
**THE SOCIAL
WORK
DICTIONARY**
**3rd Edition
by
Robert L. Barker**

National Association of Social Workers

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FOREWORD

One of the hallmarks of a profession is a unique body of knowledge, and most professions develop a distinctive vocabulary to describe the scope of their work and the knowledge they acquire. Social work has a particularly rich language. As a profession, we are concerned with individual people and the environmental factors, the societal supports and impediments that affect the quality of each individual's life. Consequently, our language is as complex and diverse as the people we serve.

Robert Barker has created the lexicon of social work, and it is a remarkable reference. Since the first edition was published in 1987, *The Social Work Dictionary* has become one of the most well-used, perhaps the most frequently used, reference work in social work. It is an essential reference for students not only because it gives them concise, accurate answers to specific questions, but also because it demonstrates the breadth and scope of the profession. Practitioners studying for licensing and credentialing exams find the dictionary a most useful text, and seasoned professionals use it as a reference to work outside their own specialties. Although the dictionary was created for social workers, we have found that other human services professionals and support personnel find it extraordinarily useful.

The third edition, which is double the size of the first, reflects the ongoing evolution of the professional language we use to describe our work, as well as the expansion of the boundaries of the practice of social work. Dr. Barker has added terms that are common to new arenas in social work, such as managed care, and he has built on the extensive list of international terms that appeared in previous editions. The reader will find definitions for terms that are new to the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. Besides refining and adding terms, Dr. Barker has included two new components in this third edition of *The Social Work Dictionary*. First, as a complement to the "Milestones," those major events that had relevance for social work, he has added brief biographies of people who had a major impact on the profession during their lifetimes. Second, he has incorporated knowledge from other cultures and professions that will enrich social work practice, but that social workers may not have easy access to in other references.

NASW is very pleased to publish this third edition. Once again we salute Dr. Barker for his exceptional scholarship and painstaking research. I hope that each reader finds the reference useful and stimulating.

PREFACE

The language of social work, like the profession itself, is growing and becoming more complex and refined. This is a positive trend, the result of both increased social work knowledge and the profession's desire to communicate with greater precision. It is also the product of closer relationships with other professions and segments of society, each of which has its own jargon and terminology.

Although the trend is positive, it presents a formidable challenge to social workers. To express themselves effectively and to comprehend the words of their colleagues and members of other professions, they have to be familiar with a growing and divergent body of complex terms. They also are expected to have ready access to a variety of resources, organizations, and services that can help meet the needs of their clients.

Another challenge to clear communication arises from the divergent specialties and conceptual orientations within the profession itself. For example, social workers who are policymakers or social advocates do not usually share identical vocabularies with their colleagues in clinical work. Even within a single social work practice specialty, there is risk of misunderstanding because of the many different theoretical perspectives in current use. Clinical social workers with psychodynamic orientations, for example, may have considerable difficulty interpreting the words used by their colleagues with behaviorist, psychosocial, systems, existential, or cognitive perspectives, and vice versa.

Although these trends increase the potential for communication problems, social workers face mounting pressure to minimize such difficulties. Legal actions and professional sanctions against professionals who misinterpret or improperly disseminate information are becoming more frequent. Society is more insistent in demanding that professionals prove they are competent and current. More than ever, this proof occurs through licensing and certification exams; to a great extent, passing these exams requires that the social worker understand the terms and concepts used in the profession.

It is in this context that *The Social Work Dictionary* was developed. Its aim is to give the social worker an abbreviated interpretation of the words, concepts, organizations, historical events, and values that are

relevant to the profession. As such, it is designed to provide a concise overview of social work's terminology, not encyclopedic detail.

The terms defined here are used in social work administration, research, policy development, and planning; community organization; human growth and development; health and mental health; macro and micro social work; and clinical theory and practice. They are the terms that relate to social work's values and ethics and to its historical development. The terms are those that have developed within the profession as well as those that social workers have adopted for their own use from sociology, anthropology, medicine, law, psychology, and economics. The symptoms and diagnostic labels for various forms of mental disorders are defined as they are understood by social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, and other mental health professionals. All the diagnostic terms and criteria found here are consistent with those in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, 4th ed.; the *International Classification of Diseases*, 10th ed.; and the *Person-In-Environment (PIE) System*. Many terms are derived from the theoretical orientations of psychodynamic, cognitive, behavioral, and existential, as well as systemic and linear, approaches. Also included are concepts in social work practice with individuals, groups, families, and communities.

The definitions include descriptions of some of the organizations, trends, people, philosophies, and legislation that have played major roles in the development of social work and social welfare. The appendix contains a chronology of the milestones in social work and social welfare, reproduces the *NASW Code of Ethics*, and delineates *NASW* chapter offices and state regulatory boards.

Some readers may find that one or more of their favorite terms have been excluded; others might question why some terms have been included. Sometimes a reader may have a different interpretation of the meaning of a term than that offered here. Naturally, it is hoped that any omissions, discrepancies, and errors are minimal. But in a dynamic field, populated by intelligent professionals with divergent views and experiences, it is inevitable that some discrepancies will occur. This dictionary does not purport to present all the words a social worker could ever use, nor does it provide "official" definitions of terms. The development of new knowledge and changing perspectives will necessitate commensurate revisions of *The Social Work Dictionary*.

As the author of this work, I assume full responsibility for the words that have been included and excluded, as well as for the way they are defined. I chose what terms to include by compiling a list of entries that have appeared in the indexes of the major social work journals and textbooks of the past two decades. The textbooks and journals I used were those in most general use in graduate and undergraduate schools of social work and in the larger social agencies. I also went through the indexes of the

most important textbooks, journals, and manuals of disciplines that are related to social work. I presented the list to and received suggestions for additional terms from hundreds of my colleagues, students, members of related professions, and members of the editorial review board of this dictionary.

To define the terms, it was necessary to review how each word was used by several writers. As often as not there were slight differences in their interpretations of a given word. I tried to provide a definition that was closest to the majority view and to the mainstream of social work thinking. I also tried to make each definition original for this dictionary. No definitions have been deliberately quoted from any copyrighted sources.

Once my definitions were completed, they were examined by several hundred colleagues and students, mostly at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Then they were submitted to the members of the dictionary's editorial review board, whose names and affiliations are on page vii. The members of this board were chosen for their considerable expertise in at least one area of social work knowledge or a related field such as medicine, law, administration, or economics. Members reviewed 50 to 100 of the definitions within their realm of expertise for accuracy, clarity, conciseness, and relevance of examples, and made many helpful suggestions.

The experts did not always agree with one another on how a term should be defined or on what parts of it should be emphasized, so compromises had to be made. Some reviewers believed certain words were offensive or outdated and recommended their exclusion. However, I chose to retain most of those terms that are still in common (if improper) use and to indicate why they are considered improper for use by competent professionals. This reflects my view that the purpose of a dictionary is to explain the meaning of terms, not judge whether people should use the terms or pretend they do not exist.

The first edition of The Social Work Dictionary was published early in 1987 and the second edition in 1991. Both editions were extremely well received. Colleagues from around the world expressed approval and indicated where the dictionary was being used—in schools of social work, in social agency libraries, in licensing exam preparation centers, and in the offices of experienced and novice social work practitioners.

As before, this third edition of The Social Work Dictionary uses the standard format for professional dictionaries and glossaries. The terms are listed in strict alphabetical order. Many terms are cross-referenced, and the words that appear in italics within definitions are themselves defined elsewhere in the dictionary.

The NASW Press and I plan to produce subsequent editions of The Social Work Dictionary every few years. Beginning with this edition, The Social Work Dictionary will be available in CD-ROM as well as in printed book form. Anyone who has suggestions, recommended changes, additions, deletions, or corrections is invited to write to me, in care of NASW. In this way the dictionary will remain a living, ever-improving document—the product of input from the widest possible range of social workers and members of related professions. I hope that this edition of The Social Work Dictionary will continue to be a useful tool for social workers in their efforts to communicate clearly and reach better professional understanding.

January 1995

Robert L. Barker

SOCIAL WORK TERMS

AA See Alcoholics Anonymous (AA).

AAA See Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).

AAGW See American Association of Group Workers (AAGW).

AAHSW See American Association of Hospital Social Workers (AAHSW).

AAISW See American Association of Industrial Social Workers (AAISW).

AAMFT See American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT).

AAMR See American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR).

AAMSW American Association of Medical Social Workers. See American Association of Hospital Social Workers (AAHSW).

AAPSW See American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers (AAPSW).

AARP See American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

AASECT See American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT).

AASSW See American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW).

AASSWB See American Association of State Social Work Boards (AASSWB).

AASW 1. See American Association of Social Workers (AASW). 2. See Asian American Social Workers (AASW).

AASWG See Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG).

AB See Aid to the Blind (AB).

abandonment Voluntarily giving up one's possessions, rights, or obligations with no intention of subsequently reclaiming them. In most jurisdictions, abandonment enables others to claim the surrendered property or rights. Abandonment of one's family, in most states, can be used as grounds for divorce or loss of custody of children, or both.

Abbott, Edith (1876–1957) A pioneer in social work education and an advocate for social justice and child welfare programs. She was dean of the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, 1924–1942, a founder of *Social Service Review*, and author of several seminal social work texts. She also helped draft the Social Security Act.

Abbott, Grace (1878–1939) A social work advocate for child labor laws and long-term director of the Children's Bureau, she organized one of the first White House conferences on children and was an adviser to President Woodrow Wilson.

abduct To transport someone against that person's will often by force or coercion, or, if the person is a child, without the consent of the parent or legal guardian.

ABE 1. See American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work (ABE). 2. See Adult Basic Education program (ABE).

abet To encourage someone to commit a crime. To "aid and abet" means that an individual encourages and actively facilitates the commission of a crime.

able-ism Stereotyping and negative generalizing about people with disabilities.

abnormal A term denoting atypical functioning that usually is seen as maladaptive. In social work, the term usually refers to behavior rather than a person. There is rarely a clear and consistent demarcation between normal and abnormal, but rather a continuum. In assessing whether a behavior is abnormal, social workers apply objective criteria such as those found in DSM-IV or the Person-in-Environment System (PIE System). In a pluralistic society, behaviors of people in minority groups are more often defined as abnormal than those of the majority.

abortion Termination of pregnancy before the fetus has developed enough to survive outside the woman's body. The term usually refers to a

deliberate procedure to end the pregnancy. However, many pregnancies also are lost through natural or spontaneous abortions (miscarriages) in which the woman's body rejects the fetus. See also Roe v. Wade, prochoice movement, and right-to-life movement.

ABPN See American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN).

absolute confidentiality A position held by some social workers and other professionals that no information about a client shall be disclosed to others, regardless of circumstances. The social worker who practices this position would not put the information obtained from a client into any written form—for example, a case record or a computer file—or discuss it with colleagues or supervisors. Most social workers believe that absolute confidentiality is impractical and that relative confidentiality is ethical and more productive.

absolute poverty The possession of scant income and assets such that one cannot maintain a subsistence level of income. This is compared to relative poverty, in which one's standard of living is well beneath those of the mainstream community but still higher than the subsistence level.

abstinence Voluntary avoidance of such physical activities as eating, consuming alcohol, taking drugs, or engaging in sexual intercourse.

abstract A summary of a scholarly article. It usually appears immediately before the text in published articles and is often included in indexing and abstracting services (such as Social Work Abstracts and Psychological Abstracts) and in on-line databases (such as DIALOG and PsycINFO). Abstracts usually consist of a single paragraph of fewer than 200 words that outlines what the article is about, its key concepts, the method used to study the problem, and the conclusion reached.

abuse Improper behavior intended to cause physical, psychological, or financial harm to an individual or group. See also child abuse, drug abuse, elder abuse, spouse abuse, and substance abuse.

academic skills disorder The term formerly used by professionals for learning disorder.

academic underachievement A long-standing pattern of poor performance in school, including substandard grades and minimal classroom participation relative to the student's intellectual and social skills. If the pattern is formally diagnosed, it is usually called learning disorder.

Academy of Certified Baccalaureate Social Workers (ACBSW) A program established by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) in 1991 to evaluate and certify the practice competence of baccalaureate social workers. Baccalaureate social workers are eligible for ACBSW if they obtain BSW degrees from accredited schools of social work, complete two years of full-time or 3,000 hours of part-time postgraduate social work employment, agree to adhere to the NASW Code of Ethics, and complete a certification process that includes a written examination, supervisory evaluations, and professional references. NASW membership is not required for ACBSW certification.

Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) A program established by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) in 1962 to evaluate and certify the practice competence of individual social workers with advanced degrees. Social workers are eligible for ACSW membership if they have obtained an MSW or DSW or PhD (see doctoral programs) from an accredited school, have two years of supervised full-time or 3,000 hours of part-time practice experience, provide three professional references, and successfully pass the ACSW examination.

ACBSW See Academy of Certified Baccalaureate Social Workers (ACBSW).

acceptance Recognition of a person's positive worth as a human being without necessarily condoning the person's actions. In social work, it is considered one of the fundamental elements in the helping relationship. See also unconditional positive regard.

accessibility of service The relative opportunity for people in need to obtain relevant services. For example, a social agency with greater accessibility is located near its natural clientele; is open at convenient hours; maintains shorter waiting lists; has affordable fees; and has personnel, resources, settings, and policies that make clients feel welcome. Also, appropriate ramps and doors to permit entrance by people with disabilities are essential to an agency's accessibility.

accessory to a crime One who assists, advises, or commands another to commit an offense. An "accessory after the fact" is one who

conceals or otherwise helps an offender avoid arrest or trial. An “accessory before the fact” is one who aids in the commission of a crime but is not present at the time of the act.

access provision The actions and procedures of a social program or service provider organization to ensure that its services are available to its target clientele. Three of these procedures are (1) educating the public about the existence of the service, its functions, and eligibility requirements; (2) establishing clear and convenient referral procedures; and (3) obtaining legal or ombudsperson services to overcome obstacles to getting the service. See also information and referral service.

“accident prone” A term applied to individuals who tend to become injured because of supposedly chance occurrences. Being accident prone is thought to be the result of personality factors.

acclimatization Biological and psychosocial adjustment to living in a new environment.

accommodation 1. In community organization, the ability of one group to modify aspects of its culture to deal better with other groups or aspects of the environment. 2. In health care and geriatrics, a property of visual perception in which the lens of the eye is able to change its shape to permit focusing on objects at different distances from the observer. 3. In developmental and Piagetian theory, a person’s growing ability to modify current thought structure to deal with new or newly perceived features of the environment.

accountability 1. The state of being answerable to the community, to consumers of a product or service, or to supervisory groups such as a board of directors. 2. An obligation of a profession to reveal clearly what its functions and methods are and to provide assurances to clients that its practitioners meet specific standards of competence. See also quality assurance.

accreditation The acknowledgment and verification that an organization (such as an educational institution, social agency, hospital, or skilled-nursing facility) fulfills explicit specified standards. For example, schools of social work in the United States are evaluated periodically by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and accredited if they meet CSWE standards.

accrual accounting In administration and management in the social services and other fields, an alternative to the cash accounting system. Each expenditure is recorded and considered a liability when the obligation is established rather than when the cash has been disbursed. Each item of revenue is recorded and considered an asset when the obligation has been incurred rather than when the actual cash has been received.

acculturation 1. The adoption by one cultural group or individual of the culture of another. 2. The process of conditioning an individual or group to the social patterns, behavior, values, and mores of others. See also socialization.

acetylcholine A biochemical that transmits information between nerve cells.

ACF See Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

achievement age A term used by psychologists, educators, and specialists in test scoring that refers to a student’s acquired level of academic proficiency as indicated on educational achievement tests. Thus, a 14-year-old eighth grader who scores well on all parts of an achievement test might have an achievement age of 16, which corresponds to the 10th grade.

achievement tests Formal examinations that attempt to measure what one has learned. See also aptitude tests.

acid rain Precipitation in which the water is fouled by noxious chemicals, primarily sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, mostly from automobiles and factories that burn fossil fuels. This rain pollutes lakes and rivers and damages buildings, crops, and forests, often far from the source of the chemicals. Efforts to minimize the problem emphasize cleaner and more-efficient fuel burning and chemically neutralizing the acid after it has entered the lakes and soil.

ACLU See American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

ACOAs See adult children of alcoholics (ACOAs).

ACORN See Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN).

ACOSA See Association of Community Organization and Social Administration (ACOSA).

acquaintance rape Forced or coerced sexual intercourse by someone who is known to the victim. Typically, the victim is in some social encounter with the perpetrator such as a date or private meeting and is then manipulated into sexual intercourse through physical violence, restraint, threats, or power. The perpetrator ignores protests or interprets them as subtle encouragement. Often victims do not report the event, and frequently they or their assailants do not identify it as rape.

acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) A disease thought to always be fatal, caused by infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Many researchers now refer to this disease as HIV disease rather than AIDS. Following infection, symptoms include fever, night sweats, and swollen lymph nodes. This brief acute phase precedes the development of antibody responses (seroconversion), which usually takes place six to 12 weeks after infection. In the interval between infection and antibody response ("window period"), the individual is infectious, but the infection is not detected on antibody tests. Following the acute phase, there are four stages of the HIV disease continuum. Stage 1 lasts from a few months to many years, during which the infected person is mostly asymptomatic but infectious. Stage 2 symptoms include a range of mild infections, weight loss, and fatigue. Stage 3, formerly called "AIDS-related complex" (ARC), symptoms may include episodic occurrences of pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma, persistent fever, excessive weight loss, and other symptoms. In stage 4 the diagnosis of AIDS is made. The immune system is so severely suppressed that the body cannot defend against infection. Some drugs may play a role in slowing infection or in bolstering the immune system, but there is no cure for AIDS, and the body ultimately loses the capacity to defend itself against one or more fatal infections or conditions. People with AIDS often face discrimination and need health and social services ranging from pretest and posttest counseling, through assistance in applying for insurance or social security benefits, to hospice care.

acquittal The setting free or discharging from further legal prosecution for a charge of criminal misconduct. In a trial, the accused person is acquitted when the judge or jury renders a "not guilty" verdict.

acrophobia The pathological fear of high places or of being in the air.

ACSW See Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW).

acting out Expressing strong emotions through overt behaviors rather than words. When an individual's outward response to inner feelings is expressed in a disguised way to cover the emotion that cannot be revealed directly, the behavior is often destructive or maladaptive.

ACTION The federal government program established in 1971 as an umbrella organization that includes the Peace Corps, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), and Foster Grandparents programs and the Office of Volunteer Action.

action research In social planning and community organization, the linking of the data-gathering process with the development of a program designed to alleviate the problem that has been identified. Mobilization for Youth is one example.

action system The people and resources in the community with whom the social worker deals to achieve desired changes. For example, the action system for a client who is being evicted might include the other residents of the apartment building, local housing officials, and the media contacted by a social worker in an effort to change a landlord's policies.

action theory The group of concepts used by social scientists to understand social and personality systems by analyzing "acts" and the individuals who perform them, that is, the "actors." In assessing an act, the investigator considers the actor's values and goals in carrying out the act, as well as overt behaviors. Action theory differs from classical behaviorism in that it emphasizes the value-motivated behavior of individuals and the subjective meanings attached to an action. Behavior is seen as occurring within culturally defined situations and relationships and includes the actor's internalized values and expectations of the reactions of others.

action therapy Treatment procedures and intervention strategies based on direct alterations of behaviors or of obstacles to change. Such therapies include behavior modification, some cognitive therapy methods, and experiential therapy. The term "action therapy" is often used to make a distinction from so-called informational therapy, which is oriented toward helping clients gain insight and other forms of self-awareness that foster changes indirectly.

activism Planned behavior designed to achieve social or political objectives through such activities as consciousness-raising, developing a coalition, leading voter registration drives and political campaigns, producing propaganda and publicity, and taking other actions to influence social change. See also political activism.

activist An individual who works to bring about social change.

activist role In social work, a rejection of the so-called objective, neutral, or passive stance in favor of taking specific actions in behalf of the client system. These actions may include engaging in overt side-taking, making specific recommendations to clients, leading campaigns to change a social institution, or exerting an influence on client values.

activities of daily living (ADL) The performance of basic self- and family-care responsibilities necessary for independent living. Such activities include meal preparation, bathing, dressing, shopping, cleaning, handling financial matters, light home maintenance, and household chores. The degree of ADL performance is considered by social workers in determining the type of needs clients have.

activity catharsis A psychotherapeutic procedure in which the client portrays anxiety and the effects of unconscious material through actions rather than words. The procedure is used primarily in group psychotherapy.

activity group A form of group involvement, which may or may not have a specifically designed therapeutic purpose, in which the participants work on programs of mutual interest. The members engage in activities as diverse as cooking, folksinging, carpentry, or crafts. Historically, activity groups were prevalent in early social group work, especially in settlement houses and youth services organizations. Their primary orientation was not therapeutic per se but was a means for learning social skills, engaging in democratic decision making, and developing effective relationship capacities. More recently, activity groups are found in nursing homes, mental hospitals, and recreation centers.

acute 1. Intense conditions or disturbances of relatively short duration. For example, a mental disorder lasting fewer than six months often is considered to be acute, and that lasting more than six months is considered chronic. 2. The relatively sudden onset of a condition.

acute brain syndrome A state of confusion, known as delirium, often accompanied by delusion, anxiety, and emotional lability. The disorder lasts fewer than six months, usually is reversible, and is caused by changes in cerebral metabolism typically induced by drug abuse, shock, or fever. The term is now rarely used.

acute care A set of health, personal, or social services delivered to individuals who require short-term assistance. Such care usually is provided in the community in hospitals or social agencies in which the extended treatment that exists in long-term care is not expected.

acute paranoid disorder One of the types of paranoid disorders in which symptoms have occurred for fewer than six months. The condition is most common in people who suddenly encounter severe crises and usually subsides after a period of adaptation. See also delusional (paranoid) disorder.

acute stress disorder An anxiety disorder that occurs within a month of encountering a distressing situation and results in recurrent thoughts, dreams, flashbacks, and upset when reminded of the stressor. The person develops anxiety symptoms (such as sleeplessness, poor concentration, restlessness, exaggerated startle response) and dissociative symptoms (such as numbing and emotional detachment, feeling dazed, depersonalization, derealization, and inability to remember aspects of the trauma). If the symptoms persist, the diagnosis becomes posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

ACYF See Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF).

adaptation The active efforts of individuals and species over their life spans to survive, develop, and reproduce by achieving goodness of fit with their environments. Adaptation is also a reciprocal process between the individual and the environment, often involving changing the environment or being changed by it. Social workers oriented to systems theories consider that helping people move through stressful life transitions by strengthening or supporting their adaptive capacities is a central part of their intervention strategies. See also environmental treatment, direct treatment, and indirect treatment.

adaptedness A relationship between an organism and its environment in which the goodness of fit supports the needs of both. Adaptedness is a state, and adaptation is a process by which adaptedness is achieved.

adaptive spiral In social group work and group psychotherapy, the successfully integrated, healthy progression of the client from interpersonal distortions and its resulting anxiety and social inhibition to the formation of rewarding relationships within the group and then outside. As the client's interpersonal relationships on the outside become healthier, the relationships within the group become healthier, too.

Addams, Jane (1860–1935) Considered one of the founders of social work, she was a community organizer, peace activist, and leader of the settlement house movement. With Ellen Gates Starr, she founded Hull House in Chicago, which became a prototype for other such facilities. She advocated for honest government, world peace, U.S. membership in the League of Nations and the World Court, and was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. She and Lillian Wald are the two social workers to be named to the Hall of Fame of Great Americans.

addiction Physiological and psychological dependence on a chemical that results in increased tolerance and in withdrawal symptoms when the substance is unavailable. Addictive substances include alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, and many sedatives. Most professionals now use the term substance dependence.

additive effect The impact on a substance abuser of two or more drugs, which taken simultaneously result in greater or different responses than if taken separately.

additive empathy The interviewer's process of drawing out the inner and more-hidden feelings of the client with some mild to moderate interpretation and questions about underlying emotions and experiences (for example, "Perhaps you're feeling this way because. . ."). According to Dean H. Hepworth and Jo Ann Larsen (*Direct Social Work Practice: Theory and Skills*, 2nd ed., Chicago: Dorsey Press, 1990, p. 461), additive empathy should be used sparingly until a sound social worker-client relationship is established, and only when clients are engaged in self-exploration. Additive empathy responses should be made only in relation to the client's current awareness and experience and should be presented tentatively rather than authoritatively. To minimize client resistance, the social work interviewer should avoid making several additive empathic responses in succession and should be ready to retreat or acknowledge error if the client indicates a need to avoid the information.

ADEA See Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA).

ADHD See attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

adhesion Physiologically, the attachment or growth together of body tissues or other substances, sometimes causing organs to be abnormally connected.

ad hoc coalition An alliance of individuals and ideological groups to achieve a specific goal or address a single issue or social problem. The group is expected to disband once the goals are reached.

adhocracy A type of administrative organization characterized by minimization of personnel hierarchies, theoretically designed to achieve greater program flexibility; in social agencies, an alternative to bureaucracy.

adjudication 1. In law, a court decision and the process of reaching that decision through a trial or legal hearing. 2. In a professional organization, the process of determining whether a professional action is in violation of the code of ethics or personnel standards.

adjustment The activities exerted by an individual to satisfy a need or overcome an obstacle to return to a harmonious fit with the environment. These activities may become habitual responses. Successful adjustment results in adaptation; unsuccessful adaptation is called maladjustment.

ADL See activities of daily living (ADL).

Adlerian theory The concepts about human personality characteristics and psychosocial therapy developed by Austrian psychiatrist Alfred Adler (1870–1937). He hypothesized that humans have an inherent drive for power and strive from feeling inferior toward superiority and perfection. The individual does this through one's lifestyle. People achieve goals by developing their social interests, and healthy people ultimately learn to place the good of society over immediate personal gain.

Administration for Children and Families (ACF) An organization within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), created in 1986 through a consolidation of federal programs to aid low-income families. The six major programs included in ACF are Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the Work Incentive program (WIN), the

Community Services Block Grant Program, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program, the Refugee Assistance program, and the U.S. Office of Child Support Enforcement. ACF is one of the major units of HHS, which also includes the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), the Office of Human Development Services (OHDS), the U.S. Public Health Service, and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Administration for Native Americans The organization within the Office of Human Development Services (OHDS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) whose responsibilities are to ensure that American Indians and Alaska Natives have the same access to the nation's health care and welfare provisions as do all other Americans and that their unique needs are addressed. The functions of the administration complement those of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) within the U.S. Department of the Interior.

administration in social work Methods used by those who have administrative responsibility to determine organizational goals for a social agency or other unit; acquire resources and allocate them to carry out a program; coordinate activities toward achieving selected goals; and monitor, assess, and make necessary changes in processes and structure to improve effectiveness and efficiency. In social work, the term is often used synonymously with management. For social work administrators, implementation of administrative methods is informed by professional values and ethics with the expectation that these methods will enable social workers to provide effective and humane services to clients. The term also applies to the activities performed in a social agency that contribute to transforming social policy into social services. See also management tasks.

Administration on Aging The organization within the Office of Human Development Services (OHDS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that oversees and facilitates the nation's programs for older people. The organization monitors the overall condition of older Americans, facilitates research, helps develop legislation, disseminates relevant information, and coordinates programs designed to foster the well-being of older Americans. See also Older Americans Act.

Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF) The federal organization within the Office of Human Development Services (OHDS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that facilitates programs that provide social services to families,

including day care, adoption, and foster care for children, particularly young special-needs clients.

admissions The department or unit of a health, mental health, or social services agency responsible for administering the procedures by which patients or clients enter the program.

admissions procedures The explicit rules and modes of action for bringing an individual under the care of an organization, social agency, or health care facility. Such procedures often include getting consent from the client (or those responsible for the client) to provide the appropriate care; obtaining pertinent background information about the client from a variety of sources (that is, interviews with the client or client's family, medical records, social histories, and medical and psychological tests); contracting with the client or third parties to provide financing for the care; advising the client about when to go to the appropriate place; and coordinating the initial information exchanges between the client and those concerned about the client. Admissions procedures often include criteria for screening applicants for the service.

adolescence The life cycle period between childhood and adulthood, beginning at puberty and ending with young adulthood. Adolescents struggle to find self-identity, and this struggle is often accompanied by erratic behavior.

adoption Taking a person, usually an infant or child, permanently into one's home and treating the child as though born into the family. A legal as well as a child welfare function and process, adoption includes changes in court records to show the legal transfer of the individual from the birth parents to the adopting parents. Adoption usually gives the individual the same rights of inheritance as birth children, and the adoptive parents the same responsibilities and rights of control as birth parents. See also subsidized adoption, independent adoption, gray-market adoption, black-market adoption, and intercountry adoption.

adrenaline A hormone secreted by the adrenal glands that mobilizes the body to meet perceived emergency or stressful situations. Adrenaline acts to release sugars from the liver and increase blood volume in the muscles to increase strength, stimulate the heart beat, increase mental alertness, and generally prepare the body for extraordinary activity.

ADS See alternative delivery systems (ADS).

adult An individual who has reached the legal age of maturity; in most nations and states this age is 18.

adult antisocial behavior An enduring pattern of criminal conduct and other acts that are counterproductive to social norms in a person whose behavior cannot be attributed to a specific and diagnosable mental disorder. This label is often applied to professional thieves, drug dealers, organized crime figures, and white-collar criminals.

Adult Basic Education program (ABE) Tutoring and classroom teaching programs for adults with educational deficiencies, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education; also referred to as ABE-OE programs.

adult children of alcoholics (ACOAs) People who have been raised in the stressful environments created by parents who abused alcohol or other substances. Many ACOAs share similar emotional disorders, including anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, anger, and their own predisposition toward alcohol abuse and substance abuse. Many ACOAs have found comfort in self-help groups or a support group that exists for them. See also support system and codependency.

adult day care Programs that provide personal, social, and homemaker services to adults who are unable to care for themselves when their primary guardians are unavailable. Those most likely to require such care are people with physical and mental disabilities whose caregivers must be away every day for extended periods. Such care may be provided in private homes, nursing homes, and other facilities.

adult day center Publicly or sometimes privately funded facilities in which seniors or other adults gather to participate in recreational, social, educational, and developmental programs. Such facilities often are used by independently functioning seniors as well as by the clients of adult day care.

adult development Normal changes that occur in the individual from maturity to death. These include the physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and personality changes that occur after adolescence.

adult education The process—with people who are beyond the age of general public education—of acquiring and imparting

knowledge, skills, and values. Adult education programs have been used to eliminate illiteracy, improve vocational and economic opportunities, and enhance human potential. The Adult Education Association of the United States sponsors research, issues publications, and maintains standards for those who provide such services.

adult foster care Residential care programs in the private homes of nonrelatives provided for adults who cannot live independently, including some people with a mental disorder, or mental retardation, and frail elderly people. Caregivers usually provide room and board and assistance in activities of daily living (ADL) in family-like environments, in exchange for a monthly payment, under the supervision of human services professionals. The professionals, who are employed by such organizations as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or local social services agencies, find these homes, match them with appropriate adults in need, and provide ongoing counseling and needed health and community resources.

adulthood The life cycle stage in human development that begins at maturity and ends at death. Social scientists often divide adulthood into several periods, such as early adulthood (18 to 44 years); middle adulthood (45 to 64 years); and late adulthood (65 years to death). In legal terms, in most jurisdictions, adulthood is generally considered to begin at age 18.

adultified child A youth who, because of the family's relationship patterns, psychopathology, or socioeconomic circumstances, is compelled to assume roles and responsibilities normally reserved for older people. An example is a child who is a primary caregiver for younger siblings as well as meal preparer, housekeeper, and major emotional source of support for a single, working parent.

adult learner model An educational ideology that recognizes students as being responsible, self-directing, and motivated to learn and share from their accumulated life experiences. This model views adult learning as being more effective when students experience direct and relevant application of their developing problem-solving skills. This is the model of education in professional schools of social work. See also andragogy.

adult protective services (APS) Human services often including social, medical, legal, residential, and custodial care that may be provided for adults who are unable to provide such care for themselves or who do not have a significant other who might provide it. Such people often are

incapable of acting judiciously on their own behalf and, thus, are vulnerable to being harmed by or to inflicting harm on others. In such situations, and typically after a legal decision has been made, the social agency or other care facility provides the relevant service until it is no longer deemed necessary. The 1975 Title XX legislation mandated that APS be provided without regard to a person's financial or residency eligibility.

advance directive A properly witnessed and documented statement that describes in detail the medical measures a person would or would not want used to prolong life when one is no longer able to make such measures known. The document may also name someone who could make such decisions for the individual. See also living will.

adventitious disability A condition acquired later in life, such as those caused by accident or disease rather than congenital abnormalities or developmental disabilities. A major cause of adventitious disabilities is child abuse, and hearing impairment is one of the more-common permanent disabilities resulting from child abuse.

adversarial process A procedure for reaching decisions by hearing and evaluating the presentation of opposing viewpoints. The adversarial process is most notably seen in courts of law, in which opposing attorneys present evidence and arguments in support of their respective views or clients. See also arbitration and mediation.

advice giving An intervention in social work in which the social worker helps the client to recognize and understand the existence of a problem or goal and to consider the various responses that might be made to deal with it. The social worker then recommends the best strategies to accomplish the objectives.

advisory board A committee that provides needed information, expert opinion, and recommendations about how to achieve an organization's goals, often according to predetermined criteria. Members of the advisory board are consulted for their expertise as a group or as individuals. Members may be elected, hired, or recruited as volunteers and may or may not include the organization's board of directors.

advocacy 1. The act of directly representing or defending others. 2. In social work, championing the rights of individuals or communities

through direct intervention or through empowerment. According to the NASW Code of Ethics, it is a basic obligation of the profession and its members.

advocacy research Systematic investigation of specific social problems and objective measurement of their extent, progression, and response to corrective actions. This type of research also heightens public awareness of the social problems and recommends possible solutions.

AFDC See Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).

AFDC-EA programs The emergency assistance provision of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, designed to help such families meet their costs of temporary, unexpected needs such as natural disasters, extraordinary home-heating costs, and utility cutoffs. The programs are 50 percent funded by the federal government and the balance by state and local governments. Most counties that administer these funds give AFDC-EA recipients vouchers rather than cash or pay the vendors directly.

AFDC-UP See Unemployed Parent Program of AFDC (AFDC-UP).

affect An individual's expression of mood, temperament, and feelings; an individual's overt emotional state.

affective congruency Feelings that are consistent with those of most other people about the same thing. For example, a social worker who is distressed at seeing an abused child has affective congruency with most other people.

affective disorder Emotional disturbances characterized primarily by chronic or episodic changes of mood, such as depression, euphoria, or mania. This term has been replaced by the term mood disorder.

affiliation 1. An ongoing explicit relationship or association. 2. A coping strategy of dealing with emotional conflict or stress by turning to others for help and support and mutual problem solving.

affirmative action 1. Positive steps taken by an organization to remedy imbalances in the employment of people of color and women, promotions, and other opportunities. 2. Measures designed to change the employee ratio in an organization of people of color to white people and women to men.

AFGE See American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE).

AFL-CIO See American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

African American A term used by some people in referring to black residents of the United States who came from, or whose ancestors came from, Africa. This term is generally preferred over the term “Afro American.” See also black people.

AFSCME See American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

AFTA See American Family Therapy Association (AFTA).

aftercare The continuing treatment, physical maintenance, and social support of formerly hospitalized or institutionalized clients during extended convalescence or social transition back to the community. See also halfway houses and quarterway houses.

aftercare, juvenile In judicial terminology, the status of a juvenile who has been conditionally released from incarceration as a result of delinquency and placed in a supervised treatment or rehabilitation program while living at home, in foster placement, or in a transitional living facility. The system is also known as juvenile parole.

age at onset The point in one’s life when a specific disorder or problem started.

aged One term for older people. In the United States, this term is generally applied to people who have reached at least age 65. Developmental psychologists identify three groups of the aged population: (1) the “young old” (age 60 to 64), (2) the “middle old” (age 65 to 74), and (3) the “old old” (older than age 74).

age discrimination Unfair treatment of people on the basis of their ages. When these people are employees, the employer is breaking U.S. federal law (the Age Discrimination in Employment Act [ADEA] of 1967).

Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) of 1967 A U.S. federal law that prohibits employers with 20 or more employees from discriminating against people older than age 40. The law is enforced by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and

explicitly forbids age discrimination in hiring, discharge, pay, promotions, and other aspects of employment. See also mandatory retirement.

age integration Bringing together people of different generations. The current trend is toward de facto age segregation, manifested in communities—for example, residential buildings, neighborhoods, and even cities that are restricted to people older than a certain age. There have been many negative consequences of this, for young as well as older people. Thus, some programs, facilities, and social causes are designed to combine the needs of people of all ages to encourage their interaction and mutual benefit.

ageism Stereotyping and generalizing about people on the basis of their ages; commonly, a form of discrimination against older people. This term is also spelled “agism.” See also gerontophobia.

agency See social agency.

Agency for International Development (AID) The U.S. government program, created in 1961 by a consolidation of other international relief organizations, that administers and coordinates economic and social welfare assistance to other nations.

Agent Orange A herbicide used most notably in the Vietnam War to defoliate areas where enemy troops were thought to be hiding. Some veterans have claimed that their exposure to this dioxin resulted in their subsequent contracting of various diseases, including cancer.

age of consent The legal age, established by statute in the relevant jurisdiction, at which time an individual is permitted to marry without parental approval, enter into business contracts, or engage in sexual relations of his or her own volition. Engaging in sexual relations with one who is younger than the age of consent can result in criminal charges and conviction of the older person for statutory rape. An erroneous belief that the younger person was of the age of consent usually is not a sustainable defense against these charges.

age-related cognitive decline The diminished capacities in thought processes, such as memory and problem solving, within the normal limits of aging.

age segregation Isolating people from one another based on their ages. This may occur as a result of ageism, personal preferences, social convenience, or the necessity of providing different services to people

with different needs and lifestyles. Examples occur in gray ghettos, in public elementary schools, and in retirement. When a community or society discourages this type of segregation, it is seeking a high degree of age integration.

aggravated assault A severe or intensified form of assault involving an attack or threat with a dangerous weapon.

aggression Behavior characterized by forceful contact and communication with other people. Human aggression is most directly observable in such expressions as verbal or physical attacks and indirectly through competition, athletic endeavors, and similar activities. Aggression may be appropriate and used for self-defense or self-enhancement, or it may be destructive to oneself and others. Some social scientists use the term “aggression” to refer only to harmful behaviors and the term assertiveness for behavior that is not intended to harm others.

“aging out” The informal term used for status changes among young people who outgrow their qualification as dependents while in the responsibility of the health care and welfare system, such as foster care, juvenile detention facilities, or educational facilities. Often when such youngsters are runaway children or kidnap victims or are moving from one foster care facility to another, they “age out” and get lost. They still exist but are no longer counted, sought, or served when located and are extremely vulnerable to exploitation.

agitation The organized effort to produce discomfort with the status quo to win popular support for some social change.

agitator In community organization, a role in which an individual or group confronts and challenges existing social structures by such means as publicity, public debate, and voter registration drives and by organizing active and passive resistance campaigns. The goal of the agitator is usually to create new institutions or to change the ways in which established ones operate.

agnosia The inability to comprehend familiar objects that are being perceived by the sense organs. This may be a partial or total inability to attach meaning to the input from one or more of the five senses. For example, in visual agnosia, the individual takes in all the normal light sensations in the visual field but cannot decipher or process this information to recognize or interpret what is being seen. This condition

is often the result of brain damage, especially to the cortex, often the result of stroke.

agoraphobia An irrational and persistent fear of being in unfamiliar places or of leaving one’s home. Most people with this condition make special efforts to avoid crowded rooms, public transportation facilities, tunnels, and other environments from which escape seems difficult and where help is unavailable. Agoraphobia often accompanies panic disorder.

agraphia See dysgraphia.

AHA See American Hospital Association (AHA).

AICP See Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor (AICP).

AID See Agency for International Development (AID).

AIDS See acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

AIDS dementia complex Impairment of cognitive functioning due to infections of the central nervous system (CNS) related to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). As with other CNS disorders, the symptoms vary from day to day but at worst includes grandiosity, poor impulse control, aimless wandering, memory loss, and disorientation.

