

SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY TIMELINE

17TH CENTURY

SPIRITUAL WELFARE The dispensing of poor relief was the proper agency of the church. Followed the English practice of "the Parish" being designated as the poor relief agency; relied on church collections. "Comforters of the sick," visitors of the sick."

1658 **The First Public Relief Program (NYS)**. Due to a poor growing season and a variety of epidemics, towns provided opportunities for work (built barns, fences, buildings) in exchange for assistance.

Two Theories of Poverty. (1) People were poor because they spent their money on liquor; (2) Immigrants were poor because they never worked with their hands; they were "traders" opposed to "laborers"

18TH CENTURY

1700'S **SINGLE MOTHERS** did not have the right to parent their children; they were deemed "neglectful" and their children were placed "out-of-home". Children under the age of six were "boarded out" and paid for by the family or community. Children seven and older were indentured or apprenticed. The survival of the community was paramount, family was secondary.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS began taking responsibility for the poor. Special assistance provided to veterans of the Revolutionary War.

1778 **Creation of Almshouses** to house the poor. This Act also created the position of Overseer of the Poor in each town. Corporal punishment and jail sentences were imposed on debtors and vagrants.

19TH CENTURY

1800'S **The Institutional Movement.** A rise in the number and types of institutions to house "socially unfit" people.

"Social Housekeeping" go into people's homes and correct behavior

- "Moral Treatment"** (Phillipe Pinel) The notion that sychatric illness will be alleviated if patients were treated with kindness and encouragment. For those who could not afford "moraltreatment" they were institutionalized or incarcerated.
(MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1806 **The first orphan asylum** was established. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1809 **The Yates Survey.** The first comprehensive study of the poor and poverty problem. Many of the study's recommendations were enacted.
- The Contract System: the poor of a town were placed under the care of one or more households at a fixed rate per year, month or week. "Foster Care for the Poor"*
The Auction System: poor of the town were auctioned off to the LOWEST bidder
- 1814 **Aid to Widows and Orphans** Various government documents reports finacial assistance given to widows and their children. (CASH ASSISTANCE)
- 1824 **County Poorhouse Law (NY)** all recipients of aid were sent to the poorhouse. This legislation represents two policy shifts: (1) shifting responsibility from townsto counties; (2) a shift from outdoor relief towards indoor relief.
- The Rise of Scientific Charity.** A break with 17th century notions that poverty was a natural state. The Charity Movement developed and applied principles of poverty and began to "investigate" the poor.
- 1824- **Indoor Relief.** Every county was responsible for it's 1866 poor. The almshouse was the centerpiece of poverty policy.
- The Poorhouse** was deemed successful at the time because it was economical. It was cheaper to house the poor together. It was also believed to deter people from seeking relief; if it was so awful, it would not be worth asking for. Many problems resulted: counties argued about the financial cost; Who pays? Massive overcrowding, horrible treatment. Men, women, children and "mental defects" all housed together. (PUBLIC WELFARE POLICY)
- 1850's **Child Saving Movement.** Social reformers rescued children from almshouses and placed them in orphanages and foster homes. Moved approximately 100,000 children from the east and placed them in homes throughout the

midwest (Children's Midwest Migration). Publicized the horrible conditions for children in poorhouses, advocated for changes in the laws. Created Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Children's Aid Societies; introduced juvenile probation and juvenile justice courts, the playground movement, compulsory education, daycare and kindergartens, campaigns against child labor, public health measures, etc.

Dorthea Dix Improving the care for the mentally ill paupers who were punished for their condition or received no care at all. Tied to establish a minimum standard of care. Her efforts succeeded to a point, however, the institutions populations grew too rapidly and were incapable of helping everyone. (MENTAL HEALTH)

- 1850-1860 **Series of Economic Crises and Cholera Epidemics.** During 1857-1858 there was a fear of revolution and rioting because of the poor economic conditions. "flour riots" and hunger riots.
- 1856 **The Poor Law of 1856.** Deemed poorhouse a disgrace. Marked the beginning of the effort to return to outdoor relief. Children had to be removed; the removal of insane paupers to state hospitals, and established a committee to oversee all efforts. Most of the mandates did not go into effect until 1867. (POVERTY POLICY)
- 1861 **The Civil War** began.
- 1870 **First Conference on Charities** (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
Through the presentation of papers at conferences and the publication of articles in journals, members of any profession communicate and critique new ideas, argue, formulate new theories and practices.
- 1874 **The Children's Act** (NY) removed children from almshouses and placed them in orphanages (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1879 **An Act to Regulate the Treatment and Control of Dependent, Neglected, and Delinquent Children** was the predecessor to family court. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1886 **Lend-A-Hand** a journal out of Boston focusing on the practices of who would later become "social workers" (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

