STEINER, DANIELS, KELLY, STADLER: DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR: DEVELOPMENT, PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, CRIME AND TREATMENT?

Few constructs, if any, have led to similar plethora of research and debate across policy and practice as youth aggression, antisocial or disruptive behavior. The reasons are related to the high prevalence, complexity, comorbidity, heterogeneity and multi-factorial etiology; in parallel with the resulting impact, impairment, inter-agency involvement, and high service and societal costs. The literature stems for a range of scientific fields, which reflects children and youth’s multiple needs, hence appropriate interventions. The wider connotations of criminality and its causes often divide policy in the philosophy underpinning juvenile systems across the world.

The authors, with their strong track record and all-encompassing analytic, thoughtful and succinct writing style succeed in integrating the evidence behind such a complex topic. As implications for policy, service, practice and services from different sectors are best understood in their totality, this is the major contribution of this excellent text.

Panos Vostanis

Professor of Child Mental Health, University of Leicester

Visiting Professor, University College London

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