“AIDS-related complex”(ARC) An imprecise term referring to the signs and symptoms that occur during the progression from human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). These symptoms include diarrhea, weight loss, fever, headaches, bruising, bleeding, oral thrush, stomachache, fatigue, disease of the lymph glands, and neurological changes. According to Gary A. Lloyd (“AIDS and HIV: The Syndrome and the Virus,” in Encyclopedia of Social Work, 18th ed., 1990 Supplement, Silver Spring, MD: NASW Press, 1990, p. 27), the progression from infection to the final stages of AIDS may take from a few months to many years, and the symptoms attributed to ARC appear during that time. Thus, although ARC once was thought to be a discrete stage in the progression of AIDS, researchers now think that it is not a useful concept and one that may even interfere with the accurate understanding of AIDS and HIV.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) A public assistance program, originating in the Social Security Act as Aid to Dependent Children, funded by the federal and state governments to provide financial aid for needy children who are deprived of parental

support because of death, incapacitation, or absence. AFDC is administered on the state and local levels, usually through county departments of public welfare (or human or social services). At the national level, it is administered by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Eligibility is determined by a means test. Many states provide benefits when the father is home but unemployed. See also Unemployed Parent Program of AFDC (AFDC-UP).

Aid to the Blind (AB) A categorical program for needy blind people, originating in the Social Security Act. The program was administered at the state and local levels before 1972, when it was consolidated with Old Age Assistance (OAA) and Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD) programs into the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD) A program that was established by a 1950 amendment to the Social Security Act to provide financial assistance to needy people with serious and permanent physical or mental disabilities. In 1972, with passage of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, the program was consolidated with the Old Age Assistance (OAA) and Aid to the Blind (AB) programs.

AIM See American Indian Movement (AIM).

AIME See Average Income Monthly Earnings (AIME).

akathisia A sustained pattern of fidgety movements, such as swinging of the legs, rocking, tapping the feet or hands, pacing, and being unable to remain in a position for long. This pattern can be a symptom of anxiety, psychosis, substance abuse, or a medication-induced movement disorder.

Al-Anon A voluntary self-help organization comprising primarily the relatives of alcoholics who meet regularly to give each other mutual help and to discuss ways to help solve common problems. Al-Anon is a national organization with chapters in most communities in the United States. See also support system.

alarmist One who excites popular fear; often this is a term of derision made by political or administrative leaders against people seeking social change. See also agitator.

Alaska Natives The ethnic group of American citizens, many of whom are commonly known as Eskimos and Aleuts, whose ancestors lived in the area now known as Alaska before Europeans explored and settled the Western Hemisphere.

alcohol abuse Consumption of alcohol in such a way as to harm or endanger the well-being of the user or those with whom the user comes in contact. Such consumption often leads the abuser to cause accidents, to become physically assaultive and less productive, or to deteriorate physically.

alcohol dependence A pattern of alcohol use that results in impaired social functioning. The behavior pattern typically includes a daily need or wish for alcohol, inconsistent attempts to control drinking, physical disorders aggravated by use of alcohol, occasional binges, absences or ineffectiveness at work, violence, and social relationship problems. Because it is rare for people with alcohol dependency to have all these symptoms, they sometimes rationalize that they do not suffer from alcoholism.

alcohol hallucinosis Imaginary perceptions that occur after a person with an alcohol dependence problem has stopped or reduced the consumption of alcohol. The most common type of hallucination is auditory. The disorder most frequently lasts a few hours or days and rarely more than a week.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) A voluntary self-help organization of people who have experienced problems related to alcohol dependence. Founded in 1935 by two alcoholics, the organization functions through 1,000 local groups. None of these groups has formal officers, constitutions, or dues, and all groups are open to anyone with a drinking problem.

alcoholism Physical or psychological dependence on alcohol consumption. Alcoholism can lead to social, mental, or physical impairment. See also primary alcoholism, secondary alcoholism, and reactive alcoholism.

alcohol withdrawal Symptoms in one who suffers alcohol dependence following cessation or reduction in drinking, including some, but not necessarily all of the following: tremor ("the shakes"), nausea, depression and anxiety, irritability, hypersensitivity to environmental stimuli, weakness, tachycardia, sweating, agitated behavior, delusion, and

withdrawal delirium (delirium tremens [DTs]). See also withdrawal symptoms.

alexia A reading disability that begins during adulthood and is usually brought about by head injury, stroke, or some other abnormality in the central nervous system (CNS).

algophobia The pathological fear of pain.

alien One who resides in a country but is not a citizen or national of that country. See also undocumented alien.

alienation The feeling of apartness or strangeness experienced in cultural or social settings that seem unfamiliar, unacceptable, or unpredictable.

Alien Labor Certification Division A division of the U.S. Department of Labor that authorizes workers from foreign nations to remain in the United States for a specified time to help meet labor demand. See also green card.

Alien Registration Recipient U.S. Government Form I-551, which is issued to citizens of other nations who become permanent U.S. residents. The form is more commonly known as the green card.

alimony Money paid by one former spouse to the other to provide for separate maintenance according to domestic law. Alimony payments are most commonly made by husbands to their former wives, although increasingly, wives are required to make such payments to their former husbands. Alimony is distinct from the obligation of child support payments. The term now preferred is maintenance. See also palimony.

Alinsky, Saul (1909–1972) A community organizer based in Chicago, he developed many innovative tactics and methods for effectively mobilizing a community. Author of the influential book *Reveille for Radicals* (1946), he advocated realistic goal setting and personalizing social problems by identifying scapegoats or “villains.”

Alliance for Progress The program established in the Kennedy administration in 1961 to aid Latin American nations that agreed to begin democratic reforms.

allied health professionals The generic name for the professional personnel of hospitals and other health care facilities other than physicians and nurses. Social workers, including those specializing in medical social work, are usually included in this designation. Others include audiologists, optometrists, physical and occupational therapists, pharmacists, psychologists, registered dietitians, speech pathologists, radiology technicians, and respiratory therapists.

alloplasty In psychoanalytic theory, the psychic process in which the libido is directed away from the self and onto other people or objects in the environment. See also autoplasty.

allotment A financial grant or portion of a budget set aside to accomplish some purpose or manage some program. For example, the United Way has an annual allotment for the local family service agency.

almoner One who distributes money or needed goods to poor people. Many social workers were called “almoners” before the 20th century.

alms Money or goods to be given charitably by individuals to poor people. This term has been rarely used since 1900. See also philanthropy.

almshouse A home for poor people; a form of indoor relief prevalent before the 20th century, in which shelters funded by philanthropy were provided for destitute families and individuals. In recent decades, almshouses have largely been replaced by outdoor relief programs in which needy people are provided with money, goods, and services while living in their own homes. See also relief and workhouse.

alogia Poverty of thinking as manifested by restricted speech consisting mostly of short, concrete, repetitive, and stereotyped replies lacking in spontaneity or information.

alternative delivery systems (ADS) A combined health care and financing program. Unlike the traditional method of paying the physician or hospital directly or through third-party payment arrangements, the ADS consumer pays a fixed premium in advance and receives services at nominal or no charge. ADS programs include the health maintenance organization (HMO), independent practice associations (IPAs), health care alliances, preferred provider organizations (PPOs), and primary-care networks. See also managed health care program.

Altmeyer, Arthur J. (1891–1972) A principal designer of the legislation that became the Social Security Act in 1935. As a federal

administrator he helped design the merit system for the U.S. Civil Service and state personnel programs. He was also a leading proponent and conceptualizer of national health insurance.

altruism Unselfish regard for the well-being of others, accompanied by motivation to give money, goods, services, or companionship. See also philanthropy.

Alzheimer's disease An organic mental disorder occurring most often in older people. Alzheimer's disease is characterized by confusion, forgetfulness, mood swings, impaired cognition to learn, disorientation, and dementia. It is thought to be the result of diffuse brain atrophy, especially in the frontal lobes. The cause is unknown.

ambiguous mandate Expectations and requirements made of a social welfare administrator or other official by the relevant constituency that are unclear and not sufficiently specific. Effective administrators often see ambiguous mandates not as frustrating obstacles but as opportunity for creative leadership and innovation.

ambisexual The possession of male and female sexual traits or role behaviors in approximately equal degrees such that neither sex seems predominant in the individual. The term is similar to androgyny, but emphasizes physical more than set role behavior characteristics.

ambivalence Contradictory emotions, such as love and hate, that occur simultaneously within an individual. In its extreme form, the term is related to indecisiveness and rapidly shifting emotional attitudes toward someone or some idea.

ambivert In the psychoanalytic theories of Carl Jung (1875–1961), an individual whose personality contains nearly equal characteristics of an introvert and an extrovert.

ambulatory care Medical treatment and health care in outpatient clinics, dispensaries, and in offices of physicians—that is, noninstitutional health care.

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) An interdisciplinary professional association founded in 1942 (as the American Association of Marriage Counselors). Its functions and goals include the enhancement of the well-being of families and couples in the United States and professional

development of its members through conferences, accredited educational and training programs, and publications.

American Association for Organizing Family Social Work See Family Service America (FSA).

American Association of Group Workers (AAGW) An organization of professional social workers who specialized in working with small groups. AAGW was formed in 1936 and discontinued as an autonomous entity in 1955 when it merged into the then newly created National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

American Association of Hospital Social Workers (AAHSW) The organization, established in 1918, comprising social workers employed in medical facilities and hospital social work departments. In 1934 it was renamed the American Association of Medical Social Workers (AAMSW) to reflect its growing membership of workers employed in nonhospital medical facilities. In 1955 it merged with six other professional groups to form the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

American Association of Industrial Social Workers (AAISW) The organization of professional social workers who provide occupational social work services through employment with business organizations or through employee assistance programs (EAPs). It develops and maintains standards of quality assurance and encourages the effective use of industrial social workers.

American Association of Medical Social Workers (AAMSW) See American Association of Hospital Social Workers (AAHSW).

American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers (AAPSW) The membership association, founded in 1926, comprising social workers who specialized in clinical work with people with a mental disorder or who worked with a mental health team. AAPSW merged with six other social work membership organizations in 1955 to form the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) The largest senior citizens' group in the United States, founded in 1958 to influence legislation and provide social, economic, and recreational services to people older than 50 (retired or not).

American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW) The organization founded in 1985 to enhance the quality and focus of social

work education and the educational institutions that provide it. Formerly an organization of deans of social work schools, the association comprises deans, faculty, and other concerned professionals. An earlier organization by the same name, established in 1919, was a forerunner of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT)

The multidisciplinary professional organization founded in 1967 that advocates for greater public knowledge about and healthy expressions of human sexuality. The association, which publishes the Journal of Sex Education and Therapy, educates the general public and professionals about aspects of sexuality and treatment of its problems. It also defines and maintains standards for professionals who provide sex education in public schools, churches, and private institutions. Its major focus is on setting standards for therapists and counselors who treat sexual dysfunction and help people achieve sexual fulfillment.

American Association of Social Workers (AASW) A membership organization of professional social workers founded in 1921 and merged into the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) in 1955.

American Association of State Social Work Boards (AASSWB)

An organization formed in 1979 comprising social workers and those public members who serve as members of the boards of state licensing bodies in those states that regulate social work. Usually, board membership is achieved by gubernatorial appointment. AASSWB enables those who serve on such boards to communicate with their counterparts in other states about such matters as developing competency tests, continuing education requirements, recertification policies, reciprocity, and other mutual concerns.

American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR) The interdisciplinary professional organization, established in 1876, comprising professionals who study and work with those affected by mental retardation.

American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work (ABE)

An organization established in 1987 as an independent certification authority for clinical social workers. ABE was formed through a collaboration of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the National Registry of Health Care Providers in Clinical Social Work

(now the National Institute for Clinical Social Work Advancement [NICSWA]). Its goals include enhancing professional standards by establishing practice guidelines for clinical social work, developing and administering written competency exams, and awarding board-certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work credentials to qualified senior practitioners.

American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) An organization of physicians established in 1934 that examines and certifies diplomates in psychiatry, neurology, and related fields of medical practice. A “board-certified” psychiatrist or neurologist is credentialed by this group.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) A civil rights group formed in 1920 and dedicated to the restraint of governmental interference with individuals’ personal freedom. See also civil rights.

American Family Therapy Association (AFTA) A professional organization whose members treat couples and families who are experiencing relationship problems.

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) A labor organization, founded in 1932 with headquarters in Washington, DC, and local chapters throughout the nation, whose members are employed by the government of the United States. Many AFGE members are social workers employed as administrators, researchers, supervisors, and providers of direct social services.

American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

The oldest and largest labor union in the United States. AFL was founded in 1886 to help assure workers of fairer and more-stable working conditions. In 1935 several AFL unions—unhappy with the emphasis on skilled craftspeople—broke away and formed the CIO to give greater voice to industrial workers. The two groups merged in 1955 and now include nearly 100 distinct unions, including the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), with which many social workers are affiliated.

American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) A labor organization founded in 1936, with headquarters in Washington, DC, and chapters throughout the nation, whose members are employed by nonfederal governments. Many of its members include

state and county public assistance workers, child welfare workers, and other social services personnel. Other membership groups include police personnel, firefighters, and public agency administrators.

American Hospital Association (AHA)

An organization founded in 1899 comprising more than 5,500 hospitals and other patient care institutions in the United States. AHA establishes and sanctions standards and guidelines to maintain quality assurance. One of its many affiliated membership groups is the Society for Social Work Administrators in Health Care (SSWAHC).

American Indian Movement (AIM) A civil rights group, founded in 1968 with headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota, whose purposes include encouraging self-determination among American Indians and gaining recognition of their treaty rights. AIM also conducts research, maintains historical archives, and sponsors educational programs.

American Indians Also known as Native Americans, the ethnic-racial-cultural groups of American citizens whose ancestors lived in the Western Hemisphere before its exploration and settlement by the Europeans.

American Public Health Association (APHA) An organization founded in 1872 to advocate for societal rather than individual responses to disease and health care. Members of APHA led the movement to prevent epidemics and to enhance the nation's sanitation, nutrition, health education, and government health programs.

American Public Welfare Association (APWA) A voluntary association of individuals and social agencies interested in maintaining effective administration and improved delivery of publicly funded human services. Founded in 1930, it includes more than 1,200 local, state, and federal public welfare organizations.

American Sign Language (ASL) Also known as "AmesLan," a language with a unique grammatical structure, vocabulary, and system of communication. Communication takes place not by vocalization, but by specific movements and shapes of hands, arms, eyes, face, head, and body that correspond to the words of spoken language. It is primarily used by people with hearing impairments.

Americorps A U.S. government program of the Clinton administration established in 1994 to help administer, finance, and

train volunteers to provide health, education, vocational, economic development, or social services for designated groups. Most of the work occurs in poor urban or rural areas, American Indian reservations, and institutions. Americorps volunteers may receive educational and other benefits.

AmesLan See American Sign Language (ASL).

amicus curiae brief A suit filed by a third party, generally a professional individual or organization, who is not a party to the litigation. Professionals in human services have used amicus curiae briefs to advocate for clients or for social causes. The term literally means "friend of the court."

amnesia Inability to recall some or all past experience as a result of emotional or organic factors, or combinations of both. See retrograde amnesia and anterograde amnesia. See also psychogenic amnesia.

amnesic disorder Impaired memory resulting from some specific organic impairment within an individual who otherwise has a clear consciousness (that is, no conditions such as delirium or intoxication) and no loss of major intellectual ability. The memory loss may be short term, which results in inability to retain newly acquired information, or long term, which results in inability to remember information that was known in the past. If memory loss occurs where no organic impairment is known to exist, the condition is known as psycho-genic amnesia.

amnesty An excuse granted to individuals or groups to free them from being tried or punished for alleged criminal offenses. It may occur even before a trial or conviction. Amnesty is usually granted by a nation's chief executive or ruler in response to political pressure or public demand, rather than for legal reasons. Amnesty is usually granted to groups or classes of people, such as Vietnam War draft evaders, whereas the term pardon applies to individuals. See also clemency.

amniocentesis A test to determine the presence of some specific defect in a developing fetus by extracting and examining a sample of the amniotic fluid. See also chorionic villa sampling (CVS).

amok A culture-bound syndrome, found originally in Malaysia, characterized by a person's period of brooding, followed by violent or homicidal outbursts. It is found mostly in males and often follows perceived insults. It is often accompanied by delusions of persecution, amnesia, and exhaustion.

amotivational syndrome A pattern of behavior often found in patients who have exhibited extensive substance dependence in which there seems to be cooperation and little resistance to the intervention process but also little effort or interest expended toward resolution of either substance abuse or other social and emotional problems. Some social workers say clients who have been long-term, heavy users of marijuana often exhibit this behavior while in treatment.

amphetamine A drug that stimulates the cerebral cortex, tends to temporarily increase one's mental alertness, produces a sense of euphoria and well-being, and reduces fatigue; sometimes used clinically by physicians in treating children's hyperkinesis and used in weight control. Commonly known as "bennies," "uppers," and "speed," amphetamines are addictive and usually require increasingly large doses as tolerance develops. Addiction can and frequently does result in psychosis or death from overexhaustion or cardiac arrest.

anabolic steroids See steroids.

anaclitic A form of dependency, such as that experienced by an infant for its caregiver. A typical characteristic of young children, it indicates pathology when excessive in adults. It is most commonly seen as a form of depression that one experiences when fearing the possible loss of an important source of nurturance.

anal character See "anal personality."

"anal personality" A descriptive term from psychoanalytic theory, referring to an individual who is excessively fastidious, miserly, rigid, and compulsively obsessed with orderliness; also known as "anal character."

anal phase The second stage in psychosexual development theory, which occurs between the ages of two and three. During this stage of personality development, the child becomes oriented to the functions of the anus and learns to have more control over the environment by giving or withholding feces.

analysand One who is being psychoanalyzed.

analysis A systematic consideration of anything in its respective parts and their relationship to one another. The term is commonly used to indicate psychoanalysis.

analysis of variance (ANOVA) A statistical procedure commonly used in social work research for determining the extent to which two or more groups differ significantly when one is exposed to a dependent variable.

analyst See psychoanalyst.

anancastic A behavior pattern in which the individual is compulsive—that is, obsessed with rules, is emotionally constricted and intolerant, and a perfectionist. See also compulsive personality disorder or obsessive-compulsive disorder.

anarchism A doctrine and social movement that espouses the abolition of formal government and freedom from controls on individual actions.

andragogy The practice of helping adults to learn. The concept is important in social work education, which usually seeks to use the adult learner model in teaching social work students.

androgyny A sexual orientation in which mannerisms, appearance, and behaviors that are usually considered either male or female are both incorporated into one's behavioral repertoire. The term is similar to ambisexual but emphasizes sex role behavior more than physical characteristics.

anemia A disorder in which the blood is deficient in red cells or hemoglobin. The most apparent initial symptom is a feeling of tiredness resulting from the blood's inability to transport enough oxygen through the body.

aneurysm A permanent dilation of a weakened artery. Major causes of the weakening are infection, injury, hypertension, arteriosclerosis, or congenital abnormalities. The most serious and life threatening of these are the aortic aneurysm, which can result in loss of blood from the heart to the body cavities, or brain aneurysm in which the blood flow to parts of the brain can be interrupted.

"angel dust" A slang term for the psychedelic or hallucinogenic drug PCP (phencyclidine). This drug, one of the drugs of abuse, is smoked,

snorted, or ingested orally and often produces distortion of the senses and symptoms of psychosis. It has a high incidence of psychological dependency.

anger A common and usually normal emotion that occurs in response to an individual's perception of being threatened or harmed. Its manifestations often include irritability, physical or verbal attacks, increased heart rate and respiratory activity, and rage and negativism. Anger may be continuous or intermittent, directed inward or outward, intense or mild, and according to some psychologists, conscious or unconscious. It is considered maladaptive or pathological when it is relatively continuous or occurs even when there is no immediate catalyst.

angina pectoris Sharp pains in the chest that occur when the heart muscle receives insufficient blood. Caused by sudden closure of the coronary arteries, often brought on by excitement or physical exertion, angina often is treated with drugs that dilate the blood vessels as well as with surgical procedures to remove obstructions.

anhedonia An emotional state in which the individual lacks the full capacity to experience pleasure in situations that seem pleasurable to most others. It is a symptom frequently seen in clients with depression.

anima In the psychoanalytic theory of Carl Jung (1875-1961), the feminine aspect of a male's personality. The male inherits this feminine archetype from the accumulated experiences of men as they have related to women through the ages.

animus In the psychoanalytic theory of Carl Jung (1875-1961), the masculine aspect of a female's personality. The female inherits this masculine archetype from the accumulated experiences of women as they have related to men through the ages.

annona civica An institutionalized tradition in ancient Rome, established before 100 B.C., requiring patrician families to donate and distribute free or low-cost grain and other food to needy people.

annulment A religious or legal declaration that an agreement, contract, covenant, or relationship such as marriage does not and never has existed.

anomie Normlessness or the elimination or reduction of social and personal values, mores, norms, and codes of conduct; also, the inability of an individual or group to recognize the values, mores, or codes of conduct of another group with whom it must relate. Anomie frequently occurs in rapidly changing societies and communities or groups subject to catastrophic stress. In such circumstances, individuals often become alienated, apathetic, and devoid of previously valued goals.

anorexia nervosa An eating disorder most often encountered in girls and young women whose extended refusal to eat leads to severe weight loss, malnutrition, and cessation of menstruation. The usual medical criteria for this diagnosis include the loss of 15 percent or more of one's body weight. This life-threatening condition is related to a disturbed body image and an exaggerated fear of becoming obese. The word "anor-exia" literally means loss of appetite, although the person in this condition has not lost appetite. See also bulimia nervosa.

ANOVA See analysis of variance (ANOVA).

anoxia Insufficient oxygen in body tissues.

ANS See autonomic nervous system (ANS).

Antabuse A drug that induces nausea when in the bloodstream of an individual who ingests alcohol. It is used to facilitate aversion therapy in the treatment of alcoholism.

antecedent In behavior modification and social learning theory, an event (stimulus) that precedes a behavior (response) and is thought to influence it.

antenuptial agreement See prenuptial agreement.

anterograde amnesia The inability to recall experiences that have occurred after a certain time, usually after some physical injury or psychic stress. See also retrograde amnesia.

anthropocentrism The view that the environment centers around and exists primarily for humans.

antianxiety drugs See tranquilizer.

anticathexis In Freudian theory, the psychic energy the individual uses to keep repressed material in the unconscious. This term is not synonymous with decathexis.

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith A civil rights group founded in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League works to end anti-Semitism, improve intergroup relations, and promote the democratic process. The league's headquarters are in New York City, with branches in 28 areas of the United States and the world.

antidepressant medication Psychotropic drugs used by psychiatrists and other physicians to help patients achieve relief from the symptoms of depression. Some of the major drugs of this type are known by the trade names Elavil, Vivactil, Tofranil, Pertofrane, Sinequan, Marplan, Parnate, Prozac, and Nardil. Relief through antidepressant medication is not usually apparent until several days after it has been taken in compliance with prescription.

antimanic medication Psychotropic drugs prescribed by physicians to counter the symptoms of mood disorder, manic episode, and some forms of bipolar disorder. The most popular of these drugs, lithium carbonate, is sold under such trade names as Eskalith and Lithane. See also major affective disorder.

antipoverty programs The generic term for public and private associations and activities devoted to the eradication of poverty. As well as direct help to poor individuals, such activities include research into the causes and consequences of poverty and actions that may eliminate economic inequality and instability.

antipsychotic medication The group of psychotropic drugs prescribed by physicians to control certain symptoms seen in schizophrenia and other psychoses. These drugs include those sold under the trade names Compazine, Haldol, Mellaril, Navane, Prolixin, Serentil, Stelazine, Thorazine, and Trilafon.

anti-Semitism Negative attitudes and behaviors about Jewish people manifested in discrimination, bias, and the attempt to prejudicially attribute to them some of the problems of society. The term "Semitic" actually refers to a group of languages of the Middle East, including Arabic and Hebrew. Thus, technically, anti-Semitism also suggests bias against Arabs.

antisocial behavior A pattern of actions that results in an individual's isolation from other people or frequent conflict with others and social institutions.

antisocial personality disorder One of the 11 types of personality disorders characterized by irresponsibility, inability to feel guilt or remorse for actions that harm others, frequent conflicts with people and social institutions, the tendency to blame others and not to learn from mistakes, low frustration tolerance, and other behaviors that indicate a deficiency in socialization. Less-precise labels psychopathic personality, psychopath, and sociopath are often used as synonyms.

anxiety A feeling of uneasiness, tension, and sense of imminent danger. When such a feeling occurs within a person with no specific cause in the environment, it is known as free-floating anxiety. When it recurs frequently and interferes with effective living or a sense of well-being or is otherwise maladaptive, it is known as anxiety disorder.

anxiety disorder A chronic or recurring state of tension, worry, fear, and uneasiness arising from unknown or unrecognized perceptions of danger or conflict. The major types of anxiety disorders include generalized anxiety disorder; acute stress disorder; obsessive-compulsive disorder; posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD); panic disorder, with and without agoraphobia; social phobia; specific phobia; and substance-induced anxiety disorder.

anxiety disorder of childhood An emotional or mental disturbance found in youngsters from infancy through adolescence characterized by excessive fear; apprehension; nervousness; and often such symptoms as trembling, faints, nausea, choking, headaches, and overall tension. These symptoms occur even though there is no directly related cause or threat in the environment. Specific types of anxiety disorders in childhood or adolescence include separation anxiety disorder of childhood, avoidant disorder of childhood, and overanxious disorder of childhood. This term is no longer used as an official diagnosis.

anxiety hysteria A psychoanalytic term referring to psychoneurosis that includes intense anxiety-induced dramatic behavior, free-floating anxiety, and phobia. Analytically oriented therapists consider this condition to be the result of repressed sexual conflict.

anxiety neurosis See generalized anxiety disorder and panic disorder.

anxiety symptoms The psychophysiological responses one experiences as a result of anxiety. The most common of these include nervousness, sweating, irritability, sleeplessness, motor agitation, fidgetiness, muscular tension, fear, uneasiness, compulsive behavior, obsessive thoughts, trembling, pain, apprehension, forgetfulness, poor concentration, depression, confusion, and general discomfort.

anxiolytic Pertaining to substances or procedures for reducing anxiety.

APA citation system The format and style by which references are indicated in the texts of academic books and scholarly journal articles as developed by the American Psychological Association. The system is now preferred by most social science publications, including the social work literature. In this style the references are "cited in the text using the author's last name, and date of publication" (Beebe, 1993, p. 181) with the full reference at the end of the article, with all the other articles referred to, and placed in alphabetical order by author's last name, for example, as in: Beebe, L. (Ed.). (1993). Professional writing for the human services. Washington, DC: NASW Press.

apartheid A term in the Afrikaans language meaning "separate development" that refers to the policy of racial separation once maintained by the white-controlled South African government. The policy ended with South Africa's 1994 national elections giving people of all races the right to vote. However, apartheid has left an institutional legacy of differential education, sanitation, health services, infant and maternal mortality, housing, employment, and land distribution that may take generations to overcome.

apathy Indifference; lack of interest in or desire for anything. Apathy is often a symptom of such mental disorders as depression or a response to social conditions such as oppression, restricted opportunities, or limited education.

Apgar rating A score, devised by Dr. Virginia Apgar in 1954, to indicate the relative health of a baby at birth. This measure is now commonly used in neonatal care facilities. Five factors are each assigned the values 0, 1, or 2, so that a baby in ideal health would achieve an Apgar rating of 10. The criteria are heart rate (absent = 0, slow or irregular = 1, rapid = 2), respiratory effort (absent = 0, slow or irregular = 1, good, crying = 2), reflex irritability (absent = 0, grimace = 1, cough, sneeze = 2), color (blue = 0, body pink, extremities blue =

1, completely pink = 2), and muscle tone (flaccid = 0, weak = 1, strong = 2).

APHA See American Public Health Association (APHA).

aphasia The inability to use previously possessed language skills. Specific types of aphasia may include loss of ability to utter words, loss of ability to understand written or spoken words, inability to put words and phrases together properly, or various combinations of these. See also developmental expressive language disorder.

aphephobia The abnormal fear of being touched.

aphonia Loss of ability to speak normally as a result of physiological or emotional disorders.

aplastic anemia Failure of the bone marrow to produce sufficient blood elements, especially red cells, often occurring as a result of overexposure to antibiotic drugs, X-rays, or toxic substances.

APM Annual Program Meeting, the name social work educators use to refer to the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)-sponsored conference that meets in a different U.S. city every March.

apnea A disturbance in the respiratory mechanism, usually resulting in temporary cessation of breathing. In some infants, the disturbance may be related to crib death. See also sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and sleep disorder. Clinicians use the term breathing-related sleep disorder.

apparatchik An administrative functionary. The term is the Russian for "bureaucrat" but, as used in English, implies a public official who mindlessly follows rules even if those rules keep the official and others from reaching the organization's goal. See also technocrat.

appeal In legal terms, a request of a higher court to review and reverse a lower court decision or grant a new trial.

appellate court A judicial institution and procedure that determines if the judgments made in lower courts were in accordance with law. Appellate courts only scrutinize previously adjudicated cases, not by reviewing new testimony or evidence, but by reviewing written briefs and oral arguments about how the previous judgment was made.

applied research Systematic investigations to acquire facts that can be used to solve or prevent problems, enhance lifestyles, advance technologies, or increase income. This is contrasted to basic research. Most of social work research is considered applied research because it pertains mostly to the interactions between people and their environment, social problems, and methods for helping.

appointment 1. The designation of a specified period during which the social worker, or other professional, and the client have agreed to meet. It commonly lasts 50 to 60 minutes for individuals and couples, 90 to 120 minutes for groups, and longer for home visits. 2. The designation of a person to fill a position. For example, a social worker is appointed chief administrator of an agency.

apportioned tax A tax collected by one level of government whose proceeds are shared with other governmental entities. For example, a city or county government distributes some of the funds collected from property taxes to the state or to school and park districts. Or money from a state gasoline tax is apportioned to local governments for city street construction. See also revenue sharing.

apprenticing Putting one person under the care and tutelage of another, ostensibly for the purpose of learning certain skills. This process is historically significant in child welfare in that it was widely practiced in the United States in the 18th and 19th centuries as a way to care for homeless youths. As such, it was a major precedent for the subsequent system of foster care.

appropriate technology (AT) Methods for handling environmental problems or developing resources that are suitable and efficient for people of the area given their stage of economic and social progression. For example, building a small windmill to pump water in a primitive village might be a more appropriate technology than installing a hydroelectric dam or irrigation system.

appropriation An allocation of funds, usually made by a government legislative body, to an organization or program empowered by that body to accomplish a specific goal.

apraxia The inability to perform purposeful movements, which usually is related to lesions in the motor area of the cortex rather than paralysis or dysfunctioning senses.

APS See adult protective services (APS).

APTD See Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD).

aptitude tests Formal examinations that attempt to determine an individual's innate ability and potential for a future undertaking, such as success in an educational or workplace setting. See also achievement tests.

APWA See American Public Welfare Association (APWA).

aquaphobia The pathological fear of water.

arbitration A decision-making mechanism used when two or more opposing factions cannot reach agreement or continue working toward complementary goals. The disputing parties agree to appoint a neutral person and to abide by that person's decision following a hearing on the issues at which the parties have had an opportunity to present their case. See also mediation.

ARC See "AIDS-related complex" (ARC).

archetype In the theories of Carl Jung (1875–1961), the inherited structural component of the collective unconscious. It is a deep, unconscious representation of a group of experiences that have been accumulating within each new generation of humans. This collection of experiences remains part of the individual's personality in the unconscious and influences the thought and behavior patterns of each individual to varying degrees. Archetypes are also referred to as primordial images or imagos, and the major archetypes are the anima and the animus. See also nativism.

Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) A national network of federally funded agencies established in 1965 to advocate and provide human services for older people.

arousal 1. A state of becoming excited into action. Social workers involved in community organization sometimes seek to provoke arousal in client groups by making them aware of a relevant problem and its potential solution. 2. In human sexuality, the term refers to physiological and psychological changes in response to stimulation and leading to preparation for sexual intercourse. Sexologists William Masters and Virginia Johnson described arousal as occurring primarily in the first of the four stages of sexual response (excitement, plateau, orgasm, and resolution). They indicated that arousal begins in the excitement phase, in

which vasocongestion (swelling of the blood vessels) commences, the heart and pulse rates increase, and the skin becomes flushed.

arteriosclerosis Hardening of the arteries or loss of elasticity of arterial wall, a condition that makes it difficult for the blood to circulate. This can result in hypertension, stroke, aneurism, and brain cell destruction, with consequent loss of memory, confusion, and inattention.

arthritis Painful inflammation of the joints of the body. Causes include dysfunction of the endocrine glands, nerve impairment, or degeneration as a result of infections and old age. The major types include rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and gout.

articulation disorder A speech problem characterized by the inability to pronounce certain sounds clearly. The individual may have difficulty pronouncing one or more sounds or sound blends such as r, sh, th, f, z, l, or ch, often making substitutions for these sounds and giving the impression of “baby talk.” Most professionals now prefer the term phonological disorder.

artificial insemination The joining of sperm and ovum for the purpose of reproduction by means other than sexual intercourse or natural conception. Using surgical instruments, the physician implants semen taken from the woman’s husband, or sometimes from an anonymous donor, into a fallopian tube or into the uterus, where sperm can form a union with the ovum. See also in vitro fertilization, reproductive technology, and surrogacy.

art therapy The use of paintings, sculpture, and other creative expressions in the treatment of people with emotional problems. Art therapy is often used in social group work and in group psychotherapy. Often used with institutionalized people or inpatients, it is also considered to be effective with healthy people who wish to share art as a means of enhancing personal growth and development. In some forms of art therapy, clients create their own works and discuss the results with the therapist or with other members of an art therapy group. In other forms, the clients are exposed to works of art by a variety of artists and asked to assess how the works affect their own feelings and understandings. See also bibliotherapy.

asceticism A lifestyle involving rigid self-discipline and self-denial, abandonment of worldly goods, and social isolation, usually to improve one’s spiritual or moral state.

ASCO See Association for the Study of Community Organization (ASCO).

Asian Americans Residents or citizens of the United States whose racial background and sometimes ethnic identification is with the peoples of Pacific-Asian areas, including Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Koreans, Filipinos, migrants from the Indian subcontinent, and others.

Asian American Social Workers (AASW) The national professional association established in California in 1968 by social workers of Pacific-Asian background. The purpose of AASW is to develop and promote social welfare programs that benefit and protect the rights of Asian Americans as well as to enhance its members’ professional development.

as-if assumptions A technique used in psychotherapy, especially with small groups, in which the therapist seeks to help the client understand the reasons for resisting or fearing change. The therapist suggests the client is behaving “as-if” change would lead to specified problems. The client and group then look more objectively at the anticipated consequences and come to fear them less.

ASL See American Sign Language (ASL).

Asociación Nacional por Personas Mayores

The association for Hispanic senior citizens that provides information to its members (individuals and organizations) about the opportunities, benefits, and problems of older people of Spanish-speaking heritage and represents these people to lawmakers, policy makers, and other organizations.

asocial behavior Behavior characterized by indifference to people or social norms.

Asperger’s disorder One of the pervasive developmental disorders characterized by severe and sustained impairment in social interaction and the development of restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, and activities, causing impairment in most areas of functioning. Similar to autistic disorder but with a later onset, the individual with the disorder usually has difficulties in social interactions throughout life.

assault An attempt or threat to physically harm or intimidate an individual through the use of unlawful force. Assault may be found even

where no physical injury occurs if the victim has been subjected to a reasonable fear of harm.

assertiveness Behavior characterized by self-confident communication of one's rights and values.

assertiveness training A program designed to teach individuals to express their feelings, needs, and demands directly and effectively.

assessment The process of determining the nature, cause, progression, and prognosis of a problem and the personalities and situations involved therein; the social work function of acquiring an understanding of a problem, what causes it, and what can be changed to minimize or resolve it. See also diagnosis.

assimilation 1. The social integration or adoption of one group's values, norms, and folkways by another group. For example, a group of immigrants may eventually integrate with or adopt many aspects of the culture of their new society. 2. In Piagetian theory, the individual's act of incorporating an aspect of his or her environment into an existing thought structure. See also culture shock.

assisted suicide The intentional act of providing someone with the means and information needed to commit suicide. When this is done by a physician or other medical professional, it is known as medically assisted suicide. See also right to die.

Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor (AICP) An organization founded in New York by Robert M. Hartley in 1843 to combat poverty primarily through "character-building" activities. Volunteers tried to get poor people to abstain from alcohol, become more self-disciplined, and acquire the work ethic. Many of the methods and goals of AICP were later adopted by some Charity Organization Societies (COS) and by friendly visitors.

Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG) A professional organization founded in 1982 to encourage the social work profession's interest in working with groups.

Association for the Study of Community Organization (ASCO) An organization established in 1946 by social workers specializing in or interested in community organization. In 1955 it was merged into the newly established National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Association of American Indian Social Workers (AAISW) See National Indian Social Workers Association (NISWA).

Association of Community Organization and Social Administration (ACOSA) An independent organization of social work educators oriented to training students in the macro aspects of the curriculum, including planning, policy, community organization, advocacy, and administration. ACOSA often works with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) A federation of community organization groups founded in 1970 in association with the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO) and located in many larger cities of the United States. ACORN uses community organization principles to advocate for stronger local and neighborhood voices in and power over economic, social, and political institutions that influence the lives of low- and moderate-income families.

Association of Women in Social Work (AWSW) A professional association founded in 1984 that advocates equal opportunities, rights, and benefits for female social workers. The association also brings together social workers to consider the special needs and concerns of women social workers and their clients.

asthenia Lack of strength or musculature.

asthma One of the pulmonary disorders, in which the muscles in the walls of the bronchi contract, causing the individual to have difficulty breathing.

asylum 1. A refuge or sanctuary. 2. An institution for the care of people suffering from mental disorders, certain physical illnesses, or economic destitution.

