

# **PRACTICAL SOCIAL WORK**

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Social work is at an important stage in its development. All professions must be responsive to changing social and economic conditions if they are to meet the needs of those they serve. This series focuses on sound practice and the specific contribution which social workers can make to the well-being of our society in the 1980s.

The British Association of Social Workers has always been conscious of its role in setting guidelines for practice and in seeking to raise professional standards. The conception of the Practical Social Work series arose from a survey of BASW members to discover where they, the practitioners in social work, felt there was the most need for new literature. The response was overwhelming and enthusiastic, and the result is a carefully planned, coherent series of books. The emphasis is firmly on practice, set in a theoretical framework. The books will inform, stimulate and promote discussion, thus adding to the further development of skills and high professional standards. All the authors are practitioners and teachers of social work, representing a wide variety of experience.

JO CAMPLING

# PRACTICAL SOCIAL WORK

Series Editor: Jo Campling

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# **Social Work with Disabled People**

**Michael Oliver**

**M**  
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# Foreword

During the past three years when the ideas in this book have been germinating and the writing taking place, I have been fortunate to have the support of three different groups of people. To the Open University team responsible for the course *The Handicapped Person in the Community*, to the Development Group of Kent Social Services Department and the Social Work Staff Group at the University of Kent, I owe an immense debt of gratitude.

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Readers may well ask why with such help and support the book is not better than it actually is. Any deficiencies are of course my own responsibility. I only hope that the two groups at which the book is aimed, social workers and disabled people, will feel neither misrepresented nor betrayed by it, and that it may provide a useful framework around which to organise their mutual activities.

*University of Kent, 1982*

Michael Oliver

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