

Policy Approaches to Abuse & Neglect: Helping the Child

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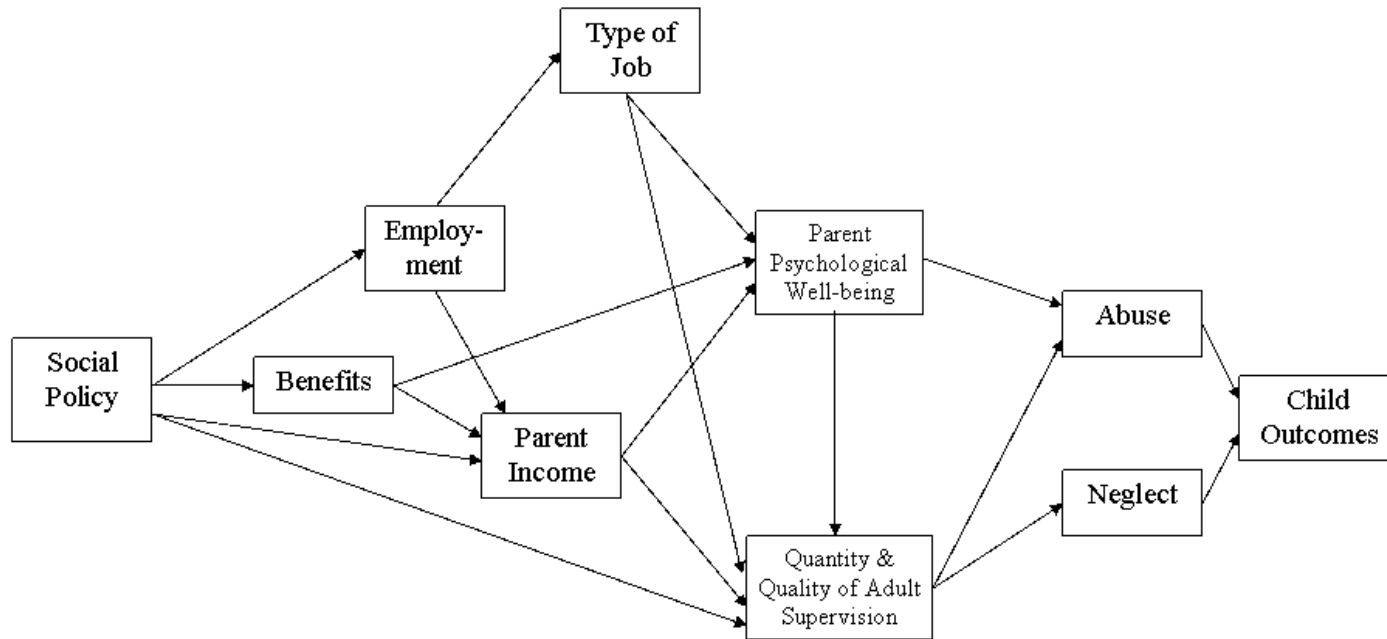
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Important Definitions

- *Abused Child*
- *Neglected Child*
- *Dependent Child*
- *Resilience*
- *Protective Factors*

A Model of Impact



Core Values

- *Adequate care & supervision*
- *Safe, permanent family*
- *Parental responsibility*
- *Unique aspects of families*
- *Desirability of safe family life*
- *Parents want to and can be good*
- *Parents can be helped*
- *Community has right to intervene*

Core Principles

- *Assurance of child welfare & safety*
- *Communities benefit*
- *Community responsibility*
- *Child identification*
- *Respectful & responsive services*
- *Expected family outcomes*
- *Aggressive response to abuse*
- *Informed public leaders*
- *Competent professionals*

Three-Tier Model of Prevention

- *Tier I - Primary Prevention*
- *Tier II - Secondary Prevention*
- *Tier III - Tertiary Prevention*

Federal Policy

Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act

- *Block grants to states*
- *Discretionary improvement grants*
- *Community-based prevention grants*

Federal Policy

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- *Reauthorize CAPTA*
- *Fully fund CAPTA programs*
- *Expand support for prevention services*
- *Incorporate a Family Group Decision-Making Model*
- *Strengthen funding for research and program evaluation activities*

Recent Statutes:

- *Around the nation*
- *In Ohio*

What is Needed?

Effective Policy Should:

- *Support family functioning*
- *Encourage commitment and stability*
- *Promote interdependence of family members*
- *Encourage collaborations*
- *Recognize diversity of families*
- *Support most vulnerable families*

What is Needed?

Specific Strategies:

- *Universal risk screening*
- *Home visiting*
- *Teen mother parent education*
- *Head Start & Early Head Start*
- *School programs to enhance emotional development*

What is Needed?

Specific Strategies:

- *Educate school officials*
- *After-school programs*
- *Mental health services*
- *Increased support for guardianship*
- *Extended services for foster care youth*