AT See appropriate technology (AT).

ataque de nervios A culture-bound syndrome found most commonly among Latin American and Latin Mediterranean groups in which individuals experience a wide range of panic and anxiety symptoms, including fainting, attacks of crying, shouting, aggressive behavior, suicide gestures, and dissociative experiences, usually following a stressful life event.

ataxia Loss of ability to control all or some voluntary muscle movement.

atherosclerosis Artery wall congestion caused by accumulation of fats, cholesterol, and calcium salts and resulting in increased risk of hypertension, impaired circulation, and stroke.

at-risk population Those members of a group who are vulnerable to, or likely to be harmed by, a specific medical, social, or environmental circumstance. For example, overweight people or smokers are an at-risk population because they are more likely to have heart attacks or cardiovascular problems. Infants born to women who drank alcohol heavily while pregnant constitute a population at risk for birth defects. This term is roughly synonymous with vulnerable populations.

atrophy Wasting away of body tissues.

attachment 1. An emotional bond between individuals, based on attraction and dependence, which develops during critical periods of life and may disappear when one individual has no further opportunity to relate to the other. 2. In legal terms, the seizure of property by legal processes while a court action is pending.

attachment theory A group of concepts developed in the 1970s by developmental researchers C. Ainsworth, N. Bowlby, and others about the stages through which young children progress in their development of social relationships and the influence of this development on personality characteristics in later life. In four sequential stages toward social attachment, the healthy young child exhibits characteristic behaviors: at birth to age three months, the infant maintains closeness with the caregiver through sucking, grasping, visual tracking, and cuddling. From age three to six months, the infant becomes more responsive to familiar people and discomfited by others (stranger anxiety). At age six months to toddler age, the infant seeks contact and closeness with the object of attachment and experiences discomfort (separation anxiety disorder of childhood) when the object is missing. Beyond toddler age, the child uses an increasing variety of behaviors to influence the actions of the object of attachment to meet the child's needs for closeness. In this development, three general patterns of attachment occur: secure attachment, avoidant attachment, and resistant attachment.

attendant care A home health care service, sponsored by local departments of human services, health care facilities, senior centers, or private organizations, in which individuals trained in nontechnical nursing, home care, and other activities make regular, usually daily, visits to assist homebound people. Attendants often help in light housekeeping, meal preparation, hygiene, and health care monitoring.

attending In social work and other professional interviews, maintaining attentiveness expressed through appropriate verbal following, eye contact, mindful but relaxed posture, and disciplined attention. A nonattending interviewer might be staring out a window or glancing at a clock, yawning, or generally showing lack of focus on the relationship process. See also following responses.

attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) A disorder that starts in infancy, childhood, or adolescence, characterized by impulsive behavior, inattentiveness, excessive motor activity, and short attention span. Subtypes of this disorder include "predominately inattentive type," "predominately hyperactive-impulsive type," and the "combined type." The term ADHD is now used in place of several less-accurate and less-precise terms, including hyperactive child syndrome, minimal brain dysfunction, hyperkinetic reaction of childhood, and "attention deficit disorder, hyperactive type." Apparently, in most cases, it is the result of one or more factors, including anxiety, stress, physiological disorder, neurological disorder, and some organic mental disorders.

attitude A mental predisposition or inclination to act or react in a certain way. It is often used as a synonym for mood or opinion, and in a current slang usage, it is a synonym for "defiance."

audio feedback A procedure in social work and other professional interventions to show clients how they sound to others, by playing back tape recordings and systematically analyzing the results. The procedure has been used with particular effectiveness in working with clients who have substance abuse problems or communications problems with family members or peers. See also video feedback.

audit An inspection of the accounting records or procedures of an individual or organization to verify their accuracy and completeness. For example, the records of social agency might be audited annually by representatives of funding sources. Auditing also can involve inspecting the work done by staff, determining compliance with regulations, and completing inventories.

auditory hallucination An imagined perception of a sound; hearing something that does not exist outside subjective experience.

authoritarian Pertaining to a system in social organizations and administration characterized by the relative absence of democratic decision making and implementation processes and the requirement of submitting to higher-ranking members of the organization. Punishments or sanctions are often imposed on those members of the organization who do not comply, and rewards are given to those who do.

authoritarian management An administrative style sometimes used in social welfare organizations by leaders who tend to make most of the decisions unilaterally and to use their power to demand that the members of the organization accept and support these decisions.

authority Expertise or power.

autistic disorder A pervasive developmental disorder in which the individual appears to have little interest in the external world or capacity to relate effectively to people or objects and is presumed to be devoting full attention to inner wishes and sensations. Other symptoms may include deficient communication and social skills, abnormal interpersonal skills, and unusual responses to stimuli. This condition is most commonly seen in young children and infants.

autonomic Functioning automatically and without willful or conscious intent. See autonomic nervous system (ANS).

autonomic conversion symptoms Psycho-genic physical symptoms that suggest autonomic nervous system (ANS) responses, such as tachycardia and vomiting.

autonomic nervous system (ANS) That part of the nervous system that regulates the nonvolitional bodily responses such as digestion, breathing, and the rate of heartbeat and glandular secretions. See also central nervous system (CNS) and peripheral nervous system (PNS).

autonomous practice Professional activity and decision making that occurs in relative independence of social agency auspices, supervision, and organizational requirements. The practitioner sets the standards of performance and self-monitors the work done. This is a relative concept, in that all professions and professional activities are

regulated and influenced to some extent by social, ethical, legal, political, and economic forces. Some social workers use this term to indicate private practice.

autonomy 1. An individual's sense of being capable of independent action; the ability to provide for one's own needs. 2. Independence from the control of others.

autonomy versus shame and doubt The basic conflict found in the second stage of the psychosocial development theory of Erik Erikson (1902-1994), occurring approximately between ages two and four. During this stage, the toddler may come to feel more in control of the environment and exhibit growing independence of actions or may be overcome with feelings of guilt if independent actions are inconsistently tolerated by others.

autoplasty In psychoanalytic theory, the psychic process in which the libido is directed toward the self and away from other people or objects in the environment. See also alloplasty.

Average Income Monthly Earnings (AIME) A measure used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to determine Old Age, Survivors, Disability, and Health Insurance (OASDHI) benefits. AIME is calculated on the basis of earnings made in covered employment during the worker's lifetime, minus five years of low earnings. Earnings are indexed to account for changes in average wages over the years. See also social insurance.

aversion stimulus In behavior modification, an object or situation that the subject identifies as being painful or unpleasant and attempts to avoid whenever possible. See also aversion therapy and social learning theory.

aversion therapy A procedure commonly used in behavior therapy designed to eliminate a maladaptive behavior, such as overeating or substance abuse, by associating the behavior with some real or imagined aversion stimulus.

avoidance 1. In behavior modification procedures, an individual's response that postpones or averts presentation of an aversive event. 2. In psychodynamic theory, an ego defense mechanism resembling denial, involving refusal to face certain situations or objects because they present unconscious impulses or punishments for those impulses.

avoidant attachment A form of insecure attachment first observed in children who show less distress than other children when left alone but seem as anxious when in the presence of their caregiver as with others. Such children avoid contact with parents and other caregivers or ignore their efforts to interact. See also attachment theory, secure attachment, and resistant attachment.

avoidant disorder of childhood A childhood disorder characterized by intense efforts to avoid strangers. The child with this disorder wants relationships with familiar people but has difficulty in peer relationships and new contacts. The child may act embarrassed, relatively immature, self-conscious, and inarticulate when compelled to confront strangers. These symptoms are similar to the normal developmental behavior known as stranger anxiety, which disappears in healthy children younger than age two to three. The DSM-IV no longer uses this as a diagnosis. See also social phobia.

avoidant personality disorder One of the personality disorders in which the individual is hypersensitive to potential rejection, has low self-esteem, is socially withdrawn, and is generally unwilling to enter social relationships unless there is assurance of uncritical acceptance.

avolition Loss of willingness or ability to pursue goals.

AWSW See Association of Women in Social Work (AWSW).

Axis II disorder In the multi-axial assessment system of DSM-IV (Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association, 1994), the personality disorders and mental retardation. Listing these conditions on a separate axis is to ensure that their possible presence is not overlooked when attention is focused on the more florid disorder of Axis I. DSM-IV moved several disorders from Axis II, where they appeared in DSM-III, to Axis I, including pervasive developmental disorders, learning disorders, motor skills disorder, and communication disorders.

B

Babinski reflex An automatic response in infants in which the toes extend and spread out when the sole of the foot is gently stroked. As the infant's nervous system matures, the same type of stroke tends to result in the toes curling downward.

baby boom generation The men and women in the United States who were born in the two decades immediately following World War II. Demographers indicate that many more than the usual number of births occurred during these years because many people had postponed having children during the war. This "bulge" in the population necessitates many adjustments in social and economic planning as the baby boomers move through the life cycle. When this group reaches retirement age in the years 2010 to 2020, it is anticipated that the social security system will be severely strained. See also Generation X.

backlash A reaction by one group when it comes to believe a social change to benefit another group has negative consequences. The term is usually used with an adjective that identifies the group with the reaction, as in "white backlash," "conservative backlash," or "smokers' backlash." For example, white backlash was said to have begun shortly after civil rights and affirmative action legislation was passed, when for the first time, white workers had to compete with African Americans for jobs.

"bag lady" A term often applied to impoverished, homeless women, many of whom are mentally ill and carry their possessions in shopping bags.

bail A monetary or other form of security posted by or for someone accused of a crime. The purpose is to ensure that the accused person will appear at subsequent legal proceedings, to enable the accused to avoid imprisonment while awaiting trial, and to relieve the authorities of the cost of incarcerating the accused during this period.

BAL See blood alcohol level (BAL).

balance of payments The money value of all economic transactions between a nation and all other nations during a stated time. A balance of trade deficit occurs when a nation buys more goods and services from other countries than it sells to them. This situation causes the nation to borrow, devalue its currency compared with other nations, or pay back from its stock of gold and foreign currencies.

Balch, Emily Greene (1867-1961) Educator in social work and economics, social reformer, and antiwar activist, she founded the Women's International Peace Commission in 1915 and was a winner of the 1946 Nobel Peace Prize.

balkanization Division of a nation or organization into smaller units whose members are often at odds. The term derives from the Balkan

peninsula in East Europe, which was divided into several small countries.

bankrupt Financial insolvency resulting in the legal process of fairly distributing the remaining property among the creditors, except for those properties that the debtor is permitted to retain to meet basic needs and to achieve fiscal rehabilitation.

barbiturates Drugs that act as central nervous system (CNS) depressants. Physicians often use them clinically to facilitate their patients' sleep and to control convulsive disorders. In slang, they are known as "downers."

Barclay Report The 1980 British government-sponsored study about the need for and delivery of social services. The report also evaluated and delineated the role of social workers in providing social services. The report recommended increased involvement in counseling, social planning, promoting community decision networks, negotiation, and social advocacy.

bargaining The negotiating of agreements between various factions so that the parties can compromise and make equitable exchanges. A plan to bring together the parties in such a negotiation is called a "bargaining strategy." Bargaining is an important component of labor-management relations and in community organization and planning.

bar graph A depiction of data in which parallel strips are drawn from a common base. Each strip represents a quantity of something being studied, and the strips' respective lengths illustrate their comparative values. For example, a state public-assistance office wants to show that all its white client-families receive twice as much money as black families and four times as much as Hispanic families. A graph with three strips of appropriately varying lengths represents the three groups.

Barnett, Samuel A. (1844-1913) Founder of the original settlement houses, he worked with Octavia Hill in the development of the original Charity Organization Societies (COS) in England. He used his church for a type of discussion group that became a model for many social group work methods. A community organizer and activist for improved housing and treatment of mental illness, in 1884 he founded Toynbee Hall, the first settlement house, and named it after one of his recently deceased volunteer workers. Later he came to the

United States and worked with Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr in establishing Hull House.

Barrett, Janie Porter (1865-1948) Leader in the settlement houses movement and proponent of education for African American women. She founded one of the first settlement houses for African Americans (the Locust Street Social Settlement) and the influential rehabilitation facility, the Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls.

barrio In Spanish, a neighborhood. In the United States the term often connotes a residential area inhabited primarily by peoples of Spanish-speaking backgrounds of low or moderate incomes.

Barton, Clara (1821-1912) Founder of the American Red Cross and its long-time leader, she supervised relief work for disaster victims of war, famine, and epidemics in various nations. She also led the movement of the International Red Cross to provide relief in disaster situations other than war.

basal metabolism rate (BMR) The amount of energy used by an individual at rest.

baseline The frequency with which a specific behavior or event occurs in a natural state, measured before any attempts are made to influence it.

basic needs In social planning, those items considered to be essential for the maintenance of human well-being, including adequate food, shelter, clothing, heating fuel, clean water, and security from bodily harm.

basic research A systematic knowledge-building inquiry whose product has no known practical or commercial use—that is, seeking "truths" for their intrinsic worth. This is contrasted with applied research. Social work research is infrequently basic because it is oriented to solving social problems.

basic skills training Structured educational programs to help students acquire rudimentary proficiency in reading, writing, and arithmetic; also, sometimes improving attention span, memory, and the ability to transfer and generalize recently acquired knowledge.

BASW See British Association of Social Workers (BASW).

battered child A youngster who has been physically abused or injured. The injury is usually inflicted on the child by a parent, other adult

caregiver, or older sibling and may occur intentionally or impulsively in episodes of uncontrolled anger. See also child abuse.

battered spouse A wife, or sometimes a husband, who has been physically injured by the other. Battering is a physically violent form of spouse abuse.

Batterers Anonymous A national self-help organization with chapters in most larger communities, whose members (most of whom have been wife abusers) help one another to end abusive behavior. They have regular meetings to provide support and encouragement, and they maintain a “buddy system” and telephone hot lines.

battery A form of illegal abuse that involves physical force or injury.

BEAM See Brain Electrical Activity Mapping (BEAM).

bedlam Chaotic behavior of a group who seem to be acting irrationally and without reference to one another. The term derives from the London asylum for people with mental disabilities, officially named Priory of St. Mary of Bethlehem (Bedlam) when it opened in 1247. Bedlam became a synonym for mental hospitals for several centuries.

bed-wetting Enuresis, the involuntary discharge of urine, usually by a child who had formerly achieved bladder control, during sleep or bed rest.

Beers, Clifford W. (1876–1943) Leader of the mental hygiene movement in the United States. After spending three years in a mental hospital, in 1908 he wrote the influential book *A Mind That Found Itself* and told the world about the inhumane conditions in the treatment of people with mental disorders. He helped create various organizations for the improvement in treating mental illness. See also Mental Health Association (MHA).

behavior Any action or response by an individual, including observable activity, measurable physiological changes, cognitive images, fantasies, and emotions. Some scientists consider even subjective experiences to be behaviors.

behavioral assessment In behavior modification and social learning theory, the delineation of undesired behavior patterns and

their controlling conditions. The description of these patterns is based on direct observation rather than on inference about underlying pathology based on surface cues. See also psychosocial assessment.

behavioral family therapy (BFT) The use of social learning theory and the therapeutic techniques of behavior modification to help families achieve specific goals. In behaviorally oriented family therapy, the social worker helps the client-family members define their problems clearly in terms of overt behaviors and develop problem-solving behaviors to which all agree. Homework assignments, quantifying specific actions, and maintaining certain communications activities are frequently part of this form of intervention.

behavioral rehearsal The technique used by social workers and other helping professionals, especially those with behaviorist orientations, in which the professional suggests or demonstrates desired behavior to a client and then encourages the client, through description, role playing, and other demonstrations, to behave similarly. With practice, feedback, and repetition of the behavior in the relatively “safe” environment of the professional’s office, the client is more likely to be successful in achieving the desired behavior at the appropriate time.

behaviorism The school of psychology and related sciences, founded by Ivan Pavlov (1849–1936), J. B. Watson (1878–1958), B. F. Skinner (1904–1990), and others, which seeks to explain behavior in terms of observable and measurable responses. Basic tenets of the orientation are that maladaptive behavior patterns are learned and can be unlearned and that introspection and the unconscious are unscientific hypotheses. Behaviorism has led to theoretical concepts and therapeutic methods such as behavior modification and social learning theory.

behavior modification A method of assessing and altering behavior based on the methods of applied behavior analysis, the principles of operant conditioning, classical conditioning, and social learning theory (for example, positive reinforcement, extinction, and modeling).

behavior therapy Application of behavior modification principles in clinical settings to assess and alter undesired behaviors such as fear, anxiety, depression, sexual disorder, and other problems using techniques based on empirical research.

Bell’s Palsy Muscle paralysis on one side of the face, resulting from temporary damage to the facial nerve. Most patients recover completely, many without treatment.

Bender gestalt test A test used in diagnosing certain psychological and neurological disorders. After the subject has copied several designs, the results are analyzed, usually by a trained psychologist or neurologist, for spatial errors that help locate and determine the type of disturbance.

benefactor One who provides financial or other support for some aspect of the public good.

benefit reduction rate (BRR) In social welfare programs, the amount of money that is withheld from a public assistance payment for each additional dollar of household income beyond a specified amount. For example, in Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the Food Stamp program, and housing programs, benefits vary depending on the other sources of client income. Thus, when a client becomes employed, the AFDC benefits are reduced by 100 percent of the amount earned, and food stamp benefits are reduced by 30 percent of the amount earned. However, the major practical alternative leads to the cliff effect, which is also a disincentive.

benefits 1. Cash benefits are payments in the form of money or redeemable vouchers. 2. In-kind benefits are services or goods rather than money—for example, food baskets, agricultural surpluses, housing, and personal counseling.

benign neglect A policy of leaving a situation, organization, or class of people alone, with the expectation that by doing so the situation, organization, or class of people will be able to improve on its own merits.

benzodiazepines A group of psychoactive drugs that act as central nervous system (CNS) depressants. Popularly referred to as tranquilizers, benzodiazepines are prescribed by physicians to help patients reduce anxiety and pain and to sleep. Trade names include Valium and Librium. Some substance abusers use these drugs nonmedically to produce a state of alcohol-like intoxication.

bereavement The emotional and physical reaction to loss of a loved one. See also grief and uncomplicated bereavement.

beriberi A nutritional disease caused by an insufficiency of vitamin B.

Besant, Annie (1847–1933) An English community organizer, she helped organize unions for poor working women and published and distributed information about birth control to poor families. She helped found and lead the British Malthusian Society to promote contraception.

Bethune, Mary McLeod (1875–1955) Leader in the movement for the education and social development of African Americans, she founded what is now Bethune–Cookman College in Daytona, Florida, and organized and led several civil rights groups. She was also influential in the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, especially in assuring that New Deal programs included African Americans.

Better Business Bureau A voluntary association found in most cities and towns comprising business owners and managers who define fair and ethical practices in the conduct of business. These bureaus often accept complaints from the public about businesses who violate their standards and exercise persuasion to encourage their compliance.

Beveridge Report A 1942 report, by economist William Henry Beveridge (1879–1963), that proposed a plan providing for “cradle-to-grave” economic protections. The report formed the basis for much of the current British social security and health care system.

Beveridge, William Henry (1879–1963) Founder of the British welfare state. Before World War II, he planned and wrote major social legislation to help poor people, laborers, and children. An early settlement house leader and social worker, Beveridge served as director of Toynbee Hall. His 1942 Beveridge Report was implemented after the war and is the basis for Great Britain’s current social security and health care system. It has also been used as a model by many other nations, especially former British colonies.

BFT See behavioral family therapy (BFT).

BHP See Bureau of Health Professions (BHP).

BIA See Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

bias 1. An attitude that can influence feelings, usually resulting in an individual’s having positive or negative predispositions about a particular group, individual, idea, or object. 2. In research, a tendency for the results to lean in one or another direction because of improper sampling, misuse of statistical or research tools, or other improper methods.

biased writing See unbiased writing.

bibliotherapy The use of literature and poetry in the treatment of people with emotional problems or mental illness. Bibliotherapy is often used in social group work and group therapy and is reported to be effective with people of all ages, with people in institutions as well as outpatients, and with healthy people who wish to share literature as a means of personal growth and development. See also art therapy and poetry therapy.

bigamy The illegal offense of having more than one wife or husband at the same time. In the United States, bigamous marriages have no legal validity in any state. See also polygamy.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America Voluntary associations whose work under professional supervision, usually by social workers, provides individual guidance and companionship to boys and girls deprived of a parent. Big Brothers was founded in 1946, especially to provide role models for fatherless boys. Big Sisters was formed in 1971, primarily to provide role models and positive female images for girls and boys. The two groups were merged in 1977.

bilingual special education An educational alternative for Limited English Proficiency students with disabilities. The Education for All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142) specifies that children with disabilities must be given the same educational opportunities as other children and that these opportunities are not precluded by poor command of English.

bilis A culture-bound syndrome found especially among Latino groups in which the individual experiences nervous tension, trembling, screaming, and various somatic complaints, said to be the result of feeling intense anger or rage. This syndrome is also known as muina.

bimodal In frequency distributions, two categories whose values occur most frequently. For example, in a city where the delinquency rate peaked every January and July, there would be a bimodal distribution of delinquency.

binge eating disorder The rapid consumption of unusually large amounts of food in a short time without necessarily being hungry. Individuals often feel embarrassed, guilty, or depressed about the lack of control over it. In this proposed diagnosis of the DSM-IV, the

behavior is not associated with compensatory behaviors (such as purging, fasting, or excessive exercise seen in bulimia nervosa).

biodegradability The capability of decaying (being broken down into component elements, usually including water, carbon dioxide, and other simple, small molecule substances), caused by the actions of living things such as bacteria and molds. Biodegradability is an important environmental concern because it is a natural recycling process; all new life and the substances necessary to sustain life use the products of biodegradation. Because synthetic materials are not biodegradable, their disposition after use is not a resource but an environmental problem.

bioethical decision making The system and procedures for establishing the type and degree to which medical services will be provided to a patient. These patients are most frequently newborns with birth defects or very old persons suffering from serious mental or physical dysfunctions. Although modern medical technology can maintain at least a diminished quality of life for people with extremely debilitating health problems, the health care professionals must use carefully specified criteria in deciding whether to use these procedures. Moreover, their work must be overseen by representatives from the public.

bioethics Also known as biomedical ethics, the analysis and study of legal, moral, social, and ethical considerations involving the biological and medical sciences. Issues of particular interest include genetic engineering, reproductive technology, surrogacy, organ transplantation, use and withdrawal of medical and mental health treatment, suicide, and patients' rights.

biofeedback A method of training people to modify their own internal physiological processes, such as heart rate, muscle tension, blood pressure, and brain wave activity, through self-monitoring. Usually, this is done by using mechanical instruments to provide information about variations in one or more of a subject's physiological processes. The resulting information is displayed to the subject (feedback), which helps the individual to control these processes even though he or she may be unable to articulate how the learning was achieved.

biogenic Originating physiologically or biologically rather than psychologically.

biomedical ethics See bioethics.

biometry The study of all the factors that determine an individual's probable life span.

Bion group See Tavistock group.

biopsy Removal and examination of body tissue samples to detect the presence of cancer and other diseases.

biopsychosocial A term applied to phenomena that consist of biological, psychological, and social elements, such as stress.

bipolar disorder A category of mental illnesses in which mood and affect are maladaptive. Formerly known as manic-depressive illness, the category may be subcategorized as manic type (symptoms often include hyperactivity, euphoria, distractibility, pressured speech, and grandiosity), depressed type (symptoms often include deep sadness, apathy, sleep disturbance, poor appetite, low self-esteem, and slowed thinking), and mixed type (frequently alternating patterns of manic and then depressed traits). The diagnosis of this condition distinguishes between bipolar I disorder (predominately manic) and bipolar II disorder (predominately depressive).

bipolar I disorder The bipolar mood disorder characterized by a single manic episode or much more commonly by recurrent manic episodes or hypomanic episodes often immediately preceded or followed by a major depressive episode. In formal diagnoses the clinician also indicates the type of most recent episode, as in "bipolar I disorder, most recent episode hypomanic" (or manic, depressed, mixed, or NOS).

bipolar II disorder The bipolar mood disorder characterized by one or more major depressive episodes and at least one hypomanic episode. By definition there has never been a manic or mixed episode (in which case the diagnosis becomes bipolar I disorder). In formal diagnoses the clinician also indicates the type of episode, as in "bipolar II disorder, most recent episode hypomanic" (or depressed).

birth cohort All the people who were born within a specific year or other time frame.

birth control Limiting or preventing reproduction by various means. These include contraceptive (antipregnancy) devices such as condoms, contraceptive pills, diaphragms, intrauterine devices (IUDs), and spermicides. Another type of birth control occurs through the

more-or-less permanent surgical sterilization of men (as in vasectomy) or women (as in tubal ligation). Among the more-common efforts to control conception is "natural family planning," in which there is awareness of the fertility cycle and sexual intercourse occurs only during those times in the cycle believed to be less likely to result in pregnancy. Abstinence from sexual intercourse and abortion are other methods used in birth control. See also contraception and reproductive technology.

birth defects See congenital abnormalities.

birth-order theories Hypotheses to explain apparent differences among siblings depending on whether they are oldest, middle, or youngest children. Some theorists suggest that the personalities of the first born are influenced by the fact that more is usually expected of them, so they tend to become achievers but also tend to have more feelings of insecurity and failure. On the other hand, middle children are often made to feel inferior to their older siblings, so they may try harder to catch up or display traits of inadequacy feelings or anger in interacting with others. Youngest children, according to many of these theorists, may refine attention-getting skills and narcissistic traits. The research on such hypotheses is still inconclusive and somewhat contradictory.

birth parents An individual's genetic mother and father. Adopted children and adoptions workers prefer this term over such words as "real parents."

birthrate The ratio of the number of births in a given population and period of time to the total population, usually expressed in terms of the number of births per 1,000 or 100,000 of the population.

bisexuality 1. Erotic attraction to males and females. 2. The coexistence in an individual of homosexuality and heterosexuality.

bivariate analysis Statistical analysis focusing on the simultaneous relationship between two variables. One example is cross-tabulation.

blacklist A file containing the names of those people deemed ineligible to participate in some activity or privilege because of their alleged behaviors or adherence to certain ideologies. For example, a group of business leaders might share the names of people who are considered potential union organizers and agree not to hire them.

Black Lung program A federally regulated workers' compensation program for coal miners disabled by tubercular-type illness associated

with working in underground mines. The program is financed primarily through a tax on mine owners.

blackmail The crime of unlawfully taking money or property from a person or forcing that person to commit a crime by using fear, coercion, or threats. Typically, the coercion involves disclosing information the victim wants to keep concealed. See also extortion.

black-market adoption The adoption of children by couples or individuals who are unable to adopt through legitimate public or private adoption agencies. Typically, the party who wants a child contracts with an intermediary to obtain a child and makes monetary payments to the intermediary and indirectly to the child's legal guardian. See also gray-market adoption and independent adoption.

“blackout” Lay term for the loss from memory of experiences, thoughts, or perceptions that occur during the state of alcohol or other substance intoxication.

black people The term often used for people of color who come from, or whose ancestors came from, middle and southern Africa. Some people prefer the term African American; however, this designation excludes black people who are not Americans.

black power The social movement whose goal is the achievement of greater racial equity in economic, political, and social influence. A basic premise of the movement is that black influence will grow as more black people gain positions of leadership in elective office, government, and business and acquire enough money to use in seeking legal rights and educational opportunities. The movement seeks to get black people who achieve these positions to work together in pursuit of these goals rather than dilute such efforts by working in disparate directions.

blamer role A recurrent pattern of interpersonal communication characterized by acting superior, finding fault, behaving dictatorially, and attributing one's problems to others. The role was delineated by Virginia Satir (Peoplemaking, Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1972, p. 66), who described the blamer as a person who conceals inner feelings of loneliness and failure by making persistent accusations. Other roles are the computer role, the distracter role, and the placater role.

blaming the victim Attributing self-responsibility to individuals who are poor, socially or educationally deficient, victims of rape or other crimes, mentally or physically ill, or in some other ways casualties of unforeseen circumstances. This practice (for example, “if they had worked harder or saved their money, they wouldn't be poor”; “if she hadn't worn those clothes, she wouldn't have been raped or harassed”) is often used by opponents of pro-grams to prevent victimization or to help victims.

blanket group In social group work or group psychotherapy, the type of group that has no criterion for membership or orderly procedures. It is the opposite of structured group. Groups that are totally unstructured are rare, because group leaders usually have some plan for the composition of its membership.

“bleeding heart” A pejorative expression, often applied to social workers and others who compassionately show concern for the disadvantaged or who attempt the consciousness-raising of more-advantaged people about disadvantaged people.

blended family 1. A family that is formed when separate families are united by marriage or other circumstance; a stepfamily. 2. Various kinship or nonkinship groups whose members reside together and assume traditional family roles. See also reconstituted family.

blighted area A land area, region, or urban center damaged by economic depression, toxic chemicals, or social changes.

bloc A group or coalition of groups with a common interest in advocating, promoting, or obstructing an ideology, cause, or legislation. Such groups often achieve power far above their individual numbers by voting uniformly, as in the case of Southern conservative legislators or the African American electorate.

block grant A system of disbursing funds to meet a locality's health, education, and social welfare needs while permitting the recipient organizations to determine how best to distribute the money. Used mostly by the federal and sometimes state governments, the system is designed to consolidate budget itemization and eliminate the necessity of earmarking funds for every individual and categorical program. The system was a major provision of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 (P.L. 97-35). Proponents say it increases efficiency and local control, and opponents suggest that it is a covert way of reducing expenditures for social welfare needs.

blocking A temporary failure of memory, interrupting one's flow of speech or thought.

block organizations Formal or informal social groups who live in physical proximity to one another (as in a city block); have shared values, problems, and vulnerabilities; and meet to achieve their mutual goals.

block placement In social work education, an alternative to the traditional concurrent placement in field instruction. In the traditional model of field placement, the student alternates classroom experiences with work in a social agency on different days of each week. In block placements, the student attends classes only for several months and then works virtually full-time in a social agency under academic and professional supervision for several months. The amount of time spent in the agency during a block placement is the same as in concurrent placement, and students must meet the same academic requirements.

blood alcohol level (BAL) The amount of alcohol in a person's bloodstream expressed as a percentage of the total blood volume. For example, if the level is 0.05 percent, then five parts alcohol per 10,000 parts of blood exist. The amount may be determined by direct chemical analysis of the extracted blood or by a Breathalyzer. After alcohol is consumed, much of it enters the bloodstream until it is processed (that is, oxidized). The liver oxidizes alcohol at the rate of about one-half ounce per hour.

BLS Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

blue collar Members of a wage-earning socioeconomic class. The term originally applied to people who worked in factories or manual labor settings in which blue or dark clothes were worn and was used to distinguish these workers from those employed in offices or retail stores (white-collar workers).

blunted effect A dulling or deintensifying of the expression of mood or emotion, often noted as an important symptom in schizophrenia.

BMR See basal metabolism rate (BMR).

board of directors A group of people empowered to establish an organization's objectives and policies and to oversee the activities of

the personnel responsible for day-to-day implementation of those policies. The boards of social agencies often comprise volunteers who are influential in the community and reflect the views prevalent in the community.

boat people Refugees who flee their homelands in barely seaworthy vessels to find more hospitable environments in other nations. Many of these people have faced great risks, including capture by their governments, piracy, malnutrition, and possible exploitation at the sites of their new locations. People from Southeast Asia, Haiti, and Cuba are recent examples.

body dysmorphic disorder A type of somatoform disorder characterized by excessive preoccupation about some imagined defect in appearance by someone who is of normal appearance. See also dysmorphophobia and anorexia nervosa.

body language See kinesics.

bonding The development by one person of attachment for another. The process begins when the individual has needs that are regularly fulfilled by the other, and his or her identity is partially shaped by the interrelationship.

"boondoggle" A negative term applied to allegedly wasteful or seemingly unproductive public works projects. The term first became prominent during the 1930s New Deal programs, which seemed to some to be more concerned with putting people back to work than with producing any goods or services of value.

Booth, Charles (1840-1916) A British pioneer in methods of surveying social problems, he wrote one of the first treatises on the conditions and causes of poverty and the working classes. He developed a classification of the types of poor people, used in early social work literature, and advocated many of the old-age and survivors insurance programs that were implemented in Great Britain.

bootleg To unlawfully make, carry, or sell alcohol or other illegal products.

borderline A descriptive term applied to a premorbid condition or any phenomenon located between two categories. Social workers and mental health workers often use the term informally in describing individuals who are at or near the dividing line between psychosis and nonpsychosis or

normalcy and mental illness; not to be confused with borderline personality disorder.

borderline intellectual functioning Intelligence abilities that measure on intelligence quotient (IQ) tests at the 71 to 84 range (just below what psychologists refer to as dull-normal and just above the highest level of mental retardation).

borderline personality disorder One of the 11 personality disorders characterized by some of the following symptoms and traits: deeply ingrained and maladaptive patterns of relating to others, impulsive and unpredictable behavior that is often self-destructive, lack of control of anger, intense mood shifts, identity disturbance and inconsistent self-concept, manipulation of others for short-term gain, and chronic feelings of boredom and emptiness.

borderline schizophrenia A descriptive term applied to individuals who, to some clinicians, seem to be at or near a conceptualized line between schizophrenia and a normal state. In such people, some of the symptoms seen in schizophrenia are observed or inferred, but the severity, duration, and progression of those symptoms are inconsistent or do not meet all the diagnostic criteria. The term has been confused with or considered synonymous with latent schizophrenia or simple schizophrenia. Because it is so imprecise, the term is now rarely used by skilled diagnosticians. Many who were once diagnosed as people with borderline schizophrenia are now given the diagnosis of schizotypal personality disorder.

Borstal system British penal program for young offenders (ages 15 to 23) in closed or open prisons that emphasize education, training, and rehabilitation. The system has undergone many changes and is now merging with the British corrections system for adult and youthful offenders. See also reformatory.

botulism A serious type of food poisoning caused by a bacteria found in improperly canned or refrigerated foods. The toxin attacks the central nervous system (CNS) causing headaches, weakness, constipation, and paralysis.

boufée délirante A culture-bound syndrome found mostly in West Africa and Haiti in which the individual experiences a sudden outburst of excitement, aggressive behavior, confusion, and sometimes paranoid thoughts and hallucinations.

boundaries Regions separating two psychological or social systems. A central concept in family system theories, pertaining to the implicit rules that determine how the family members or subsystems are expected to relate to one another and to nonfamily members. Analogous to the membranes of living cells, a function of boundaries is to differentiate systems and their subsystems and to permit the development of identity. Healthy family functioning largely entails clear boundaries; less-healthy functioning is seen where boundary subsystems are either inappropriately rigid or not consistently clear (that is, in a disengaged family or an enmeshed family). See also family rules.

bounded rationality In social planning theory, the recognition that rationality (specifying all the alternative strategies toward goal achievement, determining all their consequences, and evaluating these consequences) is the most efficient means toward action, but that such complete listings and evaluations are ultimately impractical. Given that the obtainable information will be incomplete and somewhat inconsistent, the social planner instead decides on an action that is good enough to meet minimal criteria. See also satisficing.

boycott An organized refusal to maintain certain relationships with a person, organization, or government body. For example, a community organizer might convince all residents of a neighborhood to stop patronizing a store that discriminates against minorities.

Brace, Charles Loring (1826–1890) Founder of the Children's Aid Society in 1853, the private organization that provided shelter, education, and family placing out for homeless and destitute children, more than 50,000 of whom were sent on orphan trains to be adopted by Western farmers. His studies of the conditions of poor people in New York were widely reported and gained public awareness. His work greatly influenced modern child welfare programs and the foster care system.

Bracero program The transportation of Mexican farm laborers (braceros) to and from U.S. farms for seasonal work. This federal program was created during World War II primarily to alleviate shortages of farm workers, and it ended in 1964 because of opposition by organized labor. An informal and unlawful bracero program still exists on many U.S. farms with illegal aliens from Mexico.

Brady Bill Gun control legislation signed into law in 1993 that requires a five-day waiting period before certain handguns can be purchased and requires gun sellers to check applicants to ensure they comply with laws. The law was named after President Ronald Reagan's Press Secretary

James S. Brady, who was shot during an assassination attempt against the president.

brain damage A lay term referring to extragenetic influences that impair or stop the normal growth, development, or function of brain tissue. The term "brain damage" is vague, however, because professionals would need to know what part of the brain has been damaged, when, how, and to what extent. A damaged brain does not necessarily impair learning, and impaired learning is not always caused by brain damage.

brain drain A nation's or institution's loss of scientific, technical, or leadership talent when these people relocate. This is an especially serious problem in developing countries, which use their limited resources to educate citizens, only to see them migrate to other nations that can offer higher salaries or other desirable conditions.

Brain Electrical Activity Mapping (BEAM)

A computerized diagnostic tool for assessing central nervous system (CNS) functioning by turning signals from an electroencephalograph into colored maps depicting blood flow and other electrochemical processes in the brain.

brain fag Short for "brain fatigue," a culture-bound syndrome most frequently identified among peoples of West Africa in which the individual, usually a high school or university student, feels anxious, depressed, tired, and tense with pain around the eyes, head, and neck, attributed to intense mental exercise.

brainstorming In social work administration, a method of stimulating the development of ideas by assembling certain staff and board members and encouraging open discussion, while postponing criticism or analysis of the ideas proposed. See also electronic brainstorming.

brain trust A group of expert advisers to a public official, political candidate, or planning organization.

breach of promise Failure to wed after both parties have made a serious and specific agreement to marry and then one party unilaterally decides not to go through with it. In legal terms, "breach" refers to any failure to fulfill an agreed-on act or duty

owed to an individual or to society, as in "breach of contract" or "breach of the peace."

bread line A procedure for distributing to assembled, needy people those bakery products, groceries, agricultural commodities, and surplus items that typically cannot be sold on the open market because they usually do not meet optimal quality or freshness standards. See also soup kitchen.

Breathalyzer Trademark for a test device used to determine if a person is intoxicated. Most commonly administered by a trained police officer on those people operating motor vehicles, the test chemically analyzes the blood alcohol level (BAL) as indicated by a breath test. Most states require that applicants for driver's licenses consent in advance to taking the test when requested, and failure to take or pass the test is admissible in court.

breathing-related sleep disorder A synonym for apnea, a sleep disorder involving disruption of sleep patterns caused by abnormalities of ventilation. This usually results in sleepiness, irritability, and less effectiveness in carrying out activities of daily living (ADL). Typically it results in loud snoring, gasps, and body movements likely to disturb the individual or bed partner.

Breckinridge, Sophonisba (1866-1948)

Developer of social work education within universities, she was a founder of the School of Social Work at the University of Chicago where she established much of the graduate school curriculum for social workers. She introduced the case method system of teaching and was a founder of the American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW), now known as the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

bribery The crime of offering or giving to a person, especially an official such as a police officer or legislator, money or something of value to influence that person's actions.

bridge housing 1. A transitional living facility for people who move from institutional settings to relatively autonomous homes, as in halfway houses or quarterway houses. 2. Temporary shelters for those people who have left their homes because of natural disasters, war, or economic problems but who lack the resources, opportunity, or replacement shelters for more permanent residence.

brief psychotic disorder The sudden onset of psychotic symptoms such as delusion, hallucination, disorganized speech or behavior, or catatonia, lasting at least one day and less than one month. This condition is not caused by medical conditions, substance abuse, or other mental disorders. The disorder may be the result of a marked stressor (such as loss of a loved one or other psychological trauma) or occur without marked stressors or within four weeks postpartum. This disorder, when the result of marked stressors, was formerly known as brief reactive psychosis.

brief reactive psychosis A term formerly used for brief psychotic disorder caused by marked stressors.

brief therapy Any form of psychotherapy or clinical social work intervention in which specific goals and the number of sessions are predetermined. Brief therapy is usually goal oriented, circumscribed, active, focused, and directed toward specific problems or symptoms.

Briquet's syndrome A rarely used diagnostic term for somatization disorder.

British Association of Social Workers (BASW) The major professional association of social workers in the United Kingdom, headquartered in Birmingham. BASW publishes Social Work Today.

British National Insurance Act The 1911 social security legislation in Great Britain devised by Lloyd George that provided old-age insurance; unemployment compensation; sickness insurance; and, in 1925, survivors insurance for most workers. Many of the features of the National Insurance Act were emulated in the U.S. Social Security Act. The National Insurance Act was replaced by the post-World War II social security system recommended in the Beveridge Report.

brittle bone disease See osteogenesis imperfecta.

broken home A family in which at least one parent is absent because of divorce, death, or desertion. Social workers now generally prefer the term single-parent family.

broker role A function of social workers and community organizers in which clients (individuals, groups, organizations, or communities) are helped to identify, locate, and link available community resources;

and various segments of the community are put in touch with one another to enhance their mutual interests.

Brown v. Board of Education The 1954 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that the "separate but equal" interpretation of the 14th Amendment was unconstitutional and that racial segregation of public schools was illegal. See also Plessy v. Ferguson.

BRR See benefit reduction rate (BRR).

Bruno, Frank J. (1874–1955) One of the first developers of a theory base in the new field of social work, he led the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis for many years. A civil rights activist, he worked to achieve opportunities for minorities in social work education. He wrote some of the most influential early social work texts, including *The Theory of Social Work* in 1936.

BSW A bachelor's degree awarded to qualified students who major in social work in an undergraduate college accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

budget An itemized list of the amount of all estimated revenues a social agency or organization anticipates receiving, and the delineation of the amount of all estimated costs and expenses necessary to operate the organization; a statement of probable revenues and expenditures during a specified period.

Buell, Bradley (1893–1976) A developer of the community organization and social planning fields in social work, he helped found the American Association of Social Workers (AASW) and published numerous books, including the influential *Community Planning for Human Services* in 1952.

bulimarexic One who has bulimia nervosa.

bulimia nervosa One of the eating disorders in which a pathologically excessive appetite with episodic eating binges is sometimes followed by purging. The purging may occur through such means as self-induced vomiting or the abuse of laxatives, diet pills, or diuretics. Bulimia usually starts as a means of dieting. Its subtypes include the purging and nonpurging type (using other inappropriate compensatory behaviors such as fasting or excessive exercise).

bumping In bureaucratic organizations, the practice under which a senior employee, whose job has been eliminated, is allowed to take over the job of a junior employee.

bureaucracy A form of social organization whose distinctive characteristics include a task-specific division of labor; a vertical hierarchy with power centered at the top; clearly defined rules; formalized channels of communication; and selection, promotion, compensation, and retention based on technical competence. See also technocrat, apparatchik, and adhocracy.

bureaucratization The trend in social institutions and organizations toward more centralized control and enforced conformity to rigidly prescribed rules and channels of communication.

Bureau of Health Professions (BHP) The bureau within the U.S. Public Health Service whose function is to facilitate the training and coordinate the distribution of people in the health care professions.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) A federal organization, now within the U.S. Department of the Interior, created in 1824 to provide social services, health care, and educational programs; agricultural and economic assistance; and civil rights protections to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) A research agency of the U.S. Department of Labor that compiles and publishes statistics about many variables of interest to social workers and social planners, including employment and unemployment rates, consumer prices, and wage rates.

