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CARING FOR CRACK BABIES:

EXAMINATION OF THE INTERFACE OF LEGAL STATUTES, POLITICAL AGENDAS, RESEARCH AND STAFF TRAINING IMPACTING ON FACILITIES FOR COCAINE-ADDICTED BABIES IN TWO URBAN CENTRES: PITTSBURGH AND MIAMI, USA.

This presentation will present data on the current rate of newborn cocaine-addicted infants being born in the United States and then in two specific urban centres in the US, Miami and Pittsburgh. Following this description of the parameters of "the problem", legal and political issues in designing facilities for addressing the problem will be discussed. Contrasts between legal statutes, particularly as these influence or mandate treatment approaches for mother and/or child, in two states will be highlighted. These contrasts directly impact on the treatment and residential arrangements for infants on the local level in Miami and Pittsburgh, both of which will be discussed. Following this, a review of recent research on staff training for infant care and, more specifically for training of staff caring for addicted infants, will be presented. This will be followed by a summary of interviews conducted with actual staff in Miami and Pittsburgh program during early 1992. Finally, recommendations for policy and training will be made, based upon data, research and "in the field" interviews.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the audience will be asked to engage in dialogue about existence of cocaine or substance addiction in their respective communities and countries and the similarities/contrasts that they recognize after hearing about two USA situations.

In dieser Konferenz werden die Probleme im Zusammenhang mit der Betreuung drogenabhängiger Neugeborener in den USA anhand von Beispielen aus zwei Ballungsgebieten, Miami und Pittsburgh, erläutert. Zur Sprache kommen juristische und politische Probleme, Unterbringungs- und Behandlungsformen, Ausbildungsfragen sowie die Resultate einer Umfrage unter Erziehern in Miami und Pittsburgh. Am Ende der Konferenz haben die Zuhörer die Gelegenheit, die Situation in ihrem eigenen Land mit den geschilderten Beispielen zu vergleichen.

Dans cette conférence, les problèmes relatifs aux soins dispensés aux bébés toxicomanes seront analysés sur la base de données recueillies aux Etats-Unis, spécialement aux centres urbains de Miami et de Pittsburgh. Les questions qui se posent sur le plan juridique et politique, les différentes formes de placement et de traitement, les problèmes relatifs à la formation ainsi qu'une enquête parmi le personnel dans les deux grandes villes seront présentés. A la fin de la conférence, les auditeurs seront invités à comparer la situation dans leur propre pays avec celle des Etats-Unis.