9. Address differing psychological challenges within the family: One central goal of family work after deaths due to trauma is to increase family members' awareness of these varying influences on their trauma and grief work, thereby legitimising the differences and enhancing their ability to provide mutual support.

10. Consider a 'pulsed intervention' strategy: Similar to Wallerstein's[24] proposed treatment for children of divorce, a pulsed intervention model may sometimes be most applicable. In such a strategy, an acute phase of treatment is followed by planned periods of consultation in accordance with the time trajectory of bereavement recovery and ongoing development. This model rests on the knowledge both of what is psychologically most challenging about the loss at changing developmental phases and of the maturing capacity for an adaptive response at different intervals over the years. The major preventive goal of this strategy is to maintain normal developmental progress.

In conclusion, in examining the complexity of children's grief reactions and the interplay with post-traumatic stress, I hope this discussion provides some of the necessary groundwork for a more comprehensive approach to assisting grieving children and their families. Ongoing longitudinal research in childhood grief and trauma should continue to enrich our understanding of these processes and help establish sound therapeutic interventions.

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Making the Most of a Funeral

by Jenny Hockey PhD

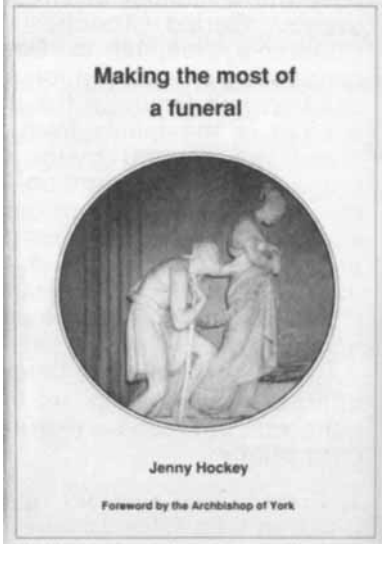
Foreword by the Archbishop of York

Nearly all of us experience the death and the funeral of someone we love. This is a vulnerable moment in our lives and the way the funeral and its aftermath are handled can affect how people subsequently come to terms with their bereavement.

How do ministers and clergy approach the difficult task of coping with bereavement and funerals? What do bereaved people think of their efforts? Some of the answers are revealed in this study, which was based on a project originated by the Sheffield Branch of Cruse. The book also shows how sensitive preparations and aftercare can help ministers overcome some of the difficulties of a funeral.

The book will be of interest to bereavement counsellors, sociologists and, of course, to ministers and those who train them. One theme constantly emerges: that a funeral should be as personal an event as possible, and should reflect the unique nature of human life.

Dr Jenny Hockey lectures in sociology at Humberside Polytechnic, and has been a Cruse Counsellor.



'Making the Most of a Funeral' is available direct from the publishers: Cruse—Bereavement Care, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR, price £3.25 plus £1 p&p
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