

Forensic Social Work: Psychosocial and Legal Issues in Diverse Practice Settings

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[T]his book provides practical practice guidance as well as...interviewing and assessment tips....[A]n invaluable source of information for students, practitioners, researchers and educators.
-Karen M. Sowers, PhD
Dean, University of Tennessee
College of Social Work

Regardless of their field of practice, all social workers must understand how legal issues impact the financial, psychological, emotional, and social concerns that their clients face. Yet legal issues are rarely integrated in social work education in a meaningful and practical way. Therefore, it is imperative that social workers gain the interdisciplinary knowledge of the laws and policies that affect their client populations.

This groundbreaking text broadens the traditional definition of forensic social work to include the legal issues encountered in all social work settings-family and social services, education, child welfare, mental health, addiction treatment, juvenile and criminal systems, and immigration services. Advocating a collaborative approach, this book will allow social workers to navigate the complex social and legal issues that affect their clients.

Includes discussions of the common legal issues all social workers face:

- How to help meet basic client needs such as income, food, and shelter
- Policies and practice with victims of violence
- The relationship between school social work and the law
- Assessment and treatment of child abuse and neglect
- The legal needs of clients with mental health and addiction issues
- Forensic practice in juvenile and criminal justice systems
- Effective practice with immigrants, refugees, and victims of human trafficking

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Editorial Review

Review

"An outstanding contribution to the field that provides both social work scholars and practitioners with a unique compilation of forensic social work practice in diverse settings, framed within a collaborative forensic practice approach. At a time when forensic statistics demonstrate an overwhelming need for innovative prevention strategies as well as interventions that break the cycle of recidivism, this book provides expert guidance for social workers. Social work educators would be remiss not to integrate the text into their curricula as the content is critical to the preparation of all social work practitioners given the breadth of practice populations and settings that are impacted by forensics."

Catherine N. Dulmus, PhD, LCSW
Associate Dean for Research and Director
Buffalo Center for Social Research
University at Buffalo
School of Social Work

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About the Author
Tina Maschi PhD is an assistant professor at Fordham University's Graduate School of Social Service. Her research and practice interest focus on at-risk youth, mental health, and juvenile justice involvement. Dr. Maschi's research interests include trauma, mental health, and criminality across the lifespan and community-based research and evaluation. She is also a licensed clinical social worker with extensive practice experience (including the use of creative arts techniques) in correctional, school, and community mental health settings. She currently teaches research and practice courses in the Master's program at Fordham's Lincoln Center campus.||Carolyn Bradley, PhD, LCSW, LCADC is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ. Dr. Bradley's research interests are in substance use, women and spirituality. Dr. Bradley has been a clinician maintaining a private practice in clinical social work for over 25 years.|Kelly Ward, PhD, LCSW, LCADC is an Associate Professor at Monmouth University in West Long Branch, NJ and is also a private practitioner working with adolescents with substance abuse issues. Because of that adolescent connection she has worked closely with forensic social work practice through the years

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