1890's **The Settlement Movement.**

Social Engineering

- 1891 Charities Review was the official journal of the Charity Organization Society (COS) (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1893 A paper, "**The Need for Training Schools for a New Profession**," presented by Anna Davis at a national conference. She argued that there was much to be taught and learned from charity workers. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1896 The Commons was the official journal of the Settlement Movement (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1897 The paper, "**The Need for a Training School in Applied Philanthropy**" by Mary Richmond, Baltimore COS. This paper included a curriculum model, a field component, and argued that the school be associated with a university. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1897 The formation of the **National Association of Colored Women**, this organization of women was extremely active in social welfare activities, establishing orphanages and homes for the aged, health programs, and schools within the African-American community.
- 1897 Charities another journal from the COS in NYC. This journal focused on the work of agencies. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY).
- 1897 Jewish Charities a journal out of NYC (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1898 Charities and The Commons merged and renamed Charities and The Commons. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1898 The creation of **The Summer School of Philanthropy** the first School of Social Work organized by the NYC COS. The school was an annual six-week summer program for persons in the field.

20TH CENTURY

- 1900s The **Mental Health Movement** Clifford Beers founded the National Mental Health Association. Tried to humanize the conditions of institutions but failed. Began an education campaign on the causes, early diagnosis, prevention and treatment.

The Eugenic Movement The science of improving the human race through better breeding. Social reformers saw this as a preventative method.

"The Poor Problem" The Syracuse Journal (Jan 22, 1875)
 ...Some ninety years ago, a young girl named "Margaret" was left adrift in one of these villages--it does not appear whether through crime or misfortune of others. There was no almshouse in the place; but she was the subject of out-door relief, probably receiving occasionally food and clothing from the officials, but never educated, and never kindly shelter in a home. She became the mother of a long race of criminals and paupers, and her progeny has cursed the county ever since.

The county records show 200 of her descendants who have been criminals. In one single generation of her unhappy line there were twenty children; of these, three in infancy and seventeen survived to maturity. Of the seventeen, nine served in the State prisons for high crimes and aggregate term of fifty years, while the others were frequent inmates of jails and penitentiaries and almshouses!

Of the descendants, through six generations, from this unhappy girl who was left on the village streets and abandoned in childhood, a great number have been idiots, imbeciles, lunatics, drunkards and paupers; but 200 of the more vigorous are on record as criminals. This neglected little child cost the county authorities, in the effects she has transmitted, thousands of dollars in the expense and care of criminals and paupers, beside the untold damage she has inflicted on property and public morals.

When we think of the multitude of wretched beings she left upon the earth; of the suffering, degradation, ignorance and crime she has caused to thousands of innocent families, and the loss to the community, we can all feebly appreciate the importance to the public of the care and education of a single pauper child.

Sterilization Laws Laws began to be enacted in states to sterilize the "socially unfit." Opponents of sterilization argued that the best way to deal with this population was to incarcerate the "feebleminded" during their childbearing years.

The Virginia Colony was one place where the "socially unfit" were housed, located in Lynchburg, Va. and became a major focus for debate regarding The Eugenics Movement-sterilization laws.

A woman, Carrie Buck, was raped and impregnated. She was a young, white, poor woman living in a multiracial neighborhood located on "the wrong side of the tracks." As a consequence, she was deemed "socially unfit" and placed at the Virginia Colony, where her mother lived. She gave birth to a daughter, she named Vivian, who was placed with a foster family. At six-months, a doctor, upon examining Vivian, wrote that there was "something peculiar" about the girl.

At the same time, the Lynchburg Study was underway for the purpose of determining the heredity component of feeblemindedness. To the researchers, Carrie had the potential to be an important case study because her mother resided here, and the circumstances of her daughter; there was three generations of feeblemindedness.

