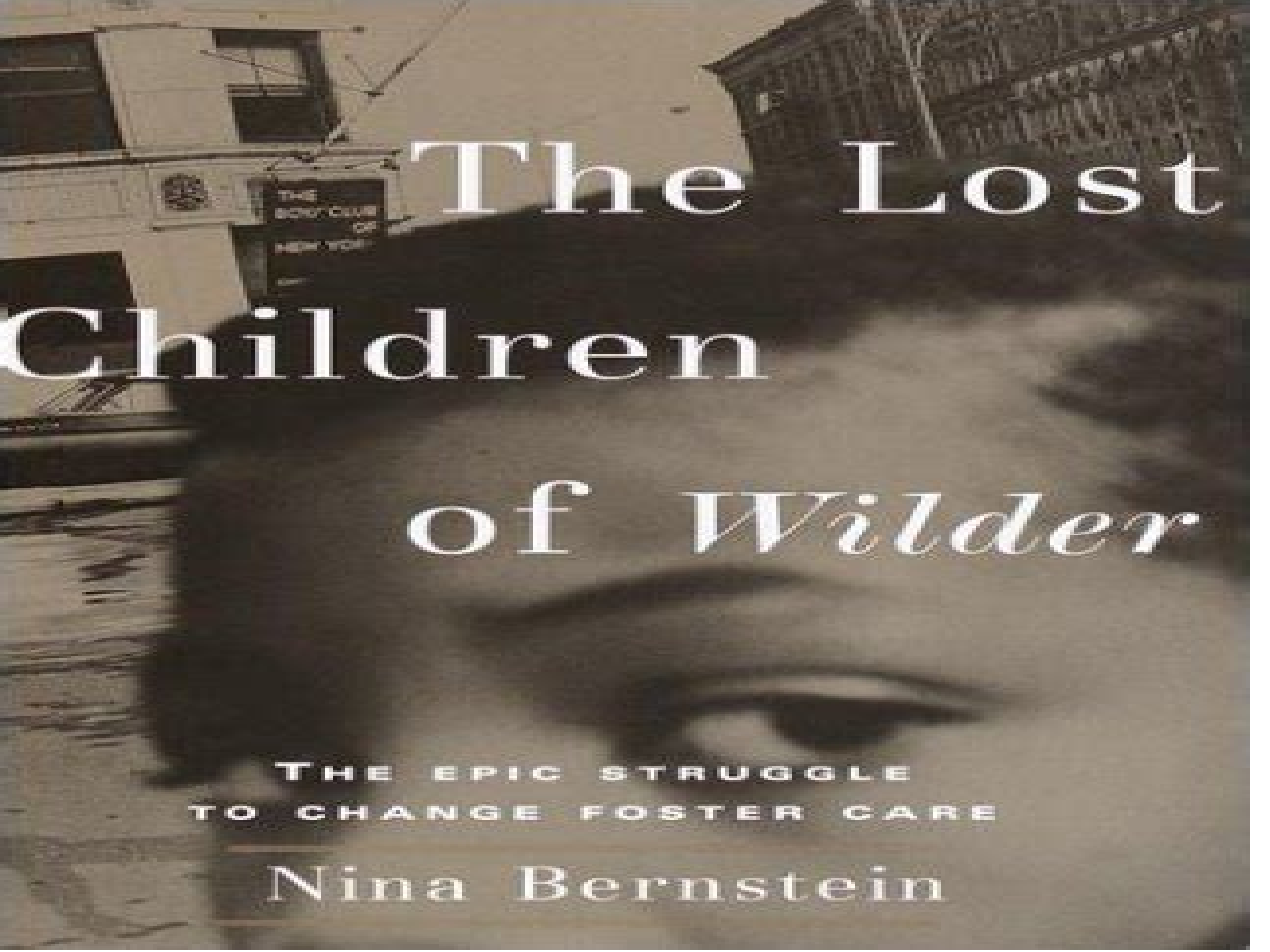




The Lost Children of *Wilder*

THE EPIC STRUGGLE
TO CHANGE FOSTER CARE

Nina Bernstein

Lost Children Of Wilder The Epic Struggle To Change Foster Care

**David A. Hardcastle, Patricia R.
Powers, Stanley Wenocur**



Lost Children Of Wilder The Epic Struggle To Change Foster Care:

The Lost Children of Wilder Nina Bernstein, 2011-03-23 In 1973 Marcia Lowry a young civil liberties attorney filed a controversial class action suit that would come to be known as Wilder which challenged New York City's operation of its foster care system Lowry's contention was that the system failed the children it was meant to help because it placed them according to creed and convenience not according to need The plaintiff was thirteen year old Shirley Wilder an abused runaway whose childhood had been shaped by the system's inequities Within a year Shirley would give birth to a son and relinquish him to the same failing system Seventeen years later with Wilder still controversial and still in court Nina Bernstein tried to find out what had happened to Shirley and her baby She was told by child welfare officials that Shirley had disappeared and that her son was one of thousands of anonymous children whose circumstances are concealed by the veil of confidentiality that hides foster care from public scrutiny But Bernstein persevered *The Lost Children of Wilder* gives us in galvanizing and compulsively readable detail the full history of a case that reveals the racial religious and political fault lines in our child welfare system and lays bare the fundamental contradiction at the heart of our well intended efforts to sever the destiny of needy children from the fate of their parents Bernstein takes us behind the scenes of far reaching legal and legislative battles at the same time as she traces in heartbreaking counterpoint the consequences as they are played out in the life of Shirley's son Lamont His terrifying journey through the system has produced a man with deep emotional wounds a stifled yearning for family and a son growing up in the system's shadow In recounting the failure of the promise of benevolence *The Lost Children of Wilder* makes clear how welfare reform can also damage its intended beneficiaries A landmark achievement of investigative reporting and a tour de force of social observation this book will haunt every reader who cares about the needs of children

Out of Harm's Way Richard J. Gelles, 2017 Despite efforts to create revise reform and establish an effective child welfare system in the United States the system continues to fail to ensure the safety and well being of maltreated children *Out of Harm's Way* presents four specific changes that would lead to a more effective system and unlike many other studies of this system the changes recommended here are affordable scalable and proven

Policing Not Protecting Families Jennifer Randles, Kerry Woodward, 2025-03-11 Controlling surveilling and punishing poor families through the child welfare system In a typical year one in five US children have some interaction with the child welfare system Countless other families particularly those who struggle to care for their children due to poverty or economic insecurity fear child welfare system involvement Though imagined as a system that protects children from caregivers maltreatment contributors to *Policing Not Protecting Families* argue that the child welfare system polices and punishes poor parents who are unable to meet white middle class parenting standards due to structural inequalities Bringing together scholars from anthropology sociology law and social work this collection is the first to critically examine the child welfare system's role in governing poor disproportionately Black and Native families It shows that the child welfare system is a key site of poverty

governance or state control and management of poor families Chapters bring together empirical research from diverse settings across the US highlighting the system s interactions with other state systems and its wide impact on marginalized families Together the chapters illustrate the failure of the child welfare system to protect children and families from the structural inequalities that shape the lives of poor and other marginalized families *Another Mother* Sarah Gerstenzang,2007 The author describes her experiences being a foster parent discussing home visits intervention evaluation parenting training sessions transracial placement and other related topics *Parenting for the State* Teresa Toguchi Swartz,2020-11-25 Through careful ethnography and rich in depth interviews at a non profit foster family agency this book takes a look behind the scenes of our troubled foster care system *Child Care Policy at the Crossroads* Sonya Michel,Rianne Mahon,2013-12-16 Whether childcare is seen as part of society s educational policy welfare policy or employment policy affects not only its form and content but also its public image The contributors in this volume use current polices for the care of infants and preschool children to analyze debates and track the emergence of new state welfare practices across a variety of social and political configurations and offer some conclusions about which methods work the best