Bureau of the Census, U.S. The bureau functioning within the U.S. Department of Commerce that carries out the constitutional requirement that all the people in the nation be counted every decade. The bureau, centered in Suitland, Maryland, conducts surveys and analyzes and disseminates resulting data about individuals, population groups, and social trends.

bureaus of public assistance State and county organizations that administer programs to provide economic and social services to needy families; funded from local, state, and federal revenues, these bureaus often help administer such programs as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and general assistance (GA). In some jurisdictions, these bureaus are known as the department of welfare,

the department of social services, or the bureau of health and human services.

burglary The crime of breaking and entering into someone's home, office, or other place with the intention of stealing property therein.

burnout A nontechnical term to describe workers who feel apathy or anger as a result of on-the-job stress and frustration. Burnout is found among social workers and other workers who have more responsibility than control.

Burns, Eveline M. (1900–1985) Educator at Columbia University School of Social Work and consultant to government planners on economic security programs, she helped write the Social Security Act and drafted plans for public assistance and work programs. She wrote the influential text *Social Security and Public Policy* (1956).

busing The transporting of students across school district boundaries, usually court ordered, to facilitate more equitable racial balance.

buying pool A group practice in which people join to purchase larger quantities of a given commodity than they could buy separately, thus benefiting from lower costs. Buying pools have often been organized by or in behalf of poor people's groups or homeless organizations.

Cabot, Richard C. (1865–1939) A physician and medical educator whose work with the Children's Aid Society led him to appreciate the part social work plays in the treatment process. Cabot established the nation's first medical social work department at Massachusetts General Hospital in 1905.

cachexia A weakened, emaciated, run-down (cachectic) condition caused by chronic disease.

caffeine withdrawal Symptoms of withdrawal (headache, marked fatigue, drowsiness, anxiety, depression, nausea, or vomiting) caused by abrupt cessation or reduction in use of caffeine (coffee, tea, cocoa, cola, chocolate). This is proposed as an official diagnostic category of the DSM-IV.

CAI program Computer-assisted instructional program. See also IVD program.

campaign An organized, intensive effort to achieve a goal, such as raise funds, win an election, gain publicity, or increase membership of an organization. See also negative campaigning.

Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work (CASSW) The organization whose membership comprises the professional schools of social work in Canada and whose purpose is to facilitate communication among schools and to maintain standards through accreditation reviews.

Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) The professional association of qualified Canadian social workers. Its purposes include professional development of its membership through educational programs, conferences, and publications, and the development and enforcement of ethical standards. CASW was founded in 1926; its headquarters are in Ottawa.

cancer A malignant tumor; uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells. Unlike normal body cells, cancer cells do not stop growing when in contact with other cells and thus may spread in the body. The cells spread either by invading surrounding tissue or by metastasis. Cancer cells compete with normal tissue for nutrients and eventually kill normal cells by depriving them of needed nutrition. Causes, specific symptoms, prognosis, and treatment vary considerably. See also carcinoma, sarcoma, leukemia, and lymphoma.

cannabis See marijuana.

cannabis abuse Continued use of psychoactive substances derived from or based on the cannabis plant such as marijuana, hashish, or purified tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), despite the related health, socioeconomic, or vocational difficulties. Except when cannabis is used legally for medical purposes, all other use is considered abusive.

cannabis organic mental disorder Intoxication, delusion, or both, occurring after marijuana, hashish, or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) use. Symptoms of cannabis intoxication include euphoria, tachycardia, the feeling of intensified perceptions, increased appetite, paranoid ideation, panic attack, depression, and impaired social functioning. When these symptoms occur with severe persecutory delusions, marked anxiety, depersonalization, and amnesia, it is called "cannabis delusion disorder." The usual duration of cannabis intoxication and delusional disorder is less than several hours.

Cannon, Ida M. (1877–1960) Medical social work conceptualizer and developer, she advocated for the establishment of social work departments in the nation's hospitals and published influential works for the field, including *Social Work in Hospitals* in 1923. She was a founder of the American Association of Hospital Social Workers, which was renamed the American Association of Medical Social Workers (AAMSW).

canvass To make a systematic inquiry of specified groups of people (such as potential consumers, registered voters of a city, or members of a legislature) to determine their intentions or to influence their actions.

CAP See Community Action Program (CAP).

capitalism An economic system in which the production and distribution of goods and services for consumers are controlled through private ownership and open competition.

capital offense A crime punishable by death.

capital punishment Government-sanctioned implementation of the death penalty, imposed on some criminals convicted of a capital offense, which may include murder, rape, or treason.

capitation A set amount of money per person. Managed care companies generally express capitation in terms of revenue or cost per member per month.

carcinogen A substance that causes cancer.

carcinogenic Cancer causing.

carcinoma One of the four major types of cancer (including sarcoma, leukemia, and lymphoma), characterized by the clawlike spread of the disease over the skin and membranes of internal organs.

cardiovascular disease Disease of the heart or blood vessels, responsible for nearly 50 percent of all deaths in the United States. Those at greatest risk are smokers and men with elevated blood pressure and serum cholesterol levels. Other risk factors are heredity, obesity, stress, and physical inactivity.

CARE See Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE).

care-and-protection proceedings The legal intervention on behalf of a dependent whose parents or guardians no longer seem willing or able to provide for the dependent's needs.

career counseling The procedure used by social workers, personnel, and guidance advisers, educational specialists, and other professionals to provide information, advice, support, and linkage of resources to people who are deciding about future vocations or to workers who seek to maximize their vocational potential. Career counseling is most commonly offered to students in high schools or colleges to help them learn about existing opportunities and to help them recognize their assets and limitations.

caregiver One who provides for the physical, emotional, and social needs of another person, who often is dependent and cannot provide for his or her own needs. The term most often applies to parents or parent surrogates, day care and nursery workers, health care specialists, and relatives caring for older people. The term is also applied to all people who provide nurturance and emotional support to others including spouses, clergy, and social workers.

caregiver support group A support group comprising individuals who have in common the responsibility of managing the lives and providing for the needs of those unable to do so independently. Typically, such groups are made up of people who care for frail elderly parents, children with a disease or disability, special-needs clients, or family members with a mental disorder. The stress of caring for these people is often relieved through the mutual support the members provide one another. The groups may be led by social workers, other professionals, or the members themselves; the degree of structure varies widely.

caries Decay of the bones or teeth.

carnal knowledge A legal term for sexual intercourse.

cartel An association of businesses in the same or related industries that seeks to stabilize the supplies or conditions of production and thus influence prices.

case aide In social work, a paraprofessional who helps the social worker, as a member of a social work team, to provide specified services for the client. Frequently, the aide has developed expertise in a set of specific functions and is called on to fulfill those functions

when they are deemed important by the social worker in charge of the case. For example, the aide might be asked to telephone members of the client's family to obtain additional information or accompany a client to a clinic. Most case aides are paid employees of the social worker's agency, but some are volunteers or part of the natural helping network. See also social work associates.

case conference A procedure often used in social agencies and other organizations to bring together members of a professional staff and others to discuss a client's problem, objectives, intervention plans, and prognoses. The participants in the conference may include the social workers who are providing the direct service to the client or client system and the professional supervisor of these social workers. Additional participants might include other agency workers who have special expertise or experience with similar problems or populations, members of other professional groups or disciplines who can provide more information and recommendations, and sometimes personal associates or relatives of the client who may be asked to provide information or helping resources. Some agencies schedule conferences on all ongoing cases; others review cases of special interest or concern. Case conferences are intended to improve communication, generate new ideas, and improve services.

case finding Searching out and identifying those individuals or groups who are vulnerable to or experiencing problems for which the social worker or social agency has responsibility to provide needed help and service. See also child find and outreach.

case integration Coordination of the activities of social workers and service providers from other relevant auspices who are simultaneously serving the needs of a client. This coordination means that the respective providers' services are consistent, additive, nonduplicative, and directed purposefully toward achieving the same goals. Case integration occurs both within and between organizations. See also case management.

caseload All the clients for whom a given social worker is responsible.

case management A procedure to plan, seek, and monitor services from different social agencies and staff on behalf of a client. Usually one agency takes primary responsibility for the client and assigns a case manager, who coordinates services, advocates for the client, and sometimes controls resources and purchases services for the client. The procedure makes it possible for many social workers in the agency, or different agencies, to coordinate their efforts to serve a given client through professional teamwork, thus expanding the range of needed

services offered. Case management may involve monitoring the progress of a client whose needs require the services of several professionals, agencies, health care facilities, and human services programs. It typically involves case finding, comprehensive multidimensional assessment, and frequent reassessment. Case management can occur within a single, large organization or within a community program that coordinates services among agencies. Federal legislation enacted in 1981 allows states to pay for case management for Medicaid recipients under waiver of the usual rules. Social workers and nurses are the professional groups most often called on to fulfill this function. Case management is seen as an increasingly important way of limiting problems arising from fragmentation of services, staff turnover, and inadequate coordination among providers. See also case integration.

case method system In professional education, the procedure in which students review, discuss, and propose solutions to detailed descriptions of a representative hypothetical or actual problem. Social work education has made extensive use of this procedure since it was first advocated by Sophonisba Breckenridge.

case-mix reimbursement A system in which government or third-party organizations pay an institution, such as a nursing home or hospital, for its expected services to a group over a specified period. Typically, the amount paid to the institution depends not on the individual's specific health care requirements but on the variety of services likely to be required for the group for which care is provided. The system of diagnosis-related groups (DRGs) is one form of case-mix reimbursement.

case record Information about the client situation and the service transaction that is documented by the social worker during the intervention process and retained in the files of the social agency or social worker. Case records are an important source of information about clients, services, goals, intervention strategies, and outcomes. They are used in case management and interprofessional communication on quality assurance. According to Jill Doner Kagle (Social Work Records, 2nd ed., Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1991), case records also exist to demonstrate accountability, justify funding, and support supervision and research. See also problem-oriented record (POR) and SOAP charting method.

case study A method of evaluation by examining systematically many characteristics of one individual, group, family, or community, usually over an extended period.

casework See social casework.

cash benefits See benefits.

cash out Providing a welfare benefit in money rather than coupons, vouchers, or in-kind service. For example, some states provide food stamp benefits in cash rather than coupons with cost reductions and greater convenience to clients, social workers, and storekeepers.

cash vouchers A certificate permitting the recipient to purchase up to a specified amount from a designated supplier. Such vouchers are provided in various government programs to provide for needy individuals and stimulate the business of the supplier.

CASSW See Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work (CASSW).

caste A highly restrictive social class. In some societies people are born into their castes, which thereafter limits their choices of level and type of education, occupations, associations, and marital partners.

castration theory A theory held by some psychoanalysts and others that boys fear harm to their genitals usually by their fathers once the boys become sexually attracted to their mothers. According to this theory, girls fear they already have been castrated. See also penis envy theory.

casual laborer An individual who seeks employment and works periodically, often based on current economic need or availability of desired jobs.

CASW See Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW).

A publication of the U.S. General Services Administration, printed and distributed bimonthly by the U.S. Government Printing Office, describing the programs that provide financial, technical, and in-kind assistance for all service groups in the United States.

catalyst role The intervention process whereby the social worker creates a climate of introspection and self-assessment for the client or

community and facilitates communication, stimulates awareness of problems, and encourages belief in the possibility of change.

cataract Cloudiness in the lens of an eye resulting in impaired vision. Surgical treatment for cataracts has become relatively convenient and inexpensive.

Catastrophic Care Coverage A social insurance plan to reimburse eligible people for expenses incurred as a result of catastrophic illness. In 1988 the U.S. Congress passed a catastrophic care coverage legislation to protect Medicare recipients against these costs, but the bill was repealed in less than a year because of public dissatisfaction with its funding provisions.

catastrophic illness A physical or mental disorder that represents a sudden and very serious change in the victim's lifestyle. The term is defined more narrowly by the Social Security Administration (SSA) and Medicare as prolonged and disruptive illness requiring long hospital stays and expensive treatment.

catatonia The state of a person with a mental disorder who seems detached from reality and oblivious to environmental stimuli. Typically, catatonic people move very slowly and rigidly or may be stiff and statue-like. On some occasions and with no apparent provocation, their movements may become active and uncontrolled, and their moods may become excited. This is usually followed by a return to the more-characteristic state of stupor. See also waxy flexibility.

catatonic schizophrenia Technically known as "schizophrenia, catatonic type," one of the five major subtypes (also including paranoid, disorganized, undifferentiated, and residual) of schizophrenia, characterized by marked psychomotor disturbance that may involve immobility or excessive movement, echolalia, echopraxia, inappropriate postures, extreme negativism, and mutism.

catchment area The geographic region in which all potential clients are served by a given social agency.

catecholamines Biochemicals that transmit information between nerve cells. Some researchers hypothesize that deviations in these neurotransmitters may sometimes lead to depression, mood disorder, and schizophrenia. See also dopamine hypothesis.

categorical assistance Welfare programs for specific groups of people identified in the Social Security Act. Originally, the programs were Old Age Assistance (OAA), Aid to the Blind (AB), Aid to Dependent Children, and Aid to the Totally and Permanently Disabled (ATPD). Needy people in these categories could receive financial assistance from their respective states, supplemented by federal grants. In 1974 responsibility for the three adult categories was assumed by the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

categorical grant Payment of funds or transfer of goods made by an organization, social agency, or individual (grantor) to a recipient (grantee) for agreeing to accomplish some specified objective. For example, public assistance programs such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) are funded by categorical grants made by the federal government to state governments in considering state governments' distribution of funds to needy families in a prescribed way. See also grant and block grant.

categorically needy People who are automatically eligible for certain welfare benefits, without a means test, because they fit some predetermined criteria. For example, some needy categories of people eligible for Medicaid include recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). See also joint processing.

categorical program The provision of social services and other benefits to people who belong to specifically designated groups that are particularly at risk, such as older people, parentless children, and blind and disabled people.

catharsis Verbalization and other expression of ideas, fears, past significant events, and associations, the expected result of which is a release of anxiety or tension, resulting in improved functioning; also called ventilation.

cathexis The concentration of emotional energy and feelings onto a person, idea, object, or oneself. See also decathexis.

Catholic Charities USA An organization founded in 1910 to coordinate the 3,000 Roman Catholic Church-related local organizations and individuals who provide voluntary social services such as family therapy, child welfare, vocational and financial counseling, and recreational and educational services. The organization was formerly known as the National Conference of Catholic Charities.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) The international organization founded and sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church to raise funds and distribute needed resources and provisions to those populations victimized by poverty and disasters, including famine, epidemics, floods, hurricanes, droughts, earthquakes, war, and civil disorder. CRS coordinates many of its activities with the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) and, through the Steering Committee for International Relief, other church organizations and private relief groups.

Catholic Worker Movement The sociopolitical movement that began in the 1930s under the leadership of Dorothy Day (1897–1980) to promote social justice and social welfare for all, particularly immigrants to the United States, unemployed and marginally employed breadwinners, and people of color. The movement has been influential in advocacy for pacifism, equal rights for women and African Americans, and organized labor unions.

CAT scan Computerized axial tomography, a medical diagnostic tool for taking pictures of the interior of the head and body of the patient.

caucus A meeting, usually closed or semiprivate, comprising the leaders of an organization, to establish its agenda or platform, or to nominate candidates.

cause-oriented organization A formal or informal group comprising individuals who are united by shared values and goals and devoted to achieving specific social change or solving certain problems.

cause-versus-function issue The controversial historical dichotomy in social work between social reform activities and social casework. Some early social workers, such as Jane Addams (1860–1935), advocated a cause orientation, emphasizing social change through political action and community organization. Others, such as Mary Richmond (1861–1928), stressed the function of individual betterment through the technical skills of the social worker, such as interviewing and advice giving. The current view among most social workers is that the field must include both cause and function orientations.

CBO See Congressional Budget Office (CBO).

CCC 1. See Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). 2. See Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

CCETSW See Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW).

CCRC See continuing-care retirement communities (CCRC).

CD See community development (CD).

CDCP See Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP).

CDF See Children’s Defense Fund (CDF).

CDR See Continuing Disability Review (CDR).

cease-and-desist order A statement issued by a judicial authority and court of law prohibiting a person or organization from commencing or continuing a specified activity, such as tearing down a historic building, clearing a forest, or removing a child from one city to another. These orders are generally issued after the court is shown that the activity will likely be found to be unlawful.

Center for Health Statistics See Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. (HHS).

Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA) The United Nations organization oriented to the world’s development of social welfare and cultural development programs. The organization provides member nations with technical assistance, research, and information in their efforts to enhance their human services programs.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP) An organization, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and based in Atlanta, that coordinates efforts throughout the nation to prevent and minimize the spread of disease. The center acquires, analyzes, and disseminates data about the incidence of disease and its etiology, progression, and elimination.

centers for independent living See independent living, centers for.

Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW) The major accrediting body for social work education in

Great Britain. CCETSW monitors the curriculum offered by British schools of social work at all levels and issues certificates that qualify social workers for professional practice. See also Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW).

centralization The concentration of administrative power within a group, organization, or political entity. For example, public assistance programs that had been managed primarily at the state and local levels became more centralized with the passage of the Social Security Act and later the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

central nervous system (CNS) The brain and spinal cord. The CNS supervises and coordinates the activity of the entire nervous system. See also autonomic nervous system (ANS) and peripheral nervous system.

centration A tendency to focus attention on one part of an object, situation, or aspect of a relationship while ignoring others that may be equally significant. See also decenter.

centrifugal family structure In family systems theory, the pattern of relationship among family members in which there is little cohesiveness or attachment, and each member feels compelled to seek emotional support from outside the family.

centripetal family structure In family systems theory, the pattern of relationship among family members in which each person is bound into the family and relatively isolated from outsiders. For example, the children remain at home even after reaching adulthood, and all family members encourage each other to remain highly interdependent.

centrist One who holds an ideological position between the extremes; a moderate or "middle of the roader." See also leftist and right wing.

cerebral palsy A disability of muscle control and coordination caused by brain damage that occurred before or during birth. The degree of severity depends on the extent of the brain damage. Although no cure exists, appliances such as braces and treatment involving physical, occupational, speech, and psychosocial therapy are often effective in minimizing disability.

cerebrovascular Pertaining to the brain or the blood vessels that supply it.

cerebrovascular accident (CVA) See stroke.

certificate of need (CON) A permission grant to developers permitting them to build new hospitals or health facilities only when properly justified. The purpose of CON legislation is to distribute and control the number of hospitals and medical resources equitably to help keep down health care costs. The national network of health systems agencies reviews, plans, and recommends certification.

Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW) The credential for the practice of professional social work throughout Great Britain. The certificate is awarded to applicants by the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW) based on successful completion of specified levels of education at CCETSW-accredited educational institutions.

certification An official assurance that someone or something possesses the attributes he, she, or it claims to have. Legal certification of a profession is the warranting by a state that the people certified have attained a specified level of knowledge and skill. Professional certification is such warranting by a professional association. Certification typically does not prohibit uncertified people from engaging in the specified activity (as does a license), but it prevents their use of the title "certified." Certification is usually considered to be a stronger form of regulation than registration of social workers but weaker than the license. See also legal regulation, Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW), and Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW).

certified social worker A social work practitioner who is warranted by a professional association or legal body to have attained a specified level of education, knowledge, and skills; the title "certified social worker" is protected by statute in some jurisdictions and by professional associations in others, so that its use is restricted to those who qualify. See also Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) and legal regulation.

CETA The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (P.L. 93-203), a federal program begun in 1973 to retrain and place long-term unemployed, underemployed, or disadvantaged people in more-suitable jobs and jobs with future potential. The JOBS program, sponsored by CETA, was replaced in 1982 by the Job Training Partnership Act, which

encouraged more private-sector, local, and state involvement in training programs. See also employment programs, the Job Corps, and Neighborhood Youth Corps.

CEUs Continuing education units, a specific amount and type of formal education required by certain professional associations, state licensing authorities, and employers to demonstrate that the professional is keeping current in relevant knowledge. For example, attending a three-hour workshop at a professional conference that is recognized or accredited by the authority might “earn” a social worker three CEUs to be counted toward continuing education requirements.

CFD See Concern for the Dying (CFD).

CFIDS See chronic fatigue immune dysfunction syndrome (CFIDS).

Chadwick, Edwin (1800–1890) Controversial social reformer and newspaper writer who pioneered in methods of inquiry about social problems. His writings about the sanitary conditions in London slums led to cleanup, renewal, and public health programs. Oriented to blaming the victim, he was the major author of the Poor Law of 1834.

chaining In behavior modification, a specific and complex series of connected or associated stimulus-response units that terminate with the delivery of a reinforcer. Social workers using behavioral techniques also use “backward chaining” in which the last stimulus-response unit of a chain is established first, and the other units are then added in reverse order until the desired chain is complete.

Chalmers, Thomas (1780–1847) Scottish theologian and professor of moral philosophy, he developed a system of private philanthropies to help Glasgow’s poor. He organized volunteer workers and contributors to meet regularly with disadvantaged people to give them encouragement and training as well as material aid. Many of his extensive writings were used as guides for later efforts to help the poor. See also Joseph Tuckerman.

CHAMPUS The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services, a federally funded health insurance program for the dependents of active duty and retired U.S. military personnel. CHAMPUS pays a significant proportion of the health care costs for the beneficiary in the private health care service-delivery system when such care is unavailable or inaccessible in military medical facilities. In certain circumstances, qualified social workers are directly reimbursed

by CHAMPUS for providing their professional services in the care of people with mental disorders. See also military social work.

change agent A social worker or other helping professional or a group of helpers whose purpose is to facilitate improvement.

change agent system The organizations, social agencies, and community institutions that provide the auspices and additional resources through which the social worker (change agent) provides service.

change residue In the planned changes that community organizers help to bring about, the side effects that occur after the newly implemented structures are in place. The residue may be intended or unintended, desired or not, tangible or elusive. Because side effects are inevitable, organizers find it necessary to build ways of dealing with them into the plan.

channeling An administrative procedure in case management in which social agency workers are aware of resources in the community and often direct their clients to relevant programs for additional or supplementary service during the ongoing helping process. See also linkage.

character The most deeply ingrained aspects of personality and the resulting habitual modes of response.

character building Efforts to improve one’s behavior, habits, and effectiveness in dealing with the biopsychosocial and physical environment, particularly through study and education, hard work, experience in relevant activities, and moral and spiritual training. Sometimes this term is used by unsympathetic authority figures to justify imposing difficult conditions such as excessive work demands or deprivation on others.

character disorder A maladaptive personality pattern involving inflexibility in thinking, perceiving, and reacting; also known as “character neurosis.” Individuals with this dysfunction are often obsessively meticulous, pedantic, and cruel in an intellectual way. Psychoanalytically oriented professionals also describe certain specific maladaptive character traits such as the oral character, anal character, and genital character.

charette A technique used by community organizers and disaster relief planners to stimulate citizen participation during crisis planning.

Professionals and community members (especially those most likely to be affected by the crisis) work together intensively to plan a means of coping with the situation. See also community reorganization.

charismatic leader An individual whose influence is derived primarily from force of personality rather than legal authority or official title. Often the leader or founder of a social movement is charismatic (such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Mohandas K. Gandhi, and Jane Addams), but their successors often base their leadership on legal or official sanction.

charitable gambling Organized legal playing of games of chance to raise money for educational, religious, or public service uses. The games are usually conducted by churches, service clubs, civic associations, and similar organizations and include such activities as bingo, raffles, card games, and casino games. In many areas, especially those in rural or economically depressed towns, gambling has become a major source of funding for many human services programs. Many contend that this type of fundraising is the only way these service programs can survive, whereas others argue that gambling undermines society, moral values, and the very programs it helps to fund.

charity 1. Literally, love for one's fellow humans. 2. The donation of goods and services to those in need.

Charity Organization Societies (COS)

Privately administered and philanthropically funded organizations that were the essential forerunners of modern social services agencies. The first COS was established in London in 1869. The first American COS was in Buffalo, New York, in 1877 and was duplicated in most larger eastern cities soon thereafter. COSs were staffed by volunteer workers who provided direct services to clients and coordinated community efforts to deal with social problems. As more COS workers, sometimes known as friendly visitors, gradually became professionalized, they were called social workers. By the 1930s, as government assumed more responsibility for people's economic and social security, the original COS goal was reached; thus, most of the organizations became or merged with family agencies united in the Family Service Association of America, which was later named the Family Service America (FSA).

Chartist Movement The reform campaign conducted by English workers (1838-1848) demanding universal male suffrage, voting by

secret ballot, proportionally divided electoral districts, and the abolition of property qualifications for members of the House of Commons. The people were reacting to a period of low wages, high prices, and the recently enacted Poor Law of 1834.

checkbook activism Donation of funds to public-interest organizations because the contributor lacks the time or opportunity for personal involvement.

check-in A structure exercise often used in social work with groups or families in which each of the members is asked, at the beginning of the session, to indicate what they are specifically concerned about or would like to discuss. Check-ins are used to assure that all members of the session are heard from and become the focus of some attention. When the procedure occurs at the end of a group session, it is known as the "check-out." Check-in is the most common of the group procedures known as go-round.

"cheeking" A practice used by many supervised patients to avoid taking their prescribed medications by concealing the pills inside their cheeks rather than swallowing them. The patients save the pills for later inappropriate use, or they discard the pills when unobserved. The practice is widespread because many patients dislike the effect or side effects of medications or wish to create their own side effects.

chemotherapy The treatment of a disease, such as cancer, with chemicals.

Chicano A term sometimes used to describe American citizens of Mexican birth or ethnic heritage.

child abuse The recurrent infliction of physical or emotional injury on a dependent minor, through intentional beatings, uncontrolled corporal punishment, persistent ridicule and degradation, or sexual abuse, usually committed by parents or guardians. State laws require social workers and other professionals to report instances of suspected child abuse to the appropriate authorities. See also child neglect.

child advocacy Championing the rights of children to be free from abuse or exploitation by others and to have opportunities to develop toward their full potential. Since the beginning of their existence, social workers have led in this effort by fighting for child labor laws; calling public attention to inadequate care facilities and orphanages; and working

to set up juvenile justice programs, to expand foster care and adoption care, and to eradicate child snatching, kidnapping, and child abuse.

child care Nurturance and management of the day-to-day requirements to sustain the successful development of children. Although the term can apply to any activity in which a youngster's needs are provided for by a parent or guardian, it is specifically applied to children in institutions or 24-hour group-living situations. In this context, child care activities include physical care (such as feeding and clothing), habit development (such as personal hygiene and socialization), self-management (discipline), therapeutic care (counseling), tutoring, and first aid. These activities also include running the living group as a cohesive unit and managing the institutional program.

child care worker A professional or paraprofessional who is responsible for the daily care and nurturance of a group of youngsters who reside in an institution. Such workers are often known as houseparents, residential workers, or group-living counselors. They fulfill the activities of institutional child care and are employed primarily in residential-care facilities for emotionally disturbed and dependent children and for people who are mentally retarded, in corrections facilities, in institutions for people with disabilities, and in homes for unwed mothers.

child custody See custody of children.

child find Diagnostic programs in many public schools in which children between the ages of three and five are screened to determine the existence of any physical or developmental disorder and when appropriate, then placed in early-intervention preschool programs.

child find organizations Social agencies and programs oriented to locating runaways or throwaway children and changing the conditions that contribute to such problems. These programs often are staffed by volunteers and funded by voluntary contributions and sometimes supported by public monies. The organizations work closely with local law enforcement organizations, child find organizations in other regions, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

child guidance The process of helping youths make optimal life decisions, develop decision-making skills, channel behaviors appropriately, and solve their problems. The guidance counselor,

usually a person with a specialized background in education, provides youths with necessary information or access to that information. Special focus is on educational planning, academic and relationship problems, scholarships, and family problems. Counseling and testing (especially in terms of aptitude, vocational, and personality factors) are major activities. See also achievement tests.

Child Health and Human Development, National Institute of The organization within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that provides information and expertise on such factors as sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), congenital abnormalities, developmental disabilities, and human reproduction and fertility.

childhood The early stage in the human life cycle characterized by rapid physical growth and efforts to model adult roles and responsibilities, mostly through play and formal education. Many developmental psychologists say this stage occurs after infancy and lasts until puberty (that is, from about 18 to 24 months to 12 to 14 years) or until adulthood (18 to 21 years). This stage is sometimes divided into early childhood (from the end of infancy to about age six) and middle or late childhood (from age six to, or through, adolescence).

childhood disintegrative disorder A developmental disorder characterized by a marked regression in the child's development after more than two years of apparently normal development. After age two and before age 10, the child loses previously acquired communication skills, social relationships, and adaptive behavior and exhibits behavior generally observed in autistic disorders. The loss of skills eventually reaches a plateau and minimal improvement may occur; however, the difficulties remain relatively constant throughout life.

childhood schizophrenia A chronic psychosis involving disturbances in thought, perception, affect, and behavior that appears in an individual before puberty. A youngster typically shows extreme withdrawal, gross immaturity, and failure to develop much autonomy or identity separate from parents or surrogate parents. Because this term is imprecise, professionals now rarely use it.

child labor Paid or forced employment of children who are younger than a legally defined age. The minimum age for employment may vary from ages 14 to 18 depending on the nature of the work and the child labor standards of the country in which it takes place. The International Labor Organization (ILO) and the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child consider child labor to be exploitative when the work or conditions

are harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, and social development. In the United States, child labor standards were established in 1938 by the Fair Labor Standards Act. Social worker Grace Abbott, as director of the Children's Bureau, led the fight for such standards. See also apprenticeship and Rights of the Child Convention.

child molestation 1. Forcing a child to participate in some sexual acts that can include rape, incest, and erotic fondling. 2. Compelling a child to behave in a way that erotically stimulates the perpetrator.

child neglect The failure of those responsible for the care of a minor to provide the resources needed for healthy physical, emotional, and social development. Examples of neglect include inadequate nutrition, improper supervision, or no provisions for educational or health care requirements. Child neglect is seen as an act of omission by caregivers because of limited abilities or resources or other circumstances; it is differentiated from child abuse, which is seen as more willful.

child protective services (CPS) Human services, often including social, medical, legal, residential, and custodial care, which are provided to children whose caregiver is not providing for their needs. Social workers who work in units of government agencies often help legal authorities with investigations to determine if children are in need of such services, help children get services when needed, and may provide such services themselves. Social workers investigate alleged abuse and neglect and make assessments and recommendations to legal or social welfare authorities. CPS also include the related shelter services and community supervisor services. See also adult protective services (APS).

child psychoanalysis The use of psychoanalytic theory and methods in helping children overcome psychic conflicts and emotional disturbances that impede their healthy development. Practitioners of this discipline, which also is known as child analysis, are psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers with education in psychoanalysis and added training for work with children.

child psychotherapy Treatment by trained professionals of youngsters for mental illness, emotional conflict, impaired psychological development, or behavioral maladaptations. Psychotherapy with children includes all the theory and method applied to other psychotherapies but may emphasize play therapy,

small-group therapy, and supportive and reeducative therapies. Professionals who provide child psychotherapy services include specially trained psychiatrists, social workers, psychologists, educational specialists, mental health nurses, and other mental health professionals.

children Youngsters who are younger than the legal age of responsibility or emancipation; in most states and nations, this age is 18 years.

Children's Aid Society The private organization founded by Charles Loring Brace (1826-1890) in 1853 in New York to provide shelter, education, care, and family placement for homeless and destitute children. The society's methods greatly influenced modern child welfare programs and the foster care system.

children's allowances See family allowance.

Children's Bureau The U.S. government organization, created in 1912 and now part of the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), that plans, integrates, and advocates national programs on behalf of children.

Children's Defense Fund (CDF) An advocacy and lobbying organization on behalf of the nation's children that scrutinizes regulations and legislation affecting children and also proposes new and modified programs. It strives to create and enforce child welfare laws and to support organizations that serve the special needs of children.

child sexual abuse A form of child abuse in which a dependent child is compelled, by manipulation or force, to fulfill the sexual demands of an older person, often a family member. See also child molestation.

child snatching The illegal act of removing a dependent child from the legal care and authority of the parent or guardian, usually by another of the child's relatives. Most typically, child snatching occurs among families that are dissolving, as in divorces or foster care placements, and one of the former caregivers does not accept the legal ruling granting custody to another person or group. The unauthorized person takes the child and often conceals the child's whereabouts or otherwise keeps moving so that the authorities have difficulty returning the child to the rightful custodian. See also custody of children and stolen children.

Child Support Enforcement, Office of The organization within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the U.S. Department of

Health and Human Services (HHS) that helps states and local jurisdictions compel parents to meet their obligations to their children. The office helps plan and manage programs to locate absent parents, establish paternity, coordinate activities among states, and bring to justice parents who do not fulfill their obligations.

child welfare That part of human services and social welfare programs and ideologies oriented toward the protection, care, and healthy development of children. Child welfare measures are found in national, state, and local programs and are also designed to prevent conditions that interfere with children's positive development.

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

The major national voluntary association for promoting the interests of children. Founded in 1920, it is a federation of accredited child welfare agencies that provides standard setting, accreditation, technical leadership to local governments, and advocacy for children.

CHINS Children in need of supervision.
See persons in need of supervision (PINS).

“chiseler” A slang expression referring to one who gets money and goods by cheating, begging, or “sponging off” others. The term often has been applied disparagingly to welfare recipients who are said to have misrepresented their needs and resources to increase benefits.

chlamydia One of the sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) caused by nongonococcal (not gonorrhea) organisms. Symptoms are similar to those of gonorrhea and are equally severe in women but usually less severe in men. In women, symptoms include inflammation in the pelvic region, scarring of tissue, and sometimes sterility; in men, they include inflammation in the urethra and prostate gland. Babies born to infected women can develop pneumonia and eye infections. Often no symptoms are evident until the disease has advanced to more-serious levels. Early treatment of the infected person and partner with antibiotics is usually successful.

chlorpromazine See antipsychotic medication.

Choice in Dying A national, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advocating for the rights of people to make their own decisions about medical care and to receive compassionate and dignified care at the end of life. The organization educates the public, health care

providers, and policy-makers about the needs of dying patients and their loved ones, and it provides free advance directives and counseling. Choice in Dying was created in 1991 by the merger of Concern for the Dying (CFD) and Society for the Right to Die. The society, under the aegis of the Euthanasia Society and the Euthanasia Educational Fund, pioneered the living will in 1967.

cholera An epidemic disease spread through polluted water resulting in such symptoms as diarrhea, vomiting, thirst, and cramps.

choreiform movements Irregular, nonrepetitive, dancelike movements, often symptomatic of mental or physical disorders.

chore service A home maintenance program, in which unskilled or semiskilled tasks that would usually be done by family members, such as washing walls and windows and removing trash, are provided by public departments of human services and social agencies for needy, homebound people. These services exclude skilled housing repairs or regular cleaning that is necessary if the person is to be able to remain at home. See also homemaker services.

chorionic villa sampling (CVS) A medical procedure for detecting chromosomal abnormalities and inherited metabolic disease in the fetus by removing and examining a small amount of placental tissue. See also amniocentesis.

Christian Democracy A political movement and philosophy that espouses traditional Judeo-Christian religious values in combination with the social values of capitalism. The philosophy is the foundation of the Christian Democrat parties that are particularly influential in Germany and Italy.

chromosomal disorders A type of genetic disorder resulting from faulty structure or incorrect numbers of chromosomes. These chromosome aberrations can cause miscarriage, stillbirths, neonatal death, congenital abnormalities, and Down's syndrome. Women younger than 15 and older than 35 have greater chances of giving birth to children with chromosomal disorders.

chronic Pertaining to problems, abnormal behaviors, and medical conditions that have developed and persisted over a long period. Many helping professionals consider problems that have lasted more than six months to be chronic and those that last fewer than six months to be acute.

chronic fatigue immune dysfunction syndrome (CFIDS) The name preferred by patient advocacy groups for what has been called chronic fatigue syndrome, to emphasize the organic nature of the disease.

chronic fatigue syndrome A physical disorder characterized by excessive and prolonged lethargy, low energy, sleepiness, and apathy, often accompanied by psycho-social problems such as depression, anxiety, vocational difficulties, and family conflict. See also chronic fatigue immune dysfunction syndrome (CFIDS).

chronic motor or vocal tic disorder A persistent pattern of involuntary rapid muscle movements and vocalizations that have lasted for more than one year. A condition of this type that has lasted less than one year is known as a transient tic disorder.

CIDES See Inter-American Social Development Center (CIDES).

CIO See American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

CIP See Council of International Programs (CIP).

circadian rhythm sleep disorder A dysomnia type of sleep disorder, formerly called sleep-wake schedule disorder, in which the individual's routine sleep pattern is mismatched with daily demands regarding the timing and duration of sleep. This disorder occurs often in nightshift workers, people on watches where sleep is taken at short intervals, and those experiencing "jet lag."

circuit-breaker tax relief State or local tax laws that reduce the property tax rates on the homes of needy residents. The provision occurs when the home escalates in value to a point where the homeowner can no longer afford to pay all the property taxes.

circular causality The concept, particularly in systems theories, that describes the cause of an event, behavior, problem, or pattern as being part of a complex sequence of reciprocally influential interactions. Behavior in one component of an organized system affects behavior in another component, which affects behavior in the first, and so on, in a recurring circular fashion. In this view, the linear causality concept is an error in epistemology.

circumflex model A model for viewing and understanding human relationships that assumes a curvilinear relationship between variables. For example, community representatives sit around a circular table, with those most similar to one another sitting on either side and others who are progressively less similar sitting farther removed, until those with no similarities sit opposite.

cirrhosis The scarring of body tissue, most commonly the liver. Those most susceptible to cirrhosis are middle-age men with a nutritional (protein) deficiency brought about by alcoholism. The damage to the liver may result in such symptoms as emaciation, jaundice, gastrointestinal disturbances, hepatitis, enlargement of the liver and spleen, and distension of the veins. Treatment usually includes a diet with adequate protein, vitamin supplements, and sometimes blood transfusions and excess fluid removal.

cisvestism Dressing inappropriately in the clothes of one's own gender (for example, adult as a child, civilian as a firefighter). See also transvestism.

citizen participation Involvement of members of the general public who are likely to be affected by a changed social policy, law, or circumstance in the process of planning and implementing that change. Community organizers usually attempt to facilitate citizen participation in change efforts. Many laws dealing with the public welfare (such as Title XX of the Social Security Act) require citizen participation in the development and implementation of certain social services plans. Some social workers identify various types of citizen participation, including agencies or bureaucracies that initiate the involvement and those in which citizen groups and individuals themselves initiate the involvement.

citizens committee A supposedly nonpartisan organization established to bring about social change or elect a candidate. Often such committees develop in response to a specific problem, stay focused only on that problem, and disband when that problem is solved. Many citizens committees are set up by political parties or permanent social cause groups to organize otherwise independent voters or residents of a specific jurisdiction. See also voter registration drives, Common Cause, and rainbow coalition.

city planning Systematic efforts to order urban development; establish priorities; and implement goals pertaining to the overall well-being of a city, town, neighborhood, or metropolitan region. City planners were originally oriented toward the physical development of a

city, including development of its infrastructure and aesthetic amenities. Later, their objectives expanded to include developing sound land-use patterns, improving governmental procedures, and enhancing the quality of life and welfare of citizens.

civic associations Private voluntary associations whose members meet regularly to socialize and to plan and implement activities for the benefit of the community. These associations vary considerably in their goals, methods, and membership requirements. Some of these associations, which have chapters in most communities, include the Rotary, Lions, Jaycees, Junior League, and Business and Professional Women's clubs.

civil contempt A form of contempt of court that occurs when an individual fails to follow a court order, such as not making regular child support payments or not appearing for scheduled meetings with a social worker for court-ordered therapy.

civil defense Procedures, structures, plans, and systems designed to protect the lives and property of the civilian population from enemy attack or natural disaster.

civil disobedience Noncompliance with a government's laws or demands, usually to call attention to those laws that are considered unfair and to bring about changes or concessions in them. Civil disobedience often takes the form of group actions such as marches and assemblies, deliberate nonpayment of taxes, and the obstruction of the free movement of others. See also passive resistance and freedom riders.

civil disorder A public disturbance in which a group is involved in violent activity causing danger, injury, or property damage to others.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) A federal program established in 1933 to conserve and develop U.S. natural resources and create jobs for unemployed young men. The program, abolished in 1942, was used in part as a model for the 1964 Job Corps program.

civil liberties Certain freedoms that may not arbitrarily be taken away or denied by society or external authority. The freedom to act according to one's own conscience; to worship, speak, and travel without restriction; and to choose one's own profession or associates are examples of civil liberties.

civil rights Rights of citizens to be protected against discrimination or arbitrary treatment by government or individuals and to engage in certain behaviors as long as they do not infringe on the rights of others. In the United States, these rights include those guaranteed in the Constitution's Bill of Rights (such as freedom of speech, religion, and the press) and others instituted since the adoption of the Bill of Rights (such as due process and equal protection under the law). Several civil rights acts and constitutional amendments have sought to bestow specific protections on African Americans and other racial and ethnic groups. This legislation includes such acts as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the 1968 housing acts designed to eliminate discrimination in housing and real estate. See also civil liberties.