A doctor determined that Carrie should be sterilized, and in 1926 her case reached the US Supreme Court. Jurist Oliver Wendell Holmes, in his decision, stated that people could be forcibly sterilized, using the same argument provided for mandatory vaccinations-- society as a whole will be protected. (One statement from the court decision: "apply the pruning knife with vigor.") This decision has never been challenged. Men and women were not informed of the procedure that was performed on them. In the 1970's, many journalists began investigating stories concerning forced sterilization. Many people found out for the first time that they had been sterilized.

There was a national Eugenics Record Office located on Long Island, NY, whose task was to track down families they thought should be sterilized. Field workers went to homes to investigate, and eventually many of these people were sterilized as a result.

According to many sources, the basis of Hitler's extermination plan came out of the work of the doctors' participating in the Lynchburg Study. In 1933, Hitler's associates praised the work coming out of Virginia. Despite the atrocities of the Holocaust, forcible sterilizations in the US continued after the conclusion of WWII.

1900s **The Creation of the Foster Care System** Despite the creation of the foster care system of care for children, there wasn't any federal funding available until 1958.
(CHILD WELFARE)

WWI Many social workers became interested in peace and justice issues. For example, Jane Addams wrote Peace and Break in Time of War documenting social work efforts and ideals. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

During WWI, 85 African-American social workers were sent to Europe under the auspices of the YMCA. Referred to as "secretaries", they developed recreational and welfare services for the soldiers abroad. This effort was reflective of the strong heritage of collective self-help in African-American communities. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY) (Kerr Chandler, Susan. "That Biting Stinging Thing Which Ever Shadow Us" African-American Social Workers in France During WWI" Social Service Review September 1995 vol 69, no.3, pp498-514)

- 1902 Charities and the Commons renamed Survey. This publication had a profound influence on social policy, social welfare and the development of the social work profession. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY).
- 1908 The start of "The Baby Saving Campaign" to combat the problem of infant mortality (CHILD WELFARE/HEALTH).
- 1909 White House Conference on the Care of Dependent Children, where it was agreed that children should not be deprived of a home life.(CHILD WELFARE)
- 1909 THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU was created to investigate the welfare of children throughout the United States. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1909 Jane Addams elected to the National Conference of Charities & Corrections. She was the first settler and first head the organization; combining the settlement movement and social case work movement. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

This action marked the beginning to recognize how poor environments or other adverse social and economic conditions, as well as personal frailties, influenced well-being. Social reform began to replace charity, hence the need to advocate for social insurance programs and preventative legislation.

- 1909 NAACP established
- 1910 "Summer School of Philanthropy" extended to a two-year program later named the Columbia University School of Social Work. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

- 1911 **Enactment of the "Widow's Pension"** to ensure income for children made dependent by absence of a wage-earner due to death, incapacity to work or desertion. (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1911 **National Urban League** established.
- 1912 **The Women's Bureau** was created (with the US Department of Labor) to improve the working conditions for women
- 1915 The infamous paper, "**Is Social Work a Profession?**" by Dr. Abraham Flexner (an educator) is presented. Through this paper he argued that social work was NOT a profession. This paper precipitated a flood of responses, as well as numerous efforts to address his criticisms. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- According to Flexner, a profession can be so classified if it meets the following six criteria: "Professions involve essentially intellectual operations with large individual responsibility; they derive their raw materials from science and learning; this material they work up to a practical and definitive end; they possess an educationally communicable technique; they to to self-organization; they are becoming increasingly altruistic in motivation." p.58, proceedings from Education for Social Work conference, NYC*
- 1917 **Social Diagnosis** by Mary Richmond is published (a social work classic). Applied the medical model to social work. This included: investigation, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment. She argued that the need for individual treatment would always exist. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1917 Name change: National Conference of Charities to National Conference of Charities and Corrections to **National Conference of Social Work**. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1918 **The School of Psychiatric Social Work** is established at Smith College, a women's college in Boston, to assist mental patients and soldiers returning from WWI. The experience of case workers assisting the Red Cross in helping soldiers along with the influence of Freud and the field of Psychiatry precipitated the formation of this school. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1918 **Compulsory Education for Children** laws enacted in every state throughout the US. (EDUCATION/CHILD WELFARE)

