

opinion it amounts to a book that inadequately discusses both economic and family theory. The reviewer was left with the distinct impression that it is a sort of economic handyman's guide book, which contains an almost total absence of critical reflection on the economic structure, but rather takes for granted the legitimacy of the dominant position of economics on family life.

If consists of four parts all connected by the same repetitive theme of money. Part 1 entitled "Today's money world" amounts to a little short of a junior high school lecture on economics. Part 2 considers both changing life styles and the family life cycle in connection with altering demands on expenditure. Such topics as alternative life styles and the family life cycle are far more adequately discussed within a more critical scholarly context in regular family sociology texts and standard journals (e.g.) Journal of Marriage and the Family. Parts 3 and 4 are concerned with money and counselling, applications and values, needs and resources. However, again the chapters are characterized by a willing acceptance of the prevailing economic system and a marked absence of critical evaluation.

Overall this book in my opinion is of limited value, highly descriptive and tediously written throughout its 384 pages. It may find a place in a high school home-economics course, but I would doubt if it had much value in a tertiary setting. But if you want to spend the "money" and find out about how North American families spend their money or should spend their money, then go out and purchase a copy.

Peter A. O'Connor (Dr.),
Department of Social Studies,
University of Melbourne.

ALICE PLAYED HOST

Around 75 welfare administrators, social workers, child care workers and academics took up St. Mary's invitation to spend a week in the Alice discussing "New Horizons in Child Care".

The keynote speaker for the Seminar was Richard Balbernie, noted author and superintendent of the Cotswold Community in Ashton Keynes, England, who opened the seminar with two papers "Change and controls from within" and "Alternatives and Leadership".

Mr. Balbernie's papers were based on experience at the Cotswold Community which is a small unit treatment program for young hardcore offenders.

The second day focussed on the aboriginal question with papers provided by aboriginal welfare workers from Groote Eylandt — Alan and Kevin Lalara. Their papers, which pointed up the conflicting value systems in black and white cultures provided material for an active plenary session under the chairmanship of Senator Neville Bonner.

Mr. David Green, Director of Regional Services in the Victorian

Social Welfare Department presented a paper on the third day of the seminar entitled "The Process of Change from within an Established System".

In the paper David Green discussed the pre-conditions for change which he reflected were not always the result of sophisticated planning.

Workshop groups were held around various topics and provided some lively exchanges.

Out of the working groups four resolutions were put to the conference. These were related to the reported cut backs in Government funding for Childrens Services, the means test on Family Allowances, the lack of funding for the International Year of the Child and the need for greater autonomy to be given to Regional Offices of Government Departments in decision making.

Conference papers will be available from Mr Bob Gaff, St. Mary's Child and Family Welfare Service. ALICE SPRINGS. N.T.

RENUMBERING OF PREVIOUS ISSUES

Vol 1 No 4 1976

Gremlins have totally disrupted the numbering sequence of the Journal and so we have decided to put things right by renumbering as follows:-

Vol. 2 No. 1 March, 1977

Vol. 2 No. 2 June, 1977

Vol. 2 No. 3 July, 1977

Vol. 2 No. 4 December, 1977

Vol. 3 No. 1 March, 1978

The new numbers begin with Vol. 2, No. 1, March 1977, and we suggest readers cut the new numbers from this Sheet and stick them over the old numbers.

You will note that this issue is Vol. 3, No. 2.
