LESSONS LEARNED? REFLECTING ON FORTY YEARS IN CHILD CARE

A MEMOIR BY JOHN FITZGERALD

(ed. Philippa May)

ROWANVALE BOOKS LTD., The Gate, Keppoch St., Cardiff CF24 3JW, 2018

Also available as an ebook via Amazon.

John Fitzgerald, former Director of The Bridge Child Care Development Service, describes his life's work in this most illuminating memoir. He discusses his early life and education and twenty years working on inquiries and investigations into the deaths of children through abuse and neglect. His writing about the surviving children of Fred and Rosemary West presents the highest profile but all his accounts are deeply significant and, sadly, topical. The question mark in John's title is most necessary.

This volume should be included in any training programme for social workers but also will be valuable to teachers, particularly those working with children who have special educational needs and to members of paediatric and child and adolescent services.

All such professionals need to take part in multidisciplinary education as well as being enabled to have time to communicate routinely on the safeguarding of children; an issue well emphasised throughout this book.

Perhaps, therefore, most of all, it should be read by managers, service providers and politicians .

Jean Harris-Hendriks