



Call for Papers: A Special Issue on Children and Youth with Diverse Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities/Expression Involved in Child Welfare and Other Public Systems

The Child Welfare League of America is pleased to announce a call for papers for a special issue of *Child Welfare* journal. This issue is dedicated to children and youth with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities/expression (SOGIE)—such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and those questioning their sexual orientation and/or gender identity (LGBTQ)—who have experience with multiple youth-serving systems. The issue will focus on children and youth with diverse SOGIE and who have current or past involvement in child welfare along with other youth-serving systems and services including homelessness and juvenile justice. Of particular interest are manuscripts that employ an intersectional analysis of policies, programs, and practices as they relate to youth with diverse SOGIE (e.g., youth of color).



In 2006, CWLA released *LGBTQ Youth in Child Welfare*, a special issue of *Child Welfare*. For that issue, *Child Welfare* brought together a diverse array of practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and others to provide an LGBTQ-affirming perspective on the complex issues of gender and sexual orientation in child welfare, assisting agencies, caseworkers, foster parents, and policymakers in providing culturally competent practices and strategies to meet the

needs of youth who are LGBTQ. As that landmark issue highlighted, factors such as family rejection put youth with diverse SOGIE at risk for child welfare involvement, and these youth also may experience bias and other challenges while receiving child welfare services.

The goal of the current special issue is to build on *Child Welfare's* 2006 issue by bringing attention to recent research and innovative efforts addressing the disproportionate representation of children and youth with diverse SOGIE and the disparities they face in public systems. Manuscripts should present new research or program evaluation findings, as well as describe innovative policies and practices for serving youth with diverse SOGIE who are currently involved or have past involvement in child welfare and other public systems. Various methods (e.g., case studies, quantitative analyses, policy analyses) are welcomed. Guest editors are Jeffrey Poirier, PhD, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Jama Shelton, PhD, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College.

Manuscripts should ideally address one or more of the following areas at the intersection of child welfare and other public systems: (1) the well-being of youth with diverse SOGIE, including family connection and support, social functioning, permanency, housing stability, physical and mental health, and educational outcomes; (2) innovative child welfare, juvenile justice, behavioral health, or runaway and youth homeless system policies, programs, and/or practices that support and affirm youth with diverse SOGIE; (3) race equity including the experiences and outcomes of youth of color who have diverse SOGIE; (4) working with youth who identify as transgender or gender expansive; and (5) innovations in workforce development practices to promote better understanding and services for youth with diverse SOGIE. Manuscripts are welcomed from scholars and practitioners. Manuscripts will be selected to ensure an array of perspectives based on factors such as geography, population served, topic, and methods.

Prospective authors should submit abstracts of up to 750 words to *Child Welfare's* managing editor, Rachel Adams, at radams@cwla.org by January 9, 2017. Abstracts should identify the topic, methods (including data sources for empirical papers), findings, and practice and policy implications. Authors will receive decisions about their manuscripts by February 28, 2017. Initial drafts of the selected papers are due by May 31, 2017, and final papers are expected by September 30, 2017. Publication of the special issue is targeted for early 2018.