- 1920's **The development of a professional identity for social work.** A focus on the need for technical expertise, social casework. A focus on the **individual's emotional and personal problems.** A concern with the unequal relationship that existed between provider or services and recipient of services. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1920 **The Association of Training School of Professional Social Work** established. This was the first accreditation body which maintain the standards and curriculum of socialwork schools. The name has changed numerous times throughout the years: **National Association of Professional Schools of Social Work** to **American Association of Schools of Social Work.**
- 1920 **Social Casework** now called **Families in Society** (out of UWMilw) is established. This is the oldest social work journal in publication. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1920 **The Sheppard-Towner Act (a.k.a. Child/Maternal Health Act)** was a public health measure which created materanl and children's clinics ("Baby-Health Stations") around the country, and played a significant role in lowering the child mortality rate in the US during it's short existence. (CHILD WELFARE/CHILD AND MATERNAL HEALTH)
- The Sheppard-Towner Act was significant for many reasons. This legislation was the first federally funded health program in the US. The passage of this measure was the result of women organizing at all levels and putting the pressure on Congressional leaders. Women took advantage of their right to vote and participant in public affairs. Women developed, implemented and administered the public clinics. This legislation also represents the involvement of the federal government in the area of children's health.*
- The medical profession defeated it's reauthorization, and by doing so caused the demise of significant female input in the delivery of preventative health services and policies.*
- WWII **Psychiatric Examinations for Soldiers.** Psychiatry was a prominent profession, hence, young men were screened for "mental fitness." Many men were deemed "in need" of mental health services. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1922 **Child Welfare** journal is established. Practice-oriented publication for the profession. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

- 1925 The paper, "**Is Social Work Professional?: A Re-examination of the Question**" is presented at the National conference of Social Work. This paper provided an update on the status of the profession. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1927 **Social Service Review** is established out of the Univ of Chicago. This is a scholarly-oriented publication. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1929 **The stock market crashes.** The social work profession recognizes the need to return to social action and social reform. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1930's **Social Work: A Profession** The depression had a profound influence on the profession. For the first time social work recognized rural poverty, and no longer focused solely on issues in urban communities.
The scope of the profession broadened during the 1930's to include social planning, social policy, poverty, casework, agriculture issues, recreation, etc. The profession--as a group and as individual social workers--influenced federal and state policy from both the inside--social workers held positions in government--and outside--lobbying, testifying, etc.
There was a recognition for advanced education for social workers, growth of numerous professional societies and associations; sociology as a new area of study. During the 1930's, more women had the opportunity to go to college, the US was in a period of rapid industrialization. For the first time, there was extensive public funding of social welfare programs.
- 1930 **The Census Bureau includes "social work"** for the first time as an occupational category (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1930 **SOCIAL WORK TODAY** is established (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY).
- 1930 **White House Conference on Child Health and Protection** organized in response to the rise of infant mortality. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1931 **The American Association of Social Work** is an active participant in organizing US Senate hearings on unemployment relief. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1933 **Housing Act of 1933** provided a variety of subsidies to encourage expansion of private housing market. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)

- 1933 **Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) and Public Works Administration (PWA)** Created work opportunities, and expanded consumer spending through public construction projects (PUBLIC WELFARE-JOBS)
- 1935 **National Youth Administration** Provided jobs and training for unemployed youth and needy students (PUBLIC WELFARE-JOBS)
- 1935 **Social Security Act** Marked the beginning of federal aid to the states. Created "entitlements," created old-age insurance or pension for the elderly who worked. Provided unemployment insurance provisions (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)

Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) - Title IV of the Social Security Act replaced ADC, provided matching funds to states for mothers pensions. 1980 named change to Aid to Families with Dependent Children AFDC (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)

ADC/AFDC has been the most successful measure in preventing out-of-home-placements for children. Opponents to AFDC argued that this program causes single parent families, encourages dependency.

Title V of The Social Security Act provided federal funding for the provision of child welfare services (CHILD WELFARE)

SSA/ADC significant (1) established federal government's responsibility for dependent children and their families; (2) altered the definition of children considered "dependent" and out-of-home placement; (3) SSA removed "fatherless" children as a group likely to be placed outside the home, and by doing so changed the focus towards children who were considered higher risks for abuse and neglect.

