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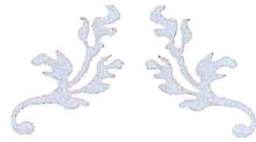
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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

ESSAY



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Introduction

write what the essay will include at the beginning and then use these paragraphs after the main introduction as introductory paragraphs

Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare can be defined as protecting children from any form of maltreatment. This ensures that children can grow in an environment that facilitate the best outcomes. A child, in this case, can be defined as anyone below the age of 18 years. According to Parton (2006), emotional abuse is among the significant abuses that children face. In most cases, neglecting the children can lead to emotional abuse among the children. For example, it is through neglect that children can fail to be given a chance to express their thoughts hence making them experience emotional stress. The number of children under the protection plan currently is high. For example, 49,700 children are under protection plan compared to around 39,100 children six years ago (Rushforth, 2012). This is an indication that there is a need for more strategies focusing on safeguarding children to be formulated and implemented. Children Acts of ¹⁹⁸⁹2004 and ²⁰⁰⁴1989 specify the duties of the social worker in protecting children. For example, children Act 1989 in section 17 requires the local authorities and social workers to offer the necessary services to children in their area.

The social workers and local authorities play an essential role in safeguarding children. Under Children Act 2004, the local authorities and social workers are

This needs to be expanded a lot!! please refer to the essay guidance I have given to you.

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1608447

usually required to offer services to a child that are in need. In the United Kingdom, there is a rise in the cases of children that face different forms of abuse. Early intervention is necessary for addressing the problem. The circumstances of Baby P and Victoria Climbié is an example of the horrific incidents of child abuse. In irony, Baby P and Victoria Climbié were not given the necessary help by child protection experts. However, full circumstances that led to their death was known and the cases subjected to security by the relevant authorities. These cases played a crucial role in facilitating the reforms in child welfare services in the United Kingdom (Parton, 2006). This paper will analyse the professional role of social workers in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children vulnerable to emotional abuse based on legal issues, research, practice, and policy. Also, this paper will analyse how the partnership inhibits and facilitates social workers in dealing with emotional abuse among children.

Professional role of social workers
As a professional, a social worker should report child protection concerns by sharing information with the local authorities concerning the emotional abuse the child experiences. Social workers should not assume someone is responsible for passing the information instead they need to make sure that the concerns of the

Make sure you include all learning outcomes in your introduction i.e. Concepts of Safeguarding children and child abuse, signs + indicators of abuse + the policies that underpin the social worker role in the recognition + response to abuse.

You must supply references throughout your work. there's not enough.

1608447

child are known. A social worker who realizes that a child is likely to suffer significant harm has the responsibility of reporting to police or the children's social care in the local authority (DFE, 2011). A social worker needs to be aware of the benefits of sharing information concerning the welfare of the children. However, as a professional, a social worker should ensure he or she gains the consent of sharing information but also mindful of the situations that are likely to expose the children to the risks of harm. The information about the risk of harm can be shared to police or local authority without the consent. For example, if a social worker believes there are compelling reasons to share information with the aim of safeguarding the child on time, consent might not be necessary.

Social workers analyse the information gathered during the assessment with the aim of deciding the nature of risks. The risks and the needs of the children can be adequately understood by analyzing the information gathered from the caregivers. Social workers can take an informed decision by considering the nature of the action required and the services needed in the process of safeguarding the child. It is through the analysis that the risk factors can be realised and the necessary actions taken to make sure that the child is safe from any form of abuse (Department of Health, 2004). Social workers need to make decisions based on the interests of the children to achieve maximum effects on their welfare. This can

What are the policies that underpin social work practice? If you use references + discuss them you will meet the learning outcome.

1608447

entail considering the family history and the cumulative abuse experienced by the child. As a professional, a social worker should work together with other partners to ensure the appropriate measures that can enhance the welfare of the children are taken.

