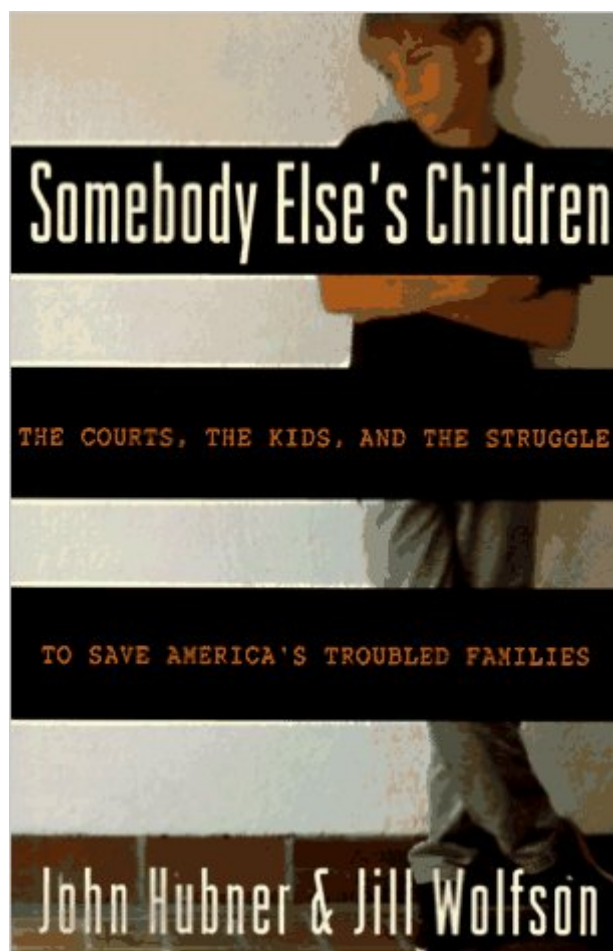


The book was found

Somebody Else's Children: The Courts, The Kids, And The Struggle To Save America's Troubled Families



Synopsis

With increasing urgency, the plight of the American family grips the national conscience. The family courts are often our society's last safety net to prevent disaster. In this penetrating expose of the inner workings of the U.S. family court system, two award-winning journalists provide an intimate look at the lives of the children whose fate it decides. 384 pp. Author publicity. 35,000 print.

Book Information

Hardcover: 367 pages

Publisher: Crown; 1 edition (January 14, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0517599414

ISBN-13: 978-0517599419

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #805,437 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in [Books > Law > Family Law > Child Advocacy](#) #144 in [Books > Law > Legal Theory & Systems > Judicial System](#) #12080 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics](#)

Customer Reviews

I randomly came across this book in the library while looking up something else. I thumbed through it a bit and then ended up checking it out and taking it home, where I have proceeded to read it almost constantly over the last couple of days (with occasional breaks for comparatively less compelling things like eating, sleep, class, and hanging out with friends). I'm always a bookworm and am used to becoming absorbed in what I read. However, this is the first time in quite awhile that I've been so caught up in a book, particularly a non-fiction book. I like this book so much because the authors worked hard at giving a thorough and unbiased look at the juvenile justice system and the kids stuck in that system. Of course, remaining completely unbiased is impossible; however, they tried to give a variety of points of view. They also tried to keep from vilifying any one group (parents, children, social workers, judges, police, the community, and so on), while still indicating the complexity of the problem. Case-studies were carefully chosen not to be sensational, but rather to exemplify the typical issues dealt with by kids in the justice system. Finally, they interspersed the information from the case studies with general information about the law, the way such cases are usually handled, and so on, then applied this new information that they had given back to the case

study. This made it possible to learn a great deal about the system in general, while keeping it interesting because you could see the immediate application to one particular kid that you had learned about. This added to the book's general readability. All in all, this book is an excellent, well-written book that has the possibility of moving us a long way towards an understanding of these complex issues.

Hubner and Wolfson do an excellent job of presenting the reader with the children's point of view of the juvenile court system. Children who are removed from their homes because of an abusive environment are often subjected to even worse treatment by the state-run system into which they are placed. Some of the problems that are brought to the reader's attention include: 1) Children are removed from the home based on hearsay evidence, 2) Parents must sometimes admit guilt (even if innocent) or they are accused of being in denial - this Catch-22 situation can be used to keep children separated from their parents regardless of the "facts", 3) Foster parents don't always receive adequate training, and are sometimes perpetrators of abuse. Some foster parents are only in it for the money. Yes, the system does benefit many children. But there is also a large number of children for whom the system is more abusive than the environment from which they were removed. Judge Edwards deserves a lot of credit, because he understands these issues and because he cares about the kids. Read this book at least twice.

