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SWRC Newsletter

No 16 February 1985

Editor: Rosemary Hooke

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Social Welfare Research Centre
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
P.O. Box 1 · Kensington · New South Wales · Australia · 2033

From the Director A Farewell

In the last issue of the SWRC Newsletter I pointed out that the Social Welfare Research Centre had successfully completed its first five-year phase and that an agreement defining the Centre's operations and guaranteeing funding for the next five years had been signed by the University of New South Wales and the Commonwealth Government. Now no longer bedevilled with developmental and establishment problems, the Centre is able vigorously and enthusiastically to pursue a new research agenda. This has been worked out over the past few months and several new staff have been recruited to work on new projects, some of which are described elsewhere in this Newsletter. Without a doubt the Centre has had a lively, productive, and exciting past and now it is set to have an exhilarating, potent and persuasive future.

At the end of 1982, after the Centre had completed its first three years, I wrote at length in Newsletter 8 about the establishment and development of the Centre, of how in the early days our fledgling staff of five rattled around in what seemed like an unbelievably spacious structure, of how our first research agenda was established and of how we set out to achieve our terms of reference, of building the staff up to 25 and coming to realise how cramped and inadequate our accommodation really was once we were in full flight. (As I write this. we are presently in negotiations for additional premises. To some this may sound like a worn recording, but this looks promising - more information as it comes to hand!) In our first five years we have published 51 research reports and 27 reprints (see centre pages for full lists). One commercially published book, Retreat From the Welfare State (Allen & Unwin), has been produced by SWRC staff. We have held a total of 87 public seminars at which 131 papers have been given, and contributed to hundreds of other seminars, symposia, continuing education programmes and conferences. I think I can say that over the five years both the research and educational functions of the Centre have been dynamically and overwhelmingly fulfilled.

The essence of intellectual life is that the currency with which one works is that of ideas. Consequently there is little that is tangible and less that is unequivocal. Good ideas are usually controversial because they invariably challenge existing thoughts and conditions. Debates occur, not only about the substance of the ideas, not only about the likely outcome of the effects of the ideas, but very importantly about the pre-conditions and theoretical underpinnings of ideas and concepts and theories. Over the five years we have had our share of controversy over the varying approaches we have taken, and the fact that we have had lively debates indicates that the former complacency which surrounded social welfare issues has clearly disappeared.

Research has many forms and uses. While ideally research is about expanding knowledge and discovering new things, there is an important distinction between research carried out purely for its own sake and research which is designed to feed into some policy process. In social welfare the issues at stake have great immediacy and very broad social ramifications, and consequently most of our research has an applied, rather than a pure, edge to it. It is important that consumers of research, including policy or applied research, appreciate that research consists of more than data collection, more than monitoring, more than survey work and more than the application of cost-analytic techniques. Successful research is built upon a theoretical base and includes combinations of many techniques and the output may be exploratory, descriptive, explanatory, or a combination of these. While ideas will always abound, the output will be limited by constraints

From the Director (continued)

of time, money and personnel. Some of the debates in which we have been engaged over the past five years have been built on a limited view of the components of and constraints on social research. Others have been based on differences about our research approach and methods.

In any policy situation research can be used as an instrument in the political process. While the optimistic might hope that research would be used only as a tool of social reform, it is quite obvious that research can also be used to limit and contain changes and reforms, to support and oppose political and bureaucratic posturing, or to alert authorities to keep certain groups or activities under observation. Cynical suggestions are often made that when working on funded research which has policy relevance, the researchers concerned are in danger of being bought off, and diverted from examining the "real" issues while they follow paths set by sponsors in an attempt to be "relevant". The argument is that these workers become technicians rather than researchers. The Social Welfare Research Centre has been very vulnerable to criticism that as a fully funded unit it can easily be diverted from intellectual pursuits and relegated to mundame data gathering.

While our funds have come from the Commonwealth we have seen it as important to deal with issues of policy relevance to the Commonwealth, but obviously such issues are also of great relevance to the Australian community as a whole. We have been exceptionally fortunate in that we have never had any political or bureaucratic interference in our work. While some government people have views at variance with ours about research practices and techniques, and about the expected types of outputs, we have been most fortunate in having good working relations with government, and complete freedom in the reporting and dissemination of our findings. While the currency of our endeavours,

ideas, may be somewhat intangible, our firm and analysable contribution has been our publications and seminar and conference presentations.

In recognition of the informal guidelines underpinning our research we have encapsulated in a few sentences the principles to which we have adhered over the past five years, and which we will continue to follow. This statement, endorsed by the SWRC Advisory Committee at its most recent meeting, reads as follows:

Research projects undertaken in the Social Welfare Research Centre are oriented to the study of policies and programmes which have an impact on social equity, or fairness, that is, the distribution and redistribution of social and economic resources to individuals according to their socio-economic position, gender, ethnic origin, and age group. This includes such matters as the identification of targets, the planning of strategies, the allocation of resources, the delivery of services and the assessment of results. In essence projects aim to identify who wins and who loses and who bears the costs.

Personally I have always found research tantalizing and absorbing. I would not have swapped the last five years for anything - it has been a particularly exciting time being involved in the establishment of a new and innovative research institution and seeing the development and acceptance of its product. I have always held that a regular turnover of staff keeps a vibrant organisation vibrant, and now that the Centre has its future assured and that new projects are being started, it is time to hand over the reins. At the end of February 1985 | shall be taking up an appointment as the first Commissioner for the Ageing in South Australia and I am sure that much of what I have

From the Director . . . (continued)

learnt in the Centre will be of great use as I move from academia, and attempt to put into practice much of what I have been researching and thinking about in recent years.

