

ABSTRACTS

Grief experiences of women in prison following the death of a loved one

Ferszt GG. *Illness Crisis and Loss* 2002; 10(3): 242-254

The loss of a loved one can be devastating in the best of circumstances. Women in prison are faced with a unique challenge when they experience such a loss, yet little is known about the grieving process through which they pass. This interesting article examines the experience of three American women who suffered the death of a significant person while they were imprisoned: their isolation, the absence of emotional support from family or friends, the lack of privacy in which to grieve, the humiliation of being taken to view the deceased in shackles, handcuffs and prison attire, the inability to take part in burial rituals, and their fear of expressing their emotions because of the threat of disciplinary action. The context of the prison, by complicating the grieving process, resulted in disenfranchised grief. The

author believes there should be further exploration of the grief experience of incarcerated women.

Disenfranchised grief in stepfamilies

Gerrard I. *Grief Matters* 2002; 5(1): 11-14

The author of this thought-provoking article is a family therapist. On the basis of her experience she explores the idea of disenfranchised grief in stepfamilies. In the initial phases of a stepfamily creation, children's grief can be largely unrecognised or completely denied by adults in the family. She cites possible reasons for this, not least the fact that children are more likely to be further back in the grieving process than their adult counterparts. Moreover, their grief is exacerbated by their sense of powerlessness. Nor is it an easy situation for the parents. Children and parents alike may experience losses that are 'hidden', and are often suffered silently. It is suggested that counsellors and educators should become familiar with such hidden losses, so that they can help stepfamilies not only to survive but to reach their full

potential. The need to incorporate the past while also moving ahead is seen to be crucial in the resolution of grief for stepfamily members.

Grief resulting from euthanasia and natural death of companion animals

McCutcheon KA, Fleming SJ. *Omega* 2001-2002; 44(2): 169-188

Everyone who has ever owned pets knows how important they are in our lives. The death of a pet, like other losses, requires that the bereaved should adjust to the consequences of that loss, which are often severe. This study investigates the influence of a number of variables on how one reacts to the death of a companion animal, such as the cause of death (euthanasia or natural), the gender and age of the owner, the type of pet and the time since the loss. There was material here for an interesting article. Unfortunately it fails to live up to expectations, partly because the results are often inconclusive and contradictory, but mainly because it is dry and without

human appeal, lacking the anecdotal, first-hand evidence which would have been appropriate to the subject matter.

A personal journey through grief

Pathy MA. *Illness, Crisis & Loss* 2001; 9(4): 381-394

In this personal journey of grief, the author compares and contrasts her grief reactions and process of mourning at two stages of life. The first death, that of her father, occurred when she was thirteen; she had no help in resolving her grief, which led her to two suicide attempts and chronic depression. The second death, that of her best friend, occurred 48 years later, and catapulted her back to the time when she lost her father. This time she buried none of her feelings, and there was catharsis and healing. The author concludes that, while all losses are traumatic, the consequences of a childhood loss are more bewildering and devastating than at any other stage of life. For a child, the death of a parent is a loss that is forever. BC

Sheila Hodges and John Bush

INDEX TO BEREAVEMENT CARE

Volume 21 Spring 2002 - Winter 2002

Key: A = article No 1 = Spring issue
Ab = abstract No 2 = Summer issue
O = obituary No 3 = Winter issue
R = review

After Death, Life! (R); No 3: 46
Aftermath of losing a child (A); No 3: 38-40
And there's always this great hole inside that hurts: an empirical study of bereavement in later life (Ab); No 1: 16
Aitken A (R); No 3: 45
Attig T (R); No 1: 14-15
Barker P (R); No 3: 44
Bereaved by Suicide (R); No 2: 31
Bereavement and Commemoration (R); No 1: 12
Bereavement and trauma (A); No 2: 27-29
Bereavement support for couples following death of a baby: program development and 14-year analysis (Ab); No 2: 32
Bereavement Support Program for Children: Participant Workbook: 2nd edn (R); No 1: 13-14
Beyond Dying (R); No 1: 5
Beyond the Body: Death and Social Identity (R); No 2: 31
Beyond the Rough Rock: Supporting a Child who has been Bereaved through Suicide (R); No 2: 31
Bibliotherapy for Bereaved Children (R); No 2: 32
Black D (A); No 2: 24-26
Black D (R); No 3: 44
Bowman G (R); No 3: 47
Bowman T (A); No 3: 35-37
Cook AS (R); No 1: 15
Coping with bereavement among elderly widowers (Ab); No 2: 32
Crossley D (R); No 2: 31
Current challenges for bereavement care (A); No 3: 35-37
Davidson J (R); No 2: 31
Death in England (R); No 1: 12
Death, Memory and Material Culture (R); No 3: 47
Dent A (A); No 1: 9-10
Dijkstra I (A); No 3: 38-40
Disenfranchised grief in stepfamilies (Ab); No 3: 48