This is a textbook of the juvenile dependency system that reads like a page-turner novel. I was unable to put it down for 2 days. The authors' treatment of their material is even-handed and true-to-life. I have worked for the past 4 years as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate and Guardian Ad Litem for these children in my local juvenile court and the cases featured in the book closely mirror the actual cases I've seen over and over again in the courts. The book raises problems in the system to which there are no easy answers, and the authors don't attempt to offer any simplistic solutions: What does the system do with severely emotionally disturbed kids who blow through one placement after another? How do you know when to give up on parents and terminate parental rights? Do you wait until the child's crucial childhood years are mostly over, waiting for the parents to get their act together? How do we place children in good homes when there is such a shortage of foster and adoptive families? I urge anyone interested to get involved with the system as a volunteer. There are over 700 advocate programs around the country and the minimum time commitment is only 12 hours a month.

I have been in the field for over 20 years and this is the most accurate account of the Juvenile Justice system. The stories are real and moving. I could not put this book down. I did not agree with everything in the book, however, if you want to know the real story then this is a must read.

This is a must read for anyone working in the Juvenile Court System, especially in California. I've been a Probation Officer for ten years most of it spent in juvenile matters. I've seen these exact kids and families in Tulare County. I've felt the same frustrations of everyone in the book who cares about these kids, but doesn't know how to fix it. I do however strongly disagree with Barry Krisberg (page 248.) My union is the weakest in this county, and Probation Officers in this county are among the lowest paid in the state. Probation Officers are also the lowest paid among all "law enforcement" persons. Our job is to protect the community, yet we are expected to also possess the skills of a social worker. Further Probation Officers in this county haven't sat around eating doughnuts since the eighties when case loads were small and money was abundant. Now, in the nineties, no one has time to eat lunch, little own buy a doughnut. Case loads are over whelming and the juveniles are more violent. In todays juvenile system Probation Officers must act as the police and social workers. Its an impossible balance to keep and eat doughnuts at the same time.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Somebody Else's Children - Courts, Kids, And The Struggle To Save America's Troubled Families
Somebody Else's Children: The Courts, the Kids, and the Struggle to Save America's Troubled
Families Jokes For Kids - Joke Books : Funny Books : Kids Books : Books for kids age 9 12 : Best
Jokes 2016 (kids books, jokes for kids, books for kids 9-12, ... funny jokes, funny jokes for kids)
(Volume 1) Somebody Else's Children Somebody Else: Arthur Rimbaud in Africa 1880-91
Somebody Else's Husband, Again: Rachel's Story Somebody Else's Husband: Tammie's Story
Somebody Else's Husband, Too: Persia's Story The Waste Not, Want Not Cookbook: Save Food,
Save Money and Save the Planet Epilepsy In Children: Guide For Parents & Carers On Seizures,
Emergencies & Everything Else You Should Know (Epilepsy In Children, Seizures In Children Book
1) Stepparenting: Becoming A Stepparent: A Blended Family Guide to: Parenting, Raising Children,
Family Relationships and Step Families - 2nd Edition (Raising ... Kids, Blended Families, Blended
Family) Culturally Competent Practice with Immigrant and Refugee Children and Families (Social
Work Practice with Children and Families) Jokes for Kids: 400+ Funny Jokes for Kids: Funny and
Hilarious Jokes for Kids - Funny Jokes - Kids Jokes - Jokes and Illustrations Jokes:Best Jokes For
Kids: Laugh out loud fun jokes(Jokes,Funny Jokes,Jokes for kids,Best Jokes,Funny Book,Jokes
free,Jokes for free,for kids,riddles,quiz ... for kids,best jokes,laugh out loud) Impossible

Compassion: Utilizing Directed Compassion to Cure Disease, Save the Environment, Transform Relationships... and Do All Sorts of Other Good Things for Ourselves and Everyone Else Jokes For Kids: Kids Jokes: 300 Funny Jokes For Kids (Jokes and Riddles for Children Book 1) 25 Read & Write Mini-Books That Teach Word Families: Fun Rhyming Stories That Give Kids Practice With 25 Keyword Families How Policy Shapes Politics: Rights, Courts, Litigation, and the Struggle Over Injury Compensation (Studies in Postwar American Political Development) Creepy Susie: And 13 Other Tragic Tales for Troubled Children Building the Bonds of Attachment: Awakening Love in Deeply Troubled Children

[Dmca](#)