- 1935 **PUBLIC WELFARE** is established, focusing on public assistance programs.
- 1935 **Agriculture Trade Act** Purchased food commodities to distribute to the poor. An early hunger program. Hunger programs are under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Department. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- 1936 **School Lunch Program** established under the auspice of the Agriculture Department. It was seen as a way of reducing food commodities. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)

1937 **Work Progress Administration (WPA)** earmarked federal funds for daycare. (PUBLIC WELFARE-DAYCARE)

Women were needed to fill the jobs that men abandoned to become soldiers during WWII.

1940's A return to **social casework** predominance. The Civil Rights Movement; recognition of poverty and the poor.

1941 **Lanham Act** provided federal funding for building and operating daycare centers in defense factories. (PUBLIC WELFARE-DAYCARE)

1942 **EMERGENCY MATERNAL AND CHILD CARE HEALTH PROGRAM** was enacted in response to the war and women working. Women had little income and needed affordable health care for themselves and their children. Federal funding went to the states to pay for medicare services. (PUBLIC WELFARE-MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH)

1944 **"THE GI Bill"** provided education and training, and/or housing assistance for returning soldiers. This legislation was enacted to prevent a glut of people in the job market. Deemed as the most successful public welfare program ever. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING/EDUCATION)

1946 **National School Lunch Program** granted permanent status. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)

1946 The book, Reveille for Radicals, by Sal Alinsky, is the catalyst for the field of community organization. Social workers becoming more involved in organizing communities and groups. borrowing union organizing techniques, developed grassroots organizing to an art form. Chicago's neighborhoods were Alinsky's laboratory for his ideas. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

1946 **The elimination of federal funding for daycare centers.** 2,800 centers closed as women returned to their homes.

1946 **The Mental Health Act of 1946** established the National Institute of Mental Health which focused on training, education and research. (MENTAL HEALTH)

- 1949 **Urban Renewal** The federal government begins to address the need for improvements in urban areas; clean-up and revitalize slum areas, and eliminating deteriorating housing, and replace it with low-income housing. The series of initiatives enacted to accomplish this was never fully funded. The initiatives were poorly developed and implemented. For example, removed African-American's from their neighborhoods, eliminated housing and never replaced it. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1950'S The **rise of private psychiatric care**, psychoanalytic theory and practice. The development and use of psychotropic drugs, psychosurgery and electro-shock therapy. Revolutionize the way "the mentally ill" were treated. **The myth of mental illness.** Thomas Szasz (a Syracuse guy) challenges the psychiatric profession with his idea that mental illness does not exist, it is a social construction. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1952 The accreditation body is renamed to the **Council of Social Work Education (CSWE)** as it is known today. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1952 **Survey** folds (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1955 Formation of the **National Association of Social Workers (NASW)**. Establishes membership guidelines: graduates from an accredited school of social work. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1955 A series of papers critical of the profession, chastising colleagues for ignoring "social reform" (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1955 **The Mental Health Study Act** released "**Action for Mental Health**" which strongly argued for increased programs and funds for long-term mental health research, better training, expansion of treatment programs (including community centers and general hospitals.) The committee strongly argued for the closing of large-scale institutions. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1957 The paper, "**Is Social Work a Profession?**" by Ernest Greenwood revisits this question. He states,(social work) might have to give up social action to really be a profession. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)

- 1957 **Housing Act of 1957** was enacted in response to the problems of Urban Renewal caused. Attempted to rehabilitate declining housing, but it was too late. A primary factor in precipitating the urban riots of the
- 1960's (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1958 At the request of the Children's Bureau, the US Census Bureau conducts **nationwide study of daycare needs**. (PUBLIC WELFARE-DAYCARE)
- 1960 The phenomenon referred to as "**foster care drift**" is acknowledged. the movement of children from placement to placement without any plans for stability. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1961 **Amendment to AFDC** federal government would allow families with unemployed fathers to be eligible for AFDC benefits, referred to as AFDC-UP. Few states implement the new rule (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1961 **First White House Conference on Aging** to discuss the responsibilities of the federal government towards the aged.
- 1962 **Amendment to the School Lunch Program** authorized below-cost meals for children of needy families. (Commonly referred to as the Free Lunch Program) (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- 1962 **Manpower Developmental Training Act (MDTA)** The first comprehensive effort to help unemployed and underemployed by providing training in skills for the job market. (Public Welfare-Jobs)
- Men were always the intended recipients of jobs programs until 1964 with the enactment of the Civil Rights Act (Title VII-Equal Opportunity Act)*
- 1962 **Senior Citizen Housing Act** authorized the ensuring and granting of loans for housing for the elderly in rural areas (PUBLIC WELFARE/HOUSING/THE AGED)
- 1962 **Amendment to Title IV of the Social Security Act** allowing states to use AFDC funds to purchase daycare for children receiving AFDC. (PUBLIC WELFARE-DAYCARE)
- 1963 **Equal Pay Act**, first comprehensive legislation prohibiting employment discrimination. (RIGHTS)