Many people have worked together to give the Social Welfare Research Centre the standing and credibility it has today, and my sincere thanks are extended to them all. The staff, past and present, (Linda Adamson, Robin Beck, Bruce Bradbury, Bettina Cass, Sarah Drury, Diana Encel, Sue Faire, Pauline Garde, Murray Geddes, Jill Hardwick, Jo Harrison, Bob Horn, Jane Hyde, Marilyn Hoey, Rosemary Hooke, Jenny James, Adam Jamrozik, Jo Jarrah, Carol Keens, David Kinnear, Marilyn Leeds, Gillian Lupton, Jerry Moller, Margaret McAllister, Geraldine McWhinney, Jon Marshall, Tony Messina, Viv Milligan, Loucas Nicolaou, Mary Ann O'Loughlin, Kitty Parkinson, Kris Pedler, Joan Phillips, Peter Saunders, Randall Smith, Frances Staden, Linda Rosenman, Russell Ross, Chris Rossiter, Jill Saffron, lan Scott, Lynn Sitsky, Tania Sweeney, David Tait, Joan Vipond, Eve Voysey, Betsy Wearing, David Wiles, Val Williams, Greg Withers, Diana Wyndham, Ian Yates, Jenny Young) have worked tirelessly to achieve the Centre's objectives. The SWRC Advisory Committee which is presently chaired by Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Jarlath Ronayne, and which has included Professors J.B. Thornton, H.R. Vallentine and A.S. Carrington (former chairs) and the Hon. J.J. Carlton, Professor E. Chamberlain, Mr. A.S. Colliver, Dr. R. Klugman, Mr. W.C. Langshaw, Professor R.J. Lawrence, Mr. K. Maine, Mr. C.A. McAlister, Professor J.W. Nevile, Mr. D. Scott, Professor I.W. Webster, has given valuable backing and encouragement over the years. Others, too numerous to mention by name in the welfare community and the academic community, have provided ideas, critiques and supports. Without the helpful backing of the University administration, the Centre would have floundered long ago.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Birt has been a source of tremendous support and his interest in our activities has helped strengthen the Centre's position. A simple thank you to all of the above hardly seems adequate.

Finally, since the last Newsletter was published several staff have left the Centre. Mary Ann O'Loughlin has joined the Office of the Status of Women in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Canberra; Pauline Garde has joined the NSW Council of Social Service; Marilyn Leeds has joined the NSW Department of Youth and Community Services; and Joan Phillips, Secretary to the Director since February 1980, has gone Joining the Centre are Garry Hobbes (computing services), Jenny James and Fiona Brown (research assistants), and Peter Whiteford (Senior Research Fellow). Michael Wearing has been awarded an SWRC post-graduate scholarship and will be commencing Ph.D. studies in March. After a year overseas, Diana Encel is back in the Centre. Dr. Russell Ross and Dr. Mark Lyons will be part-time visiting fellows during 1985, and later in the year Knut Halvorsen, from the University of Bergen, Norway, will be with us for a few months. Discussions are presently under way with other potential visiting fellows. Until a new Director is appointed, Adam Jamrozik will be Acting Director.

Adam Graycar



THE 1985 SEMINARS

Session 1, March to June,

VENUE: Morven Brown Seminar Room 212

TIME: 9.15am to 12.30pm (Fridays)

TOPICS: ♥

Friday, 15 March : CHILD WELFARE

Adam Jamrozik, Social Welfare Research Centre The Changing Child Welfare Scene in Australia

Paul Havemann, University of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada; Visiting Professor, Social Justice Project,

The Australian National University

Needs and Rights and Deserts in the Juvenile Justice

Model: The Politics of Rights and the Right

Friday, 12 April : HOUSIN

Joan Vipond, Social Welfare Research Centre The Affordability of Housing in Relation to

Housing Tenure

Barry Wight, Assistant Secretary, Policy Development Branch, Housing Policy Division, Department of

Housing and Construction, Canberra

Homelessness

Friday, 10 May : CHANGING CONCEPTS OF THE 'FAMILY' IN SOCIAL POLICY

David Tait, Social Welfare Research Centre

Sophie Watson, Urban Research Unit, The Australian

National University

Friday, 7 June : INCOME, TAXATION, SOCIAL SECURITY AND CONSUMPTION

PATTERNS

Ann Harding, Development Division, Department of Social Security, Canberra

Tax and Social Security

Russell Ross, Department of Economics, The University of Sydney; Visiting Fellow, Social

Welfare Research Centre

Consumption Patterns and the Growth of Two-

Earner Families

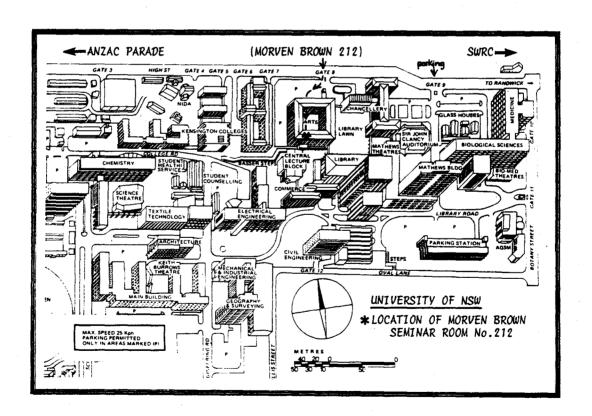
SWRC SEMINARS, SESSION 1, 1985

During the First Session of 1985 (March-June) the Social Welfare Research Centre will hold four Public Seminars, on the dates and times indicated on the programme printed opposite.

The topics to be discussed at the Seminars are related to the research projects currently in progress at the Social Welfare Research Centre, and each Seminar will take up one current issue in social policy and social welfare. Papers presented by invited outside speakers will place the issues discussed in a wider perspective.

Time will be allowed at each Seminar for questions and comments from the participants. All interested persons are invited to participate. Attendance is free, and morning tea will be provided.

Further information may be obtained from the Information and Publications Officer, Rosemary Hooke, (telephone (02) 697 5150).



SWRC SPECIAL SEMINAR: January 11, 1985

MARTIN REIN: WOMEN, EMPLOYMENT and SOCIAL POLICY

Professor Rein, visiting Australia from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, presented a special SWRC seminar which reported on his recent cross-national research on the relationship between social welfare and employment.

He noted that most analyses of this relationship, including both the Marxist and neo-Classical traditions, tended to conclude that they were antagonistic. Thus, the needs of some sections of the population for income transfers and other welfare assistance were seen as conflicting with the needs of the market economy and with the pursuit of liberal ideals. However, more recent work has focussed on the manner in which social welfare generated employment, the so-called Social Welfare Industry. Thus, the welfare state and the 'welfare society' were themselves responsible for considerable amounts of economic activity.