As a member of the public, a social worker would report to the police in case of child protection concerns. The public has the best chance of realizing the children who are abused by their carers. For example, children who are neglected can be easily recognised by the way they behave. Neglect leads to the other forms of abuse as the children cannot be given a chance to express themselves. As a member of the public, a social worker would provide the police with the appropriate information that can lead to safeguarding the child. However, it is essential to realise the fact that experiencing emotional abuse can automatically result in other forms of abuse (Doyle and Timms, 2014). As a result, it can be important to consider the possible forms of abuse that the child experiences. The police can then work together with the children's social care in the local authority to come up with the best ways of improving the welfare of the child.

The social workers have the role of determining the children who can be considered as ~~needy~~ ^{'in need'}. Children Act 1989 describes ~~the needy~~ ^{a 'child in need'} child as the one who cannot be

1608447

able to maintain a reasonable level of development or health. The social workers are expected to identify the children who can significantly be impaired without providing the services that can promote their welfare (Rushforth, 2012). Section 17 specifies how a social worker can ensure proper assessment of the needs of the children. However, some needs assessment can be complex hence the need to assess the requirements based on the interests of the children. For example, some children who are neglected and abandoned can be provided with accommodation because they do not have responsible carers (Department of Health, 2000). Under Children Act section 20, social workers are held accountable for accommodating children without homes.

Specialist assessments are usually necessary when assessing the needs of children. Social workers need to make sure such special assessments are done with coordination with the family. Children Act 1989 section 47 social workers must inquire whenever they consider it necessary to take action required for safeguarding the child (DfES, 2003). Through inquiries, the social workers can be able to identify the children who should be safeguarded from harm. The moment the social workers suspect a child has been neglected they can start inquiries to know the truth concerning the welfare of the children. This can help social workers in determining whether the child has been experiencing emotional abuse. Also, the

1608447

social workers should be aware of the other forms of abuse that neglect can cause (Munro, 2011). Social workers have the responsibility of leading the assessment concerning the needs of the children that experience emotional abuse.

Initial safeguarding assessment

The initial safeguarding assessment plays a vital role in protecting a child from further emotional abuse. The primary purpose of the initial safeguarding assessment is to provide early help to the child before action is taken for enhancing the welfare of the child. According to Koubel (2016), early intervention entails providing the appropriate support with the moment problems emerge at any point in the life of the child to teenage years from the foundation years. The early help to the children facing emotional abuse can prevent further harm. Early help mainly relies on the cooperation of the local agencies and social workers working together in various child protection missions (Martin, Jeffes and MacLeod, 2010). For example, local agencies and social workers can work together in identifying the children who need early help. Initial safeguarding assessment assists in providing the targeted early safeguarding services aimed at addressing the needs to improve the outcomes of the needy child.

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1608447

Children Act 2004 requires the social workers to enhance inter-agency co-operation with the aim of improving the welfare of the children. The social workers work with local agencies and organisations to come up with help services based on the needs of the children (Munro, 2011). The understanding of the local authorities is essential in ensuring effective early safeguarding assessment. This makes it necessary for the social workers to understand their role in the process of identifying the needs and sharing information (Department of Health, 2015). Sharing information concerning the needs of the children experiencing emotional abuse is crucial in the early interventions. Multi-agency training can be necessary for supporting the collective understanding of the local needs. As a professional, working in specialist services is vital for a social worker to identify the triggers and symptoms of emotional abuse.

Initial safeguarding assessment assists in developing the necessary knowledge for improving the welfare of children. Social workers need to ensure that they are aware~~ness~~ of the emerging threats contributing to emotional abuse such as radicalisation, online harassment and grooming. This can be made possible through providing that the three safeguarding partners evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of training commissioned. Special needs of the child can be identified early enough through the initial safeguarding assessment to avoid further harm

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1608447

(Department of Health, 2004). For example, the risks of being exploited or radicalised can be identified during the initial safeguarding assessment to take the appropriate action to promote the welfare of the child. Initial safeguarding assessment can help in realising the challenges facing the child that is experiencing emotional abuse to develop the necessary early intervention strategies.

