

# WORKING WITH VULNERABLE FAMILIES A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

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Australian Centre for Child Protection,  
University of South Australia

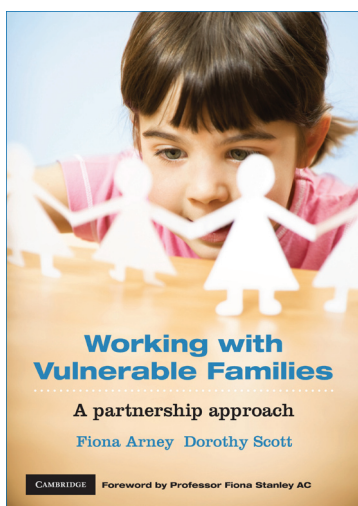
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*Working with Vulnerable Families* encapsulates the universally accepted edict - that for societies to flourish we need to enhance the opportunities for all children to reach their potential physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially. However, children growing up in families experiencing adversity face significant challenges. The text demonstrates how these practitioners can work in partnership with parents, extended kin and the wider community in respectful and culturally appropriate ways. Transcending narrow professional roles and working collaboratively across different disciplines is essential, especially for families where services such as child protection, domestic violence, drug treatment and mental health may be involved. The values, knowledge and skills at the heart of family-centred practice are explored in this book by integrating research and the work of innovative and inspiring practitioners from a range of professional backgrounds. Exemplars of innovative initiatives encompassing infants, pre-school aged children and those in the early years of primary school from a diverse range of family and community settings, are described.



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**Alan Hayes, Director, Australian Institute of Family Studies**

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*"This immensely readable book will be an invaluable resource for students and practitioners in child and family services, child and community health, early childhood education and primary teaching. With a firm focus on the child, the family and the community, the authors have skilfully combined theory, research and practice exemplars in the exploration of practice with vulnerable families in a range of commonly encountered contexts."*

**Yvonne Darlington, School of Social Work and Human Services, The University of Queensland**

# WORKING WITH VULNERABLE FAMILIES

## A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

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