Civil Rights Act of 1964 The comprehensive federal legislation (P.L. 88-352) prohibiting discrimination for reasons of race, religion, or national origin in schools, employment, and places of public accommodation including restaurants, theaters, and hotels.

civil rights group A cause-oriented organization whose members share the goal of achieving equal opportunity for all people including racial and ethnic groups, people with a disability, and women. Civil rights groups seek changes in the sociopolitical system that fosters discrimination, ethnic stereotyping, and inequitable treatment in legal institutions. Some of the major national civil rights groups include the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Urban League, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), American Indian Movement (AIM), Anti-Defamation League of B'nai-B'rith, National Organization for Women (NOW), Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Operation PUSH, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and Concern for the Dying, as well as the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) and National Right-to-Life Committee (NRLC). Many state and federal organizations, including the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, are concerned with the enforcement of civil rights laws.

civil servants Government employees below elected or policymaking ranks whose employment is based on the specified and needed skills and performance of certain duties. See also Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

Civil Service, U.S. The federal organization responsible for managing most of the nonelected, nonappointed civilian employees of the U.S. government.

Civil Works Administration (CWA) A federal program established in 1933 to provide employment for millions of citizens in public works projects and to stimulate depressed industries such as construction. The program was abolished at the beginning of World War II. See also Public Works Administration (PWA).

clang association A mental process in which the sound of one word reminds an individual of a similar-sounding expression. Often this process leads the person to think of the meaning in the new expression or to other similar-sounding words. Frequent fixation on clang associations is sometimes symptomatic of mental disorders such as schizophrenia and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

class action social work Collaborative litigation with the goal of obtaining a favorable court ruling that will benefit the social welfare of a group of socioeconomically disadvantaged people. For example, in class actions in mental illness prevention, social workers and attorneys seek court rulings that have positive psychological effects for people who were at risk of developing mental disorders (Armando Morales and Bradford W. Sheafor, *Social Work: A Profession of Many Faces*, 5th ed., Boston: Allyn & Bacon, 1989).

class action suit A civil legal action taken by or on behalf of a group, community, or members of a social entity against an alleged perpetrator of harm to that group or some of its members.

classical conditioning See respondent conditioning.

classical conservatism The sociopolitical ideology that tends to prefer the status quo or only minimal, incremental changes in social institutions. The British philosopher Edmund Burke (1729–1797), who in 1790 wrote *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, was among the first thinkers to systematically delineate the tenets of this ideology by advocating that society should conserve the best institutions of the past and slowly blend them into the needs of the present, rather than destroy and replace them with untested social innovations. This ideology is not synonymous with neoconservatism.

classical liberalism The sociopolitical ideology that originally promoted personal freedom and limited government control, a free-enterprise system, and a belief in human rights that are inherent and independent of the state. This philosophy was developing during the time of the Magna Carta in 1215 and was further delineated by political philosophers such as John Locke (1632–1704) and Thom-

Jefferson (1743–1826). Classical liberalism influenced many national revolutions, especially during the period 1688 to 1789, and the establishment of many governments that had detailed bills of rights. The liberal view that “government that governs least governs best” began to change at the beginning of the 20th century. The emerging view, now most commonly called neoliberalism, was that individual freedom is mitigated by poverty and unequal opportunity and that government is the suitable vehicle to overcome these wrongs.

classification The process of organizing information into categories or classes so that the data can be more readily analyzed and understood. For example, a social worker might plan for the needs of potential clients in the agency’s catchment area by categorizing the area’s population by age, gender, economic well-being, recent hospital intakes, and incidence and type of mental illness.

class polarization The tendency in some societies for the socioeconomic gap to widen between the wealthy and the poor populations with a corresponding decrease in the number of people who belong in the middle class.

claustrophobia The pathological fear of closed spaces.

clearing house A central site used by people and organizations with mutual interests to store, process, analyze, and retrieve information. For example, in the United States the National Institutes of Health (NIH) maintains many clearing houses, each for designated diseases, for the use of health care providers and patients.

cleft palate A congenital abnormality in which a groove in the roof of the mouth occurs because the palate bones fail to fuse. Often accompanying this birth defect is the cleft lip, a split between the nostril to the margin of the lip.

clemency An official grant issued by a nation’s chief executive that forgives an individual for any liability or punishment for specified criminal acts. Clemency differs from amnesty in that it applies to specific crimes and people rather than classes of people. See also pardon.

client The individual, group, family, or community that seeks or is provided with professional services.

client-centered therapy A form of psychotherapy originated by psychologist Carl Rogers in the 1940s. Its central hypothesis is that clients

are inherently motivated to develop and maximize their capacities (that is, to self-actualize) and can resolve their own problems provided that the therapist establishes a caring, warm, empathic, permissive, and nonjudgmental atmosphere. The client-centered therapist assumes a nondirective stance and usually does not advise, interpret, or challenge, except to encourage the client or to restate the client's remarks to clarify them. See also nondirective therapy.

“client dumping” A term used to depict the unethical practice by some social workers and other professionals of discontinuing services to clients who are still in need. Premature termination of service occurs most commonly because the client's financial resources or insurance benefits have diminished. The three principal ways professionals terminate services without revealing to the client or others their motivation for termination include (1) telling the client that goals have been reached; (2) referring the client to another service provider on the premise that only the other has the skills necessary to meet the client's need; or (3) making unreasonable demands, changes, or recommendations and then ending treatment when the client does not comply.

client self-monitoring A procedure used by social workers in direct practice and research to measure client behavior and behavioral changes by having clients note their own behaviors outside the interviews using systematic procedures and assessment tools. Typically, the social worker has the client maintain a diary, checklist, or log to check the frequency of specified behaviors. Client self-monitoring seems most effective when used in conjunction with collateral monitoring.

client system The client and those in the client's environment who are potentially influential in contributing to a resolution of the client's problems. For example, a social worker may see a nuclear family as the client and the extended family and neighbors, teachers, and employers as making up part of the client system.

cliff effect The abrupt termination of eligibility of some social benefits once the client's earnings have reached a certain point. Making one more dollar causes loss of all benefits. This often results in clients striving to keep any income below that point. Many public-assistance administrators point out that people become trapped in the public assistance cycle by fear of losing all their economic and medical benefits under this system and thus recommend more gradual

reductions. However, other administrators claim the alternative is the benefit rate reduction (BRR), which also has disincentives.

Clinical Federation The designation informally given to the National Federation of Societies for Clinical Social Work (NFSCSW). Another informal name for the organization is the Clinical Society.

clinical gerontology The professional practice of helping older people with psycho-social, physical, and lifestyle problems and with the coping tasks unique to them.

clinical picture The overall impression of a client or case based on the observed symptoms, presenting problems, test results, data input from all available sources, and client self-assessment.

clinical social work A specialized form of direct social work practice with individuals, groups, and families. The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) has defined clinical social work as the professional application of social work theory and methods to the treatment and prevention of psychosocial dysfunction, disability, or impairment, including emotional and mental disorders. Some professional social workers use the term as a synonym for social casework or psychiatric social work, although others believe that each of these terms has a somewhat different meaning. Most professional social workers agree that clinical social work practice includes emphasis on the person-in-environment perspective. See also methods in social work.

Clinical Society The designation informally given to the National Federation of Societies for Clinical Social Work (NFSCSW). Another informal name for the organization is the Clinical Federation.

clinician A professional, working directly with clients, whose practice occurs primarily in an office, hospital, clinic, or other controlled environment. In such settings, the practitioner studies the problem, assesses and diagnoses the client situation, and directly treats or helps the client to achieve prescribed goals. The social work clinician is generally one who provides direct treatment to the client (individual, family, or group), usually in the social worker's office.

clique A small group of associates who try to maintain some prestige by being exclusionary.

closed-ended questions Questioning designed to encourage the client to reveal specific information concisely and factually, without

opinion, embellishment, or detail. Such questions are usually posed by the social worker to keep the client from digressing, evading, or providing irrelevant information when interview time is limited. Such questions are frequently answered “yes” or “no” or with one-word responses. Examples of closed-ended questions are “Did you go to school every day this week?” and “When did you lose your job?” See also open-ended questions.

closed family A family structure whose members maintain highly interdependent relationships, providing little opportunity for relationships with non-family members. See also centripetal family structure.

closed group In social group work or group psychotherapy, a group in which no new members are added once it has begun. Usually in such groups, all the members remain with the group until a predetermined time has been reached, at which time all the members terminate. The more-common group intervention model is the open group.

closed system In systems theories, a self-contained system with rigid boundaries that is organized to resist change and maintain the status quo. For example, a closed family system is relatively uninvolved with non-family members, less tolerant of ideas that differ from the family myths, and structured to maintain its interrelationships with minimal outside interference. See also open system.

clouding A symptom noted by clinicians in which the conscious awareness of the client seems disoriented, ill-focused, inattentive, or confused.

cluttering A speech disorder involving an abnormally rapid rate or erratic rhythm of speech or dramatic changes of vocal pitch that impedes the listener’s ability to comprehend what is being communicated. See also stuttering.

CNS See central nervous system (CNS).

CNSW See Council of Nephrology Social Workers (CNSW).

coaching In interviews, an intervention procedure in which the social worker tells the client how to do something and follows with suggestions for improving the activity until optimal performance is

reached. This procedure is used primarily with people who are poorly functioning, undersocialized, lacking in currently needed social skills, or with people who have not responded to nondirective interventions.

coalition An alliance of various factions or ideological groups in a society brought together to achieve a goal. In community organization, social workers often attempt to form such alliances among influential groups or among less-powerful groups to increase their influence. Coalitions may be ad hoc (organized to address a specific goal or single issue and expected to disband when it is achieved), semipermanent (more formally organized around broader and longer-range goals), or permanent (such as political parties). See ad hoc coalition.

COBRA The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (P. L. 99-272) passed in 1985 which, among other things, requires all hospitals participating in Medicare in the United States to provide appropriate medical screening examinations and treatment to all individuals in their care who have medical conditions, regardless of their economic status or insurance benefits.

cocaine A drug of abuse derived from the leaves of the coca plant that gives the user feelings of euphoria, energy, alertness, confidence, and heightened sensitivity. Sometimes known as “coke” or “snow,” the drug is usually taken through the nostrils (“snorting”) and sometimes injected in combination with other drugs such as heroin (“speedballing”) or chemically converted and smoked (“freebasing”). Cocaine has a particularly strong reinforcing capability. For example, when allowed to freely self-administer cocaine rapidly, animals escalate their dosage and prefer taking it to meeting their biological and psychological needs. Repeated use can produce marked deterioration of the nervous system and general physical deterioration, destruction of the mucous membranes, paranoia, depression, and hallucination. See also “crack.”

codeine A narcotic analgesic (pain-relieving drug) found in some prescription medications, and, in certain states, in over-the-counter medications such as some cough syrups. Like all narcotics, codeine is addictive when used with some degree of frequency.

code of ethics An explicit statement of the values, principles, and rules of a profession, regulating the conduct of its members. See also NASW Code of Ethics.

codependency A relationship between two or more people who rely on each other to meet and provide for reciprocal needs, particularly

unhealthy emotional ones. For example, a widow and her adult daughter both lack self-esteem and are consequently fearful about contacts with others, so they meet most of their social needs by being virtually inseparable. This pattern is considered similar to but not as seriously pathological as conjugal paranoia, shared paranoid disorder, folie à deux, or induced psychotic disorder. See also adult children of alcoholics (ACOAs).

code words Phrases or expressions made primarily by political office seekers and others under public scrutiny to reveal adherence to an ideology without addressing it directly. For example, a political candidate might espouse “equal rights for the unborn” as a code for opposition to abortion.

coding The social research procedure in which numbers or other symbols are assigned for each variable or category of answer in a survey or other study. For example, a “1” may be assigned for every “yes” response and a “0” for every “no.”

coercion Forcing or compelling an individual or group to perform (or stop performing) some activity. This may occur through legal actions, government interventions, social influence, or political pressure, as well as through threats of violent harm. An important role of social workers, especially those in community organization, is to bring people together so that they can resist the attempts of others to coerce them into actions they do not want to take.

coexistence An ideology that advocates and seeks to enable nations and organizations of different values and interests to maintain their territorial integrity, self-determination, and sovereignty.

COG See Council of Governments (COG).

cognition The mental process of recognizing, understanding, remembering, and evaluating relevant information.

cognitive-behavioral therapies Approaches to treatment using selected concepts and techniques from behaviorism, social learning theory, action therapy, functional school in social work, task-centered treatment, and therapies based on cognitive models. These forms of therapy are contrasted with those known as insight therapies and tend to be comparatively short term, focused on the present, and fairly limited and specific in goals. The therapist with a cognitive-behavioral

orientation tends to be fairly directive and focused on the client’s presenting problem.

cognitive development The process by which individuals acquire the intellectual capacity to perceive, evaluate, and understand information. Jean Piaget (1896–1980) formulated one of the most complete cognitive development theories to date. He divided human development into four typical stages (1) the sensorimotor stage (birth to age two); (2) the preoperational stage (ages two to seven); (3) the concrete operations stage (ages seven to 11); and (4) the formal operations stage (age 11 to adulthood). See also Piagetian theory.

cognitive dissonance The mental state in which a person experiences two or more incompatible beliefs or cognitions simultaneously. In the healthy individual, this state usually leads to psychological discomfort that remains until the person acts to clarify the discrepancy.

cognitive dysfunction Any temporary or permanent decrease in the ability to think, remember, comprehend, or process information.

cognitive map An individual’s image or perceptual picture of the environment.

cognitive models Representations of the ways by which people come to know, perceive, or understand phenomena. Such models can be used to envision or describe how humans develop their abilities to organize knowledge and understand their worlds, as in Piagetian theory. Such models can also be used to describe certain treatment approaches, such as rational-emotive therapy (Albert Ellis), reality therapy (William Glasser), individual psychology (Alfred Adler), and rational casework (Robert Sunley and Harold D. Werner).

cognitive style An individual’s preferred way of organizing and processing information. There are individual differences in how people perceive, remember, understand, and solve problems that influence the way information is organized and processed. For example, some people are more analytical and others have more-global approaches to their environments.

cognitive theory A group of concepts pertaining to the way individuals develop the intellectual capacity for receiving, processing, and acting on information. Cognitive concepts emphasize that behavior is

determined by thinking and goal determination, rather than primarily resulting from instinctive drives or unconscious motivations.

cognitive therapy Clinical intervention using cognitive theory concepts that focus on the client's conscious thinking processes, motivations, and reasons for certain behaviors. Alfred Adler (1870-1937) is said to have been a major originator of cognitive therapy. Current forms of this approach include rational-emotive therapy, reality therapy, existential social work, and rational casework. The psychosocial orientation of early, "pre-Freudian" social workers was considered to have much in common with the cognitive approach.

cohabitation The term that is commonly applied to a man and woman residing together in husband-wife roles without formal marriage; however, it also applies to others such as gay men and lesbians and to more than two people living together.

Cohen, Wilbur (1913-1987) Social work educator and administrator who became Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) during the Johnson administration and implemented many of the programs of the Great Society.

cohort In demography research studies, a group of subjects who were born during a specific time or who share another characteristic that is related to the subject being investigated. For example, when life expectancies are being calculated, one cohort might be a group of 100,000 people who were born in the same month.

cohort sequential analysis A research method that systematically evaluates selected age groups of people over a staggered period. This method helps correct any bias inherent in a longitudinal study.

Coit, Stanton (1857-1944) Founder of the settlement house movement in the United States and leader in the Ethical Culture movement. He developed programs for poor youths in New York; and using his former experience at Toynbee Hall in London as his model, he developed settlements for them and others. He also advocated for public works jobs for unemployed people, developed the "mutual aid" model, and in 1891 published the book *Neighborhood Guilds* that described settlements.

coitus Sexual intercourse.

COLA See cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).

Cold War The nonmilitary conflict and political competition for world power and influence over other nations waged between the United States and its allies and the former Soviet Union and its allies from 1945 to 1990.

coleadership In group psychotherapy and social group work, the use of two or more professionals, each fulfilling distinct roles, to facilitate group processes. Although the procedure is generally more costly and complex, the use of coleaders for groups has four advantages: (1) they may observe different aspects of the group processes, (2) together they might bring out behaviors in members that would not occur with a single leader, (3) they can play different roles and provide role modeling opportunities for members, and (4) they can expand the range of knowledge and values available to the group.

colic 1. A behavior pattern in infants manifested by continual crying for as long as 12 to 14 hours daily. Causes are unknown but usually not symptomatic of life-threatening diseases. For most, the worst consequence is distress to the parents and interference with good family relationships. Usually the behavior resolves itself within a few months. 2. Pain in the stomach or intestines.

colitis Inflammation of the large intestine.

collaboration The procedure in which two or more professionals work together to serve a given client (individual, family, group, community, or population). The professionals may work relatively independently of one another but communicate and coordinate their respective efforts to avoid duplication of services, or they may work as members of a single helping team. Collaboration also takes place among social agencies and other organizations on a variety of projects. See also interdisciplinary teaming, interprofessional team, linkage, and interorganizational collaboration.

collaborative avoidance In social group work and group psychotherapy, the phenomenon in which group members consciously or unconsciously agree to not discuss certain topics.

collaborative therapy A treatment format in which two or more social workers or other professionals each treat a single member of a family and, to some extent, coordinate their efforts. For example, a husband might be seen by one social worker and the wife by another, or a disturbed child might be seen by a child psychoanalyst and the parents treated conjointly by a social worker.

collateral monitoring A procedure social workers in direct practice and research use to measure client behavior and behavioral changes by having others observe and record the client's actions. Typically, the social worker has the client's spouse or other family members, friend, co-worker, or teacher do this monitoring using checklists, diaries, and logs in which the frequency of some behavior is counted. Collateral monitoring is usually used in conjunction with client self-monitoring, and it may be done overtly or unobtrusively, but it should be done only with the client's informed consent.

collective action A social movement to seek political, economic, or cultural changes. Many people prefer this term to "protest" or "rebellion" because the use of such words often prejudices uncommitted people toward the side of those in power.

collective bargaining A coordinated activity undertaken by a group of people who share a common interest or objective to influence change in some policy, law, or business arrangement. The term most commonly applies to the efforts of an organized labor union in negotiating a contract.

collective preconscious Simultaneous or similar responses to a stimulus perceived on a preconscious psychological level among members of a group or society. Preconscious refers to thoughts that are unconscious at a particular moment but are not repressed or unacceptable impulses or ideas rendered unconscious. The collective preconscious is based on beliefs, norms, mores, and values acquired through the acculturation process of informal and formal education.

collective responsibility Assignment of obligation, trust, or blame to more than one person or organization. For example, all the "smokestack industries" of a region may be considered responsible for acid rain, and special taxes might be levied on them to be used for cleaning up the problem.

collective unconscious In Jungian theory, that part of the unconscious that contains the inherited psychic functions or brain structure of the human species. In this theory, some information, value orientations, and behavioral patterns for meeting needs are shared by all humans through genetic transmission. In the Jungian theory, the other part of the unconscious is the personal unconscious.

Colonial Development and Welfare Acts A body of legislation enacted by the British Parliament, primarily in the first half of the 20th century, to establish, organize, finance, and administer the social welfare and economic programs of the British colonies. As most of the colonies became independent nations, they have tended to continue using the structure of these programs as the basis of their current social welfare systems.

colostomy Surgery to create an artificial anus in the abdominal wall.

coma A medical condition characterized by unconsciousness with complete absence of all voluntary activity.

combined therapy A model of intervention in which a client participates in group therapy concurrently with individual therapy.

"coming out" The process of self-identification as a lesbian or a gay man, followed by revelation of one's sexual orientation to others. See also outing and "passing."

Commission on Civil Rights, U.S. The independent federal body whose mission is to advance the cause of equal rights and investigate alleged denials of civil rights because of race, color, religion, gender bias, age discrimination, disability, national origin, or the administration of justice. The commission does fact-finding on voting rights and equality of opportunity in education, employment, and housing.

Commission on Recognition of Post-Secondary Accreditation (CORPA) The accrediting body for university and graduate school education in the United States, including social work, that was established in 1994. CORPA includes many regional and specialized accrediting bodies, including the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). CORPA provides for the public review of the accrediting process and helps member organizations maintain appropriate standards for evaluating graduate schools. CORPA took over most of the functions of the Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation (COPA), which suspended operations in 1993.

commitment 1. The act of consigning an individual to a hospital or prison, usually after undergoing due process of law. 2. A pledge or obligation. For example, social work students, to fund their educations, sometimes accept "commitment scholarships," in which a social agency or organization provides financial support in exchange for agreement to work for that organization for a predetermined period after graduation.

Committee for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups
See Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG).

committee on inquiry Permanent and ad hoc groups of professionals and others brought together to determine if any wrongdoing has been committed by or to a peer. Of particular interest to such committees are alleged violations of professional codes of ethics, illegal activities, or other disputes among professionals or between professionals and clients. These committees also exist to raise the public consciousness about mistreatment of peers by governments or political organizations. Such groups are often sponsored by professional associations, third-party organizations, or alliances of consumers. For example, the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) has a national committee for dealing with violations of the NASW Code of Ethics and personnel standards, and association standards require that each chapter maintain a committee on inquiry. See also peer review organization (PRO) and accountability.

Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) A U.S. agency that loans money to farmers, using the crop as collateral. At harvest time, if the market price falls below the previously established price supports, the farmer may turn the crop over to the CCC and keep the loaned money. If the market price is higher than the price supports, the farmer may sell the crop and repay the loan. Over the years this system stabilizes farm prices and farmer incomes and builds huge crop stockpiles. Critics say this system artificially inflates farm prices, discourages foreign buyers, and runs counter to tariff and trade agreements with other nations.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) A federally funded food assistance program that provides monthly packages of food to women of low-to-moderate income who have children younger than age six.

Common Cause A voluntary association founded in 1970 and known as the "citizens' lobby." Its primary goal is to represent the interests of the public and to counterbalance special-interest lobbies. Its role is to inform the public about legislation and act as a watchdog group over the lawmaking process and its implementation.

common-law marriage Cohabitation by a man and a woman who consider themselves, and are generally considered by others, to be

married but who have not had a civil or religious marriage ceremony. In some jurisdictions, this marriage is recognized by law for some purposes.

communicable disease A disease that is transmissible from one person to another.

communication The verbal and nonverbal exchange of information, including all the ways in which knowledge is transmitted and received.

communication disorders A group of disorders classified in the DSM-IV (Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association, 1994) as "disorders usually first diagnosed in infancy, childhood, or adolescence" and pertaining to limitations in the ability to impart information to others. The disorders that comprise this group include expressive language disorder, mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, phonological disorder, and stuttering.

communication leakage In social work and other professions, the transmission of information that the sender did not intend to convey. For example, a social worker blushes when asking about the client's sexuality or the client looks contemptuous when referring to a "loved one."

Communications Workers of America (CWA) A labor organization founded in 1938 whose members are employed in telecommunications, printing and news media, public service, health care, television, electronics, construction, and utilities. With headquarters in Washington, DC, and local chapters throughout the United States and Canada, CWA represents many social workers.

communication theory The body of concepts and hypotheses that pertains to the way people exchange information. Some major elements of communication theory are content analysis, cybernetics, decoding, feedback, kinesics, metamessage, paralinguistics, and proxemics.

communism 1. An ideology that advocates a classless society based on need rather than productivity. 2. Theoretically, a society in which workers are not exploited by employers. When most people casually use the term "communism," they actually are referring to Marxism.

community A group of individuals or families that share certain values, services, institutions, interests, or geographic proximity.

Community Action Program (CAP) The neighborhood organizations established in 1965 under the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). The

goal of the program and its agencies was to develop the social and economic resources in poor communities and to help find alternative ways to attack the forces that perpetuate poverty. CAP originally was responsible for the Head Start program, the Legal Services Corporation (LSC), and other programs that have since been transferred to other government agencies or have disbanded. To develop a variegated series of innovations, each community action agency was at first somewhat independent of local and federal control. Subsequently, the agencies were led by elected officials with only a minority of poor people in leadership positions. CAP established about 3,000 neighborhood service centers in poor communities to provide counseling, employment placement, legal advice, and, in some, health care and child care facilities.

Community Chest An organization working for or on behalf of private social agencies in various geographic areas to raise and distribute funds through unified campaigns. The name originated in 1918, and the organization has since been renamed United Way.

community decision network The aggregate of key organizations and individuals who have the formal or informal power to determine courses of action to be taken by a community. The decision network may include political leaders and legislative bodies, industrial leaders, religious groups, and civic associations. Its composition varies depending on the specific issue or community.

community development (CD) Efforts made by professionals and community residents to enhance the social bonds among members of the community, motivate the citizens for self-help, develop responsible local leadership, and create or revitalize local institutions. Community development workers have been active in Third World nations at least since the 1920s, especially in consciousness-raising, helping community residents to achieve greater collective participation, and developing local leadership. In the United States, CD workers have worked especially in underdeveloped rural settings and poor urban neighborhoods to facilitate the residents' collaboration in increasing influence, self-sufficiency, and economic and educational opportunities.

community mental health center A local organization, partly funded and regulated by the federal government, that provides a range of psychiatric and social services to people residing in the area. These include inpatient, outpatient, partial hospitalization, emergency, and transitional services; programs for older people and for children;

screening and follow-up care; and programs that deal with alcohol abuse and substance abuse.

community organization An intervention process used by social workers and other professionals to help individuals, groups, and collectives of people with common interests or from the same geographic areas to deal with social problems and to enhance social well-being through planned collective action. Methods include identifying problem areas, analyzing causes, formulating plans, developing strategies, mobilizing necessary resources, identifying and recruiting community leaders, and encouraging interrelationships among them to facilitate their efforts.

community organizers Facilitators of planned efforts to achieve specified goals in the development of a group, neighborhood, constituency, or other community. Community organizers may be indigenous community leaders, political office holders, or government bureaucrats, but more often they are professionals with backgrounds in social work, political science, planning, interpersonal relations, public relations, sociology, or community development. They work as consultants, planners, grant developers, or active leaders, and they usually seek to help community members achieve social justice, economic or social development, or other improvements.

Community Planning and Development Office The federal organization within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) responsible for stimulating growth, rehabilitation, and new development in urban areas, especially those that are economically distressed. The office seeks to provide adequate housing and suitable environments, especially for people of low or moderate incomes. Grants and loans are provided through state agencies.

community property The material possessions acquired by a husband and wife during the years of their marriage. Community property usually excludes all property owned by each party before the marriage or property acquired after the marriage through inheritance or gifts, but includes salaries, investments, and unearned income that each partner has received while married.

community psychology The specialty within psychology that emphasizes prevention of mental illness, education about good mental health practices, and early diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders.

Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 A U.S. law (P.L. 95-128) forbidding the practice of redlining. The act obliges banks and other insured mortgage lenders to meet the reasonable credit needs of people in low-income communities.

community self-help The process of involving volunteers and other citizens in a community in decision making, social services planning, and coordination with professionals and agency employees. This process includes decentralization of responsibility and control from national, state, or local agencies to individuals and community groups.

community service Efforts by volunteers, paid indigenous workers, and professionals to meet the educational, recreational, health, legal, political, vocational, and social welfare needs of people at the local level. This term is used widely to refer to activities for neighborhood improvements made by civic associations, churches, social groups, and fraternal organizations. Typical community service activities include drug prevention education, recreation for people with disabilities, physical fitness programs for older people, and neighborhood cleanup drives.

Community Services Block Grant Program

A program of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that helps fund and operate a wide variety of antipoverty activities. These include the coordinating of local programs and providing nutrition services, emergency services, and employment services. Grantees of the block grant also seek funds from other sources to help operate such programs as Head Start, weatherization and low-income energy assistance, emergency food and shelter programs, employment and training, and legal services. This program was originally part of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). In 1969 OEO was dismantled, and many of its programs were discontinued or transferred to other government agencies. The Community Services Block Grant Program became part of the Family Services Administration (now ACF) in 1986. See also block grant.

community service sentence A punishment ordered by a court that requires some specified work to improve a relevant community by an individual convicted of a crime. The convict is obliged to perform the service for a specified amount of time in lieu of incarceration for an equal amount of time. The work required includes such activities as serving food in homeless shelters, taking parentless children on

outings, giving antidrug talks at schools, and doing volunteer work in hospitals. See also work release program.

Community Work Experience Program (CWEP) A federally sponsored training program designed to help recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) acquire workplace coping skills (such as coming to work on time, relating to other employees responsibly, or communicating with customers appropriately), as well as gain self-confidence and motivation for work, so they can enter the workforce and save taxpayer dollars. CWEP requires clients to work a specified number of hours monthly (based on the amount of the AFDC benefit divided by the minimum wage) at public or nonprofit organizations. See also workfare, learnfare, and JOBS program.

commutation In legal terms, a change from a greater to a lesser sentence or punishment, as in changing a death sentence to life imprisonment.

compadrazgo In Spanish-speaking cultures, those people who are tied to a family not through a kinship network, but through historical ties. They are considered companion parents who help with the raising of the family's children. See also padrino and hijos de crianza.

comparable worth The concept that payment or salary is to be based solely on the value of the work performed instead of on such considerations as the employee's gender, minority status, or need; also known as pay equity.

comparative social welfare Analysis of the alternatives for providing the social services, economic, educational, and health care needs of a nation or social group by reviewing how different societies have addressed the same objectives. See also international social work.

compensation 1. A mental mechanism in which one tries to make up for imaginary or real characteristics that are considered undesirable. When this occurs unconsciously, it is considered a defense mechanism. 2. Payment for services rendered.

compensatory education Special school programs for children or adults who previously have been deprived of educational opportunities. These programs often are used for children in poor neighborhoods to raise their levels of educational readiness. The most prominent of these programs is Head Start.

competence 1. The ability to fulfill the requirements of a job or other obligation. Competence in social work includes possession of all relevant educational and experiential requirements, demonstrated ability through passing licensing and certification exams, and the ability to carry out work assignments and achieve social work goals while adhering to the values and the code of ethics of the profession. 2. In the legal system, the capacity to understand and act reasonably.

competency-based practice In social work, the demonstrated ability to fulfill the professional obligations to the client, the community, the society, and the profession. This demonstration occurs through acquisition of certification and licensing, keeping up with the knowledge base by fulfilling continuing education requirements, and participating in agency supervision and in-service training.

competent evidence In the legal justice system, the facts about a case that are admissible in courts of law, as well as convincing, reliable, and valid. Such information is to be distinguished from the opinions, guesses, or secondhand data offered by a professional expert witness. For example, an assessment by a social worker that an infant's bruises were probably the result of child abuse owing to a past history of similar events in the family would not be considered competent evidence. Eyewitness testimony by a competent observer of an act of child abuse would be considered competent evidence.

competing mandate The legitimate requirements made of an organization to fulfill two or more functions even though no clear priorities are set and resources permit support for only one. For example, in combating the drug problem, various public constituencies have competing demands for better law enforcement and imprisonment, more-effective controls against smuggling, preventative education, and treatment for drug abuse. However, public monies cannot fund all these programs; thus, choices must be made. Effective administrators cope with competing mandates by finding ways to increase resources and by establishing better systems for ordering priorities and long-range planning. See also conflicting mandate and ambiguous mandate.

complementarity 1. The fit of two or more roles within an individual. 2. The way certain roles of one individual fit with the roles of a relevant other. For example, the social worker-client roles are usually complementary because the behaviors expected of each are compatible. See also role discomplementarity.

complementary therapy An additional type of intervention that the social worker or other psychotherapist provides for certain clients, occurring along with individual therapy. Most commonly this is group therapy or family therapy. It is important that the two forms of therapy are well integrated so that the goals of the different procedures are consistent.

complex As used by psychologists and clinical social workers, an interrelated group of ideas and experiences that are partially or entirely repressed but which compel the client to think, feel, and behave in a pattern. Carl Jung (1875-1961), who first used the term, said complexes were fundamental psychic conflicts that were dealt with by habitual types of attitude, responses, or acts. Some of the better known of these are the Oedipus complex, Electra complex, authority complex, castration complex, femininity complex, and inferiority complex.

Comprehensive Employment and Training Act See CETA.

comprehensive planning Efforts by policy-makers to coordinate knowledge, influence, and resources on a broad (rather than piecemeal) scale to achieve overall goals. This includes looking for the underlying causes rather than the overt symptoms of human problems. Comprehensive planning also considers and seeks to facilitate the reaching of human potential rather than confining itself to eliminating problems. To achieve this, comprehensive planning seeks to coordinate program resources not according to the specialized functions of existing social agencies and professions, but across organizational lines of responsibility.

compulsion 1. A strong and repetitive urge to act in a certain way. It is frequently a means of relieving anxiety that results from conflicting ideas and wishes that cannot be directly expressed. 2. Forcing a person to act according to the wishes of another.

compulsive personality disorder A type of personality disorder that has all or many of the following characteristics: perfectionist behavior, insistence on having others submit to a certain way of doing things, limited ability to express warm feelings or tenderness, preoccupation with trivial details and rules, stinginess, stiff formality in relationships, and poor ability to prioritize and make decisions. This disorder is also known as obsessive-compulsive disorder.

computerized databases Electronic storage of information, especially from the academic, scientific, legal, medical, and business

professional literature. Social workers have access to these databases using a computer, modem, and an on-line database such as NASW's Social Work Abstracts, which covers social work journal literature abstracts from 1977. Another useful database is the American Psychological Association's Psyc INFO, which covers psychology, psychiatry, and social work literature since 1967. The National Library of Medicine covers the medical literature since 1966. Hundreds of other databases can be found in public and academic libraries. Most of the on-line database information is also available on CD-ROM disks.

computer role A recurrent pattern of communication in relating to others, characterized by very correct and proper behavior and calmness without apparent feeling. This role was delineated by Virginia Satir (Peoplemaking, Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1972, p. 68), who described the person playing this role as one who feels vulnerable and responds to the perceived threat by pretending it is harmless and by hiding inadequacy feelings through the use of big words. See also blamer role, distracter role, and placater role.

Computer Use in the Social Services (CUSS) An organization whose members are oriented to communicating by computer technology about innovations and techniques in the use of computers, videodisks, and software packages that facilitate the provision of social services.

CON See certificate of need (CON).

con artist One who skillfully but unlawfully takes money or property from others by winning their confidences and promising that their "contributions" will be rewarded. See also confidence crimes and extortion.

conation That part of the mental function involving will or volition.

concentrations The term used by social work educators for clusters of courses, parts of courses, or other formal learning experiences that provide the social work student with deeper and more-focused knowledge and skill in certain areas of professional concern. After students have acquired formal education in basic areas of social work knowledge, they are often required, as part of their education, to select one or more concentrations that reflect their own interests and professional directions. Schools of social work have different concentrations and ways of defining their concentrations. In

most schools of social work, concentrations are defined according to specific methods in social work, fields of practice, special populations, and special problems. Methods concentrations may include social casework, social group work, community organization, research evaluation, direct clinical practice, administration-policy-planning combination, family-marital treatment, and generic social work practice combining a macro orientation and a micro orientation. Fields-of-practice concentrations include child welfare, mental health, health care, school social work, criminal justice, gerontology, rural social work, industrial social work, family and child welfare services, and various combinations. Special problems concentrations include substance abuse and poverty, and special populations concentrations include such groups as people of color and women.

conception The uniting of a sperm cell and an egg, resulting in an embryo.

Concern for the Dying (CFD) A national organization, founded in 1975, focused on educating the public about their right to make end-of-life medical decisions. Formerly the Euthanasia Education Fund, CFD merged with Society for the Right to Die in 1991 to become Choice in Dying.

conciliation A mediation process in which two or more parties seek to minimize or eliminate their differences. The role of the social worker in such instances is usually to advise, referee, and arbitrate. See also mediator role, mediation, and divorce.

concrete operations stage The phase of cognitive development that, according to Piagetian theory, occurs between ages seven and 11, in which the individual learns to apply logic to observable and manipulable physical relationships.

concrete services The type of direct social services in which clients are provided with tangible resources needed to resolve specific problems or attain a normative standard of well-being, such as food, housing, transportation, clothing, or access thereto. These social services are compared with those in which the social worker provides important but intangible services, such as reassurance, knowledge, psychotherapy, and relationship-building skills.

concretization A thought pattern that overemphasizes “hard data,” detail, immediate experience, and objective phenomena and avoids focus on subtleties and subjective experience. Concretization is often symptomatic of such mental disorders as paranoia, personality disorders, and some types of schizophrenia.

concurrent placement In social work education, the format for field placement in which the student alternates classroom experiences with work in a social agency on different days of each week. This provides the student with opportunities for discussion and questions in the classroom about field experiences as well as opportunities in the agency to apply what is learned in class. See also block placement.

concurrent therapy The treatment format in which the social worker or other helping professional sees different members of a family or client system separately in individual sessions. This format has been used most commonly in marital therapy to maintain confidentiality and to encourage the participants to reveal their thoughts and behaviors when they might not feel able to do so in the presence of their spouses. This format is the opposite of conjoint therapy.

condemnation A legal process of acquiring privately held property for more public use through the power of eminent domain. For a condemnation to be successful, the purpose must clearly be to benefit the public and the owner must be given just compensation.

conditioned inhibition In behavior modification, the pattern in which the subject is taught not to respond to a stimulus that previously elicited a response.

conditioned response (CR) In behaviorism, a classically conditioned response that has been learned after being associated repeatedly with a conditioned stimulus (CS). For example, an abused child develops anxiety (CR) whenever in the presence of the abuser (CS).

conditioned stimulus (CS) A previously neutral event in the environment that begins to elicit a learned or conditioned response (CR) when paired with an unconditioned stimulus (US). For example, seeing a dog does not elicit fear in all individuals, but if an individual associates dogs with being bitten, the sight of a dog can elicit fear.

conditioning A process through which behavior is learned. The two major types of conditioning, respondent conditioning (also known as classical) and operant conditioning, are differentiated by the sequence in which the stimulus is presented. See also conditioned stimulus (CS), unconditioned stimulus (US), and respondent behavior.

condom A thin sheath of rubber, latex, polyurethane, or similar material that fits tightly over the penis and is used for contraception and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), syphilis, gonorrhea, and genital herpes. Condoms for females are being tested and marketed.

conduct disorder A repetitive and persistent pattern of behavior in which the rights of others are violated as are age-appropriate norms and social rules. This condition, which is noted primarily in children and youths, is of four types: (1) aggressive conduct (causes or threatens physical harm to others), (2) nonaggressive conduct (causes property loss), (3) deceitfulness or theft, (4) and serious violations of rules. The disorder is classified as “childhood onset type” if it seems to begin before age 10, and “adolescent-onset type” if it occurs after age 10. See also oppositional defiant disorder.

confabulation The act of making up for gaps in memory by fabricating stories or details.

confidence crimes Unlawfully cheating people out of their money or property by winning their trust and falsely claiming that their money will be put to some beneficial use. Such an act is also referred to as a “con game.” See also con artist.

confidence level A research term referring to the degree to which an inference is reliable. This is expressed quantitatively as a percentage. Thus, when a conclusion is stated as being at the .05 level of confidence, the statement is likely to be wrong only 5 percent of the time. The lower the percentage (for example, .01 or .001), the higher the degree of confidence in the statement.

confidentiality A principle of ethics according to which the social worker or other professional may not disclose information about a client without the client’s consent. This information includes the identity of the client, content of overt verbalizations, professional opinions about the client, and material from records. In specific circumstances, social workers and other professionals may be compelled by law to reveal to designated authorities some information (such as threats of violence,

commission of crimes, and suspected child abuse) that would be relevant to legal judgments. See also Tarasoff, absolute confidentiality, and relative confidentiality.

confiscation 1. Legal seizing of private property, often as a penalty or restitution for criminal conduct. 2. The taking of private property during times of military takeover or disaster emergencies.

conflict 1. In groups or communities, the striving by two or more parties to achieve opposing or mutually exclusive goals. 2. In psychological terms, the mental struggle of two or more mutually exclusive impulses, motives, drives, or social demands.

conflict induction The technique used especially by social workers in community organization and family therapy in which divergent issues and values are introduced to force members of the group into active confrontation, debate, and new coalition building. The families and citizens' groups with whom this is effective tend to be those that habitually avoid conflict and social discomfort, thus maintaining a stalemate that is unhealthy for some or all of their members.

conflicting mandate The legitimate requirements made of an organization to fulfill a variety of functions that are inherently contradictory or opposed to one another. For example, the citizens of one city want the administration to get its homeless population off the streets but also to end overcrowding in its homeless shelters. See also competing mandate and ambiguous mandate.

conflict management The ongoing and constructive process of dealing with conflict between members of an organization. Conflict is inevitable and serves positive functions such as identifying important problems and providing an impetus for change. It involves four basic steps: (1) recognizing the conflict or potential conflict, (2) assessing the conflict situation, (3) selecting appropriate strategy, and (4) intervening.

conflict resolution The process of eliminating or minimizing the problems that result when different parties or groups compete with one another for the same limited objectives. This process most commonly occurs by facilitating compromises, achieving accommodation, or sometimes by the total surrender of one group to the other. Social workers often engage in this process when they help clarify, educate, mediate, and propose compromises or alternative

solutions to clients or client systems who are contesting some mutual objectives.

conflict theories Explanations about the nature, progress, and consequences of social conflict. The most prominent theories have been developed by Karl Marx, George Simmel, Lewis Coser, and others. Marx hypothesized that conflict would eventually lead to an overthrow of the power group, leading to a classless, conflict-free society. Simmel and Coser suggested that conflict is not inherently bad and that it serves such important functions as solidifying the in-group, increasing group cohesiveness, and mobilizing the energies of group members.

conformity Behavior that is consistent with the norms and expectations of the relevant social group.

confrontation The act of bringing together opposing ideas, impulses, or groups for the purpose of systematic examination or comparison.

congenital Existing since conception. The term is applied to a disorder or condition that originated before birth.

congenital abnormalities Diseases or disorders present at birth, such as cleft palate, hemophilia, and spina bifida.

congregate housing Residential facilities for those who benefit from group living but do not require institutional care such as in a nursing home. Congregate housing provides individuals with the amenities, security, and economies of a family-style home even though the residents are not necessarily related. Although most are privately owned, for-profit facilities, social workers and housing specialists have established such facilities especially for older people or people with disabilities.