Safeguarding referral

A referral can be made to the local authority responsible for the social care of the children. The referrals need to be made immediately the moment a child is identified to be experiencing emotional abuse. The social workers making referrals need to make sure that they follow up their concerns in case they feel unsatisfied with the response of the local authority (Calder and Hackett, 2013). Children's social care in the local authority is responsible for making sure that the process of referrals is made clear. This can include arrangements for the referrals in areas that have youth establishments that are secure. The social care of children in local authorities needs to act as the principal point of focus in the process of addressing safeguarding concerns. The protocols for social workers who work with families and children need to be adequately disclosed.

1608447

The information that needs to be provided for the referrer the moment practitioners make a safeguarding referral include the development needs of the children, and the ability of carers of meeting the requirements (Watson and Rodwell, 2014). Also, the information about the possible factors that can easily undermine the capacity of the parents needs to be provided for the referrers. The information can be included in the assessments like early help assessment with the aim of developing the best strategies for promoting the welfare of the children facing emotional abuse. However, the moment social workers are concerned about the possibility of the children being potential victims of human trafficking or modern slavery, referral needs to be made the soonest possible (DFE, 2011). The local authority requires to provide feedback to social workers concerning the decisions that are taken in the process of safeguarding the children. Social workers can follow up in the case they feel some concerns are not adequately addressed by children's social care of the local authority.

Why is this important?

~~This is a description of~~

~~assess~~ There is some good material here. but it would be useful to discuss why assessment is important, you could relate it to partnership working.

Importance of sharing information

The social workers should ensure that they share information with other practitioners and the local authority. The sharing of information is crucial in the

1608447

early identification of assessment and welfare services to the children. The safety of the needy children can be enhanced through making sure that there is sharing of information early enough before further harm is caused to the children. There is a need for social workers to be proactive in the process of sharing information soon enough to ensure a timely response to the needs of the children (DFE, 2011). Also, it is through sharing information that the identification, assessment and response process can be made effective. This helps in addressing the concerns of children experiencing emotional abuse. The children's social care has the responsibility of developing the child protection plan detailing the actions to be taken in the process of addressing the needs identified.

It feels like this has been said already!

The social workers should make sure that they share the necessary information with the people the child has contact. For example, social workers can share information with the carers about the condition of the child leading to emotional abuse and the possible actions that can enhance the welfare and safety. The pattern of behaviour of the child can be identified through information sharing (Martin, Jeffes and MacLeod, 2010). This is essential especially the moment different children appear with a similar context of risks. The social workers and local safeguarding partners have the responsibility of building positive relationships with other partners with the aim of enhancing the way information is shared. The

1608447

relevant information needs to be shared in an appropriate and timely manner among the partners responsible for improving the welfare of the children.

Sharing information makes sure that all partners involved in the process of safeguarding the welfare of the children have the relevant information. Children protection and welfare need to be given the priority in the process of sharing information. The partners need to consider the concerns of children as paramount in all the actions they take. Proper arrangements need to be in place to share information that can help in identifying the children experiencing emotional abuse. All relevant agencies and organisations need adequate arrangements to be in place for enhancing the sharing of information (DfES, 2003). The provisions can entail detailed plans of the sharing of information among the relevant partners and the steps that can be taken to safeguard the children.

This is repeating what has already been said

Myths prohibiting people from sharing information

Five myths prohibit practitioners from effectively sharing information. The first myth is that data protection legislations play a role in hindering information sharing. This is just a myth because the data protection Act of the year 2008 does not in any way prohibit sharing and collection of personal information. The Act provides the framework necessary for ensuring personal information is shared in a

manner that is appropriate. The data protection Act of the year 2018 usually balances information subject rights and the need for sharing the information. The second myth is consent is always necessary when sharing personal information. This is a myth because people are not always required to seek consent when sharing personal information as there are some situations where consent is not necessary (CQC. 2009). Consent might be needed the moment the individual involved does not expect his personal information to be exposed. The moment social workers seek consent to share personal information, it needs to be freely and explicitly given. However, there are some circumstances where it cannot be considered appropriate for the social worker to seek consent. Such events can include cases when people cannot give consent and when it is deemed to be unreasonable to seek consent because of the welfare of the child experiencing emotional abuse.