The analysis covered five Western countries — the United States, Sweden, Holland, United Kingdom and Germany. It indicated that in some of these countries, employment in the social welfare sector (defined as health, education and welfare) was as large as that in the manufacturing sector. Employment in the social welfare industry and in welfare occupations in other industries (e.g. occupational health, corporate education) was also one of the most rapidly growing areas of employment.

Professor Rein then discussed the nature of the Social Welfare Labour Market in the five countries. In addition to its relative size, the other important feature was the disproportionate number of women thus employed, especially in Sweden and the USA. The Social Welfare Labour Market thus integrated women into the labour market and accounted for most of the post-war growth in female employment rates.

However, it also served to segregate the labour market. Women's employment was heavily concentrated in the areas of health, education and welfare. Further, within these fields, women were frequently located in support services rather than specialist activities, characterised by lower pay and lower status than male jobs. Various explanations for the labour market segregation were advanced, although Professor Rein concluded that there was, as yet, no model which fully explained why women were more likely to work in the social welfare industry.

Vigorous discussion followed Professor Rein's paper, including topics such as the differential role of trade unions in the labour market and the particular characteristics of the social welfare labour market: the unique nature of the final 'product', its interrelationship with the domestic sector and the fact that much social welfare 'work' went unpaid. There was also discussion on the state of research on labour market segregation in Australia.

The Wellbeing of the People

THE FINAL REPORT OF THE WELFARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REVIEW IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The 59 major recommendations of this report point the way for a network of welfare service provision for Western Australia for the next 10 to 15 years.

In particular the report recommends the development of an improved partnership between Government and community organisations — and between Government departments — in the delivery of a broad range of welfare services. These services, the report recommends, should be more effective and accountable, and, especially where Government is involved, more approachable.

The report recommends priorities, including the need to develop policies which supported rather than substituted the family unit within the community.

There has been strong public participation in the Review, including the release of the report for a period of public comment.

The 246 page final report is now available from:

The Department for Community Welfare, 81 St.George's Terrace, Perth, WA 6000.

The cost is \$14 for attractively presented Volumes 1 and 2, or \$22 for the final report plus working papers.





DIRECTORY OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES for the Sydney Metropolitan Region

The NSW Association for Mental Health has recently published this valuable Directory.

It is intended to be of use to workers and volunteers in the field, and to aid in the exchange of information. It is also hoped that access to mental health services will be improved for those in other areas of social services and that individuals needing assistance will be able to find appropriate help.

Cost: \$4.20 including postage.

Available from:

NSW Association for Mental Health 62 Victoria Road Gladesville 2111. 'Phone 816 1611



Sydney's Costly Housing:

Collaboration on housing research between the Social Welfare Research Centre and the Centre for Applied Economic Research has recently led to the publication of

Sydney's Costly Housing : A Comparison with Melbourne

hv

J.W. Nevile, J. Vipond and N.H. Warren. (Centre for Applied Economic Research, Paper No.21, November 1984)

An extract from the Introduction of the report is published below with details of how to obtain copies.

The people of Sydney jealously guard their homes. In the past, they have fought hard against taxes on the capital gains they make on them and, of late, against the inclusion of houses in the pensioners assets' test. Their case is usually based on a belief that they live in a city unlike any other in Australia. To treat them as if they were just like any city would, they argue, be unfair on Sydney residents. the real question that this debate raises is just how different is Sydney from other cities, and in particular the city it is most often compared with, Melbourne. How different are house price levels today? How different have past trends in house prices been? people in both cities buy the same quantity of housing or do people in both cities spend similar amounts on housing? If people in Sydney spend more, do they have better quality housing as well as more expensive? Are the same proportions of residents owner-occupiers in each of the two cities?

The answers to these questions are interesting just from the point of view of comparisons between Australia's two largest cities, which between them house 41 per cent of the country's population. But the answers are also important for economic policy and social welfare purposes. For example, (i) if people in Sydney not only pay more for their houses than people in Melbourne, but, apart from any advantages of living

in Sydney per se are no better off in the quantity and quality of their housing than their Melbourne counterparts, then the case for making some special provision for the value of the family home in an assets test is much greater than if the people in Sydney not only pay more, but have better quality homes. (ii) If there are more renters in Sydney and it is harder for young families to buy a house, as evidenced, for example, by the low proportion of young married couples and families who are owner-occupiers, then there may be a case for making the size of the subsidy in the First Home Owners Scheme vary according to geographical location. (iii) If rents are significantly higher in Sydney than Melbourne perhaps this should be reflected in the supplement paid to pensioners who rent.

Although this paper is not primarily about the issues involved in regional variations in housing assistance, it does consider briefly what is probably the most intractable of these issues, the conflict between the social welfare criterion of tailoring housing assistance to the situation facing individual households, and the economic efficiency criterion which states that house prices facing households should reflect resource scarcity, so that high house prices in particular areas lead households to economise on housing in high cost areas. The main aim of the paper is to set out and analyse the data about housing markets in Sydney and Melbourne, to provide answers to the myriad of questions listed above. Questions such as whether the family home should be excluded from the assets test on pensions are important for policy, and have already attracted considerable controversy, with the Government rejecting the recommendation of the Panel of Review of Proposed Income and Assets Test. But worthwhile discussion of this and other policy issues in the area of housing assistance can hardly take place until the factual background about different

A Comparison with Melbourne

housing markets in Australia is known. This paper aims to provide that factual background with respect to Australia's two largest cities and with respect to the most famous, or infamous, differential in Australian house prices. However, having done this, it does in the last chapter draw some conclusions about the policy implications of the facts discovered and set out in earlier chapters.

The conclusions are very strong and can be summarised in three sentences. As a result of higher house prices, Sydney households not only spend more on average on housing than do those in Melbourne, but overall they have lower quality housing than their counterparts in Melbourne. The high cost of housing in Sydney has led to a smaller proportion of owner-occupiers and a higher proportion of renters both in the private sector and in the subsidised public sector area. Moreover, long time Sydney owners have not even benefitted from a higher rate of return, through capital gains, than long time owners in Melbourne. Evidence for these conclusions is provided in later chapters of the report.