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) The organization within the legislative branch of the U.S. government that provides Congress with basic budget data and analysis of alternative fiscal and policy issues. CBO prepares an annual budget report to Congress that includes a discussion of alternative spending and revenue levels and allocations. CBO monitors the results of congressional action on individual authorizations and appropriations and provides five-year projections of the costs of continuing current policies on taxes and expenditures. See also Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) The civil rights organization founded in 1942 to ensure fair application of the law to all races and to promote opportunities for people of color.

conjoint therapy A type of intervention in which a therapist or team of therapists treats a family by meeting with the members together for regular sessions; also, a type of intervention in which a husband and wife are treated as a unit and seen together by the marital therapist or therapy team. See also family therapy and marital therapy.

conjugal paranoia A form of jealousy in which one spouse suspects the other of infidelity without good reason.

conjugal rights A legal term for the obligations and opportunities of husbands and wives to be together socially, sexually, spiritually, and regularly.

conjugal visitation Private meetings in prisons and jails between inmates and their spouses or significant others to engage in sexual intercourse.

conscience A person's system of moral values, standards of behavior, and sense of right and wrong. See also superego.

conscientious objector One who is opposed to participation in war and military activity because of religious beliefs. A conscientious objector may be exempted from a combat role but not from public service duties such as military or civilian hospital work. One need not be a member of an established religious organization to become a conscientious objector, but the objection to war must be based on religious rather than social or political beliefs.

conscientization A term coined by educator Paulo Freire referring to the process of helping clients and others become aware of and feel concern about a problem, objective, or value.

conscious Mental awareness; that part of the mind that is aware of the immediate environment and of feelings and thoughts.

consciousness-raising The process of helping an individual or group become aware of and more sensitive to a social condition, cause, or idea that had been of little prior interest.

consensual validation The use of mutual agreement as the criterion for the truth or reality of a phenomenon; often used in community organization and in clinical social work as the objective or goal and to demonstrate progress toward that goal.

consensus The process in which individuals and groups achieve general agreement about goals of mutual interest and the means to achieve them. Consensus is often facilitated by the community organizer by focusing first on goals and methods of high acceptability, by emphasizing common values, and by mediating and circumventing conflicts.

consequence In behaviorism, an event that follows a behavior and that may increase or decrease the probability of that behavior's recurrence. A consequence may also have no effect on the behavior.

conservation 1. The planned use, preservation, and protection of the natural environment. 2. In cognitive theory, the ability to remember or retain relevant information and also to ignore irrelevant cues. For example, conservation was seen in Jean Piaget's experiments when young children began to retain the idea that water does not change when it is poured into pitchers of different shapes.

conservatism An ideological orientation that tends to oppose change from previously established social values, mores, and structures. Many conservatives justify their ideology by presuming that traditional mores and structures are based on accumulated wisdom and are more effective than other options.

conservator A court-appointed guardian or custodian of the assets or property belonging to someone who is judged unable to manage them properly. The conservator may be an individual or, in some jurisdictions, a public or private agency.

conspiracy Collaborative activities by two or more persons to commit a crime.

constellation An arrangement or grouping of ideas, symptoms, or causes of problems.

constituency A group of supporters, customers, voters, or clients whose interests are served by someone with the authority to represent them in seeking to meet their collective needs and interests. If the

individual is an elected officeholder, the constituents are the voters, supporters from the relevant jurisdiction. See also interest groups.

constraint In social planning and policy development, any general limitation on the level of rights. For example, zoning laws accompanied by fines, jail terms, and other penalties limit the rights of landowners.

constricted affect Diminished variability and intensity with which emotions are expressed.

construct validity In social research, a complex method for assessing the validity of an instrument. The instrument is regarded as valid to the extent that it is correlated with variables that compose a theoretical framework that is relevant to that instrument.

consultant One with a special expertise or access to those with the needed expertise whose skills are sought by professionals or organizations. Consultants advise or educate about the nature of the problem or possible solutions or find better ways to achieve the organization's goals. Social workers are often sought as consultants to social agencies, law courts, political groups, activist organizations, and clinicians or to clients who need to know how to deal with specific social institutions.

consultation An interpersonal relationship between an individual or organization possessing special expertise and someone who needs that expertise to solve a specific problem. Social work consultation is a problem-solving process in which advice and other helping activity from the consultant is offered to an individual, group, organization, or community that is faced with a job-related problem. Unlike supervision, which is relatively continuous and encompasses many areas of concern, consultation occurs more on an ad hoc, or temporary, basis and has a specific goal and focus. Unlike the supervisor, the consultant has no special administrative authority over those to whom advice is given.

consumer boycott An organized refusal by a group to purchase goods or services from a firm or industry to change its methods of doing business. The goal is usually to lower prices, recognize a labor union, or put economic pressure on government to change its policies.

consumer-centered social work An orientation by social work practitioners that places a high value on the self-determination of the

client and emphasizes those intervention strategies that encourage client independence, self-advocacy, and self-judgment in negotiating the social services or welfare system. According to Kristine D. Tower ("Client-Centered Social Work Practice: Restoring Client Self-Determination," *Social Work*, 39[March 1994], pp. 191-196), thinking of the client as a consumer and one who is capable of deciding what is best helps move away from paternalism.

consumerism A social movement and orientation designed to advocate for and protect the interests of people in their roles as users of services or commodities and to scrutinize the activities, skills, training, effectiveness, outcomes, and products of those who provide these goods or services.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) A measure of the cost of living issued monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). It shows changes in the expenses for goods and services purchased by moderate-income families.

Consumers League, National See National Consumers League (NCL).

consumption-versus-investment concept See investment-versus-consumption concept.

Contact Family Program In Sweden, a national program to recruit and modestly reimburse families who agree to provide specified supports for other families in need. Most recipient families consist of single mothers with younger children and minimal economic or social resources. The contact family often gives weekend respite care for the children, additional family supports and structure (for example, playing the "grandparent" role), helping in chore services, and providing transportation. The contact families are not especially trained and may see members of the recipient family once a month or more often if they all desire.

containment Efforts to maintain boundaries and reduce movement beyond them; a method of social control in which a group of people who are separated from their peers are given special benefits so that they have less incentive to challenge their separation.

contempt of court Behavior that interferes with the administration of justice or shows disrespect for the dignity and authority of the court. Such behavior may occur within the courtroom during a trial ("direct contempt") or outside ("constructive contempt"). See also civil contempt.

content analysis In communication theory, the systematic study of some group interaction, written document, or other exchange of information primarily by evaluating the frequency with which certain ideas, reactions, or expressions occur.

content-and-process issue A historic debate in social work about the degree of emphasis the profession places on its knowledge versus skill components. Social work content is the “what” of professional practice and includes substantive knowledge about entities such as diagnostic criteria, resources, special populations, the nature of social problems, and the like. Social work process is the “how” of professional practice and includes interviewing skills, evaluation research, relationship-building qualities, and effective intervention techniques.

content validity In social research, a method for assessing the validity of an instrument or a scale. Items that actually exist on a scale are compared with items that could have been used.

contextual theory The family systems concept, originated by Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy in the 1970s, that seeks to understand family interactions, conflicts, and loyalties in terms of the legacy of accumulated obligations, debts, and hurts that occur in a family system through several generations.

contingency 1. In social research and statistics, a term connoting an association or correlation between variables, as in contingency tables. 2. In behaviorism, the consequences that are expected to follow behaviors.

contingency analysis An approach to social work practice based on principles of behaviorism, including four propositions that (1) individuals, families, groups, communities, and societies behave; (2) all behavior is followed by consequences; (3) the consequences of a given behavior largely influence the future occurrence of that behavior; and (4) empirical analysis of these contingencies can be used effectively in understanding and treating all strata of social work clients. According to Bruce A. Thyer (“Contingency Analysis: Toward a Unified Theory for Social Work Practice,” *Social Work*, 32 [March–April 1987], pp. 150–157), contingency analysis can form the basis of a unified theory for all levels of social work practice.

contingency contracting In behavior therapy, a technique in which an agreement is made specifying the behaviors to be performed for a certain consequence to follow. The technique is used particularly in behavioral family therapy to help family members carry out “if-then statements.”

continuing-care retirement communities (CCRC) Villages usually designed for about 300–500 older people, most of whom enter when older than age 75 and relatively healthy. The facilities are in campuslike settings with apartments, townhouses, and group recreation centers; close monitoring and easy access to health care are provided. CCRCs are usually for-profit real estate ventures and cater to affluent older people by requiring significant entry payments (depending on health care options chosen) and monthly maintenance fees.

Continuing Disability Review (CDR) The legally required periodic evaluation of one who receives social security disability benefits to determine if that person continues to be disabled. The time between reviews depends on the beneficiary’s age, type and severity of disability, and the chances of improvement. CDR requires a full medical review by the Disability Determination Service (DDS) and possibly a consultative medical exam.

continuing education Training taken by social workers and other professionals who have already completed the formal education required to enter their field. Most professions require their members to keep up with the current knowledge base by participating in specified additional training within certain time limits. For example, state licensing boards for social workers may require them to obtain a specific number of CEUs (continuing education units) by successfully completing qualified academic or professional courses.

continuity of care Coordination of the efforts made by different organizations or divisions within one organization to provide for the needs of a client with a minimum of duplication or gaps in service. See also case integration.

continuous reinforcement In behavior modification, a schedule of reinforcement in which a target behavior is reinforced each time it occurs (compared with the less-frequent intermittent reinforcement). See also reinforcement.

continuum A phenomenon that has variability even though no discrete gaps or separate parts are evident.

contraception Any action or device used to prevent pregnancy. This includes abstinence; limiting coitus to nonfertile periods in the woman's cycle; or using devices such as a condom, intrauterine device (IUD), diaphragm, contraceptive pills, and sterilization.

contract A written, oral, or implied agreement between the client and the social worker as to the goals, methods, timetables, and mutual obligations to be fulfilled during the intervention process.

contracting The therapeutic procedure of discussing with the client the goals, methods, and mutual obligations of treatment to obtain a clear verbal understanding or to establish a formal agreement about them.

contract model An orientation in social work practice in which the social worker and client identify goals at the beginning of the relationship and formally establish a working agreement about how to reach them. The agreement includes a specification of terms, the timetables, and other procedures. The contract may be written or oral, and unlike a legal contract, may easily be renegotiated during the course of the intervention process. See also covenant model.

contraindication A symptom, condition, or circumstance that warns against taking some course of action. For example, bruises and cuts found on a hospitalized foster child would be a contraindication for returning the child to that foster home.

contributing to the delinquency of a minor

A criminal action by parents or guardians who through neglect, coercion, example, or outright encouragement foster unlawful behavior by their children. These actions may include permitting the child to avoid school, to stay out late at night, to consume alcohol and other drugs, and to be exposed to unlawful activities by the parents.

control 1. To regulate. 2. To exercise direction or restraint over another. 3. In social research, a standard for comparison. 4. In social welfare management, a procedure for regulating the flow of information and activity so that efforts to achieve goals are coordinated.

control group In research, a group of subjects who are equivalent in every possible respect with an experimental group, except that they are not exposed to the variable being tested.

controlled emotional involvement An ethical principle in social work in which feelings, support, and empathy for the client are felt and expressed but only to the extent that such reactions are effective, helpful, and part of the intervention plan. The skilled practitioner learns to show and conceal emotional reactions to the client, finding the optimal response somewhere between apathy and overidentification. Controlled emotional involvement is one of the major factors in the helping relationship.

controlled substances Drugs that, because of their potential for abuse or addiction, have limited availability and are strictly regulated or outlawed. These substances include marijuana, narcotics (opiates such as opium, heroin, morphine, and codeine and nonopiates such as methadone), stimulants (such as cocaine and amphetamines), depressants (such as barbiturates and tranquilizers), and hallucinogens (such as LSD, mescaline, and peyote).

controlled-substances categories The delineation in the U.S. Controlled Substances Act (P.L. 91-513) of five schedules or types of psychoactive drugs, rated according to their perceived degree of potential harmfulness, abuse potential, and accepted medical use. The higher categories have greater potential for medical use and less abuse potential. Category 1 includes heroin, LSD, marijuana, and most addictive drugs of abuse. Category 2 substances include morphine, methadone, amphetamines, and other drugs that have accepted medical use but high potential for abuse.

control variable A variable introduced by a researcher to check the apparent relationship between an independent variable and a dependent variable.

convalescent home A private or public health care facility for patients who no longer need to be hospitalized but who require greater care than would be available in their homes.

conventional morality The second of the three stages delineated in Kohlberg moral development theory that usually occurs in young people between ages nine and 20. In this phase, the youth obeys rules to gain approval and avoid rejection and later begins to appreciate the need for social rules and feel guilty in wrongdoing. See also pre-conventional morality (up to age nine) and post-conventional morality (older than age 20).

conversion A defense mechanism in which anxiety or emotional conflict is transformed into overt physical manifestations or symptoms such as pain, loss of feeling, or paralysis.

conversion disorder One of the somatoform disorders. The condition generally includes symptoms suggesting neurological disease, such as paralysis, coordination disturbance, anesthesia, blindness, or seizures. The psychological purpose of the disorder is primarily to achieve some primary gain or secondary gain. See also hysteria and anxiety hysteria.

conversion symptoms Somatic complaints that are psychogenic. The term derives from psychodynamic theories that hypothesized that unconscious and intolerable thoughts or drives are converted into physical manifestations, most commonly involving the nervous system (for example, paralysis and blindness).

Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) A voluntary organization founded in 1945 through which gift parcels are sent from the United States to needy people in other nations. Its original name was Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe.

co-optation A strategy for minimizing anticipated opposition by absorbing or including the opponent in the group's membership. Once a member of the group, the opponent has less ability to criticize the program in public. Opposition within the organization is also less effective because the person is in the minority. The term is also used to indicate any election of a person or group into another group's membership.

COPA See Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation (COPA).

"cop a plea" An expression used by some people charged with crime as well as by their lawyers, when requesting a plea-bargaining arrangement.

copayment A provision in some insurance programs that requires the policyholder to share the cost of any loss or claim. In many health insurance programs, the beneficiary is required to pay a percentage of the provider's bill before reimbursement is made for the rest. The major purpose of this arrangement is to discourage inappropriate use of resources and to encourage responsible participation. See also third party and third-party payment.

coping index One of several rating systems that social workers and other professionals use to consistently rank and describe the degree of coping skills or resources a client can call on to address the problem. Several indexes are in current use. A typical coping index is found in the Person-in-Environment (PIE) System whose rating scores range from no coping skills through outstanding coping skills.

coping mechanisms The behavioral and personality patterns used to adjust or adapt to environmental pressures without altering goals or purposes.

coping skills Effective behavior an individual uses in responding to or avoiding sources of stress. Typical coping skills include obtaining new needed information, preplanning, maintaining control over one's emotions and impulses, delaying gratification, and seeking more-appropriate alternative ways to achieve goals.

co-practice In social group work, the format in which two equally ranked professionals or leaders share responsibilities for the group.

coprolalia The frequent use of obscene or otherwise offensive language, often in an impulsive way.

Coram, Thomas (1668-1751) English philanthropist and colonist who assisted poor people and artists to live in the New World. He established England's first foundling hospital for abandoned babies in 1739 and developed it into a model for such facilities and for early indoor relief programs.

CORE See Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

CORPA See Commission on Recognition of Post-Secondary Accreditation (CORPA).

corporal punishment Inflicting physical pain for the purpose of punishment, as in spanking a misbehaving child.

corporate elder care The provision of facilities and caregivers in the workplace for older relatives of employees. This program, which is currently offered by few employers, is equivalent to child day care or nurseries in business and government organizations. The elder care program is usually a short-term arrangement to enable employees to continue working while responsible for seniors who cannot be left alone.

corporate welfare Providing services, financial assistance, subsidies, or other benefits to organizations to help them maintain their viability or profitability. For example, a national government might reduce the tax rates or subsidize part of the expenses of a labor-intensive industry because it supposedly provides many jobs. To enhance the local economy, a municipal government might offer to give land at low or no cost to companies that relocate to the area. Some who are most strongly opposed to governmental welfare benefits for individuals favor corporate welfare programs for businesses.

corrections The legal specialty that seeks to change and improve the behaviors of convicted law offenders through incarceration, parole, probation, and ideally educational programs and social services. See also penology.

corrective feedback In social work administration and supervision, the communication of a discrepancy between existing and desired goals and behaviors. This feedback may be positive as well as negative and should occur privately, without blame, and with emphasis on desired behaviors. See also supportive feedback.

correlation In research, a mutual relation; a pattern of variation between two phenomena in which change in one is associated with change in the other. High correlations are not necessarily indicative of causality.

correlation coefficient A numerical index of the extent to which two variables are related. When the score is positive (+0.1 to +1.0), it indicates that the frequency of one phenomenon is associated with the frequency of the other. When the score is negative (-0.1 to -1.0), it indicates that a high frequency of one phenomenon is associated with a low frequency of the other. Perfect agreement between two variables is expressed as +1.0. Perfect inverse relationships are expressed as -1.0. A correlation coefficient of 0.0 indicates no apparent relationship.

corruption In political and public service administration, the abuse of office for personal gain, usually through bribery, extortion, influence peddling, and special treatment given to some citizens and not to others.

COS See Charity Organization Societies (COS).

COSH Groups Committees on Occupational Health and Safety, private, nonprofit organizations, located in most of the larger states in the nation, whose goal is to help prevent worker injury, disease, and death. The groups maintain hot lines and provide information about such things as identifying and controlling toxic substances, and they refer callers to emergency health care providers and attorneys. See also Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

cost-benefit analysis An administration and management procedure in which various goals of the organization are evaluated systematically along with the expenses and resources required to achieve them.

costing Estimating the total expenditure of a program or plan that would be necessary to reach a specified goal. Costing is also referred to as "costing out."

cost of living The amount of money required to purchase the goods and services needed to live adequately in a given society.

cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) An increase or decrease in benefits based on changes in the relative purchasing power of money (inflation or deflation).

cost-of-living allowance Increased cash or in-kind benefits based on the amount of money deemed necessary to live according to a specified economic standard. For example, members of such groups as retired military personnel, federal employees, and social security recipients are sometimes paid a sum in excess of their originally contracted income to take into account the increased amount of money required to maintain their living standard.

cost-of-living index A measure to determine the relative purchasing power of money at a given time in a given society. In the United States, the index is calculated by weighting the average prices of 296 commodities that are considered important or representative of people's overall needs.

cost sharing A budgeting and administrative procedure that occurs when two or more governments or other organizations divide certain financial obligations. Each participating organization agrees to pay a portion of the total outlay—the amount usually depending on its own needs, resources, and expected benefits from the expenditure. For example, the federal government and a state government agree to share the costs of public-assistance payments to eligible recipients in that state.

In another example, two social agencies that provide similar services in the same area agree to employ one consulting firm to provide both agencies with information about the area's demographic characteristics. See also revenue sharing.

cotherapy Psychosocial intervention on behalf of a client conducted by two or more professionals working in collaboration.

Council of Economic Advisers An agency within the executive branch of the U.S. government established in 1946 to inform the president about its analysis of the economy; to evaluate the effect of proposed and existing government programs on the economy; and to help formulate national economic policies, including those pertaining to health care and welfare.

Council of Governments (COG) Comprehensive planning organizations comprising representatives of several local governments that are usually in geographic proximity (that is, several towns, cities, and counties in an area). COG members meet periodically to consider the mutual needs of the people in the area and ways of combining resources to meet those needs. Their purposes include planning, coordinating, and integrating their respective efforts and achieving more influence with their state governments and at the national level than could be achieved through their isolated efforts. Typical service-planning activities include transportation, water and sewage treatment, and services to older people.

Council of International Programs (CIP) The international social work organization, founded in 1956 and headquartered in Arlington, Virginia, to facilitate educational and cultural programs for professionals in human services fields. CIP helps social work practitioners, students, and administrators develop their knowledge and skills through sponsored work study exchanges in other countries. It is funded by contributions from foundations, corporations, and more than 120 participating nations.

Council of Nephrology Social Workers (CNSW) A professional association of social workers that is an advisory unit and integral part of the National Kidney Foundation. Founded in 1973, CNSW comprises primarily medical and health care social workers who are concerned about social services for people with kidney disease, urinary system disorders, diabetes, collagen disease, and related disorders. See also medical social work.

Council on Post-Secondary Accreditation (COPA) An accrediting body for university and graduate school education in the United States, including social work, that was established in 1949 and ceased operations in 1993. Many of its functions have been taken over by the Commission on Recognition of Post-Secondary Accreditation (CORPA).

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) An independent organization comprising social work educators, professional organizations, social agencies, and academic institutions for the purpose of establishing and maintaining standards in social work education. A predecessor organization of CSWE was established in 1919 and later became known as the American Association of Schools of Social Work (AASSW). Another group, the National Association of Schools of Social Administration (NASSA), was founded in 1936. In 1952 AASSW merged with NASSA to form CSWE. The organization is the primary body for accrediting schools of social work in the United States. CSWE also sponsors an annual program meeting every March in different cities and publishes books, pamphlets, and the Journal of Social Work Education. See also curriculum policy statement.

counseling A procedure often used in clinical social work and other professions to guide individuals, families, groups, and communities by such activities as giving advice, delineating alternatives, helping to articulate goals, and providing needed information.

counselor Anyone who provides counseling. The term is often applied to highly trained mental health, education, or legal professionals, but it is also used for volunteers with minimal training and for paid workers who provide guidance and structure in group settings (as in camp and dorm hall counselors).

counterdependents In group psychotherapy, a name given to those members who persistently communicate disagreement with and disparagement for the group leader's advice, suggestions, or efforts to facilitate the group process. These members are so designated because of their opposite counterpart, "dependents" who unquestioningly follow the leader's every word or suggestion.

countertransference A set of conscious or unconscious emotional reactions to a client experienced by the social worker or other professional, usually in a clinical setting. According to psychodynamic theory, these feelings originate in the social worker's own developmental conflicts and are projected onto the client. Countertransference is identical to transference except that it applies to the feelings, wishes, and

defensive operations of the social worker or therapist toward the client. Like transference, it must be constantly monitored and understood.

couples group therapy A family therapy strategy and group psychotherapy format in which several couples meet on a regular basis with a therapist to work systematically on resolving marital and family problems.

covenant model An orientation in the social work relationship in which the social worker implicitly or explicitly promises a commitment to empathetically serve the whole client inclusively and to work toward meeting the client's maximum needs, whether or not the needs are known or specified in advance. This model is in contrast to the contract model, which limits the goals, more narrowly defines client needs, and explicates the procedures for meeting them. According to Pamela Miller ("Covenant Model for Professional Relationships," *Social Work*, 35[March 1990], pp. 121-125), the covenant model emphasizes the social worker's role as teacher and companion to the client and commitment to a life of service to society.

covert reinforcement 1. In behavior therapy, the strengthening of the likelihood of desirable behavior by remembering a pleasant event when a given act occurs. 2. The surreptitious presentation of a reward when the subject has acted in the desired way.

Coyle, Grace L. (1892-1962) Developer of the scientific approach to social group work, she wrote many textbooks and articles on the subject and, as president of various social work organizations, assured that group work would be an integral part of the profession.

CPI See Consumer Price Index (CPI).

CPS See child protective services (CPS).

CPT See Current Procedural Terminology (CPT).

CQSW See Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW).

CR See conditioned response (CR).

"crack" A highly addictive form of cocaine made by mixing small amounts of it with baking soda and water. When dry, the substance is broken or cracked into small pebbles and usually smoked in special

pipes. Crack is relatively inexpensive, highly potent, and can be lethal. Users tend to become obsessed about getting additional supplies. Effects may include agitation; confusion; anxiety; and sometimes convulsion, tremor, and heart attack.

"cradle to grave" The phrase used, often pejoratively, in describing the socioeconomic security available to people in an idealized welfare state. The expression "womb to tomb" has the same connotation.

"crank" A highly addictive methamphetamine that is injected to produce a period of intense euphoria that lasts up to 24 hours. Cheaply made and far less expensive than other drugs of abuse, crank often produces symptoms of acute depression and psychosis after the euphoria ends. When this substance is smoked, it is known as "ice."

creaming 1. The use of social services and programs, presumably available to all, by people who are most likely to succeed with the help of a given intervention program. 2. The process in which such programs are most often used by the more knowledgeable, sophisticated, and less needy, so that they are less accessible to others.

"creeping socialism" A derisive term, uttered mostly by people who espouse minimal government, referring to the gradual increase of health and welfare programs funded and maintained by government.

Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease A central nervous system (CNS) viral disease, resulting in dementia and involuntary jerky movements.

crib death See sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

crime Any behavior that violates a law. Some social scientists extend this definition to include any behavior that is contrary to the society's moral codes for which there are formalized group sanctions, whether or not they are institutionalized as laws.

criminal justice policy Society's guidelines and established procedures to be considered when deciding how to cope with illegal conduct. Elements of current U.S. criminal justice policy include the right to trial by jury, the right to competent counsel, rights of appeal and habeas corpus, determinant sentencing, probation rather than incarceration for less-serious crimes with no prior conviction, and parole for appropriate conduct during incarceration.

criminal justice system The programs, policies, sociopolitical and legal institutions, and physical infrastructure designed to help prevent and control crime and to adjudicate, incarcerate, and rehabilitate people engaged in illegal behavior.

criminally insane A legal term referring to one who has committed a crime while under the influence of a psychosis or other mental disorder that inhibits the knowledge that such an act was wrong or the ability to refrain from doing it. An institution for the criminally insane would ideally combine the confinement of a prison with the therapy of a mental hospital.

crisis A term used by social workers in two ways: (1) an internal experience of emotional change and distress and (2) a social event in which a disastrous event disrupts some essential functions of existing social institutions. When seen as a period of emotional distress, it is considered to be precipitated by a perceived life problem or to pose an obstacle to an important goal resulting in internal discord because the individual's typical coping strategies are inadequate. The outcome of the crisis can be positive if the individual eventually finds new coping mechanisms to deal with the unfamiliar event, thus adding to the repertoire of effective adaptive responses.

crisis bargaining Actions taken by people during times of upset or duress to improve the situation or minimize the conflict. The concept is delineated in the Kübler-Ross death stages theory. In this theory, bargaining is the third crisis stage in responses to impending death. After the individual typically goes through a period of denial and then anger, he or she attempts to avoid or delay death by making promises or "deals" or by conforming to different standards.

crisis care centers Facilities in social agencies and health care organizations oriented toward providing short-term emergency assistance and helping individuals and groups return to precrisis functioning. These centers provide such services as disaster relief, suicide prevention, emergency food and shelter, counseling for victims of rape or other crimes, shelter to victims of spouse abuse or child abuse, detoxification for substance abusers, and many other activities. See also emergency financial assistance.

crisis hot line See hot line.

crisis intervention The therapeutic practice used in helping clients in crisis to promote effective coping that can lead to positive

growth and change by acknowledging the problem, recognizing its impact, and learning new or more-effective behaviors for coping with similar predictable experiences.

crisis planning Systematic preparation for the inevitable changes that will occur at unpredictable times in the life of an individual or community. Crisis planning ranges from disaster relief planning for communities to helping individuals prepare for deaths or disabilities of family members.

crisis sequence A series of five predictable changes experienced by the person in crisis: (1) hazardous event (a stressor that may be a single catastrophic event or a series of mishaps that have a cumulative effect), (2) vulnerable state (heightened tension and anxiety caused by the hazardous event, intensified as the individual uses the entire repertoire of coping techniques before seeing that they do not work in this new situation), (3) precipitating factor (the "last straw," often seen as the presenting problem or event that brings tension to a peak), (4) active crisis state (disequilibrium has set in and is manifested by psychological and physical turmoil, aimless activity, disturbances in mood and intellectual functioning, and painful preoccupation with events leading to the crisis event), and (5) reintegration (the individual adjusts or accepts and learns new and effective coping techniques, a phase that may be adaptive or maladaptive). See also coping index.

crisis theory A group of related concepts pertaining to people's reactions when confronted with new and unfamiliar experiences. These experiences may come in the form of natural disasters, significant loss, changes in social status, and life-cycle changes. This theory suggests that when people experience crises, they tend to follow predictable patterns of response. See also crisis sequence and crisis intervention.

cross-dressing Wearing clothing that is considered more appropriate to members of the opposite sex. See also transvestism.

cross-racial treatment Intervention by a professional who is of a different racial background than the client. Social workers debate whether this can be as effective as interventions within racial and ethnic boundaries but existing empirical studies, rather than advocacy statements, are inconclusive. According to Larry E. Davis and Joe Gelsomino ("An Assessment of Practitioner Cross-Racial Treatment Experiences," *Social Work*, 39[January 1994], pp. 116-123), there are five potential problem areas: (1) racism may exist, (2) worker-client rapport may not exist, (3) the intervention may be inappropriate, (4) clients may

believe the worker lacks understanding about the relevant racial group, and (5) clients may believe workers lack sufficient skills because of their race.

cross-sectional research 1. A research design whereby the researcher collects data on the phenomenon under investigation at one point in time, as in a one-time survey. 2. A comparison of subjects who represent different aspects of a single variable, such as “upper class,” “middle class,” and “lower class.”

cross-tabulation A method for assessing the joint relationship between two variables by using tabular methods.

cross tolerance The condition in which use of one drug leads to tolerance in the use of one or more other drugs.

CRS See Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

crystallized intelligence The mental skills and abilities accumulated through socialization, cultural contact, and other acquired information, and the ability to use these skills appropriately and effectively. Unlike fluid intelligence (nonculturally related problem-solving abilities), which is thought to decline in later adulthood, crystallized intelligence continues to increase with age as experience and exposure to new knowledge accumulates. See also multiple intelligences.

CS See conditioned stimulus (CS).

CSDHA See Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (CSDHA).

CSFP See Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).

CSWE See Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

CSWE Curriculum Policy Statement See curriculum policy statement.

cult 1. A group whose members hold strong beliefs associated with the teachings of a leader. 2. A body of beliefs and rites practiced by a group that usually attributes religious, mystical, or magical powers to its leader.

cultural deprivation The absence of certain socialization experiences that an individual may need to cope effectively in new social situations. One who has been deprived in this way often lacks the social skills, values, or motivations necessary to deal with the relevant environment. See also anomie.

cultural lag The retention of customs, habits, and technologies even though they have become obsolete or irrelevant to the new standards set by the prevailing culture.

culturally biased tests Examinations designed to determine an individual’s intelligence, aptitude, or anticipated success in a given endeavor but that are inherently disadvantageous to members of some groups. For example, a test item asks something about European history, a disadvantage to children from Asian backgrounds. An effect of such tests is to justify placement of culturally disadvantaged people into limited opportunity situations.

culturally sensitive practice In social work, the process of professional intervention while being knowledgeable, perceptive, empathic, and skillful about the unique as well as common characteristics of clients who possess racial, ethnic, religious, gender, age, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic differences. Theoretically, all professional social work practice is culturally sensitive practice. The term is synonymous with ethnic-sensitive practice.

cultural pluralism The existence within a society of various racial, religious, and ethnic groups, as well as other distinct groups, each of which have different values and lifestyles.

cultural racism The belief in the inherent inferiority of a particular cultural group’s language, music, art, interests, lifestyles, and values.

cultural relativism The view that specific norms or rituals can be understood accurately only in the context of a culture’s goals, social history, and environmental demands.

culture The customs, habits, skills, technology, arts, values, ideology, science, and religious and political behavior of a group of people in a specific time period.

culture-bound syndrome A pattern of nonnormative (aberrant) behavior whose unique symptoms and progression tend to be specific to a particular geographic, ethnic, or cultural group. The DSM-IV (Washington,

DC: American Psychiatric Association, 1994, pp. 845–849) describes 25 of the best studied of these syndromes, including *ataque de nervios*, *mal de ojo*, *spells*, and *zar*.

culture of poverty A premise according to which poor people are impoverished because their values, norms, and motivations prevent them from taking advantage of widespread opportunities to achieve economic independence.

culture shock The experience of temporary confusion, depression, and anxiety when an individual enters another cultural or subculture group environment and is uncertain about the expected roles and norms. When these symptoms become chronic, the problems are called disorders of change. See also *anomie*.

curandero In the cultures of some Hispanic groups, a person without formal medical training who is consulted about cures for various physical, emotional, or spiritual problems.

curfew A time deadline after which certain groups of people (such as children in some jurisdictions or racial groups in some countries) are not permitted to be outside designated areas.

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) A physician's manual that systematically lists and codes the services and procedures performed by physicians. CPT, first published in 1966, is periodically revised. The part of CPT that lists and codes the services and procedures commonly used by psychiatrists is also published separately as *Procedural Terminology for Psychiatrists (PTP)*. CPT or PTP codes do not include, and should not be used to report, services of nonphysicians.

curriculum The defined program of study in an educational institution. In schools of social work, the curriculum includes a prescribed number and variety of required and elective courses, field placement, and other educational experiences.

curriculum policy statement A document that formally and officially describes the educational objectives, standards, and required outcomes of affiliated institutions. In social work in the past 50 years, many curriculum policy statements have been issued by various social work education groups. Currently, most social work educators use this term when referring to the curriculum policy statement adopted by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) in 1982. This document

delineates the official criteria for accrediting MSW and BSW social work programs. The statement does not prescribe any particular curriculum but does specify certain content areas to be covered and how they are to be related to each other; the purpose and values of social work; and the mission, resources, and educational content of each professional program. The curriculum policy statement is revised and updated periodically (it was last updated in 1992). See also *Hollis-Taylor Report*.

CUSS See *Computer Use in the Social Services (CUSS)*.

custodial care The provision of shelter, food, and basic physical needs without amenities. Social workers also use this term to refer to assistance that does not require medical training—that is, help with activities of daily living (ADL). Most health care insurance programs, including Medicare, do not cover these services.

custodial parent A mother or father who, after divorce, is granted by legal authority the responsibility for care and control of minors. This parent is considered by the court to be the most likely one to promote the child's best interests. See also *joint custody* and *Mothers Without Custody*.

custody A legal right and obligation of a person or group to possess, control, protect, or maintain guardianship over some designated property or over another person who is unable to function autonomously (for example, children and certain adults with disabilities). See also *guardian*.

custody of children A legal determination in divorce cases specifying which parent or other guardian will be in charge of the children. This determination is based on what is considered to be in the best interests of the children. In some circumstances, joint custody is awarded so that responsibility is shared between both parents. Typically, in joint custody the child lives with each parent for fixed periods. See also *custodial parent*.

cutback Reduction in service, funding, budget, or allocation of resources usually related to a decline in demand, cessation or reduction of former sources of revenue, inaccessibility of personnel, or discontinued support.

cutback strategies In social welfare administration, the planned activities for reducing or eliminating programs, which are necessitated by financial constraints, new priorities, ineffectiveness of programs, or achievement of goals. These activities include instituting administrative

and labor efficiencies (through increased workloads, reduced support services, contracting out services and hiring lower-paid workers), reducing services (by eliminating programs and reducing the accessibility of service), and cost sharing and mergers with other organizations.

CVA Cerebrovascular accident. See stroke.

CVS See chorionic villa sampling (CVS).

CWA 1. See Communications Workers of America (CWA). 2. See Civil Works Administration (CWA).

CWEP See Community Work Experience Program (CWEP).

CWLA See Child Welfare League of America (CWLA).

cybernetics The study of the processes that regulate or control systems, especially the flow of information. See also communication theory.

cycle of abuse The perpetuation of abusive behavior patterns that occur when an individual who has been abused acts similarly toward others. Studies confirm that people who commit child abuse, spouse abuse, or elder abuse are far more likely to have been abused themselves. The cycle is likely to continue in the succeeding generation when the abused children of such parents become parents and spouses themselves.

cycle of poverty The condition of poverty that exists within one family from one generation to the next. Because the children of impoverished parents are more likely to be deprived of quality education, healthy lifestyles, vocational opportunities, self-esteem, financial backing to pursue opportunities, and nurturing family support, they are more likely to remain poor and to raise their own children to be poor.

cyclical unemployment Loss of jobs caused by periodic downward trends in the business cycle. Usually this type of unemployment affects more workers for longer periods than the other types of unemployment (frictional unemployment, seasonal unemployment, and structural unemployment).

cyclothymia See cyclothymic disorder.

cyclothymic disorder A chronic fluctuating mood disturbance that has lasted more than two years (one year in children or adolescents) and includes numerous depressive symptoms and hypomanic episodes. The condition is similar to bipolar disorder except that the symptoms are not as severe (that is, no major depressive, manic, or mixed episodes). The symptoms are not due to physiological or medical problems but cause clinically significant distress or impaired social functioning. This disorder was formerly called cyclothymia.

cystic fibrosis A hereditary disease of the endocrine glands that causes them to produce abnormally thick and sticky secretions that form cysts and often cause obstructions in the pancreas, liver, and lungs. Symptoms vary according to the severity of the condition and the organs particularly involved, but they most often include nutritional deficiency, diarrhea-distended abdomen, and respiratory infections.

D

database A large pool of organized information available to users of on-line computer systems. Because each user seeks only portions of the data, the computer program extracts only that data sought. For example, a social agency might request from the NASW on-line system information about all the articles published on the topic of AIDS in the past three years. See also computerized databases.

date rape See acquaintance rape.

day care Facilities and programs that care for children or other dependents when their parents or guardians are unavailable for their care. The term also applies to physical and health care programs for people of all ages who return to their homes each evening. These facilities include adult day care, day hospitals, medical day care, mental health day care, and social adult day care.

Day, Dorothy (1897-1980) Founder of the Catholic Worker Movement and social activist, especially for immigrants to the United States and unemployed minorities.

day hospitals Facilities primarily for older people and people with disabilities who sleep in their own homes but receive medical and social services in hospital-like settings during the day.

DDS See Disability Determination Service (DDS).