The third myth is that personal information that has been collected by one agency cannot be shared with another. This is a myth because social workers can share information in the case the children are at risk of significant harm (Watson and Rodwell, 2014). The fourth myth is that the human rights Act of the year 2008 and the duty of confidence based on common law prevent personal information from being shared. This is a myth because data protection Act requires social workers to

1608447

make sure that there is a balance between human rights Act of the year 2008 and duty of confidence based on a common law against the impacts associated with sharing information. The last myth prohibiting sharing of information is that IT systems are the barriers to information sharing. This is a myth because IT systems usually enhance the sharing of information. For example, IT systems like child protection information systems are useful in ensuring there is proper sharing of information (Martin, Jeffes and MacLeod, 2010). Also, IT systems are valuable especially when the social workers make use of shared information in making informed decisions necessary for safeguarding children.

Data Protection Act of 2018

Data Protection Act of the year 2018 requires social workers to have due regards to data protection principles. The data protection principles allow social workers and other practitioners to share information that is considered personal as provided in the Data Protection Act of the year 2018. For social workers to share information in a way that is effective, they need to have a proper understanding of the data protection Act, 2018. For example, social workers just like the other practitioners need to be confident of the conditions for processing under the data

1608447

protection Act, 2018. This enables social workers to share and store information for safeguarding purposes (Rushforth, 2012).

Social workers need to understand how to handle information that is personal properly. For example, social workers should know they can share information without the consent. Data Protection Act of 2018 allows social workers to share data without consent especially the times where gaining consent is a challenge or when the gaining consent can increase the risks facing the child. The Act has 'safeguarding of the child and persons at risk' section that allows sharing of information without necessarily gaining consent (Calder and Hackett, 2013). This section enables social workers to share data that is considered personal without consent.

Partnership working

There are three major safeguarding partners in local authorities. Children Act 2004 has defined a safeguarding partner based on England local authority area. These partners based on the Act include police chief officer, clinical commissioning group and the local authority. According to Parton (2006), the partners are expected to coordinate in offering the safeguarding services. Also, the partners act as the primary strategic leadership group to support and engage others. They are

1608447

responsible for implementing national and local learning that can include child safeguarding incidents. The partners need to develop strategies necessary to help them work together for a common goal. For example, for the three partners to achieve their safeguarding roles, they should be able to work together with the relevant agencies (Department of Health, 2000). The relevant agencies can be defined as the organisations, which are required in safeguarding children. The partnership between the partners and the agencies is aimed at promoting the welfare of the children experiencing emotional abuse.

Local arrangements are considered necessary for the partners to succeed in promoting the welfare of children. Also, social workers, local agencies and organisations need to work together with the partners to identify the needs and come up with the most appropriate child safeguarding strategies. Working in partnership is essential in making sure that children experiencing emotional abuse are safeguarded. The partners collaborate and share the necessary information about promoting the welfare of the children experiencing emotional abuse (Broadhurst, Grover and Jamieson, 2009). The process of identifying the vulnerable children need to be done collaboratively among the partners with the aim of making sure that safeguarding strategies are successfully implemented. The partners hold each other accountable for working towards promoting the welfare

1608447

of the neglected children who experience emotional abuse. They have the responsibility of making sure that the factors leading to emotional abuse are identified, and the appropriate safeguarding measures are taken.