The differences between the Sydney and Melbourne housing markets summarised in the report are sufficiently important to suggest geographical variations in housing costs should be taken into account in formulating housing policy. The Government's decision to exempt the family home from the assets test, although a crude measure, is better than ignoring geographical variation. The implications of geographical variation for the First Home Owners Scheme. for the amounts paid under the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement and the supplement paid to pensioners who rent, all require study.

Copies of this report are available at a cost of \$5.00 from:

Colleen D. Hodge, Secretary,
Centre for Applied Economic Research,
The University of New South Wales,
PO Box 1,
KENSINGTON NSW 2033.



Australian Government

Australia's elderly population is growing at a faster rate than any other population group. Elderly people are key consumers of many of the products of the Welfare State, and as such their interests, needs and aspirations are both an important area of research study and important in considering social policy outputs. In recognition of this, the Social Welfare Research Centre has, since its inception, had a team working in the area of the welfare of elderly people. Given the importance of elderly people both in numerical terms and in social policy terms, governments around Australia have been responding in recent times by making special administrative arrangements to plan for a wide range of community services for elderly people.

In his policy speech prior to the 1984 elections the Prime Minister announced that an Office of Aged Care would be Progress is under way and the office is to be established soon within the Department of Community Services. The New South Wales Government established an Office of Aged Services within the Premier's Department in October 1983. The Office has recently started a newsletter and this, and further information about its activities, can be obtained from the NSW Office of Aged Services, Premier's Department, State Office Block, Phillip Street, Sydney 2000. In both Tasmania and Western Australia a portfolio of the Aged has been added to the Ministerial list, but as yet neither State has a separate office dealing with ageing issues. Activity is presently under way in Western Australia to establish an office.

The most comprehensive move to date has been in South Australia. In 1984 the Parliament passed an act known as the "Commissioner for the Ageing Act 1984" and the first Commissioner takes office at the end of February 1985. The Act specifies the objectives and functions of the Commissioner as

follows:

The objectives of the Commissioner are

- (a) to achieve proper integration of the ageing within the total community thus ensuring that the skills and experience of the ageing are not lost to the community through social alienation;
- (b) to create social structures in which the ageing are able to realize their full potential as individuals and as members of the community;
- (c) to create a social ethos in which the ageing are accorded the dignity, appreciation and respect that properly belong to them;
- (d) to ensure that the multicultural nature of the community is reflected in the planning and implementation of programmes and services for the ageing or affecting the ageing;
- (e) to achieve a proper understanding within the community of the problems of the ageing and to ameliorate those problems so far as it is practicable to do so by modification of social structures and attitudes.
- (1) The functions of the Commissioner are —
- (a) to advise upon the development and implementation of programmes and services for the ageing and to actively foster and seek the involvement of the ageing, wherever practicable, in the development and implementation of programmes or services that are intended for their benefit or that will have a special effect upon them;
- (b) to monitor the effect upon the ageing of -

Initiatives in Ageing

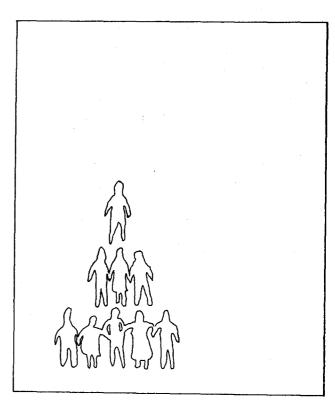
- (i) practices of the Governments of the State and Commonwealth and local government;
- (ii) Commonwealth and State law (including local government by-laws).

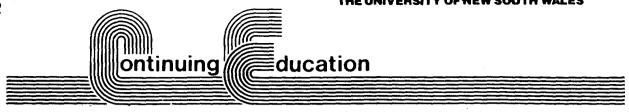
and to make appropriate representations in the interest of the ageing.

- (c) to ensure as far as practicable that the interests of the ageing are considered when programmes or services that may affect them are being developed or implemented;
- (d) to undertake or commission research into matters affecting the ageing;
- (e) to compile data relating to the ageing;
- (f) to disseminate information for the assistance of the ageing;
- (g) to ensure as far as practicable that financial and investment advice is available to the ageing;
- (h) to keep social attitudes towards the ageing under review and to promote a better understanding of the ageing within the community;
- (i) to assess the incidence of discrimination against the ageing in employment and to promote action to overcome such discrimination;
- (j) to keep under review the special needs of individual groups of the ageing (including those who suffer from physical or mental disabilities and those who are economically disadvantaged), and to promote various methods by which those needs may be satisfied;

- (k) to consult and co-operate with other bodies and persons that assist the ageing;
- to assist in the co-ordination of programmes and services that may assist the ageing;
- (m) to consult with the ageing in relation to the means of promoting their interests and, as the Commissioner considers appropriate, to represent the views of the ageing to the Minister;
- (n) to report to the Minister on any matter relating to the ageing referred to the Commissioner by the Minister.
- (2) The Commissioner may establish Committees to advise him on any matter related to the performance of his functions under this Act.

Further information about the activities under this legislation can be obtained from the Commissioner for the Ageing, Box 1765, GPO Adelaide, SA, 5001.





RADIO UNIVERSITY

Courses by Radio and Cassette

SESSION 1 , 1985

The University of New South Wales offers courses by radio and cassette as part of its continuing education program for professional people.

The courses are suitable for those professionally qualified who want to update and extend their knowledge in their particular field. They can also benefit those wishing to pursue a layman's interest. Cassettes of radio courses will be available following broadcast from the Continuing Education Cassette Service for an additional fee.

RECEIVING RADIO UNIVERSITY

The University of New South Wales educational radio station, Radio University 2UV, broadcasts in the Sydney area on 1692 kHz, just off the regular AM waveband. Transistor radios adjusted to pick up this frequency are on sale from Radio University for \$10 plus \$2 postage.

Some exam	iples .	 • •	
Commencing	March		

CONSUMER LAW FOR WELFARE AGENTS AND EDUCATORS

The modern market place has grown to be so complex that it has resulted in the ordinary person having difficulty knowing what he or she is getting. The lecturer looks at the need for consumer protection, illustrates problems that are often encountered, and considers the means available for their solution. Of interest to teachers at all levels, welfare agents and groups, social workers, and others who find it necessary to offer guidance in this area.

5 radio lectures 7 pm Wednesdays, repeated 8 pm Fridays, 1 attended tutorial.