- 1963 **The Community Mental Health Act of 1963** Provided the funds necessary for the establishment and staffing of community mental health centers. The initial funding came from the federal government. Today the states subsidize these. This act mandated five programs: (1) Inpatient Care: within a psychiatric hospital or in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1964 **Title VII of the Civil Rights Act** prohibiting sex discrimination. (RIGHTS)
- 1964 **Creation of HEADSTART** program for disadvantage preschoolers. (EDUCATION-CHILD WELFARE)
- 1964 **Food Stamp Act** formalized the food policies of the 1930's (see previous efforts) and was revised by President Kennedy. Provided food stamps to persons who were eligible. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- Food assistance is about the only assistance available to the working poor. The initial premise behind food assistance was to reduce farm subsidies and raise farm income. Helping the poor was secondary.*
- 1964 **The Equal Opportunity Act** (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act) prohibits discriminating against employees based on origin, sex or religion. African-American women were now eligible for AFDC (RIGHTS)
- Prior to EOA, 96% of AFDC recipients were white, 3% were African-American, and 1% was considered "other." Following EOA, 50% of AFDC were Native Americans.*
- 1965 **The Negro Family: The Case for National Action**, by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, was deemed racist at the time of its release; called for a national effort to strengthen the Negro Family. Advocated for federal policy that would reinstate black men as household-heads, by reducing the labor force participation by women. The report stated that the problem stemmed from the inability of black men to earn enough money to support their families. (PUBLIC WELFARE)
- 1965 **Older American's Act** included, among other things, free meals for the elderly (PUBLIC WELFARE-THE AGED)
- 1965 **Amendments to Social Security** to create Medicaid and Medicare health insurance for the poor and elderly (PUBLIC WELFARE-HEALTH-THE AGED)

- 1965 **HUD**, the Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of the federal government created (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1965 **National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO)**. Welfare recipients organized and engage in many acts of civil disobedience throughout the United States. At the height of the movement, they were a force to contend with. (PUBLIC WELFARE)
- 1966 **Child Nutrition Act** provided food support to provide more balanced diets for children in needy families (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- 1967 **The Gault Decision** guaranteed that children were "persons" with constitutional rights. (RIGHTS)
- 1968 **Housing Act of 1957 amended** creating the MODEL CITIES PROGRAM to stimulate economic growth in poor, urban areas. This legislation signals a shift from focusing on residential concerns (building low-income housing, etc.) to commercial interests (bringing business to areas) (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING-JOBS)
- 1969 **Proposed Family Assistance Plan** President Nixon proposed what was essentially a "negative income tax" program which provided for a guaranteed income for all, the first and last serious proposal of this sort considered (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1969 **Work Incentive Program (WIN)** established the "30 plus one-third" rule. AFDC recipients may work and keep the first \$30 dollars from their paychecks, plus one-third amounts above \$30 dollars. Also created fund for daycare. a Workfare program (PUBLIC WELFARE-JOBS)
- 1970 Researchers identify the "**Battered Child Syndrome**" raising the public's consciousness regarding child abuse. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1970 **White House Conference on Children** (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1970 **Family Planning Services and Population Research Act** (Title X of the Social Security Act) federal funding of clinics and programs that provided family planning services. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HEALTH)