Do continuing bonds always help with adjustment to loss (A); No 3: 42-43
Doka KJ (R); No 2: 31
Doka KJ (A); No 1: 3-5
Dunn M (R); No 1: 15
Dying and Grieving 2nd edn (R); No 1: 15
Dying, Grieving, Faith and Family (R); No 3: 47
Eye in the Door, The (R); No 3: 44
Family and childhood bereavement, The: an overview (A); No 2: 24-26
Fathers' grief when a disabled child dies (Ab); No 2: 32
Finding a Way Through When Someone Close Has Died (R); No 3: 46
Gender specific coping patterns in widowed parents with dependent children (Ab); No 2: 32
Gittings C (R); No 1: 12
Good Death Guide, The (R); No 1: 15
Grief experiences of woman in prison following the death of a loved one (Ab); No 3: 48
Grief: Lessons from the past, visions for the future (A); No 2: 19-23
Grief resulting from euthanasia and natural death of companion animals (Ab); No 3: 48
Haals B (R); No 1: 13-14
Hallam E (R); No 2: 31
Hallam E (R); No 3: 47
Harris-Hendriks J (R); No 1: 11
Harrison T (R); No 1: 5
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (R); No 1: 11
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (R); No 1: 11
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (R); No 1: 11
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (R); No 1: 11
Heart of Grief, The (R); No 1: 14-15
Harvey M (R); No 1: 13
Heaven and Hell (R); No 1: 12
Help your Marriage Survive the Death of a Child (R); No 3: 46
Helping Adults with Mental Retardation Grieve a Death Loss (R); No 1: 13
Hockey J (R); No 2: 31
Hockey J (R); No 3: 47
Holland J (R); No 3: 44
Horn S (R); No 2: 23

Howarth G (R); No 2: 31
Hunt J (A); No 3: 40-41
In my heart he's still there: children's responses to the death of a grandparent (A); No 1: 6-8
Internet resources for work with bereaved parents (R); No 3: 45
Jones EH (R); No 2: 32
Jupp P (R); No 1: 12
Klicker R (R); No 3: 45
Klass D (R); No 1: 5
Living with Grief: at Home, at School, at Worship (R); No 2: 31
Loss and Bereavement (R); No 2: 23
Loss and Grief: It Hurts (resource bank) (R); No 1: 13
Luchterhand C (R); No 1: 13
Lutovich DS. (R); No 3: 37
Mallon B (R); No 3: 45
Managing Loss, Separation and Bereavement (R); No 3: 45
Mapping grief: an active approach to grief resolution (Ab); No 1: 16
Marnocha J (R); No 1: 13-14
Maqsood RW (R); No 3: 46
Mood P (R); No 3: 46
Murphy N (R); No 1: 13
Newman M (A); No 2: 27-29
Nine-cell bereavement table (A); No 3: 40-41
Nobody's Child (R); No 3: 37
Oltjenbruns KA (R); No 1: 15
Parent Grief (R); No 3: 46
Parents' perceptions of adolescent sibling grief responses after an adolescent or young adult child's sudden, violent death (A); No 3: 47
Parkes CM (A); No 2: 19-23
Payne S (R); No 2: 23
Personal journey through grief, A (Ab); No 3: 48
Preisner Z (R); No 2: 30
Putting bereaved parents in the frame (A); No 1: 9-10
Realta Productions (R); No 1: 15
Relf M (R); No 2: 23
Renzenbrink I (A); No 1: 6-8

Requiem for my Friend (CD) (R); No 2: 30
Retelling Violent Death (R); No 3: 47
Role of ritual in children's bereavement, The (Ab); No 1: 16
Rosenblatt PC (R); No 3: 46
Rowling JK (R); No 1: 11
Ryneerson E (R); No 3: 47
Schut H (R); No 2: 30
Shannon P (R); No 2: 31
Shared grief: a family affair (Ab); No 2: 32
Sheridan A (R); No 1: 12
Special Scar, A, 2nd edn (R); No 3: 47
Spiritual Lives of Bereaved Parents, The (R); No 1: 5
Spirituality, loss and grief: the double-edged sword (A); No 1: 3-5
Stokes J (R); No 2: 31
Student Dies (A), a School Mourns (R); No 3: 45
Talking about Suicide (R); No 1: 15
Talking to children about death (Ab); No 1: 16
Tarlou S (R); No 1: 12
Understanding Children's Experiences of Parental Bereavement (R); No 3: 44
Vicky Angel (R); No 1: 15
Weathering the storm of perinatal bereavement via hardiness (Ab); No 2: 32
Wertheimer A (R); No 3: 47
Whittaker L (R); No 3: 46
Wilson J (R); No 1: 15

CANCELLATION OF CONFERENCE

It is much regretted that the International Conference on Death and Bereavement in Contemporary Society which was to have taken place in Belfast on 25-29 July 2003 under the auspices of Cruse Bereavement Care, has had to be cancelled. A possible alternative venue and date is being explored and will be announced in these columns