Commences 6 March, enrolment recommended by 25 February. Fee: \$25.00.

Commencing April

THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY WORKERS IN A MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIETY (Repeat course)

Jointly conducted by Radio University and the Multicultural Education Centre, Sydney College of Advanced Education.

A course for Anglo-Australian and other workers in community service, health care and welfare whose client group includes migrants. It aims to help them better understand different ethnic attitudes and needs, and provides a service more appropriate to a multicultural society.

8 radio programs of lectures, discussion and interviews 7 pm Mondays, repeated 4 pm Tuesdays and 8 pm Wednesdays, one-day attended workshop.

Commences 15 April, enrolment recommended by 5 April. Fee: \$20.00 plus \$10.00 for workshop.

SOME PERSPECTIVES IN FAMILY THERAPY

Practising therapists will discuss some of the major streams in therapy, including the influence of the early theorists, family life cycle and structuralism, work of the strategic therapists, client/therapist interaction and the use of one-way screens. It will benefit psychologists, counsellors, social and welfare workers, district and parole officers, general practitioners and paediatricians.

6 radio lectures 8 pm Mondays, repeated 7 pm Thursdays, 1 attended tutorial. Commences 29 April, enrolment recommended by 19 April. Fee: \$27.50.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Full particulars on these and other continuing education courses by radio and cassette are available from Radio University at the University of New South Wales by phoning (02) 697 3175 or writing to P.O. Box 1, Kensington 2033.

* NEW SWRC PROJECTS *

FAMILY WELLBEING ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE David Tait, Jill Hardwick, Jenny James

This project will involve developing a national family survey in conjunction with the Australian Family Project at the Australian National University.

The main focus of this study will be on that period of the lifecycle in which particular financial or social hardships are likely to be experienced - e.g. on birth of children, separation or widowhood. Information will be collected about the current situations of respondents (particularly those who have recently experienced critical life events), but we will also be attempting to reconstruct the housing and employment histories of respondents by asking retrospective questions. Of particular interest will be the extent to which people belonging to different ethnic or class groups experience hardship following particular life events, and how long such periods

The survey is expected to involve a sample of about 5,000 women aged 15-64. Pre-testing will begin shortly and the survey should be in the field sometime in 1986.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS:
NEED AND SERVICE PROVISION
David Tait, Jill Hardwick, Jenny James

This project will attempt to provide estimates of the number of persons with self-care or mobility handicaps, both for regions and Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Australia. It will use the 1981 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Handicapped Persons Survey, and will be based on synthetic estimation techniques (which will require the use of census, hospital and welfare payment statistics as well).

These estimates of handicapped persons will be placed alongside estimates of the level of service provision for handicapped persons in each LGA and region, and conclusions will be drawn about the distribution of these services.

The extent of the data that may be obtained from this project will depend on the availability of certain yet unpublished data from the ABS Handicapped Persons Survey.

—— INDEBTEDNESS AMONG UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE —

At its most recent meeting the SWRC Advisory Committee approved the issuing of a contract to Ms Jan Carter to undertake a study of indebtedness among unemployed people.

In assessing the impact of unemployment very little is known about debt patterns and their consequences, and further knowledge in this area has been stressed by the Department of Social Security as a priority area. This project will examine the issues involved, the range and types of debt patterns, the duration of both the debt and the unemployment, the personal, family and social consequences, and the societal responses, both in broad and individual terms. In addition, policies and practices of lending organisations will be described together with the responses of

families, governments and voluntary agencies.

In this pilot study it is proposed that a small sample of people be interviewed as part of an initial problem conceptualising, data gathering, and hypothesis construction exercise. While any such sample could not hope to be representative it will be expected that a number of family types and unemployment experiences will be treated in a case-study fashion. In addition, existing data and material held in various research collections will be examined. This initial stage will take the part-time equivalent of five months full-time and will lead to the production of a report in the Centre's Reports and Proceedings series. It will also indicate whether a more extensive sample survey will be required.



Social Welfare Research Centre

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PUBLICATIONS LIST & ORDER FORM

A. How to Acquire SWRC Publications

1. REPORTS and PROCEEDINGS

(i) BY SUBSCRIPTION

Subscribers receive each report as it is published without having to wait for the Newsletter announcement. For \$60 you will receive all R & Ps in the 2nd series, which includes Nos 35 to 54. You will immediately receive Nos 35 to 49. This represents a saving in that reports can cost \$5 individually. Prices include postage and handling.

If you would like to subscribe to the 2nd R & P series, please write \$60 in box on ORDER FORM (C).