- 1970's **The Ex-Mental Patients' Movement**. Persons labeled as "mentally ill" begin to organize and advocate for rights of the mentally ill. The "**Self-Advocacy**" Movement has been very influential group on local, state, national and international levels. (MENTAL HEALTH-RIGHTS)
- 1970 **Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act** established the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, followed by the National Institute on Drug Abuse
- 1971 The **Education Legislative Action Network (ELAN)** is created by NASW. (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1971 **Second White House Conference on Aging** (PUBLIC WELFARE-THE AGED)
- 1971 **The Comprehensive Child Care Act** provided federal monies to fund preschool, day care, nutritional, and other programs for children whose mothers would have been forced to leave the home and enter the labor force (CHILD WELFARE-PUBLIC WELFARE)
- Opponents to this legislation argued that child care is immoral. This legislation undermines families because it encourages the communal care of children.*
- 1972 **Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act** financed state and locally administered community-based programs for youth who had difficulties with the law. (CHILD WELFARE-JUSTICE)
- 1972 **Women, Infant and Children's Act (WIC)** provides food assistance (dairy products and cereal) to eligible, pregnant/nursing mothers and infants (up to age five years) (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER-CHILD WELFARE)
- 1972 **Supplemental Social Security Income Program**. Cash assistance to the aged (not eligible for social security benefits-unable to work), blind and disabled. (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1972 **Constructing low income housing**, federal government constructed one million low-income units per years (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1982
- 1973 **The Older American's Act** established, among other things, the Administration on Aging (PUBLIC WELFARE-THE AGED)

- 1973 **Roe vs. Wade** The Supreme Court decision guaranteeing a woman's right to an abortion (RIGHTS)
- 1974 **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act** provided funding for the states to identify, prevent and ameliorate the effects of abuse and neglect. The US experienced a rapid increase in the number of children placed in foster care. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1974 **The White House Conference on Families** held by President Carter
- 1974 Enactment of **Child Support Enforcement Legislation** (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1974 **Community Block Grant Program** established. Continuing the shift of funding from the construction of new units to rehabilitation and provision of rent vouchers. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1974 **Amendment to the Food Stamp Act** to eliminate initial food purchase requirements which prevented some poorer persons from participating, yet extended eligibility to more needy persons. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- 1975 **Amendments to The Community Mental Health Act** mandated more essential programs, special programs for children and elderly, aftercare, and halfway houses.
- 1975 **Political Action for Candidate Election (PACE)** established by NAWS (SOCIAL WORK HISTORY)
- 1978 **The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of the Civil Rights Act** prohibits discrimination against pregnant women (RIGHTS)
- 1980 **The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act** provided federal payments to states for child welfare and family support services, and attempted to change the federal incentive structure to favor prevention of out-of-home placement. Encouraged reunification with parents, and permanent placements for other children. A family preservation attempt that was never fully funded. During the 1980's there was a dramatic reduction in funding for children and family programs.
- 1980 **White House Conference on Children & Families** replaced the earlier conferences on children. Participants were not able to come to a consensus on what a family was. (CHILD WELFARE)

- 1980 **The Mental Health Systems Act** continued provisions of the Act of 1963 and made more provisions for special groups including people with severe mental illness, severely disturbed children and adolescents, and others who were underserved or not served at all. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1980's **"The Reagan Years"** collapsed funding for alcohol, drug abuse and mental health services under a single block grant. Funds were dramatically reduced. Less funding, no federal leadership or political "will" to deal with mental health issues. (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1980 **Emphasis on the Homeless** focused shifted away from housing to homelessness- involvement of private charities, and state and local governments (The new federalism-President Reagan) (PUBLIC WELFARE)
- 1981 **Omnibus Reconciliation Act.** Returned much of the responsibility of the poor to the states. Eliminated millions of dollars, and changed funding schemes to "block grants." Previously, funding was earmarked according to specific need. (PUBLIC WELFARE)
- 1982 **Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families** established by the House of Representatives for the first time in Congress.
- 1983 **Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFA)** provides aid to the homeless and money to pantries to purchase food products (PUBLIC WELFARE-HUNGER)
- 1984 **The "Baby Doe Laws,"** amendments to the **Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974** stated medical treatment can not be withheld from a newborn except in extreme circumstances, and that an existing or potential handicapping condition cannot be a factor in making a treatment decision. (CHILD WELFARE-HEALTH)
- 1986-on **Decline in construction of low-income housing,** federal government constructs about 25,000 units per year during this time period. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING)
- 1986 **Tax Reform Act of 1986** provides tax credits for the provision of housing for the truly needy. Encouraged private sector participation. A Department of Treasury program. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING-TAX INCENTIVE)

