The Children’s Act 1908: Centennial Perspectives and Contemporary Reflections

An interdisciplinary conference to be held at the University of Kent at Medway

CALL FOR PAPERS

30 June - 1 July 2008

The Children’s Act forms an integral part of the reforming legislation of the Liberal Governments of 1906-1914, introducing the youth court system and shaping British youth policy for the next century.

The aim of this two-day conference is to bring together new and established researchers from a range of disciplines to reflect upon the historical impact of the Act whilst engaging with its resonance for contemporary practitioners.

Liverpool street children rescued by the NSPCC, 1890s
Image courtesy NSPCC Archives

Topics and themes could include:
- Media representations
- Infanticide and child abuse
- Care proceedings, fostering and adoption
- Social work practice and young people
- Youth courts and juvenile justice
- Probation and restorative justice
- Youth work
- Migration
- Gender
- Citizenship
- The magistracy
- Policing

Abstracts should be no longer than 200 words, and should be sent to Dr. Kate Bradley by 14 January 2008 by email to k.bradley@kent.ac.uk or Children’s Act Conference, SSPSSR, the University of Kent at Medway, the Gillingham Building, Chatham Maritime, ME4 4AG.