(ii) BY INDIVIDUAL COPY

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2. REPRINTS

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B. Publications List

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	No. 4	Jan Carter, <u>States of Confusion</u> : <u>Australian Policies and the Elderly Confused</u> , January 1981, 50 pp.	. \$3	Neg See See See See See See See See See S
	No. 5	Adam Graycar and David Kinnear, The Aged and the State: A Working Paper, Revised edition, September 1982, 119 pp.	\$4	
	No. 6	Michael Liffman, Immigrant Welfare: A Research Perspective, April 1981, 40 pp.	\$3	
	No. 7	Bettina Cass, <u>Unemployment and the Family: The Social Impact of the Restructuring of the Australian Labour Market</u> , April 1981, 55 pp.	\$3	
	No. 8	Adam Jamrozik and Marilyn Hoey, Workforce in Transition : Implications for Welfare, May 1981, 74 pp.	\$4	
	No. 9	Robert V. Horn, Fiscal Welfare Effects of Changes in Australian Income Tax, 1972-73 to 1980-81, May 1981, 59 pp.	\$3	
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	No.11	Bettina Cass (ed), <u>Unemployment</u> : <u>Causes, Consequences and Policy Implications</u> , August 1981, 72 pp.	\$3	
	No. 12	Adam Jamrozik and Robin Beck, <u>Worker Co-operatives</u> : An Evaluative Study of the New South Wales Worker Co-operative Programme, August 1981, 178 pp.	\$5	
	No.13	Robert V. Horn, Extra Costs of Disablement : Background for an Australian Study, September 1981, $\overline{25}$ pp.	\$3	
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	No.15	Adam Jamrozik, Marilyn Hoey, Marilyn Leeds, Employment Benefits: Private or Public Welfare?, November 1981, 138 pp.	\$4	2002
	No.16	Linda Rosenman, <u>Widowhood and Social Welfare Policy in Australia</u> , January 1982, 75 pp.	\$3	* Extension Constitution
	No.17	Adam Graycar and Wendy Silver, Funding of Non-Government Welfare: Agencies Serving Disabled People in Western Australia, January 1982, 89 pp.	\$3	
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And the second second	No.51	Vivienne Milligan, Jill Hardwick and Adam Graycar, <u>Non-Government Welfare</u> Organisations in Australia: A National Classification, December 1984.	\$5	
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	No. 1	Adam Graycar, *Experimentation and the Welfare State* from : Social Policy and Administration Vol.14, No.3, 1980, 21 pp.	\$1	
1	No. 2	Bettina Cass and Kris Pedler, "Where are They Hiding the Unemployed?" from : Australian Social Welfare — Impact, November 1980, 27 pp.	\$1	*
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	No.12	Tania Sweeney, "Review Article: Studies of Childhood and Children's Services" from: Australian and New Zealand Journal of Sociology, Vol.17, No.2, July 1981, 5 pp.	\$1	
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No.13	Adam Graycar and Wendy Silver, "Agencies, Services and Government Funding" from : Australian Rehabilitation Review, Vol.6, No.3, 1982, 5 pp.	\$1	
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No.22	David Kinnear and Adam Graycar, "Ageing and Family Dependency" from : <u>Australian Journal of Social Issues</u> , Volume 19, No.1, February 1984, 14 pp.	\$1	
No.23	Adam Graycar and Jo Harrison, "Ageing Populations and Social Care: Policy Issues: from: <u>Australian Journal of Ageing</u> , Volume 3, No.2, May 19 ⁸⁴ , 7 pp.	\$1	
No.24	Adam Graycar, "Non-Government Welfare Organisations in Australia: Preliminary results from a national sample survey" from: <u>Journal of Voluntary Action</u> Research, Vol.13, No.3, July-September 1984, 9 pp.	\$1	
No.25	Marilyn Leeds, "Dependent Wives : can we improve their income security in old age?" from : Australian Journal on Ageing, Vol.3, No.4, November 1984, 9 pp.	\$1	
No.26	Adam Graycar, "Role and Effectiveness of Voluntary Agencies in Aged Care", from: Today as a Foundation for Tomorrow, Proceedings of the Uniting Church National Aged Care Conference, August 1984, 4 pp.	\$1	
No.27	Adam Graycar, "Accommodation Options for the Elderly", from : Planning for Care in an Ageing Australia, Proceedings of Anglical Retirement Villages Jubilee Seminar, October 1984, 17 pp.	\$1	

3. OTHER PUBLICATIONS

•	Adam Graycar (ed) (1983) <u>Retreat from the Welfare State</u> , Sydney, George Allen & Unwin, 216pp.	\$11.95
	1983 Diary of Social Legislation and Policy (Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne; Institute of Families Studies, Melbourne; Social Welfare Research Centre, UNSW).	\$ 2.50
•	1980, 1981 and 1982 Diary of Social Legislation and Policy (Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne; Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne; Social Welfare Research Centre, UNSW).	Free
	Denise Young and Adam Jamrozik, Community Groups in Action for Change	Free
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	SWRC Working Paper: Jo Harrison, Services for Elderly People: An Area Study.	Free

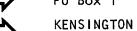
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NEW SWRC REPORTS and PROCEEDINGS

Two new issues in the SWRC Reports and Proceedings Series will be available shortly. For details of ordering, please see centre pages.

No.50 Chris Rossiter, Family Care of Elderly People: Policy Issues, December 1984, \$4.

This paper looks at the growing emphasis on community care as a policy to assist certain dependent groups in the population, especially in the context of an ageing society. It describes the mounting evidence on the impact of community care, particularly on those who provide the majority of help and support to mentally and physically frail people — their female relatives.

Using the data presented in R & P 38, this report points to the marked implications of the study for public policy. These take two major forms: the need for wider options to enable all elderly people, including the frail, to live independently and, secondly, the community services and

other supports that are required to assist those currently providing homebased care for frail elderly relatives. Specific recommendations cover areas such as respite care for short $(\frac{1}{2} \text{ day})$ and longer periods to enable carers to have some relief from the tasks and responsibilities for care-giving; wider range of domiciliary services; income support for family carers; means of adapting housing to facilitate caring; emotional support for carers; and a wider and more comprehensive provision of advice and information about these and other services. Although these recommendations are made in the context of families caring for frail elderly people, they have ramifications for other dependent groups and for those who care about and care for them.

No.51 Vivienne Milligan, Jill Hardwick and Adam Graycar, Non-Government Welfare Organisations in Australia: A National Classification, December 1984. \$5.

This study of non-government welfare organisations (NGWOs) is the first of its kind ever undertaken in Australia, and as far as we are aware, the first comprehensive national overview of any country's NGWOs. This volume is the result of a long and protracted research process, and reports only a fraction of the data collected. It does not emphasise interpretation, and this is an obvious next step from the reporting of data. It does however produce highly original material on two counts. First, it presents a new classification of NGWOs. Second,

it presents a compendium of the accumulated data about the number of NGWOs in Australia, about what they do, to whom, why and where they do what they do. There is also a mass of detailed information about NGWO income and staffing patterns.

Any classification is bound to be highly controversial, as judgements are made about both size and content. Too large a number of items makes the classification too detailed and the cells for analysis too small. Too few a number of items aggregates to an

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extent that a lot of information is lost. This classification worked on the variables in the table (below),

namely Broad Function, Target, Role, Area, and Geographic Extent.

