CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

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Family B

We have investigated the case study of family B who was referred by the Youth Offending Team to the Greenwich project in order to help family B.

Family B

Mum, partner, non-resident son who was in local authority care, two teenage daughters, a primary school son and daughter.

The first initial referral to the authorities included the mother and the son, other family members were later involved to help the family

Main issues concerning the family

The main concerns to the agencies involved with family B:-

- The family had faced numerous house moves in a short period of time.
- Rent arrears
- Parenting issues
- Youth offending/behaviour issue
- Local authority care

Risk Factors

The risk factors that proved difficult for family B to keep their children safe.

- **Poverty**

It was clear that the family was facing financial difficulties as they had rent arrears.

As stated by Laming, H.B, there are over one million children in the U.K living in families with household incomes that cause them to be in poverty and lack the most basic of needs.

Effects of poverty

Children living in poverty have more chance of :-

Having poor physical health

Are more likely to experience mental health problems

Have a low sense of overall wellbeing

Will underachieve in school

Face unemployment difficulties in adult life

Feel unsafe

Feel socially deprived

Experience bullying at school (The children’s Society 2020).

- Unemployment

There were employment issues with regards to the mother's partner, again unemployment results in facing poverty. The mother was also not employed.

- Violence

There was offending behaviour within the Family .

Agencies involved with Family B

Youth Offending Team

(Anti-social behaviour)

In 1997 the Labour government had been newly elected, a new piece of legislation was introduced “clause 1 of the Crime and Disorder Bill”. This Created the Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO).

Anti social behaviour occurs where the behaviour of one household member within an area threatens the mental/physical health, safety and security of other individuals of neighbouring households.

(Burney, E, 2009.)

Childrens and adolescent mental health services

- CAMHS

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. It is a NHS service that asses and treats young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health issues.

CAMHS support covers depression, problems with food, self-harm, abuse, violence, anger, bipolar, schizophrenia, anxiety and many more.

There are local CAMHS services set up around the U.K, CAMHS teams are made up of nurses, therapists, psychologists, support workers, social workers and other professionals.

- SOCIAL SERVICES

The family had a social worker who supported the family and wished for the family to live as one unit. Social services under the children and families Act 2014 have a duty to protect and safeguard vulnerable adults and children.

Every child in England has the right to be safeguarded under the UNICEF convention Act.

“Every child matters” was a policy put in place in 2003 after the case of Victoria Climbe. This is a policy that is followed by all professionals to keep children safe and have access to opportunities to reach their full potential.

Local Authority

It is the Local authority's duty to provide the family a broad range of public services within their area. Including,

- Promoting the interests of the local community
- Social development
- Economic development
- Environmental
- Recreational and cultural development

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