- 1986 **Education for all Handicapped Children Act** guaranteeing the right to a public education , ages five years and up (CHILD WELFARE-EDUCATION)
- 1986 & 1988 **Ominbus drug legislation** to continue War on Drugs. Money
- 1987 **Child Comprehensive Development Act** established demonstration projects for children and family centers in high-risk neighborhoods. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1987 **Homeless Assistance Act (Mckinney Act)** funding for emergency shelters, food, transitional living, health care, alcohol-drug abuse programs, job training, refurbishing SRO's as shelters for the homeless, welfare hotels. (PUBLIC WELFARE-HOUSING-JOBS)
- 1988 **Family Support Act** begins to revamp(a precipitant welfare reform) AFDC with a work requirment(while still maintaining elgibility for Medicaid) referred to as JOBS program, strengths child support enforcement (PUBLIC WELFARE-JOBS)
- 1988 **Anti Drug Act** establishes Office of National Drug Control Policy in; the Executive Office of the President (a cabinet level position). The emphasis was on stopping the flow of drugs into the US, and enact stiffer penelties. Prevention and education was also included, i.e. establishment of "drug free workplaces" and eviction of public housing residents who engage or permit drug use on or near the premises.(MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1990's **The development of new psychotropic drugs** to treat mental illness. These drugs have fewer side effects and are cheaper to produce as compared to the previous ones. Also, unlike the psychopharmacuticals of the past, researchers are more knowledge of how these drugs work, and the parts of the brain which are effected by the medication.(MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1990 **Child Care and Development Block Grant** was comprehensive child care legislation that provided federal funding for subsidized child care (\$2.5 billion over three years)(CHILD WELFARE)

- 1990 **Entitlement Funding for Child Care Services (At-Risk-Child Care Program)**. States received \$1.5 billion for families who are at risk of a return to the welfare rolls because of their difficulties affording child care; subsidized day care to offset costs (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1990 **The Dependent Care Tax Credit**, refunds taxes to persons who use child care. The more money family spends, the more you can deduct from your taxes. The chief criticism: the poor do not benefit from this tax break because they can't afford day care in the first place. (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1990 **Earned Income Tax Credit**, a tax deduction (refunds tax dollars to low-salary earners) for the working poor was increased slightly to take into account family size. (PUBLIC WELFARE-CASH)
- 1991 **Amendments to the Education for ALL Handicapped Children's Act**, to include infants, toddlers and families (CHILD WELFARE-EDUCATION)
- 1992 **Amendments to Child Abuse Prevention...of 1988 know as the Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Adoption and Family Services Act** (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1992 The **"Family Values"** debate ignites with Vice President's Dan Quayle's famous remarks regarding television character "Murphy Brown"
- 1992 **A reorganization fo federal programs**. The National Institutes of Health now houses the National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and National Institute of Drug Abuse. The focus is on research. Established Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: contains the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Center for Mental Health Services, Office of Applied Studies, and Office for Women's Services (MENTAL HEALTH)
- 1993 **The Family Preservation and Support Services Act** made available \$900 million to states over five years, for the purpose of funding efforts that kept families together, and provided community support services. Prior to 1993, family support services was largely a state and local government responsibility, and relied heavily on private monies. (CHILD WELFARE)

- 1993 **Family and Medical Leave Act.** Provides *unpaid* parental leave up to 12 weeks for birth or adoption of a child or serious illness of family member. Guarantees job security. The chief criticism: only those people who can afford an unpaid leave of absence can take advantage of legislation. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1994 The Carnegie Corporation releases, *Starting Points: Meeting the Needs of Our Youngest Children,* a comprehensive study on the state of our youngest children, birth to three. This study presented some bleak findings. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1995 **The Third White House Conference on Aging**
- 1995 **The Adoption Antidiscrimination Act** removes barriers to interracial and interethnic adoptions. (CHILD WELFARE)
- 1995 **Amendment to Food Stamps Act.** The eligibility criteria changed to take into consideration the amount of money parents who pay child support in determining eligibility for assistance. (PUBLIC WELFARE)
- 1996 **Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act** (federal welfare reform). This legislation eliminates AFDC, and mandates work programs that states will be responsible. There is now a lifetime limit placed on recipients: five years. Shifts responsibility from federal government to states (block grants); ends entitlements. (PUBLIC WELFARE-JOBS)
- 1999 **First White House Conference on Mental Illness**