CLASSIFICATION OF NON GOVERNMENT WELFARE ORGANISATIONS

WHAT DO NGWOs DO?	TO WHOM?	WHY?		WHERE?
BROAD FUNCTION	TARGET	ROLE		AREA
.Accommodation	.Gender	.Provision of service	1.	Location of NGWO
.Community action	.Life stage	.Maintenance of status		.New South Wales
.Social development	.Ethnicity	quo		.Victoria
.Personal care	.Income	.Social change		.Queensland
.Therapeutic care	.Social	.Self-help		.South Australia
.Service support	relationship			.Western Australia
.Education	.Personal-			.Northern Territory
.Heal th	institutional			.Australian Capital
.Employment	relationship			Territory
.Information	.Disability		2	Geographical Extent
.Income support	status			of NGWO service
.Multi-functional				.All Australia
.Protection				.More than one
				state
				.One state or
				territory
				.More than one LGA
				.One suburb or town
				.Neighbourhood
				•

in the classification of NGWOS 45 specific functional areas in 13 broad categories have been used to describe what the organisations do. In broad terms, around 20% of organisations are involved in accommodation, in community action, in social development and in personal care services. The next most commonly occuring functional areas are those of therapeutic care, service support and health. Education, information,

employment, income support and protection functions make up the remainder of the broad areas in which significant numbers of NGWOs operate. Although only 1200 or fewer organisations are multifunctional, approximately 60% of NGWOs are involved in a major way in two distinctive functional areas.

Data were also gathered on numerous aspects of income and staffing, and these were presented both in aggregates. Altogether the report has 110 tables on the operations of NGWOs.

In summary, there are between 26,000 and 49,000 NGWOs in Australia. These NGWOs have a total income of up to \$4.9 billion per annum. Of this, approximately 37% comes from government and 49% is raised by the organisations themselves from fundraising and donations, membership dues, fees for service and investments. More

work needs to be done to be able to provide an accurate estimate of staff members in NGWOs, but the information from the survey indicates there are as many as 601,000 full-time employees, between 122,000 and 398,000 part-time employees, and between 584,000 and 1.7 million volunteers. These estimates are very broad because the sector itself is so diverse and our sampled NGWOs had markedly different characteristics. Nevertheless, it is clear that we are dealing with an industry of some considerable magnitude.

2 Conference Reports --- Now Available

In Newsletters Nos 14 and 15 we reported on Adam Graycar's contribution to two recent National Conferences on Age Care.

A limited number of copies of the full conference proceedings is now available from the organisers.

The first of these, resulting from the National Age Care Conference of the Uniting Church, held in Melbourne on 19-22 August 1984 is entitled:
'Today as a Foundation for Tomorrow'.

It can be purchased for a cost of \$10.00 including postage from:

Bob Cardell
The Division of Community Services
The Uniting Church of Australia
Synod of Victoria
130 Little Collins Street
MELBOURNE Vic 3000



The second, resulting from the Anglican Retirement Villages Jubilee Seminar, held in Sydney on 25th and 26th October 1984, is entitled:
'Planning for Care in an Ageing Australia'.

It can be purchased for a cost of \$5.50 including postage, from:

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NEW SWRC REPRINTS

SWRC Reprints are reprints of articles or papers published elsewhere by staff of the Centre. These are available by individual copy (see centre pages).

No.24 Adam Graycar, "Non-Government Welfare Organisations in Australia: Preliminary results from a national sample survey" from: <u>Journal of Voluntary Action Research</u>, Vol.13, No.3, July-September 1984, 9 pp.

This article was prepared two years ago when, as the title indicates, the results from the national survey of NGWOs were preliminary. The article describes the context of the study and reports data in only four areas: Function of NGWOs, Income Level of NGWOs, Agency Income by Percentage Received from Government, and Funding Sources of NGWOs.

The full report has been published as No.51 in the Centre's Reports and Proceedings Series, and a brief description can be found above, on page 20.

No.25 Marilyn Leeds, "Dependent Wives: Can we improve their income security in old age?" from: Australian Journal on Ageing, Vol.3, No.4, November 1984, 9 pp.

Dependent wives have usually earned no income of their own but have relied on husbands for economic support. In many cases husbands share their income in old age with them. Frequently though, married women are widowed and receive the age pension or service pension and are without any form of supplementary income.

In the long term income for old age for most women can only stem from their employment. However, some women will not obtain paid work and currently many women are in dependent positions.

The article looks at some options to solve the income problem for dependent wives in old age.

No.26 Adam Graycar, "Role and Effectiveness of Voluntary Agencies in Aged Care", from: Today as a Foundation for Tomorrow, Proceedings of the Uniting Church National Aged Care Conference, August 1984, 4 pp.

This article is the published version of Adam Graycar's opening keynote address to the National Aged Care Conference of the Uniting Church which was held in Melbourne on August 20 1984 and reported in SWRC Newsletter No.14. The paper discusses the

NEW SWRC REPRINTS

changing demographic structure of Australia's population and how non-government welfare organisations (NGWOs) have developed as the major service providers in aged care. It gives some details of the characteristics of these organisations and points out that although they receive in excess of \$350 million per annum from the Commonwealth Government, program accountability is almost non-existent and the relationship between government and the agencies is characterised by uncertainty, suspicion and lack of broad principles.

Services for elderly people in Australia, exhibit characteristics of fragmentation, discontinuity, of duplication and scarcity, easy access to some and virtual inaccessability to others, and overall, a very low level of accountability.

No.27 Adam Graycar, "Accommodation Options for the Elderly", from : <u>Planning for Care in an Ageing Australia</u>, Proceedings of Anglican Retirement Villages Jubilee Seminar, October 1984, 17 pp.

This is the published version of a paper presented to Anglican Retirement Villages national seminar, Planning For Care in an Ageing Australia, and reported in SWRC Newsletter No.15.

The article reports data on demographic and housing matters, especially population projections; place of residence of elderly people by age, sex, disability, marital status; living arrangements by age, sex; nature of occupancy; dwelling type and structure. The data provide a backdrop to arguments about planning and provision in the future and about the types of interventions most suitable for governments, voluntary agencies, and commercial developers. Both open care and closed care systems are discussed. The paper concludes with an examination of considerations of equity, implications for allocating people to different care arrangements, and conflict of goals in our public/private, federal/state and formal/informal mix.

SUBJECT GUIDE TO SWRC PUBLICATIONS

In response to the many requests received from readers for research material linked to subject areas, we have cross-referenced SWRC publications to help serve the most usual enquiries.

It is worth mentioning that this was done in consideration of those people who require a quick guide to commence reading in a given area, and that it represents only a single-take classification (with some exceptions) in a field where multiple classifications are likely. It includes the complete publications of the Reports and Proceedings (R & Ps) and the Reprint series.