The partnership is working together in developing effective solutions to the problems facing children. The circumstances leading to emotional abuse can be quickly and effectively identified through cooperation among the partners. For example, the partners can work together to assess how other ^{types of abuse such as} ~~abuses like~~ neglect lead to emotional abuse. The partners can engage the relevant people such as the involved families with the aim of identifying the possibility of the children being neglected. This is because neglect has been among the major contributors to emotional abuse experienced by many children (CQC, 2009). The partners can come up with the most appropriate measures that can help in identifying the level of neglect in a family. Working together facilitates timely decision making when developing the actions to be taken in the process of promoting the welfare of the children experiencing emotional abuse.

Partnership working can inhibit and at the same time facilitate the professional role of a social worker in addressing emotional abuse among the vulnerable children. It is considered essential for social workers to work in partnership with the relevant

1608447

agencies especially when developing the measures that can enhance the welfare of the children (Parton, 2006). Working in partnership can help in ensuring the adequate protection of children by developing trusting relationships with the children and the concerned families. The professional role of a social worker can be facilitated by partnership working through gaining information that is necessary for safeguarding the children. However, the partnership can prohibit the professional role of a social worker by making the decision process slow (DFE, 2011). This is because in partnership working various partners need to be consulted when making decisions thus the decision-making process can be made slow. The slow decision-making process can result in delayed safeguarding services to children hence failing to ensure early interventions necessary for promoting the welfare of children.

Social workers need to realise the role of a child-centred approach in the process of safeguarding children and enhancing their welfare. A child-centred approach can be defined as keeping children in focus in the process of making decisions concerning their lives. When working in partnership with the children, it is crucial to consider their interests in the decisions made. Children Acts of ¹⁹⁸⁹2004 and ²⁰⁰⁴1989 makes the interests of children paramount in the decisions concerning their welfare. This is because children can be vulnerable to abuse and neglect hence

1608447

working with them can help in identifying their concerns (HM Government, 2015). As a professional, a social worker has the role of making sure that he or she puts the children's needs first in the process of determining the process to be taken. The behavior of a social worker like any other practitioner needs to be guided by the requirements children ask for. First, children need vigilance where they expect adults to notice during trouble. Second, children need action and understanding. This can entail being understood and heard. Third, children need respect. They need to be treated without perceiving them as incompetent. Fourth, children need engagement and information (Broadhurst, Grover and Jamieson, 2009). They expect to be involved in making decisions necessary for safeguarding their welfare. Lastly, children need protection. They hope to be protected from the various forms of abuse including emotional abuse.

Conclusion

Emotional abuse~~s~~ can be attributed to maltreatment like causing severe adverse effects on the emotional development of the child. This can entail making the child feel unloved, inadequate and worthless. ~~Cyberbullying has been a common issue due to the increased use of the internet among the children. It makes children feel frightened and in danger where many have committed suicide due to the~~

1608447

~~emotional experience~~. As a result, there is a need for social workers to be trained on how to address the needs of the children with the aim of avoiding abuses they experience. Social workers play a crucial role in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare. For example, social workers undertake need assessments of individual children in the process of developing measures necessary for making sure that they are safe.

Safeguarding children helps in promoting children's welfare and protecting them from any form of harm. In a child's development, safeguarding is crucial in providing children with the appropriate environment for ensuring effective and safe care. Social workers have the responsibility of ensuring that children are protected from maltreatment. A child can be abused by failing to prevent harm or even inflicting the injury. Neglect is among the major causes of child abuse as it leads to failure in ensuring proper protection of children. For example, a family or a community neglecting child can easily lead to child abuse. There are many categories of child abuse that face children such as physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and neglect; but, the primary focus of this paper was on emotional abuse.

1608447

Social workers need to consider the child's age, especially when determining the appropriate measures to take in the process of safeguarding children. The assessments of the social workers need to be conducted based on the views of children. The feelings and wishes of the child should be considered in determining the actions to be taken. As a result, social workers should interrogate children to get more information that can help in enhancing their welfare. In the future, research needs to be conducted to assess the impacts of emotional abuse on the academic success of children.

↳ build trusting relationships with

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1608447

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