention #1 provided? (dropdown)
- What was the duration of services for Intervention #1? (dropdown)
- What type of services were Intervention #1? (dropdown)
- Who provided the services for Intervention #1? (dropdown)
- Who received Intervention #2? (dropdown)
- When were services for Intervention #2 provided? (dropdown)
- What was the duration of services for Intervention #2? (dropdown)
- What type of services were Intervention #2? (dropdown)
- Who provided the services for Intervention #2? (dropdown)
- Who received Intervention #3? (dropdown)
- When were services for Intervention #3 provided? (dropdown)

The status bar at the bottom of the form indicates "Record: 801 of 801" and "Unfiltered". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows "7:59 PM".

Screen 1 of Intervention Form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access application window titled "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access". The main window shows the "Intervention" form in "Form View". The form is organized into three main sections, one for each intervention (Intervention #1, #2, and #3). Each section contains several data entry fields:

- Intervention #1:**
 - Who received Intervention #1? (Text field)
 - When were services for Intervention #1 provided? (Date/Time field)
 - What was the duration of services for Intervention #1? (Text field)
 - What type of services were Intervention #1? (Text field)
 - Who provided the services for Intervention #1? (Text field)
- Intervention #2:**
 - Who received Intervention #2? (Text field)
 - When were services for Intervention #2 provided? (Date/Time field)
 - What was the duration of services for Intervention #2? (Text field)
 - What type of services were Intervention #2? (Text field)
 - Who provided the services for Intervention #2? (Text field)
- Intervention #3:**
 - Who received Intervention #3? (Text field)
 - When were services for Intervention #3 provided? (Date/Time field)
 - What was the duration of services for Intervention #3? (Text field)
 - What type of services were Intervention #3? (Text field)
 - Who provided the services for Intervention #3? (Text field)

At the bottom of the form, there is a status bar showing "Record: 801 of 801", "Unfiltered", and a "Search" button. The Windows taskbar at the very bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock indicates the time is 7:59 PM.

Screen 2 of Intervention form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007)". The current view is "Form View" for the "Experimental" form. The form is titled "Experimental" and contains the following fields:

- Title
- What is the scientific rigor of the study?
- What type of research design was employed?
- At what unit of analysis were the treatment and comparison compared? Is the sampling unit the same as the unit of analysis?
- What was the sample size?
- What were the experimental conditions for the experimental group? (If experimental design.)
- What intervention did the Comparison Group receive?
- Additional group? Please describe.

The status bar at the bottom of the form indicates "Record: 801 of 801". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows 8:00 PM.

Screen 1 of Experimental Form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access". The current view is "Form View" for a form titled "Experimental".

The form contains the following fields:

- What intervention did the Comparison Group receive?
- Additional group? Please describe.
- Was intervention fidelity measured?
- When were observations made?
- Describe the observation timeline.
- Outcome variable (a)
- What measure was used for outcome variable (a)?

The status bar at the bottom of the form indicates "Record: 801 of 801" and "No Filter". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows "8:01 PM".

Screen 2 of Experimental form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007)". The current form is titled "Experimental" and is shown in "Form View". The form contains the following fields:

- What was the reliability score for the measure used for outcome variable (a)?
- What was the validity score for the measure for outcome variable (a)?
- Outcome Variable (b)
- What measure was used for outcome variable (b)?
- What was the reliability score for the measure used for outcome variable (b)?
- What was the validity score for the measure used for outcome variable (b)?
- Variables (dropdown menu)
- Were alternative explanations for the results adequately considered? (Yes/No dropdown menu, currently set to "No")
- What method was used to select a comparison group?

The status bar at the bottom of the form indicates "Record: 801 of 801" and "No Filter". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows "8:01 PM".

Screen 3 of Experimental Form

Microsoft Access window: Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access

Navigation Pane

Experimental

Outcome Variable (b)

What measure was used for outcome variable (b)?

What was the reliability score for the measure used for outcome variable (b)?

What was the validity score for the measure used for outcome variable (b)?

Variables Were alternative explanations for the results adequately considered?

What method was used to select a comparison group?

For non-experimental research, what were the treatment conditions?

How were subjects selected?

Record: 801 of 801 No Filter Search

Form View

Taskbar: Completed Data Ab..., Adobe Reader - [Ste..., 4 Microsoft Office..., Microsoft Access - ..., The reunification o..., Sun Java(TM) Syste..., 8:02 PM

Screen 4 of Experimental Form

The screenshot displays a Microsoft Access window titled "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access". The interface shows a "Form View" of a table named "Conclusion". The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Title:** A large text box for entering the title.
- Is the report appropriate for inclusion in a meta-analysis?:** A checkbox.
- Are the conclusions in the article consistent with the research design and data analysis?:** A checkbox.
- Are training materials and manuals available for this intervention?:** A checkbox.
- Is there any evidence of potential researcher bias due to funding, personal background, ideology, or other influencing factor?:** A checkbox.
- Other strengths of the study not already noted?:** A text box.
- Other limitations of the study not already noted?:** A text box.
- Additional Comments?:** A text box.
- After reading the article, does it still meet the inclusion criteria?:** A checkbox.
- Reunification Child Characteristics:** A text box.
- Service Characteristics of Reunification Services:** A text box.
- Reunification Parent Characteristics:** A text box.

The status bar at the bottom of the form view indicates "Record: 801 of 801" and includes navigation icons and a search field.

Screen 1 of Conclusion Form

The screenshot displays the Microsoft Access interface for a database named "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007)". The active window is titled "Conclusion" and is in "Form View". The form contains the following elements:

- Title Bar:** "Data Abstraction recovered : Database (Access 2007) - Microsoft Access"
- Navigation Pane:** Located on the left side, showing "DataAbstraction" and "Conclusion".
- Form Content:**
 - A large text area for "Additional Comments?".
 - A question: "After reading the article, does it still meet the inclusion criteria?" with an unchecked checkbox.
 - A text box for "Reunification Child Characteristics:".
 - Two text boxes side-by-side: "Service Characteristics of Reunification Services:" and "Reunification Parent Characteristics:".
 - Two text boxes side-by-side: "Reentry Child Characteristics:" and "Reentry Parent Characteristics:".
 - Two text boxes side-by-side: "Service Characteristics for Reentry programs:" and "Reentry Parent Characteristics:".
- Status Bar:** "Record: 801 of 801" and a search field.
- Taskbar:** Shows several open applications including "Completed Data Ab...", "Adobe Reader - [Ste...", "4 Microsoft Office...", "Microsoft Access - ...", "The reunification o...", and "Sun Java(TM) Syste...". The system clock shows "8:03 PM".

Screen 2 of Conclusion Form