In order to purchase any of these reports, please refer, using the publication number given, to the publications list and order form in the centre pages of this Newsletter.

FAMILY STUDIES

R&Ps

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- No. 19 Tania Sweeney and Adam Jamrozik, <u>Services for Young Children: Welfare Service or Social Parenthood?</u>, March 1982, 144 pp.
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- No. 23 David Kinnear and Adam Graycar, Family Care of Elderly People: Australian Perspectives, May 1982, 63 pp.
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- No. 37 Stuart Rees and Anneke Emerson, <u>Disabled Children</u>, <u>Disabling Practices</u>, January 1984, 129 pp.
- No. 38 Chris Rossiter, David Kinnear and Adam Graycar, Family Care of Elderly People: 1983 Survey Results, January 1984, 100 pp.
- No. 40 Bettina Cass and Mary Ann O'Loughlin, Social Policies for Single Parent Families in Australia: An Analysis and a Comparison with Sweden, March 1984, 48 pp.
- No. 43 Ian Manning, Measuring the Costs of Living of Australian Families, April 1984, 70 pp.
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- No. 3 Bettina Cass, "Housing and the Family" from : Home Ownership in Australia : A Perspective for Future Policies, Housing Industry Association Seminar Proceedings, 1980, 14 pp.
- No. 5 Bettina Cass, Carol Keens and Jerry Moller, "Family Policy Halloween; Family Allowances: Trick or Treat?" from: Australian Quarterly, Vol.53, No.1, Autumn 1981, 17 pp.

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- No. 20 Bettina Cass, "Poverty and Children: the effects of the recession" from:

 Social Alternatives, Australian Social Welfare: Impact and New Doctor,

 Joint Issue September/October 1983, 5 pp.
- No. 22 David Kinnear and Adam Graycar, "Ageing and Family Dependency" from Australian Journal of Social Issues, Vol.19, No.1, February 1984, 14 pp.

CHILD WELFARE / CHILD CARE

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- No. 19 Tania Sweeney and Adam Jamrozik, <u>Services for Young Children: Welfare</u> Service or Social Parenthood?, March 1982, 144 pp.
- No. 22 Tania Sweeney, An Analysis of Federal Funding of Children's Services A Sourcebook, May 1982, 62 pp.
- No. 29 Jan Carter, <u>Protection to Prevention: Child Welfare Policies</u>, January 1983, 76 pp.
- No. 32 Andrew Jones, Selectivity in Children's Services Policy, June 1983, 68 pp.
- No. 34 Jo Jarrah (ed.), <u>Child Welfare: Current Issues and Future Directions</u>, July 1983, 89 pp.
- No. 37 Stuart Rees and Anneke Emerson, <u>Disabled Children</u>, <u>Disabling Practices</u>, January 1984, 129 pp.
- No. 44 Tania Sweeney and Adam Jamrozik, <u>Perspectives in Child Care: Experience of Parents and Service Providers</u>, April 1984, 201 pp.

- No. 12 Tania Sweeney, "Review Article: Studies of Childhood and Children's Services" from: Australian and New Zealand Journal of Sociology, Vol.17,
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- No. 1 Adam Graycar, "Experimentation and the Welfare State" from: Social Policy and Administration, Vol.14, No.3, 1980, 21 pp.
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- No. 1 J. Moller (ed.), Data for Welfare Decision Making, September 1980, 51 pp.
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- No. 16 Adam Jamrozik, "Evaluation in Welfare: Specific Means for Uncertain Ends" from: Developments in Australian Evaluation Research and Practice, Proceedings of the first National Evaluation Conference, August 1982, 43 pp.
- No. 17 Jerry Moller and Adam Graycar, "An Eye for Evaluation: from : Administration in Social Work, Vol.7, No.2, Summer 1983, 9 pp.

RETREAT FROM THE WELFARE STATE

We now have copies of Retreat from the Welfare State available for purchase through the Publications section of SWRC.

Edited by Adam Graycar, the book contains 10 chapters by researchers from the SWRC across a similar range of subject areas to the above, with particular focus on what happens to the social welfare, occupational welfare and fiscal welfare components of Australian social policy during a recession.

For purchasing details — see centre pages.

University of Sydney • Seminars

MEDICINE AND SOCIETY: SOME CONTEMPORARY AND HISTORICAL ISSUES

In 1985, a series of seminars for staff, postgraduate students and other interested people will be offered by the Department of History in association with the Faculty of Medicine.

26 March Diseases of civilisation: thinking about the health costs and benefits of material progress since the Enlightenment

> DR JOHN POWLES Social and Preventive Medicine, Monash University

2 April The Thalidomide legacy A/PROF JANET McCREDIE Radiology, University of Sydney

Beyond the limits of 30 April normality: psychiatry enters new domains in the 1980s

> DR DENISE RUSSELL General Philosophy University of Sydney

Seminars will be held in the Staff Common Room ground floor, Bosch Building, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney, 5 - 7 pm. except for Dr Powles' seminar, which will be 12.30 - 2pm. in the same place.

RSVP to Dr Milton Lewis, History Department, University of Sydney, Tel. 692.2855.

SOCIAL WELFARE, SERVICES, TAX AND JOBS: NEW DIRECTIONS IN RESEARCH AND POLICY

This is the general theme for the seminar series presented by the Department of Social Work in first semester 1985.

Welfare Issues for the 7 March

1980s

COLLEEN CHESTERMAN

Director

NSW Council of Social

Service

14 March From Child-Saving to Child-

Blaming. A Canadian Case-

Study

PROFESSOR PAUL HAVEMANN The School of Human Justice Faculty of Social Work University of Regina

Saskatchewan Canada

Low Income Housing in the 21 March

Inner City of Sydney

PAT TROY Urban Research Unit and Social Justice Project RSSS

Australian National

University

The Kirby Report on Labour 11 April

> Market Programs, Tackling Labour Market inequality through employment and training policy programs

JOHN FREELAND

Department of Social Work

University of Sydney

The venue for these seminars will be the Dept. of Social Work, Mills Building, University of Sydney. Except for Prof. Havemann's seminar to be held from 4 - 6 pm; seminars will be held from 2 - 4 pm.

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