



ASSOCIATION OF WORKERS WITH CHILDREN IN CARE

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F.I.C.E.
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National Section: Eire.
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Developments in Residential Care.

The legal position of Children in Eire is still that enshrined in the 1908 Act. Two developments of major significance have taken place since then, and a third is in the pipeline.

The first of these was the Kennedy Report in 1970. This brought about a new awareness of the NEEDS of children and have resulted in two significant developments:

- a) the replacing of large institutional buildings and large numbers of children by small group homes and small numbers.
- b) the introduction for the first time of Professional Training for Care Workers within their own (and that of the children) socio political and cultural milieu. There are now three such courses in existence with a further one starting in September 1983.

The second was the publication of the Task Force Report on Childrens Services in 1980. This has built on the Kennedy Report and a much more sophisticated analysis of childrens' psycho-emotional and educational needs. It is very definitely a Social Policy Document of ranging and for reaching proportions.