DEA See Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. (DEA).

death The total and permanent cessation of vital functions; currently, in humans, the determining factor is the absence of measurable brain waves.

death control Actions taken by a nation, society, or organization to decrease the death rate, usually through programs in hygiene, nutrition, safety, disease prevention, environmental initiatives, and avoidance of war. See also Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP), preventative health programs, and U.S. Public Health Service.

death rate The ratio of the number of deaths in a specific period to the total population or to an identified segment of that population; it is usually expressed in terms of the number of deaths per 1,000 or 100,000 people. It is also known as mortality rate.

death wish A person's behavior or thought patterns that become self-destructive, physically harmful, and oriented toward one's own death. According to some psychoanalytic theories, every individual has a certain degree of unconscious desire to die that may be consciously manifested in masochism, masochistic tendencies, or self-defeating personality disorder.

decathexis The mental process of reducing and eliminating emotional energy and feelings an individual has held for another person, idea, object, or oneself. Thus, a client might decathect from a social worker as part of the termination process. See also cathexis and anticathexis.

decenter Getting clients to focus their attention on aspects of their situation other than the one of most immediate concern. See also centration.

decentralization Diffusion of responsibility, planning, and implementation of change from the highest levels of an organization's authority toward those closer to the problem or area of action. An example is the federal government's revenue sharing with states and municipalities.

decertification The process of removing the title and commensurate responsibility and privileges from an identified individual or group because they have not complied with predetermined qualifications or criteria or because they no longer want the designation.

decile In research and testing, when ranked scores are distributed, a division of one-tenth of the cases.

decision support systems (DSS) In management and administration, the use of computer systems to gather and categorize data and to help administrators decide from among specified choices. The computer program uses a predefined set of facts in conjunction with decision rules to recommend optimal choices. The administrator can then concur with or reject the recommendation.

decision theory A mathematical approach to decision making using such devices as gaming, modeling, and simulation.

declassification A personnel policy used by public and private employers, often as a means of reducing personnel expenditures, to eliminate educational and experience requirements for holding a job and performing its functions. For example, some professional social work positions were declassified when agencies no longer required that specific jobs had to be done only by social workers with MSW degrees.

decoding In communication theory, the process of translating verbal and nonverbal cues, body gestures, and other signals into messages that are comprehensible to the recipient.

decompensation The progressive loss of normal mental functioning, defense mechanisms, or coherent thought processes, often culminating in a form of psychosis.

decriminalization The repeal or adoption of legislation, the result of which is that an action formerly considered to be a crime is no longer so regarded and legal punishments can no longer be imposed.

deductible A provision in health and other insurance coverage in which a beneficiary is required to contribute a specified sum for each claim in a given period before the insurer pays the remaining amount of the claim.

deductive reasoning The process by which particular conclusions are reached by starting with general principles believed or shown to be true.

For example, a social worker believes that all rape victims subsequently suffer some degree of emotional distress. The social worker sees a client who was raped and deduces that she is experiencing some distress even without her saying so. See also inductive reasoning.

de facto In actual fact, regardless of legal or normative standards. For example, de facto segregation occurs when a neighborhood is underrepresented by ethnic minorities even though it has no legal provision to exclude them. See also de jure.

default judgment In the judicial system, a decision made against a defendant who fails to appear for a court hearing after due notice has been given and the statutory delays have elapsed.

defense levels Related groups of defense mechanisms and coping styles that may indicate the degree to which one is adapting to stressors, used in the Defensive Functioning Scale. According to the DSM-IV (Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association, 1994, p. 752) individuals functioning at optimal adaptive levels use coping styles such as anticipation, affiliation, altruism, humor, self-assertion, self-observation, sublimation, and suppression. The defensive level at the midpoint of this scale is the disavowal level, characterized by keeping unpleasant stressors, impulses, or ideas out of awareness by using such defenses as denial, projection, and rationalization. The poorest level of defensive functioning is defensive dysregulation.

defense mechanism A mental process that protects the personality from anxiety, guilt feelings, or unacceptable thoughts. Psychoanalytic theories consider such mechanisms to be unconscious. Some of the best-known defense mechanisms include denial, displacement, idealization, substitution, compensation, overcompensation, conversion, sublimation, reaction formation, projection, rationalization, and intellectualization.

defensive dysregulation The poorest level of defensive functioning and a coping style in which the individual cannot deal with stressors, which leads to psychosis or other breaks with objective reality. See also Defensive Functioning Scale.

Defensive Functioning Scale An assessment tool in development by the American Psychiatric Association (included in the DSM-IV) to assist in the clinician's evaluation of the degree to which an individual's defense mechanisms or coping styles are providing

protection against anxiety and stressors. The clinician lists up to seven defenses or coping styles to rank the defense levels achieved by the individual.

defensiveness 1. Excessive sensitivity to actual or potential criticism or disapproval. 2. Behavior that attempts to avert criticism or embarrassment.

deficit The excess of expenditures and liabilities over income and assets during a budgetary period.

deficit spending The government economic action of spending more than it receives in taxes and other revenues. When this happens, as it has in the United States every year since 1960, the government must print new money, which leads to inflation, or borrow the difference, which further increases the national debt. To balance the budget would require raising taxes to pay for the desired expenditures or reducing the level of spending commensurate with revenues.

deflation A reduction in the cost of living and general price levels of an economy.

DeForest, Robert Weeks (1848-1931) Philanthropist and social reformer who helped develop the nation's first school of social work, the New York School of Philanthropy (now Columbia University School of Social Work), as well as the Russell Sage Foundation and many of the early programs for improving the conditions of poor people.

defrauding Criminally depriving a person of his or her rightful property through deception or misrepresentation.

deinstitutionalization The process of releasing patients, inmates, or people who are dependent for their physical and mental care from residential care facilities, presumably with the understanding that they no longer need such care or can receive it through community-based services.

de jure According to law or by statute. For example, de jure segregation refers to the legally enforced separation of groups of people (by race, sex, age, and so on). This condition existed in U.S. public schools before the 1954 Supreme Court decision (Brown v. Board of Education) and through apartheid in South Africa until 1994. See also de facto.

delay of gratification An ability to postpone receiving pleasure or reward. This is an important factor in maturity and in accomplishments that take time to achieve, such as academic degrees or success in helping multiproblem families. Lack of ability to delay gratification is seen in young children, narcissistic adults, immature people, and some people with chronic mental disorders.

delinquency 1. The failure to fulfill one's duties or obligations. 2. The actions of youngsters who violate laws or fail to conform to the reasonable demands of the caregiver and other authorities.

delinquent 1. In the criminal justice system, an offender who is considered to be a minor (in most states, younger than age 18, in some, up to age 22) by the jurisdiction of residence or where the offense is committed. Some acts, which are not crimes for adults, are forbidden by law for children (such as curfew violations, drinking alcohol, smoking, and truancy). 2. A debt that has not been paid when due or an agreement that has not been fulfilled.

delirium A state of confusion, often accompanied by hallucination, delusion, emotional lability, and anxiety. It is usually the result of changes in cerebral metabolism typically induced by alcohol or drug intoxication, shock or fever, general medical conditions, or multiple etiologies. See also substance intoxication delirium and withdrawal delirium.

delirium tremens (DTs) A form of delirium resulting from withdrawal from excessive consumption of alcohol. The victim often develops such symptoms as fever, convulsions, tremor, and hallucination, generally occurring between one and four days after the drinking has stopped. The preferred professional term is withdrawal delirium.

Delphi method A procedure, especially in social planning and community organization, that uses a highly structured, multistage questionnaire with a group of experts or panelists so that they can make focused assessments about the desirability, value, and feasibility of a proposed plan or policy, including feedback about results.

delusion An inaccurate but strongly held belief retained despite objective evidence to the contrary and despite cultural norms that do not support such beliefs. It is often a characteristic of psychosis or

paranoid ideation. Major types include delusions of grandeur and delusions of persecution.

delusional disorder A mental disorder characterized by the existence of certain nonbizarre delusions (those involving situations that occur in life such as being followed, being deceived by a spouse or lover, or having a disease). The delusions persist more than one month and, apart from the impact of the delusions, psychosocial functioning is not severely impaired. Specific subtypes of delusional disorder include erotomanic type, grandiose type, jealous type, persecutory type, somatic type, and mixed delusions. The DSM-IV (Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association, 1994, pp. 296-302) has replaced delusional (paranoid) disorder and paranoid disorder with this label.

delusional (paranoid) disorder See delusional disorder.

delusions of grandeur An exaggerated sense of self-importance. Delusions of this type may be symptoms of psychosis, narcissistic personality disorder, paranoid ideation, or overcompensation for excessive inadequacy feelings.

delusions of persecution The inaccurate but strongly held and persistent belief that one is being threatened or harmed by others. It is often a symptom of psychosis, delusional disorder, paranoid ideation, or excessive inadequacy feelings.

demagogue A political or organizational leader who wins support by appealing to fear, hatred, or greed, often using effective oratory, charisma, and lies. See also charismatic leader.

demand subsidy The concept of providing cash vouchers or tax incentives so that consumers can purchase needed services or products through the existing marketplace. This is in contrast to the concept of supply subsidy, in which funding is provided to organizations so that they may provide their services. The Food Stamp program and Medicaid use the demand subsidy principle, whereas community mental health centers and public hospitals are examples of supply subsidy.

dementia Deterioration of the mental processes, usually characterized by memory loss, personality change, and impaired judgment and ability to think abstractly or systematically. Dementia is caused by physiological changes, the result of stroke, Alzheimer's disease, substance abuse, medical conditions, or multiple etiologies. Some of the medical conditions

related to dementia include head injury, HIV disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Pick's disease, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

dementia of the Alzheimer's type See Alzheimer's disease.

democratic socialism Socialism in a nation whose citizens have freely elected to have that form of political and socioeconomic system.

demogrant A benefit provided to those in specified population categories (for example, children, mothers, older people, or citizens) without regard to need. Rare in the United States, this type of benefit is a common form of income redistribution in many other nations. See also income distribution, maternity benefits, and Medicare.

demographics A depiction of the frequencies with which specified social characteristics occur within a designated population. These characteristics may include such factors as gender, race, ethnic group, educational level, socioeconomic class, and religious affiliation.

demography The systematic study of population variables and characteristics. See also psychographics.

demonstration 1. In social change efforts, a group action designed to call public or political attention to a problem or issue of interest to the participants. This typically takes the form of massing or marching together in highly visible setting or picketing the entrances of buildings where the behavior that the demonstrators find objectionable is believed to be taking place. 2. In direct practice, behaviors intended to show how something can be done effectively, such as when a social worker shows a client how to communicate better with others by role playing.

demonstration programs Service delivery programs that are usually limited by time and geographic range but are designed to test whether measures proposed for solving specific problems are desirable and effective. When these programs use rigorous controlled research, they are also known as experimental programs. In theory, programs that are demonstrated as effective can then be made permanent and expanded for a larger population. Examples of demonstration programs are Mobilization for Youth in New York City and the Mental Health Manpower studies of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

demonstrative A term applied to behavior that is outwardly expressive of emotions and to people who exhibit such behavior.

demoscclerosis A government's decreasing ability to adapt or respond to social conditions or the needs of its people. According to Ronald E. Dear ("Social Welfare Policy;" in Richard L. Edwards [Ed.-in-Chief], Encyclopedia of Social Work, 19th ed., Washington: NASW Press, 1995), its causes include public opposition to increased taxation, distrust of government, indifference by political leaders, disagreement about goals, bureaucratic entrenchment and unresponsiveness, and the power and effort of interest groups and their political action committees to prevent change.

dendrites The branched fibers off the neuron cell that carry impulses from other nerve cells into the cell body.

denial The defense mechanism that protects the personality from anxiety or guilt by disavowing or ignoring unacceptable thoughts, emotions, or wishes.

deontology The philosophy of moral duty and obligation.

Department of Agriculture, U.S. (USDA) The federal agency created in 1862 to administer the nation's farm programs, meat and dairy inspection, food production, and distribution; to conserve farmland and related resources; and to provide education and information to farmers. This department also administers many food assistance programs, including the Food Stamp program, the School Lunch program, and the WIC program.

Department of Education, U.S. The federal agency, created in 1979 by separation from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), that administers programs to provide and promote the nation's educational opportunities and to supplement state and local educational efforts. It sponsors research on teaching methods and educational programs; provides financial aid for elementary through college education; provides educational programs for disabled, disadvantaged, and gifted students; and supervises numerous educational functions including school social work programs.

Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. (HHS) The federal agency formed in 1979 when the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) was divided into two federal-level agencies. The principal components of the department now include the

Administration for Children and Families (ACF), the Social Security Administration (SSA), the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) (including Medicare and Medicaid), and the U.S. Public Health Service, under which falls the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, U.S. (HEW)

A federal agency formed in 1953, replacing the Federal Security Agency, to administer, develop, and improve the national programs for social welfare, health, and education. When the autonomous U.S. Department of Education was created in 1979, the remaining components of the agency became known as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. (HUD)

The federal agency formed in 1965 to administer, develop, and improve the national housing programs, including urban renewal and community development. Its major divisions include the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, the Office of Community Planning and Development, and the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA).

Department of Justice, U.S. The federal agency established in 1870 and headed by the Attorney General, whose primary mission is to enforce all federal laws, administer the nation's law enforcement and investigation system, advise the president in legal matters, argue suits involving the U.S. government in the Supreme Court, and supervise federal penal institutions. This department includes the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the U.S. Parole Commission.

Department of Labor, U.S. The federal agency created in 1913 to improve working conditions and worker safety and welfare, to secure employee benefits, to enhance employment opportunities, and to acquire and disseminate information about social conditions affecting employment. Its major offices and organizations include the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Labor Management Programs Services Administration, the Employment and Training Administration, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Department of Social Services (DSS) The name used by many states and municipalities for their agencies that provide human

services, public assistance, and other welfare services. See also Human Resources Administration (HRA).

Department of the Interior, U.S. The federal agency established in 1849 whose primary mission is to conserve and develop the nation's natural resources, including its fish and wildlife, minerals and land management, national parks, government and public buildings, and many other programs. The department manages the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), including its health and social service programs. At various times in its history, this agency was also in charge of the nation's educational system, hospitals, and interstate commerce as well as the U.S. Bureau of the Census, which is currently under the U.S. Department of Commerce.

de Paul, Vincent (1581-1660) Catholic priest and advocate for the poor people of France, he established seminaries, and poor relief organizations including the Daughters of Charity to provide relief and assistance to the needy. He was canonized in 1737. See also Ozanum, Antoine Frederic.

dependency A state of reliance on other people or things for existence or support; a tendency to rely on others to provide nurturance, make decisions, and provide protection, security, and shelter. When reliance becomes excessive, it is a symptom of neurosis, regression, or emotional insecurity.

dependent personality disorder One of the 11 personality disorders, in which the individual is generally passive in most relationships, allows others to assume responsibilities, lacks self-confidence, feels helpless, and tends to tolerate abusiveness from others. See also passive-dependent.

dependent variable In systematic research, the phenomenon or reaction to be tested or measured when a new stimulus, condition, or treatment is introduced. The factor that is introduced is the independent variable.

depersonalization A feeling of being in an unreal situation or a sense that one's self or body is detached from the immediate environment. This experience is often found in individuals who are subjected to inordinate stress or are in crisis, as well as individuals with specific mental disorders such as neurosis and psychosis.

depersonalization disorder A type of dissociative disorder in which the individual copes with internal conflict and anxiety through

psychological detachment or by experiencing the feeling of being in an unreal situation. Depersonalization and derealization are the major symptoms, and some individuals also concurrently experience depression and hypochondriasis.

deposition Legal testimony of a witness under oath taken outside a courtroom.

depressants A group of drugs that induce in their users a state of deep relaxation, apathy, lethargy, and emotional depression by inhibiting the responses and actions of the central nervous system (CNS). The drugs most common within this class are barbiturates and tranquilizers. See also "downers."

depression A group of emotional reactions frequently characterized by sadness, discouragement, despair, pessimism about the future, reduced activity and productivity, sleep disturbance or excessive fatigue, and feelings of inadequacy, self-effacement, and hopelessness. In some individuals, such traits may be mild, intermittent, and undetectable by observers, but in others they may be constant and intense. In its more-severe forms, pathology may be a manifestation of a major affective disorder, bipolar disorder, or cyclothymic disorder. See also exogenous depression and endogenous depression.

depression, economic A socioeconomic condition in which business activity is reduced for a prolonged time, unemployment rates are high, and purchasing power is greatly diminished. See also stagflation and recession.

depressive reaction A term indicating sadness, pessimism, and lowered activity often precipitated by an actual or perceived severe loss. The term is now replaced by bipolar disorder, major depression, dysthymic disorder, or cyclothymic disorder, depending on other symptoms.

depressive neurosis See dysthymic disorder.

deprivation A state of unfulfilled, unmet, or incompletely met physical, social, or emotional needs.

derailment A speech pattern in which the individual repeatedly changes the subject and moves from topic to topic, even within the same sentence.

derealization A dissociative symptom in which one experiences the external world as strange or unreal. The individual may see others as being unfamiliar or robotlike and perceive alterations in the size or shape of viewed objects. Derealization is often a symptom of panic attack and depersonalization disorder.

deregulation The reduction or cessation of government control over the operations of various industrial, governmental, professional, or other organizations. The policy of deregulation in the 1980s led to significant changes in the airline industry, railroads and trucking, and financial institutions.

derelict 1. A person who is experiencing homelessness and unemployment. 2. Property, such as a car, that has been abandoned by its owner.

derepression Therapy designed to bring back to conscious awareness the thoughts and feelings that the client had unconsciously pushed to the unconsciousness. Much of psychoanalysis may be said to engage primarily in this activity. See also psychodynamic.

desegregation The act of abolishing segregation, whether de facto or de jure, that has been imposed on certain minority groups.

desensitization The elimination or minimization of physical or psychological reactions to stimuli. Behaviorally oriented social workers use a form of this, known as systematic desensitization, especially to help some clients overcome certain fears or ineffective behavior patterns.

desertion 1. The act of abandoning a person or position to whom or to which one has certain obligations. 2. In marriage, desertion occurs when one spouse leaves the other without the other's consent and has no intention of returning. Desertion may or may not be accompanied by nonsupport. Desertion is usually grounds for divorce.

DeShaney decision The 1988 U.S. Supreme Court ruling (DeShaney v. Winnebago County Department of Social Services) that the social workers and their social agency could not be held liable for damages for failure to protect a child who had been abused by the father. The ruling does not, however, mean that social workers employed in child protective services (CPS) are free from the risk of lawsuits at the state court level; moreover, they may still be at risk at the federal level.

designer drugs Compounds that differ slightly from the chemical structures of illegal drugs, usually made by “street chemists.” Until recently, these drugs were technically legal but still had all the properties of their illegal counterparts. Now they are illegal.

destitution A state of poverty in which one lacks sufficient resources even for food or shelter.

detention The act of restraining a person, usually in an institution (a jail or other holding facility), for some legal purpose. This term usually implies a short-term holding while awaiting trial. See also incarceration.

deterrence In the judicial system, a policy that uses fear of restraint and punishment to attempt to discourage crime.

detoxification The process of removing drugs or other harmful substances from the body for a sufficient length of time to restore adequate physiological and psychological functioning. This is achieved by withholding the substance from the individual while providing rest, proper diet, health care, medication, psychological support, and social services.

devaluation Attributing exaggerated negative qualities to one’s self or others, usually as a way to deal with emotional conflict, stressors, or inadequacy feelings. See also idealization and halo effect.

developing countries Nations with low per capita incomes and relatively small financial reserves that have worked to develop their natural resources, develop numbers of skilled and educated citizens, and aspire to economic and political parity with developed countries. Often called Third World countries, this category includes India, Brazil, Egypt, Nigeria, and Indonesia; not usually included are underdeveloped countries such as Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Chad. See also Fourth World.

developmental approach In direct practice, an orientation toward or focus on the predictable changes that occur throughout the human life cycle, including physical, mental, social, and environmental changes.

developmental arithmetic disorder The inability to acquire arithmetic skills that is not a result of poor education and socialization

or intelligence deficits. The preferred term for this is mathematics disorder.

developmental coordination disorder Inhibited motor skill development so that the child or adult seems poorly coordinated, clumsy, and awkward; the child falls behind peers in ability to tie shoelaces, play ball, or write. This disorder is not due to physical disability or mental retardation. The preferred term for this is motor skills disorder.

developmental disabilities A condition that produces functional impairment, as a result of disease, genetic disorder, or impaired growth pattern manifested before adulthood, likely to continue indefinitely, and require specific and lifelong or extended care. Some of the conditions classified as developmental disabilities include cerebral palsy, Down’s syndrome, epilepsy, mental retardation, and autism.

Developmental Disabilities, Administration An agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that provides information and coordinates expertise about the causes, prevention, and treatment of human developmental disorders such as mental retardation, autism, seizure disorders, and cerebral palsy.

developmental disorder A classification of physical and mental dysfunctions that appear before the individual reaches maturity. Pervasive developmental disorders include autistic disorder, Rett’s disorder, childhood disintegrative disorder, and Asperger’s disorder.

developmental research Analysis, design, development, and evaluation of human services innovations. Developmental research in social work studies assessment methods, intervention methods, service programs and systems, policy analysis and development, and the physical and infrastructure aspects of providing for human services needs.

developmental social welfare An approach to social welfare that encourages and plans for indigenous and culturally appropriate models of social services delivery, according to the unique demands and resources of the Third World.

developmental stages The progression of physical and mental changes occurring over time and that result in clusters of identifiable and predictable characteristics tending to occur during specific periods.

deviance The act of differing sharply from normal behavior or maintaining standards of conduct, norms, and values that are in marked

contrast to accepted standards. The term was formerly used to indicate sexual perversion. See also maladaptive and maladjustment.

Devine, Edward T. (1867–1948) As a contributor to social work education, he helped found the New York School of Philanthropy in 1898 and guided it toward its development as the Columbia University School of Social Work. He also founded the leading social work journal of the time, *The Survey*, and wrote several texts about the history of social work and social welfare, including *Misery and its Causes* (1909), *Social Work* (1928), and *When Social Work Was Young* (1939).

dhat A culture-bound syndrome found most commonly in India in which the individual experiences anxiety and fear of bodily dysfunctions because of the discharge of semen or the discoloration of urine. See also shenkui.

DI See disability insurance (DI).

diabetes A disease, caused by a disorder in the islet of Langerhans in the pancreas, in which an insufficient amount of insulin is produced or secreted so that the body cannot process sugars properly.

diabetes mellitus A serious, chronic deficiency in the body's ability to produce insulin, resulting in excessive sugar in the blood and urine.

diagnosis The process of identifying a problem (social and mental, as well as medical) and its underlying causes and formulating a solution. In early social work delineations, it was one of the three major processes, along with social study and treatment. Currently, many social workers prefer to call this process assessment because of the medical connotation that often accompanies the term "diagnosis." Other social workers think of diagnosis as the process of seeking underlying causes and assessment as having more to do with the analysis of the relevant information.

"diagnosis of convenience" A term used by some providers of mental health services to refer to an inaccurate description of the condition of the client on an insurance form. This is sometimes done by providers because most insurance companies will reimburse only for diagnosable conditions. For example, the professional provides marital therapy, which is not usually reimbursable, but indicates depression as the diagnosis of convenience. This is a fraudulent as

well as unethical practice, and it is also detrimental to the therapeutic relationship because it fosters an improper collusion between the provider and client.

diagnosis-related groups (DRGs) The name applied to a federally mandated prospective payment mechanism designed to control the costs of medical and hospital care for Medicare recipients. The system is administered by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). Payments made to the hospitals caring for Medicare patients are determined in advance, based on which one of 467 discrete categories of disorder—or DRG—the patient has at the time of admission, as well as on the patient's age; whether surgery is necessary; and in some cases, the presence of complications. Each category, with relevant additional factors, is equated with a flat sum. If costs for care exceed the predetermined amount, the hospital is expected to bear the excess; if they are lower than the predetermined amount, however, the hospital may keep the difference. This is supposed to encourage shorter hospital stays, a less-extensive mix of services during hospitalization, and the diminished likelihood of rehospitalization.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders See DSM-III, DSM-III-R, and DSM-IV.

diagnostic school in social work The name given to the orientation in social work that emphasized psychodynamic and social change theories and insight therapies. The term was first used to distinguish this group of social workers from colleagues who were identified with the functional school in social work.

dialysis Treatment for kidney disease. The various types of dialysis include hemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, and chronic ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. Dialysis can be performed in hospitals, special outpatient centers, and in some cases, in the home of the patient. Dialysis has no curative value but substitutes for the function of the kidneys.

diathesis Genetic predisposition toward certain diseases. For example, the dopamine hypothesis suggests that certain people are "diathetic" toward schizophrenia.

diathetic-stress theory See stress–diathesis theory.

dichos Proverbs or folk sayings commonly used in Spanish-speaking cultures. Dichos are usually brief and spoken spontaneously, often in rhymes, and are used as guidelines in the development of attitudes,

moral values, and social behavior. Social workers who serve Hispanic clients sometimes use these metaphors as tools to facilitate the working relationship and overcome resistance. Maria E. Zuniga ("Using Metaphors in Therapy: Dichos and Latino Clients," *Social Work*, 37[January 1992], pp. 55-60) suggests that non-Spanish-speaking clinicians use such dichos only when guided by Latino clinicians.

didactic analysis Psychoanalysis whose primary goal is instruction rather than therapy; otherwise, the procedure is identical with all other forms of psychoanalysis.

differential acculturation The process of adapting to new cultures (that is, to language, lifestyle, norms, and so forth) as experienced by people with different demographic characteristics. For example, individuals and families who emigrate to new countries adapt at different rates of speed and success, depending on factors such as age and developmental stage, educational level, prior experience or knowledge of the new culture, level of sophistication and self-esteem, and degree of available emotional support and nurturance.

differential diagnosis The process of distinguishing between similar mental disorders or social problems on the basis of their compared and unique characteristics.

differential life expectancy The probable life span of people based on distinct classifications such as gender, socioeconomic class, race, and current age. Life expectancy is influenced by the degree to which people have access to economic benefits.

differential response In behaviorism and social learning theory, a response that is elicited by a particular stimulus among many possible different stimuli. For example, a child may learn to smile when a parent smiles and frown when the parent frowns.

differentiation In family systems theories, the ability of family members to distinguish or separate their identities, thoughts, and emotions from those of other family members. See also fusion.

differentiation phase The fourth of five group development phases in which group members develop a greater sense of their own unique problems and ability to solve them within themselves and among the other group members. This phase follows the intimacy phase in which the member becomes such an integral part of the

group-as-a-whole that individuality is somewhat subordinated to the needs of the group. These two stages in the group progression follow the preaffiliation phase and the power-and-control phase and precede the separation phase. Many other typologies have also been proposed to describe the different phases in the typical life of a groupwork or therapy group.

dioxin A chemical compound often used as a herbicide. These toxic substances are long lasting and labeled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to be, under certain circumstances, a carcinogen. See also Agent Orange.

diphtheria A contagious disease that occurs mostly in preschool children and is transmitted by droplets of moisture exhaled by infected individuals. The bacteria that cause the disease lodge in the mucous membranes of the throat, producing tissue-destroying toxins. Diphtheria deaths are caused by tissue damage, particularly in the heart. The disease was once common in the United States and elsewhere, but inoculations of diphtheria toxoids routinely given to infants have minimized its incidence rate.

Diplomate in Clinical Social Work A credential to distinguish advanced-level, professional clinical social workers who meet the qualifications of the sponsoring organization (such as American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work [ABE] or the National Association of Social Workers [NASW]). Qualifications typically include many or all of the following: a graduate degree from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)-accredited school, postgraduate supervision, direct practice experience (usually more than 7,500 hours within five years), fulfillment of requirements for state licensing, and the passing of an advanced examination.

dipsomania An abnormal or insatiable desire to drink alcohol. This has become a rarely used term.

direct cost The amount paid by a recipient of any goods or services—a sum that may only partially cover the expense of producing them. See also indirect cost.

direct influence An intervention in social casework or clinical social work in which the social worker attempts to promote a specific type of behavior in the client. It is done systematically and cautiously, often by offering suggestions and advice about how best to reach the client's own goals.

directive therapy An approach in counseling in which the social worker or other mental health care provider offers advice, suggestions, information about resources, and prescriptions for more-effective behavior.

direct practice The term used by social workers to indicate their range of professional activities on behalf of clients in which goals are reached through personal contact and immediate influence with those seeking social services. It is to be distinguished from indirect practice.

direct practice skills The ability to put social work knowledge into effective intervention activities with individuals, families, groups, and communities. According to Ruth R. Middleman and Gail Goldberg Wood (Skills for Direct Practice in Social Work, New York: Columbia University Press, 1990), these skills are inner (perception and cognition), interactional (setting the stage, dealing with feelings and information), and strategic (dealing with behavior and coping with conflict). Additional skills for working with groups include building groups, facilitating the work of groups, working with groups that do not verbalize readily, and providing nontalking times with groups. See also social work skills.

direct treatment A group of intervention procedures used in social casework or clinical social work in which the social worker seeks to implement specific changes or improvement through personal contact with the client. The term was first used by Mary Richmond (1861-1928) to designate a social worker's face-to-face interactions with individual clients, as distinguished from indirect treatment or problem solving and from developmental work in the environment.

disability Temporary or permanent inability to perform "normal" activities, usually as a result of a physical or mental condition or infirmity. See also International Classification of Impairment, Disability, and Handicapped (ICIDH); impairment; and handicap.

disability benefit The provision of cash, goods, or services to one who is not capable of performing certain activities because of a physical or mental condition; a form of categorical assistance based on incapacity. In the United States, the Disability Insurance (DI) program for disabled people and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program for needy disabled people are currently the most extensive examples of this type of program. See also temporary disability insurance.

Disability Determination Service (DDS)

A program within the Social Security Administration (SSA) for applicants for disability or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). When a claim is about to be denied, the applicant can request reconsideration by means of a face-to-face meeting with a DDS examiner.

Disability Insurance (DI) The U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA) program to provide for the economic needs of those who can no longer earn an income because of chronic incapacity. To be eligible clients must be no longer able to do the work for which they were trained and experienced or other suitable kinds of employment. The disability must be expected to last for at least a year or to result in death. Others who may be eligible under certain circumstances include disabled children (such as those with mental retardation or various childhood conditions), disabled former spouses (older than age 50 if the marriage lasted 10 years or longer), and people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection.

disabled A term used to describe an individual whose specific physical or mental condition or infirmity limits his or her ability to carry out certain responsibilities. The condition may be temporary or permanent; it may be partial or total. In the United States, the Social Security Administration (SSA) considers a person disabled if he or she is unable to do any kind of appropriate work because of a disability that is expected to last for at least one year.

disadvantaged A term used to describe an individual who is deprived of needed material resources, mental capacities, emotional and social development, or opportunities to acquire them.

disarmament The intentional decisions and actions that bring about a reduction in or elimination of the weapons possessed by a nation or group. Many social workers have been active in the peace movement, in which nations are encouraged to lay down their arms or discontinue supplying arms to others. See also peace dividend.

disassociation See dissociation.

disaster An extraordinary event, either natural or human-made, concentrated in time and space, that often results in damage to property and harm to human life or health and that is disruptive of the ability of some social institutions to continue fulfilling their essential functions.

disaster relief Efforts and activities to provide immediate refuge and security from the continuing physical and emotional risks encountered in the disaster and also work toward restoring the social and physical structures that had existed to meet essential needs. See also emergency basic-needs services.

disaster relief planner One who predicts the probabilities, consequences, and locations of a potential disaster; organizes people and structures to provide disaster relief; and educates the populace about how to respond and minimize a disaster's consequences. Many communities have offices of emergency management in which this function is performed. The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) fulfills some of these functions nationally. See also emergency basic-needs services.

disaster syndrome The psychological and social relationship problems typically experienced by victims of a crisis or calamity. Social workers who specialize in disaster relief identify several phases of the syndrome: preimpact (apprehension and anxiety accompanying the threat or warning); impact (the hazard strikes and the community organizes its relief effort); postimpact (often characterized as a "honeymoon" phase of high energy for coping and mutual cooperation); and disillusionment (when people encounter the long-term obstacles brought about by the disaster).

discharge planning A social service in hospitals and other institutions that is designed to help the patient or client make a timely and healthy adjustment from care within the facility to alternative sources of care or to self-care when the need for service has passed. When practiced by skilled social workers, discharge planning helps the client and relevant others understand the nature of the problem and its impact, facilitates their adaptations to their new roles, and helps arrange for postdischarge care. See also channeling and premature termination.

discretionary funds The money available after purchase of necessities; also referred to as disposable income. In budgeting, the term also refers to funds allocated outside rigid categorical grants. The use of these funds is generally determined by those empowered to choose how to spend them.

discrimination 1. The prejudgment and negative treatment of people based on identifiable characteristics such as race, gender, religion, or ethnicity. 2. In general terms, also the process of

distinguishing between two objects, ideas, situations, or stimuli. See also separatism and apartheid.

disease A condition in which a system (including all or part of a living organism) is not functioning properly; a disorder.

disease patterns In epidemiology studies of diseases, the incidence of a disease in a community and the frequency from one population group to another. Rates of disease are calculated by dividing the number of people who have the disease by the number at risk. See also morbidity rate.

disease risk factor Phenomena in the environment or within the individual that are known to be associated with increased chances of developing a particular disease. A risk factor may or may not be the cause of the disease, but identifying it is important in prevention.

disengaged family A family whose individual members and subsystems have overly rigid boundaries that result in restricted interaction and psychological isolation from one another. Some disengaged families may also have diffuse boundaries. See also enmeshed family.

disengagement theory The perspective held by some experts on the process of aging that says that as some older people slow down they gradually become more self-preoccupied, lessen emotional ties with others, have less interest in world affairs, and slowly withdraw from society. The theory also holds that society disengages from the older individual. The resulting mutual disengagement results in a decrease in life satisfaction. This theory is controversial, and some researchers point out that many older people maintain very active lives in late adulthood and show no decrease in life satisfaction.

disincentive A factor that discourages an individual or group from doing something. For example, reducing welfare or Medicaid benefits to people who have low-paying jobs sometimes discourages efforts to become economically independent. See also cliff effect.

disorder A disease or ailment; a condition in which a system (including all or part of a living organism) is not functioning properly.

disorderly conduct The crime of violating the public peace or safety. Charged with this crime often are homeless people, those intoxicated in public places, social activists or agitators, and labor picketers.

disorder of written expression A type of learning disorder in which a student is below the norm in writing skills and the understanding of numbers concepts as that expected of others of similar ages, intellectual levels, and educational levels without physical and neurological problems. For the condition to be diagnosable, it must significantly interfere with the student's academic achievement or activities that require writing. Many educators call this disorder dysgraphia or agraphia. The other major types of learning disorder are reading disorder and mathematics disorder.

disorders of change Psychosocial problems an individual develops as a consequence of having to adapt to unfamiliar social environments or developmental experiences. These disorders may be permanent but generally are overcome in healthy people with good coping skills. See also culture shock.

disorganized schizophrenia Technically known as schizophrenia, disorganized type (formerly known as hebephrenic schizophrenia), this disease is distinguished from other forms of schizophrenia by such symptoms as wild excitement, giggling, silly behavior, and rapid mood shifts.

displaced homemaker A person who becomes widowed or divorced after spending years as a family's caregiver and who usually has not developed other marketable skills to facilitate economic independence.

displaced populations Groups of people who are uprooted from their established locations and lifestyles, including refugees, immigrants, undocumented aliens, migrant laborers, and seasonal workers. According to Fariyal Ross-Sheriff ("Displaced Populations," in Leon Ginsberg et al. [Eds.], *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, 18th ed., 1990 supplement, Washington, DC: NASW Press, pp. 78-93), these groups tend to adapt to their new locations in one of four general ways: (1) assimilation (giving up one's former culture and its values to acquire those of the host society), (2) integration (maintaining a significant part of the cultural identity of the past while participating in the larger society), (3) separation (establishing a separate set of institutions or interactions), or (4) marginalization (loss of cultural identity resulting in confusion, alienation, and striking out against the larger society).

displacement A defense mechanism used to reduce anxiety that accompanies certain thoughts, feelings, or wishes by transferring them to another thought, feeling, or wish that is more acceptable or tolerable.

disposition The arrangement made on behalf of a client or patient by the provider of health care or a social service to conclude the intervention. This may include referral to a more-appropriate resource, follow-up care, or successful achievement of goals so that help is no longer needed. In many types of case record, professionals conclude entries by writing "Disposition" (or "Disp."), followed by the course of action recommended for the ongoing care of the client.

disruptive behavior disorder A group of developmental disorders in which the individual's behavior persistently interferes with the social activities of those nearby. The specific types of disruptive behavior disorder include attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), oppositional defiant disorder, and conduct disorder.

disruptive tactics Actions that interfere with the normal operations of social institutions to bring about changes in laws, norms, or social structures. These activities are undertaken and coordinated, especially by social activists and community organizers, to call public attention to problems and injustices and to put pressure for change on an organization. Examples include sitdown strikes, sit-ins in the offices of corporate executives, picket lines on roads leading to nuclear reactors, organized heckling of political candidates during their speeches, and greenlining.

dissident An individual who disagrees with the policy of a government or other organization and refuses to participate therein.

dissociation A defense mechanism in which the individual has thoughts or feelings that are inappropriate to the current situation. For example, a client attending a funeral has thoughts about being at a party and begins to laugh. The mechanism is also known as "disassociation."

dissociative amnesia A dissociative disorder characterized by an inability to remember important (usually stressful or traumatic) personal information. The condition is not the result of general medical conditions, substance abuse, or age-related cognitive decline. Several types of memory disturbance include localized amnesia (inability to remember anything occurring during a specific time), selective amnesia (inability to remember parts of an experience within a specific time), continuous amnesia (inability to recall personal experiences after a certain point in

one's life, and generalized amnesia (inability to recall any personal life experience). This term replaces psychogenic amnesia.

dissociative disorder A type of mental disorder characterized by a sudden, temporary change in the normally integrative functions of consciousness, identity, and memory. Specific forms of the disorder include dissociative amnesia (which may be selective or generalized, continuous or intermittent), dissociative fugue, dissociative identity disorder, and depersonalization disorder.

dissociative fugue A dissociative disorder characterized by an individual's sudden travel away from familiar places, inability to recall past events, and sometimes by the assumption of a new identity. The condition is not the result of general medical conditions, substance abuse, age-related cognitive decline, or malingering. This term replaces psychogenic fugue.

dissociative identity disorder Formerly called multiple personality disorder, a form of dissociative disorder in which an individual has two or more distinct personalities. The individual may not be aware of the existence of these other personalities; alternative identities are experienced as taking control, supplanting the previous identity, or being in conflict with one another. The change in identity usually happens within seconds but in some cases occurs more gradually. The number of identities ranges from two to 100, with women averaging 15 and men averaging eight.

dissociative symptoms Psychophysiological reactions to stress by voluntarily or involuntarily changing one's functions and focus of consciousness, memory, identity, or perception of the environment. These symptoms include numbing, detachment, absence of emotional responsiveness, reduced awareness of one's surroundings, derealization, depersonalization, amnesia, fugue, identity disorders, poor concentration, and preoccupation.

dissociative trance disorder Involuntary entry into an apparent state of trance or possession in a way that is outside one's sociocultural or religious norms and causes distress and impaired social functioning. This is a proposed official diagnosis of the DSM-IV.

dissonance theory of groups The view that some discomfort and tension among group therapy members are important motivators and catalysts for growth. Those who hold this view seek a state of imbalance or heterogeneous group membership.

distracter role A recurrent pattern of communication in relating to others, especially family members, characterized by evasiveness, diverting attention, bringing in irrelevant statements, changing the subject, and moving in such a way that the focus of attention is changed. The role was delineated by Virginia Satir (Peoplemaking, Palo Alto, CA: Science and Behavior Books, 1972, p. 70), who described the distracter as a person who fears the threat of close relationships and obstructs them through these diversionary tactics. Other roles are the blamer role, the computer role, and the placater role.

distribution In research, the frequency with which a given variable or demographic factor appears in an identified category, geographic area, map, or graph.

divorce The legal dissolution of a marriage. Each state establishes its own laws determining the criteria (grounds) for dissolution. Adultery, incompatibility, and living apart for specified periods of time are the grounds most commonly accepted. Many marriages are also dissolved through no-fault divorce.

divorce mediation See mediation, divorce.

divorce therapy A type of clinical intervention designed to help couples who have decided to dissolve their unions. Divorce therapy includes helping the couple consider alternatives to divorce, minimize adjustment problems, consider the needs and best interests of the children, review fair property dissolution, and discuss rationally how to disengage in the healthiest way possible. This therapy also deals with practical and legal aspects of the dissolution, such as custody of children and property decisions; it also helps people learn to manage relationships with their former spouses and to adjust to new lifestyles.

Dix, Dorothea (1802-1887) Social activist and advocate for the humane treatment of prisoners and especially for mentally ill people. Her lobbying activities led to the establishment of many public and private mental hospitals.

DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid, a complex molecule found in living cells. Its components are arranged in particular sequences, the pattern of which determines the genetic information carried by the chromosomes.

