Lost Childhoods

The Plight Of The Parentified Child

Parentification - the assumption of responsibility for the welfare of family members by children and adolescents - is increasing as a result of various forces both inside and outside of the family. Evidence suggests that pathological parentification of children has serious consequences for them, and for succeeding generations, as do other forms of maltreatment.; This work is an exploration of the forces at work in families with parentified children - and the treatment strategies that hold the promise of interrupting a cycle of destructive behaviour.; The author begins by guiding the reader from conceptualization to possible causes and manifestations of parentification, facilitating a clear understanding of how and why this scenario is common. The second part of the book builds on this foundation to introduce methods of assesment, treatment, and prevention. This part of the text includes insights into the professional, ethical and personal challenges faced by therapists who themselves have a history of pathological parentification.



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