Six Steps to Successful Child Advocacy Amy Conley Wright,Kenneth J. Jaffe,2013-11-26 Six Steps to Successful Child Advocacy Changing the World for Children by Amy Conley Wright and Kenneth J Jaffe offers an interdisciplinary approach to child advocacy nurturing key skills through a proven six step process that has been used to train child advocates and create social change around the world The approach is applicable for micro advocacy for one child mezzo advocacy for a community or group of children and macro advocacy at a regional national or international level This practical text offers skill building activities and includes timely topics such as how to use social media for advocacy Case studies of advocacy campaigns highlight applied approaches to advocacy across a range of issues including child welfare disability early childhood and education Words of wisdom from noted child advocates from the U S and around the world including a foreword from Dr Jane Goodall illustrate key concepts Readers are guided through the process of developing a plan and tools for a real life child advocacy campaign *Climate Change, Social Inequality, and Doom* William M. Epstein,2025-09-16 A critical examination of how inequality and cultural inertia hinder meaningful climate action The challenges of climate change like so many issues today are not evenly distributed across social and economic lines In this sobering exploration of the interconnected crises of climate change and social inequality William M Epstein examines how entrenched cultural values and systemic inequities thwart meaningful climate action driving humanity closer to catastrophic consequences Epstein outlines three potential climate futures ranging from manageable to devastating and scrutinizes society s inability to confront these realities with meaningful action He argues that solutions exist but they demand sacrifices and transformations that clash with deeply rooted societal norms Epstein highlights the global indifference to equality and environmental stewardship and exposes the tragic inertia that imperils democracy the environment and humanity itself By examining the broader

implications of inequality ranging from resource distribution to policy inertia he reveals how societal values shape environmental outcomes and the growing divide between those who bear the brunt of climate change and those who remain insulated Offering a sharp critique of romanticized individualism and its role in undermining collective action this provocative book challenges readers to rethink society's capacity and willingness to confront existential and environmental threats A profound and timely work Climate Change Social Inequality and Doom confronts the moral and political failures that define the climate crisis and reveals the stark choice between an equitable sustainable future and irreversible decline

Community Practice David A. Hardcastle, Patricia R. Powers, Stanley Wenocur, 2004 Community Practice is a comprehensive resource for social workers and students eager to learn how to practice effectively in complex systems and diverse communities In this completely revised edition of the definitive text in the field the authors have thoroughly updated each chapter and added two entirely new chapters on community building and community organizing New material on topics such as negotiation and mediation community advocacy participatory rural appraisal the narrative approach to social change community involvement representative client boards and the latest in grassroots endeavors make this text as inspiring as it is practical Drawing upon the wealth of information available from local organizations the Internet newspapers and academic journals the authors introduce contemporary experiments and analyze classic modes of community practice and change The content exercises and references offer instructors the flexibility necessary to tailor their courses to undergraduate graduate and doctoral level students This new edition will continue to provide a comprehensive and integrated overview of the theory and skills fundamental to all areas of social work practice Broad in scope it offers students as well as practitioners the tools necessary to promote the welfare of individuals and communities

Civil Liberties in America Samuel Walker, 2004-04-15 A concise authoritative guide to civil liberties issues in American society from freedom of speech and religious liberty to due process equal protection and privacy Written for a general audience this work clearly defines civil liberties and explains their legal basis in the Bill of Rights state constitutions legal statutes and administrative regulations It reviews the subject's history from 1917 to the present and covers the full range of civil liberties issues the First Amendment due process equal protection and privacy In addition to extensive material on past controversies such as the Scopes trial and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II the book discusses important contemporary issues such as censorship on the Internet and drug testing The coverage also examines conflicting civil liberties issues such as hate speech which pits one person's freedom of expression against another's right to equal protection The book contains extensive bibliographic references to books and articles and a long list of website links to organizations active on all sides of today's civil liberties controversies

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