

as they became older. The problems occurred independent of management strategies. However, the nature of the interviews limited more in-depth study of the variables involved.

The main difference with their non-disabled peers was in close adult relationships, friendships and employment as young adults. Having a serious relationship was the norm for the controls at 21 but only one in four of the people with Down's syndrome had such a relationship.

This is a clearly written book with useful summaries at the end of each chapter. It provides invaluable information about the development of young people with Down's syndrome and their families over time. This is one of the main advantages of a longitudinal study and is particularly pertinent to individuals with developmental disorders. Although the cohort is small in number, the quality and validity of the data collection has stood the test of time. The research questions that are asked at the commencement of a longitudinal project may no longer be relevant 30 years later, however, the outcome of this study has a great relevance to both clinicians and researchers in the present. Each chapter provides a longitudinal perspective relating childhood data to adult data.

This particular cohort have done well over time and one of the criticisms of the study may be that the author was the main investigator keeping close contact with the families. Longitudinal research is not for the faint hearted. The perseverance and motivation shown by Janet Carr is remarkable. I would recommend this book as a necessary part of any library collection in research and training institutions working for individuals with life long developmental disorders.

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Troublesome Children. By JALAL SHAMSIE. Etobicoke, Ontario: Institute for the Study of Anti-social Behaviour in Youth. 1995. 55 pp. Price not available.

This short booklet is devoted to the description of three disorders defined by the DSM-IV classification system: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Conduct Disorder. The aim is to describe the three supposed disorders in a brief form that will be accessible to the wide variety of very busy professionals who are likely to encounter children with these conditions. The text reads like a concise medical textbook, with these three entities taking on the role of well described and

defined medical syndromes. This extends even to the statement: "there is a great deal of comorbidity" (page vii). Wouldn't it be accurate to say that the disorders may merge into each other, the jury is still out and that the entities do not have the defining characteristics of physical diagnosis?

The sections on treatment are equally cut and dried and very prescriptive. There is little guidance on the management of children in general, or of ways one might understand their distress or even how one might pull together the special needs of an individual child in a given situation. The medical diagnostic approach has many uses in adolescent work. This is not one of them.

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Community Psychiatry in Action: Analysis and Prospects. Edited by PETER TYRER and FRANCIS CREED. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1995. 167 pp. £27.95 (hb). ISBN 0-512-47427-2.

This short but important book contains the essence of a symposium held in 1993 between the main researchers in UK Community Psychiatric care – i.e. since National Health Service reforms began.

Nine senior authors contribute to the debate. Peter Tyrer begins the book with a useful overview of the essential components of Community Psychiatry and identifies and compares pieces of relevant research. He finishes the book with a thought provoking chapter on future research strategies – a must for all would-be grant applicants.

Francis Creed provides a comparative overview of UK evaluation studies in Community Psychiatry, a chapter which should be recommended by the College as mandatory reading for psychiatric trainees. Each of the main UK research studies in Community Psychiatry is studied in depth, describing the research design and outcome, and with useful discussions of problems faced and implications for the future.

The importance of this book lies in the fact that all researchers/discussants are practising clinicians with a wealth of experience in service delivery. Isaac Marks provides a synopsis of the Daily Living Programme for the seriously mentally ill (London), Christine Dean describes the evaluation of a complete community service (Birmingham), Peter Tyrer describes early intervention studies in psychiatric emergencies (London), Brian Ferguson describes evaluation of psychiatric services – The Merits of Regular Review (Nottingham) and Tom Burns describes a home-based assessment study (south London).