DO doctor of osteopathy, the name used by graduates of colleges of osteopathy. The DO, or osteopath, has training, leisure, and health care

responsibilities that are equivalent to physicians with MD (medical doctor) degrees, but DOs are usually more oriented toward treatment that is natural and holistic.

doctoral programs In social work education, the professional and academic training that culminates in the PhD or DSW degree. Doctoral education in social work has tended to emphasize development of the student's research and knowledge-building skills and advanced practice competence. The DSW and PhD degrees are equivalent and have virtually the same requirements. It was sometimes erroneously believed that DSWs would be for those seeking increased professional practice competence and PhDs for those more involved in research and building of theory or the knowledge base. However, the differences are more related to the preferences of the particular degree-granting institution than to different requirements. See also Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE).

“do-gooder” A term of derision often applied to social workers and other people whose professions or consciences require them to do what is necessary to uphold the laws and ethics of a society and to protect the disadvantaged from exploitation by the privileged.

“dole” A pejorative term once commonly applied to public assistance payments.

domestic partners In some jurisdictions a legal designation for those who register as cohabitating unmarried adults who intend to maintain permanent relationships. The designation was established primarily for (but is not exclusively used by) gay and lesbian partners to provide them with the same legal supports and mutual obligations that exist for married couples (such as access to rent-controlled apartments, survivors' benefits, and family health insurance programs).

“Domestic Peace Corps” See Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA).

domestic relations court A court of law that handles cases involving divorce, spouse abuse, child abuse, relatives' responsibility, and family disputes.

domestic violence 1. Abuse of children, older people, spouses, and others in the home, usually by other members of the family or

other residents. 2. The social problem in which one's property, health, or life are endangered or harmed as a result of the intentional behavior of another family member.

domicile A person's legal and permanent home, rather than residence (which may be temporary).

domiciliary care services Programs usually conducted by local and state departments of human services designed to assist people to remain in their own homes even if they are having problems that preclude basic self-care. Such programs include homemaker services, home-delivered meals, chore service, home health services, respite care, and attendant care. This is also called home care service. Some human services agencies use “domiciliary care” to refer to programs that help needy people with the physical maintenance of their homes, and “home care” to refer to homemaker services.

donor constituency The contributors of funds and resources to a social agency or other organization. These people and groups may exert an implicit or formal influence on the priorities, values, and programs of the organization.

dopamine hypothesis In research on the biochemistry of the central nervous system (CNS), the possibility that the excessive amount of dopamine (a neurotransmitting chemical) found in schizophrenia causes some of its symptoms. See also catecholamines.

double bind 1. In communication theory, a form of paradoxical communication in which one person expresses a message that can be interpreted in two or more contradictory or mutually exclusive ways, and the recipient of the message is prevented from escaping the consequences or commenting on the contradiction. 2. Competing demands to which a person must respond.

double blind In research, a technique in which neither the subject nor the experimenter knows whether a real change was actually introduced. For example, in researching the effects of drugs, the experimenter and the subjects do not know whether inert drugs (placebo) or active drugs are being administered.

double-entry bookkeeping An accounting procedure used in most social agency budget records, in which every transaction is recorded twice and the resulting increase or decrease in one account is reflected by a decrease or increase in another account.

double jeopardy Being subjected to prosecution and trial a second time for the same offense. Freedom from double jeopardy is guaranteed to people in the United States by the U.S. Constitution in its Fifth Amendment rights.

“downers” A slang term referring to barbiturates, tranquilizers, or other depressants of the central nervous system (CNS) often used by certain drug abusers to induce a state of deep relaxation. Some abusers become highly dependent on these substances, often leading to increased tolerance.

downsizing A reduction in work force and program. In the mid- to late 1980s, social work management—like its counterpart in corporations—was faced with the need to manage declining resources. According to Richard L. Edwards and John A. Yankey (“Managing Organizational Decline,” in Richard L. Edwards and John A. Yankey [Eds.], *Developing Managerial Skills for the Human Services*, Washington, DC: NASW Press, 1992), this reduction in staff and funding represents a dramatic change after nearly 50 years of uninterrupted growth in the human services.

Down’s syndrome A congenital form of mental retardation, often characterized by a flattened face, widely spaced and slanted eyes, a smaller head, and lax joints. Genetically determined by the presence of an extra chromosome, the disorder was formerly known as “mongolism.”

downward mobility Socioeconomic declines by individuals, groups, or nations. In nations, this decline is due to poor economic conditions resulting in unemployment and underemployment, lower wages, inflation, diminution of natural resources, and political changes. In individuals, it is also common among dropouts and may be the result of health problems, poor planning, relocation, and other idiosyncratic factors. See also upward mobility.

dream analysis A technique used in psychoanalysis and some other forms of psychotherapy and counseling in which the analyst interprets the dream content of his or her clients. Many analysts, beginning in 1900 when Sigmund Freud (1856–1939) published *The Interpretation of Dreams*, believed that access to the unconscious was made possible by dream analysis. The people, situations, and context in the dreams are viewed as symbols for deeper, more-underlying mental constructs. See also psychoanalytic theory.

dream anxiety disorder A sleep disorder, paraphilia type, characterized by repeated awakening from sleep with detailed recall of frightening dreams. Clinicians refer to this condition as nightmare disorder. See also sleep terror disorder.

Dred Scott decision The controversial 1857 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that a slave was considered property and not a U.S. citizen. Dred Scott was a slave who lived for a time with his master in a “free” state.

DRGs See diagnosis-related groups (DRGs).

drive In psychoanalytic theory, a basic impulse or urge that motivates overt behavior.

dropout One who withdraws from and terminates continued participation in some social activity where there is an implied or explicit responsibility to continue. Such activities include attending school until graduation, continuing in therapy until goals are reached, or contributing to society as a taxpaying citizen.

drug abuse The inappropriate use of a chemical substance in ways that are detrimental to one’s physical or mental well-being. See also substance abuse.

drug abuse detection Efforts, usually by those with certain types of authority over others (for example, parents and employers), to assess the possibility that illegal or controlled substances are being used. Such efforts include urine sampling, confinement to observe the presence of withdrawal symptoms, covert investigation, and many other activities. Experts suggest that the presence of several of the following indicators can be clues to substance abuse in youths: long- or short-term forgetfulness; aggressiveness and irritability; school tardiness, truancy, or declining grades; difficulty concentrating; reduced energy and self-discipline; uncaring or sullen behavior; constant disputes with family members; disappearance of money and valuables; unhealthy appearance, including bloodshot eyes; changes in and evasiveness about friendships; and trouble with the authorities.

drug addiction The abuse of chemical substances that results in a physiological dependence in which the body tissues require the substance to function comfortably. In the absence of the substance, the individual experiences withdrawal symptoms. See also substance dependence.

drug dependence The misuse of and reliance on chemical substances, resulting in drug addiction or drug habituation.

Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. (DEA) A unit of the U.S. Department of Justice charged with enforcing the regulations that apply to controlled substances. DEA is responsible for overseeing and managing the legal production and use of narcotics, amphetamines, and barbiturates handled by pharmacists, physicians, and hospitals.

drug-free zone An area designated by police, public officials, residents, or concerned citizens as being off limits for any drug use, sales, purchases, marketing, or recruiting of dealers. These areas are most commonly located on school grounds or adjacent properties; in or near recreation centers and parks; and in some residential neighborhoods, especially where drug problems have existed previously. Enforcement occurs through extra police and citizen vigilance.

drug habituation The pathological craving for or abuse of chemical substances that results in psychological rather than physical dependence. The abuser who is habituated experiences psychological discomfort that may or may not be as severe as in withdrawal symptoms.

drug intoxication Maladaptive behavior and other symptoms specific to the particular psychoactive substance recently taken. These symptoms may include impaired judgment, belligerence, impaired social functioning, occupational problems, depression, euphoria, coma, and death.

drug of choice The specific type of drug or chemical that a substance abuser settles on and prefers to use over all the other drugs with which the individual has experimented.

drugs of abuse Psychoactive substances that typically are used to produce, in the user, some sense of immediate pleasure or gratification, followed by long-term deleterious consequences. Most of these drugs are illegal, and all of them lead to habituation and withdrawal symptoms. The illegal drugs of abuse include opioids (including heroin), cocaine, amphetamines or similarly acting sympathomimetics, phencyclidine hydrochloride (PCP) or similarly acting arylcyclohexylamines, hallucinogens such as LSD, and cannabis (marijuana). Other psychoactive substances that are not illegal but

have led to widespread abuse include alcohol, sedatives, nicotine, caffeine, and glue-like substances that are inhaled. See also opioid abuse.

drug testing The systematic procedure for determining an individual's abuse of illicit drugs. Urinalysis is the most common procedure used, although analyzing samples of hair, blood, and saliva can also reveal drug use. These tests can detect the use of cocaine, PCP, amphetamines, barbiturates, and heroin taken within the past two to seven days. Marijuana can be detected over longer periods, up to 21 days. Because the tests are often inaccurate, the standard procedure for most employers is to conduct a second test on those employees whose first tests are positive. The second test, using a more-reliable procedure, is nearly always accurate. Drug testing is part of most drug treatment programs, designed to help motivate and strengthen the determination of the patient. Drug testing is increasingly required in the workplace, especially in those settings where impairment by workers can jeopardize others.

drug tolerance See tolerance.

DSM-III The third edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. This version of psychiatry's official classification of mental disorders and their symptoms was published in 1980 and was the first to use the multiaxial assessment system.

DSM-III-R The 1987 revision of the DSM-III, officially replaced by the DSM-IV, in 1994.

DSM-IV The fourth and current edition of psychiatry's official classification of mental disorders and the symptoms and characteristics found in each. Published by the American Psychiatric Association in 1994, the DSM-IV labels each disorder and provides a numerical code and systematic criteria for distinguishing it from other mental disorders. DSM-IV calls for the subject to be evaluated on each of five levels or axes. Axis I disorders include clinical syndromes as well as certain conditions that are not caused by mental illness but are the focus of attention or treatment. Axis II disorders are the personality disorders and mental retardation. Axis III is used for the subject's relevant physical diseases and conditions. Axis IV is for the subject's psychosocial and environmental problems, and in Axis V the clinician uses a Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) Scale. The DSM-IV also describes culture-bound syndromes, lists proposed classifications of mental disorders, and has a section coordinating its coding of mental disorders with those listed in the

International Classification of Diseases (ICD). Definitions of mental disorders in this dictionary are consistent with those in DSM-IV.

DSS 1. See decision support systems (DSS). 2. See Department of Social Services (DSS).

DSW doctor of social work (or doctor of social welfare), an advanced professional degree in social work education. The DSW degree requirements typically include several years of previous experience in social work practice, acquisition of required preliminary degrees such as the MSW, successful completion of prescribed doctoral-level course work in a qualified school of social work, passing written and oral comprehensive examinations, and successful completion and defense of a dissertation. Most DSW programs are affiliated with professional schools of social work that are part of accredited colleges and universities. See also doctoral programs and Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE).

DTs See delirium tremens (DTs) and withdrawal delirium.

dual diagnosis The identification of coexistent diseases within an individual. Often the disease or its treatment influences the other disease or its treatment, especially if not identified. The use of this term is most commonly associated with a problem with drugs or alcohol and another, usually psychiatric, disorder.

dual eligible The term used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for people who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare. Many Departments of Social Services (DSS) also apply the term to people who meet the criteria to benefit from two or more assistance programs simultaneously.

dual relationships In clinical social work, the unethical practice of assuming a second role with the client, in addition to professional helper, such as friend, business associate, family member, or sex partner. According to Jill Doner Kagle and Pam N. Giebelhausen ("Dual Relationships and Professional Boundaries," *Social Work*, 39 [March 1994], pp. 213-220), dual relationships tend to exploit clients or have long-term negative consequences for them. Workers who engage in these relationships are liable to legal as well as professional sanctions and probably should seek help. The NASW Code of Ethics has explicitly forbidden sexual relationships since the 1979 revisions; the explicit prohibition against other dual relationships was included in the 1994

code revisions. The prohibition against dual relationships has been in the code of ethics of the National Federation of Societies for Clinical Social Work (NFSCSW) since 1988.

due process of law Adherence to all the rules, procedures, protections, and opportunities legally available when a person accused of a crime is brought to trial and risks possible deprivation of life, liberty, or property.

dull-normal A term sometimes used by educators and educational psychologists in describing an individual whose intelligence quotient (IQ) scores are between 70 and 90 or an individual with slightly limited intellectual capacity but not of such deficiency as to require extensive care and protection by others.

Dunham, Arthur (1893-1980) Social work educator who developed the pro-profession's systematic conception of community organization. He wrote the influential texts *Community Welfare Organization* (1958) and *Community Organization in Action* (1959).

durable power of attorney A legal document authorizing another person to take action and make decisions on one's behalf, within certain conditions and guidelines, even when one suffers from incapacitation or is incompetent. The one given power of attorney may make all decisions or be limited only to such things as selling one's house. Whereas an ordinary power of attorney becomes nullified if the signer becomes incapacitated or incompetent, durable power keeps it in effect in such circumstances. See also living will.

durable power of attorney for health care A legal document by which an individual appoints someone trusted to make decisions about the individual's medical care in case he or she should be unable to make them. Also known as a "health care proxy" or "appointment of a health care agent," this document becomes effective when an individual is temporarily incapacitated or irreversibly ill. State-specific documents are available through Choice in Dying.

duration index A rating scale used in the Person-in-Environment (PIE) System to indicate how long or how recently the problem of the client has persisted. The scale ranges from two weeks or less to more than five years.

Durham rule The 1954 court decision declaring that if a person's unlawful act was the product of mental disease or defect, then the

accused is not criminally responsible. This is a modification of the M'Naughten rule, but is not in effect in many jurisdictions.

duty to warn See Tarasoff.

dyad Two people or objects in a relationship or interacting system.

dynamic 1. In theories of human personality, an orientation that emphasizes intrapsychic influences, conscious and unconscious thought processes, and nonobservable mental phenomena such as drive, conflict, motivation, and defense mechanisms. 2. In field theory, the forces that act on a psychological field. 3. In systems theories and in general systems theory, the process of striving for and maintaining homeostasis.

dysarthria Speech and articulation problems caused by disturbances of muscular control.

dyscalculia A learning disorder in which the student demonstrates mathematics skills significantly below average. The term more commonly used by social workers is mathematics disorder.

dysentery An intestinal disease whose symptoms include inflammation, pain, and diarrhea. The disease is caused by bacteria or viruses and is most commonly transmitted by contact with water or food that has been contaminated by human waste.

dysfunction A deficiency in a system that precludes its optimal performance; synonymous with "malfunction."

dysgraphia A communication disorder involving the partial or total inability to write letters, words, or phrases, by a person who once possessed such abilities. This condition is also known less commonly as agraphia. See also disorder of written expression.

dyskinesia A dysfunction of the involuntary muscle activities resulting in tics, spasms, and stereotyped movements. See also tardive dyskinesia (TD).

dyslexia An impairment of reading and writing skills, often with the tendency to reverse letters or words while reading or writing them or not noticing certain letters or words.

dyslogia Difficulty in speaking or communicating ideas because of mental disorder or mental deficiency. This is not synonymous with developmental expressive language disorder.

dysmnnesia A defect in memory.

dysmorphophobia Excessive preoccupation and fear of appearing to be ugly or defective. This term is outdated and is replaced by the term body dysmorphic disorder.

dyspareunia The experience of pain during the act of sexual intercourse, which occurs more commonly in women. See also vaginismus.

dysphagia Impaired ability to swallow resulting from nonorganic causes such as anxiety-related spasms of the throat muscles.

dysphoria A condition of general unhappiness, dissatisfaction, pessimism, restlessness, and a pervasive feeling of discomfort.

dyspnea Breathing difficulty.

dyspraxia Inability to perform skilled or specific movements; impaired coordination.

dyssocial A term pertaining to an individual who behaves according to the norms of the immediate peer group or subculture but contrary to the norms of the larger society, or to one who engages repeatedly in criminal and destructive activities. This term is now used by professionals to replace the term "sociopath."

dyssomnia A primary sleep disorder of the amount, timing, and quality of sleep, including insomnia, hypersomnia, narcolepsy, breathing-related sleep disorder (apnea), and circadian rhythm sleep disorder.

dysthymia See dysthymic disorder.

dysthymic disorder One of the mood disorders characterized by sadness, pessimism, dyssomnia, poor appetite or overeating, irritability (especially in children), fatigue, low self-esteem, and indecisiveness, symptoms that occur most of each day, most days, for at least two years. This disorder differs from major depressive disorder in that its symptoms are usually less severe but exist almost continuously for years. Also, in

major depressive disorders, discrete major depressive episodes can be distinguished from the individual's usual functioning.

dystonia Sustained abnormal postures or muscle spasms, symptomatic of mental disorders (such as catatonic schizophrenia), neurological disorders, or a medication-induced movement disorder.

EAPs See employee assistance programs (EAPs).

earmarked taxes Income, whose purpose has been designated in advance, received by a government body from citizens and corporations. For example, gasoline sales taxes are largely designated for highway maintenance and construction, and a payroll tax is often earmarked for unemployment compensation.

earned income The amount of money one receives from work in the form of wages and salaries. All other sources of income—from interest, gains on capital investments, rent, dividends, inherited money—are unearned income. Social Security revenues come from earned income collected from employees, their employers, and people who are self-employed. However, the amount of earned income received by retired persons reduces their Social Security benefits, whereas their unearned income does not.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) A provision in the U.S. Internal Revenue tax code to give cash vouchers to working parents whose incomes are very low. The parent or parents file federal income tax statements, and if their taxable earnings are below a specified amount, they receive a check for a percentage of earnings up to a specified low amount. The earned income tax credit is reduced as the income increases and reaches zero when income reaches a specified amount.

Earth Day An annual observance by people in many nations to celebrate the natural environment and to raise the public consciousness through parades, teach-ins, demonstrations, and intensified lobbying activities about the need to protect and conserve the environment. Social workers have been among the leaders of the movement since its initial celebration on April 22, 1970.

Earthwatch A program sponsored by the United Nations of worldwide coordination to monitor, analyze, and report trends in the environment. Earthwatch was created in 1972 by the United Nations

Declaration on the Human Environment and is coordinated by the United Nations Environmental Program.

Easter Seal Society The organization, founded in 1919, that coordinates fund-raising and disbursements made in the United States on behalf of children and adults with disabilities.

eating disorders Maladaptive or unhealthy patterns of eating and ingestion. Major types include anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa. Eating disorders first diagnosed during infancy or early childhood include pica and rumination disorder.

EBT system See electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system.

ECF See extended-care facilities (ECF).

ECHO housing Elder cottage housing opportunity, also known as a granny flat, which is a self-contained mobile-system home built for temporary use on the property of an existing residence, usually the older person's relatives. The utilities hookups are connected to the main house. This provides low-cost private housing for senior citizens with convenient access to their offspring but requires approval by local zoning laws.

echolalia Repetitive imitation of the speech of another. This is a normal phase of language development in the nine- to 12-month-old infant. Later, it is seen as maladaptive. It is often seen in adults with certain types of schizophrenia.

echopraxia Repetitive imitation of the movements or behavior of others, often a symptom of schizophrenia or other mental disorder.

eclampsia Recurrent convulsions occurring primarily during pregnancy or childbirth.

eclectic A collection of certain aspects of various theories or practice methods that appear to be most useful for practice interventions.

EOA See Equal Credit Opportunity Act (EOA).

ecological overstress The application of more demands on an environment than it can meet, ultimately reducing its restorative functions and making it permanently unproductive or less productive. This phenomenon is notable in sub-Saharan Africa, the flood plains of the Indian subcontinent, and the areas adjacent to the South American rain

forest. It is the consequence of the combined effects of population growth, overgrazing, deforestation, air and water pollution, and soil erosion.

ecological perspective An orientation in social work and other professions that emphasizes understanding people and their environment and the nature of their transactions. Important concepts include adaptation, transactions, goodness of fit between people and their environments, reciprocity, and mutuality. In professional interventions, the unit of attention is considered to be the interface between the individual (or group, family, or community) and the relevant environment. See also life model.

ecology The study of relationships between environment and organisms.

ecomap A diagram of family relationships created by Ann Hartman and used by social workers, family therapists, and other professionals to depict a variety of reciprocal influences between the client and those people related to the client, relevant social institutions, and environmental influences.

econometrics Statistical analysis of economic trends and problems.

Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 The major legislation (P.L. 88-452) of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. Enacted in 1964, it established the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) and helped create such programs as Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), the Job Corps, Head Start, Upward Bound, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, and the Community Action Program (CAP). Many of these programs were subsequently dismantled.

economies of scale A tendency for some costs of providing services to increase less than proportionately with increased output. For example, in certain circumstances, a social agency might be able to triple its service output while only doubling its budget.

ECOSOC See United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

ecosystem A concept in the biological science of ecology pertaining to the physical and biological environment and the interaction between every component thereof.

ecosystems perspective A conceptual lens through which the social worker can note the systemic relatedness of case variables. The ecosystems perspective offers no prescription for intervention but as a meta-theory attempts to depict phenomena in their connectedness and complexity. This perspective permits multiple practice theories, approaches, and practitioner roles.

ecotage Ecological sabotage; planned action that obstructs, damages, or destroys facilities and equipment thought to be harmful to the environment.

ECP practitioner A social worker or other helping professional oriented to an empirical clinical practice that is said to use scientific methods of inquiry for data gathering and interpreting.

"ecstasy" Street name for an illicit designer drug that combines methamphetamine and hallucinogenic chemicals to make a compound called "MDMA." The combination of a stimulant and hallucinogen has a powerful effect with many negative side effects.

ECT Electroconvulsive therapy. See electroshock therapy (EST).

ectopic pregnancy Pregnancy in which the fertilized egg develops outside the uterus, usually in the fallopian tubes.

edema Accumulation of fluid in the body tissues and cavities leading to swelling. Edema may be a symptom of a variety of disorders, including heart failure, kidney disease, pneumonia, and infection.

EDL See equitable distribution law (EDL).

educable Having potential for learning, especially for formal education and basic survival skills. Professionals often use the term in referring to mentally retarded individuals whose retardation does not preclude learning certain social or academic skills.

Educational Legislative Action Network (ELAN) A program within the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) that was established in 1971 to coordinate efforts to inform national and state legislators about issues of concern to social workers. NASW chapters have continued to use the term ELAN to refer to their legislative networks. See also legislative advocacy and legislative advocacy tactics.

educationally disadvantaged Children whose educational attainments are below age-appropriate levels not because of intellectual deficits but because of factors such as growing up in a home where education is not valued.

Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) U.S. Department of Education centers in more than 500 locations across the United States that provide data about the nation's educational programs and facilities. Information covers such topics as resources for exceptional children, disabled people, people unable to speak English, and people seeking to become teachers.

Education for All Handicapped Children Act The federal law (P.L. 94-142) enacted in 1975 that distributes funds for public schools so that they may provide equal educational opportunities and free special services for all children with learning and other disabilities. Such services may include special testing, remedial lessons, counseling, and tutoring.

Education of the Handicapped Amendments of 1986 This federal law (P.L. 99-457) amended the Education for All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142). A key component of the amendments is Part H, which mandates early intervention for children from birth until their third birthday if they are developmentally delayed or at risk of substantial developmental delay. Services may include psychological services, parent and family training, counseling, and transition services to preschool programs.

Education of the Handicapped Amendments of 1990 Improvements in this federal law (P.L. 101-476) aimed at increasing access for students and their families to needed services include the addition of social work services to the definition of "related services" and to the definition of "early intervention services." The law also established an ombudsperson program to help resolve problems that create barriers for students.

Education, U.S. Department of See Department of Education, U.S.

educator role In social work, the responsibility to teach clients necessary adaptive skills. This is done by providing relevant information in a way that is understandable to the client, offering advice and suggestions, identifying alternatives and their probable consequences, modeling behaviors, teaching problem-solving

techniques, and clarifying perceptions. Other social work roles are identified as the facilitator role, the enabler role, and the mobilizer role.

EEOC See Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

efficacy 1. The degree to which desired goals or projected outcomes are achieved. 2. In social work, the capacity to help the client achieve, in a reasonable time period, the goals of a given intervention.

egalitarianism A social value; a belief in human equality leading one to treat others as peers or equals and to espouse equal access to goods and resources.

ego The self; the part of the mind that mediates between the demands of the body and the realities of the environment, consisting of cognition, perception, defense mechanism, memory, and motor control. In psychodynamic theory, one of the three major spheres of the psyche, along with the id and the superego. The healthy ego finds ways to compromise between these competing pressures and enables the person to cope with the demands of the environment.

ego alien A synonym for ego dystonic.

ego boundary Limits set by the ego between the self and the environment.

egocentrism 1. Excessive preoccupation with oneself. 2. An exaggerated view of one's importance. 3. In Piagetian theory, the normal state of the child younger than age six who has not yet learned to take into account another person's perspective.

ego defense See defense mechanism.

ego disintegration 1. Breakdown of the ability of the ego to carry out its functions, such as defending against stressors, distinguishing between reality and fantasy, delaying gratification, and mediating between the demands of the body and the environment. 2. In psychoanalytic theory, the ego's loss of ability to continue in its function of mediating between the competing demands of the id and the superego.

ego dystonic Traits of personality, behavior, thought, or orientation considered to be unacceptable, repugnant, or inconsistent with the individual's perceptions—conscious or unconscious—of himself or herself;

a synonym for ego alien. The term “ego dystonic homosexual” is no longer considered a diagnosable category. See also ego syntonic.

ego functioning The manner in which the ego deals with the demands of society and mediates between internal psychological conflicts and psychosocial realities.

ego ideal 1. An individual’s goals, positive standards, and highest aspirations. 2. One or more significant others in a person’s life who are emulated.

ego integration Achievement of inner harmony and compatibility of the various aspects of one’s personality as a unified whole.

ego-oriented social work Clinical social work that incorporates the principles of ego psychology into professional practice.

ego psychology Psychosocially oriented concepts that build on Freudian theory but emphasize the individual’s adult development and ability to solve problems and deal with social realities. See also defense mechanism.

ego strengths 1. In psychodynamic theory, the degree of psychic energy available to the individual for problem solving, resolving internal conflicts, and defending against mental and environmental distress. 2. The individual’s capacity for logical thinking, intelligence, perceptiveness, and self-control over impulses to achieve immediate gratification.

ego syntonic Traits of personality, thought, behavior, and values that are incorporated by the individual, who considers them acceptable and consistent with his or her overall “true” self. See also ego dystonic.

eidetic memory The ability to bring to consciousness a mental picture of such clarity and vividness that most of the details therein are retained; a “photographic memory.”

EITC See Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

ejaculatory inhibition A sexual disorder in which a man can become sexually aroused and erect but has difficulty ejaculating intravaginally.

ELAN See Educational Legislative Action Network (ELAN).

elder abuse Mistreatment of older people and relatively dependent people. According to Toshio Tatora (“Elder Abuse,” in Richard L. Edwards [Ed.-in-Chief], *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, 19th ed., Washington, DC: NASW Press, 1995), elder abuse includes physical battering, neglect, exploitation, and psychological harm. Abuse may be inflicted by the older person’s adult children or other relatives, legal custodians, or other care providers.

elderly Advanced in age. This term is commonly used to designate people older than 65. The term pre-elderly is used for people who have not yet reached age 65. Most social workers prefer the adjective “older” instead of “elderly.” See also frail elderly.

elective mutism The refusal to talk in almost all social situations even though the ability to speak and comprehend language exists and there is no organic or physical cause for the refusal. This condition is most commonly found in younger children during the time they are compelled to participate in social situations such as school.

elective surgery Surgery considered nonessential because the related condition is not life-threatening, urgent, or physically incapacitating. Patients usually choose to undergo this surgery for psychosocial reasons. Cosmetic surgery to improve an individual’s appearance is an example. These medical procedures are often not reimbursable as a third-party payment.

Electra complex The term used in early Freudian theory for the unconscious sexual attraction girls, especially from ages three to seven, have for their fathers. The term is roughly analogous to the Oedipus complex for boys.

electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system

The use of an encoded card, similar to an automated teller machine card, to replace the Food Stamp program. The client runs the card through the terminal at a store’s checkout counter after entering the identification number. The value of the food purchases is deducted from the client’s monthly allotment. This system helps remove the stigma of using food coupons and makes it more difficult for clients to misuse the coupons.

electroshock therapy (EST) Treatments administered by physicians, primarily neurologists and psychiatrists, in which convulsions are induced in patients by applying small amounts of electrical currents to the brain.

Its purpose is to treat patients who suffer certain types of mental disorder, including some severe depression, mood disorder, and psychosis, when medications and other treatments have not been helpful. Although its use has been significantly curtailed because of the increased use and development of psychotropic drugs, EST (or ECT, for electroconvulsive therapy) is reported to be effective with certain patients, especially some with mood disorders.

Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988

The federal law (P.L. 100-297) that amended the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Officially titled the Augustus F. Hawkins–Robert T. Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988, the law significantly increased funding ceilings for programs and added more than a dozen programs. The amendments gathered many educational programs under a single legislative umbrella and offered new opportunities for school social workers.

eligibility 1. The meeting of specific qualifications to receive certain benefits. 2. The criteria used in welfare and social services systems to determine which people may receive help. For example, to be eligible for the Food Stamp program, a person must meet certain income requirements, and to be eligible for Medicare a person must be older than a certain age.

eligibility workers Employees in public welfare offices who determine whether an applicant meets the criteria for public assistance. This function once was served by social workers until state and federal laws separated the provision of social services from income maintenance. Thus, eligibility workers have freed social workers to do more technical and professional work with clients on public assistance. In many jurisdictions, however, eligibility workers are given little training in interviewing or interpersonal skills and are frustrated with the clerical emphasis of their work.

elimination disorder Inability to control elimination of body-waste products, not as a result of a specific physiological disorder. The two types of elimination disorder are encopresis and enuresis. See also functional encopresis and functional enuresis.

Elizabethan Poor Laws The statutes, codified in England in 1601 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, that established many of the principles that are still influential in dealing with economically disadvantaged people. Among their provisions were local rather than

national responsibility for the care of poor people, the distinction between the “worthy poor” and the “unworthy poor,” punitive measures for those refusing to work, standards of responsibility for relatives, and the means test to determine need for assistance.

elopement 1. Running away. The term is often applied to patients in mental hospitals or other institutions who leave precipitously without authority. 2. The act of couples going away suddenly to marry.

emaciation Extreme thinness as a result of starvation or disease.

emancipation Freeing an individual or members of a social group from the control of another or others. For example, a minor child may become emancipated from parental control (and from the right to parental support or maintenance) on getting married.

emasculate 1. To castrate, literally or symbolically. 2. To act toward a man in such a way that his male sexual identity is supposedly diminished.

embezzlement The crime of willfully appropriating money or property that is in one’s control but belongs to another. The embezzler has possession of the property by virtue of a business relationship or through some office, employment, or position of trust with the owner. For example, if the treasurer of a social agency uses funds that were donated to the agency to pay personal expenses, that individual is guilty of embezzlement.

emergency basic-needs services Pro-grams often found in state and local departments of public welfare or human services designed to provide immediate food, shelter, clothing, and fuel for individuals and families in crisis. These programs are thought of as “one-time” services, in effect only until needy people can obtain a more-permanent means of providing for their basic needs.

emergency financial assistance Programs often found in state and local departments of public welfare or human services designed to immediately provide cash or credit for individuals and families in crisis. These funds usually are granted on a “one-time” basis to prevent evictions, hunger, or deprivation of some basic needs until more-permanent means of income provision occurs.

emergency medical technicians (EMTs)

Health care workers who assist the more highly trained paramedics and physicians in administering critical and life-saving treatment.

Emergency Relief Administration See Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA).

emetic An agent used to cause vomiting, often as an immediate antidote to the ingestion of toxic substances.

eminent domain The legal right of the government, under certain conditions, to take ownership of private property to be used for public purposes. The procedure is to pay the owner fairly after a condemnation of the property.

emit To respond or behave. See operant conditioning.

emotion 1. A feeling, mood, or affect. 2. A state of mind usually accompanied by concurrent physiological and behavioral changes and based on the perception of some internal or external object.

emotional divorce A distancing between members of a dyad, usually a married couple, because they have experienced considerable pain, anxiety, anger, or other similar reactions in their previous encounters. Typically, the resulting behavior includes avoidance of one another's physical presence, avoidance of discussions about certain emotionally charged events, or refusal to provide needed emotional support.

emotional lability A tendency to change moods rapidly and frequently. This is a commonly encountered symptom of affective disorder and of immaturity.

empathy The act of perceiving, understanding, experiencing, and responding to the emotional state and ideas of another person.

emphysema A chronic disease of the lungs, characterized by extreme shortness of breath owing to stretching or rupturing of the lung's air sacs. In many instances, emphysema is a lifestyle-associated disorder, often occurring among heavy smokers, coal miners, and people who live in air-polluted environments.

empirical Based on direct observation or experience.

empirically based practice A type of intervention in which the professional social worker uses research as a practice and problem-solving tool; collects data systematically to monitor the

intervention; specifies problems, techniques, and outcomes in measurable terms; and systematically evaluates the effectiveness of the intervention used.

employable A term applied to those in the population who are potentially able to work. Economic planners sometimes identify this group as being within certain age parameters and without incapacitating infirmities.

employee assistance programs (EAPs)

Services offered by employers to their employees to help them overcome problems that may negatively affect job satisfaction or productivity. Services may be provided on-site or contracted through outside providers. They include counseling for alcohol dependence and drug dependence, marital therapy or family therapy, career counseling, and referrals for dependent care services. See also industrial social work.

employment The state of working in exchange for money.

Employment and Training Administration

A branch of the U.S. Department of Labor that focuses on programs to increase employment, help unemployed workers, facilitate access to jobs, enhance the quality and opportunity for vocational and on-the-job training, and encourage employers to hire workers. It includes the U.S. Employment Service, the Unemployment Insurance Service, the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, and the Work Incentive (WIN) program.

employment policy The principles, guidelines, goals, and regulations pertaining to the way a nation or an organization deals with its actual and potential work force. Aspects of an employment policy include hiring and firing rules and procedures, salary and benefits structure, occupational safety and health provisions, and economic programs to stimulate the creation of more jobs. In the United States, organizations affiliated with the U.S. Department of Labor that shape employment policy include the Occupational Safety and Health Administrators (OSHA), the National Commission for Employment Policy, the National Occupational Information Coordinating Committee, and the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

employment programs

Programs at the federal, state, and local government levels and in private industry designed to secure more jobs for more people and to ensure that those jobs include decent wages and benefits and equal opportunities. In the United States, in addition to the Unemployment Insurance program, these programs have included the

provisions of the Job Training Partnership Act, the Job Corps, and the Neighborhood Youth Corps. See also Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

Employment Retirement Income Security Act See ERISA.

empowerment In social work practice, the process of helping individuals, families, groups, and communities to increase their personal, interpersonal, socioeconomic, and political strength and to develop influence toward improving their circumstances.

“empty nest” A term applied to the nuclear family after the children have matured and left the home.

EMTs See emergency medical technicians (EMTs).

enabler 1. An individual who makes something possible. 2. In social work, the orientation of the social worker toward enhancing the ability of the client to solve problems and achieve goals by providing information and access to resources, strengthening coping skills, and changing socioenvironmental conditions that impede progress.

enabler role In social work, the responsibility to help the client become capable of coping with situational or transitional stress. Specific skills used in achieving this objective include conveying hope, reducing resistance and ambivalence, recognizing and managing feelings, identifying and supporting personal strengths and social assets, breaking down problems into parts that can be solved more readily, and maintaining a focus on goals and the means of achieving them. Other primary social work roles are identified as the facilitator role, the educator role, and the mobilizer role.

enabling state A version of the modern welfare state that emphasizes the private production of welfare benefits. According to Neil Gilbert and Barbara Gilbert (*The Enabling State: Modern Welfare Capitalism in America*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1989), the enabling state also emphasizes transfer payments in the form of cash rather than in-kind benefits through tax expenditures, regulatory measures, and credit subsidies, as well as direct public expenditures.

enactment 1. The process of institutionalizing an action that has great impact or influence on individuals or groups, as in the establishment of law or party. 2. In psychoanalytic theory, the

symbolic interactions between the client and psychoanalyst that have unconscious meanings to both.

encephalitis Inflammation of the brain or its covering. Usually this is an acute condition but may lead to personality or organic changes that continue after the inflammation.

encopresis The repeated passage of feces into inappropriate places at least once per month over a period of three consecutive months. By definition the condition is not due to constipation and overflow or incontinence.

encounter group Intense, short-term group therapy—using principles and techniques that include gestalt therapy, group psychotherapy, and humanistic orientation principles and techniques—designed to promote the personal growth of the participants. The emphasis is not on correcting disorders, but rather on increasing the emotional and sensory aspects of being and on increasing open communication and self-awareness.

endemic A term applied to a phenomenon, social problem, or disease that is peculiar to a given population, group, culture, or geographical area. See also pandemic.

endogamy The practice of confining marriage to members of one’s own social class or ethnic group.

endogenous Something that originates in the body. See also exogenous.

endogenous depression Depression apparently resulting from internal mental or physical processes. This term often is used to describe depression that arises without any particular stressor or unhappy event in the person’s life.

endowment 1. A permanent fund held by an educational institution, social agency, or other organization. Usually the fund comes from special donations rather than regular sources of revenue, and usually only the fund’s interest proceeds are spent. 2. The inherited or inherent qualities of a person, nation, or people.

end-stage renal disease (ESRD) Irreversible loss of kidney function, caused by genetic or metabolic factors or by external factors such as trauma or infection. ESRD patients require artificial dialysis treatment or kidney transplants to survive.

enmeshed family A concept used in the structural family therapy orientation to designate an unhealthy family relationship pattern in which the role boundaries between various family members are so vague or diffuse that there is little opportunity for independent functioning. This condition is contrasted with the disengaged family, in which the role boundaries of the various members are so rigid and inflexible that members withdraw from the relationship.

enneagram A star-shaped diagram in which personality types are depicted on a nine-point scale (“ennea” is nine in Greek). The personality types are perfectionist, giver, performer, romantic, observer, questioner, epicure, boss, and mediator. The typology is widely used in government, business, and self-help organizations.

entitlement Services, goods, or money due to an individual by virtue of a specific status.

entitlement programs Government-sponsored benefits of cash, goods, or services that are due all people who belong to a specified class. Examples include the social security programs such as Old Age, Survivors, Disability, and Health Insurance (OASDHI) and Medicare in the United States and family allowance in many European nations.

entrapment A law authority’s act of inducing an individual to commit a crime not previously contemplated, usually to prosecute that person.

entrepreneurial practice In social work, the activities involved in the provision of human services and social services for profit. Such activities include private clinical social work, providing consultations to social agencies and community organizations for fees, and establishing for-profit social services facilities such as private schools for disturbed children, employment agencies for unemployed social workers, training facilities for business organizations, and homes for at-risk population groups such as the frail elderly, unwed mothers-to-be, and children requiring foster care.

entropy A concept used in systems theories pertaining to the winding down, dissolution, or deorganization of a system. It is hypothesized that without intervention, systems are always going through this process in their movement toward and away from equilibrium.

enuresis The involuntary discharge of urine. In the diagnosis “enuresis (not due to a general medical condition),” the discharge must occur at least twice weekly for more than three consecutive months. Three subtypes are nocturnal only, diurnal only, and both.

environment All the influences, conditions, and natural surroundings that affect the growth and development of living things.

environmentalist One who works toward resolving the problems of the environment, especially the ecosystem, pollution, wildlife habitats, and the natural world. Many social workers have been leaders among environmentalist movements.

environmental modification See environmental treatment.

environmental movement Social activism by concerned citizens and groups directed toward protecting the natural world from civilization’s destructive effects. The movement is not heterogenous. Actions of environmentalist groups and individuals range from lobbying, public education, and financing research to litigation, protesting, and sometimes sabotaging enterprises that are considered environmentally harmful. See also ecosystems, ecotage, social activist, ozone layer, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), toxic waste sites, greenhouse effect, Earth Day, and Earthwatch.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) The federal organization established in 1970 to develop and enforce standards for controlling water, air, and noise pollution and to promote those activities that result in a healthy habitat for wildlife and human well-being.

environmental treatment The social casework concept that recognizes the effect of forces outside the individual and strives to modify these effects through techniques such as providing or locating specific resources, interpreting the needs of the client to others, advocacy, and mediation. Some social workers call this activity indirect treatment or “environmental modification.”

envy A group of uncomfortable emotions pertaining to the wish to have something that others possess. See also jealousy.

EOS See episode of service (EOS).

EPA See Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

epidemic The occurrence of a disease, disorder, or social problem that spreads rapidly and affects many people in a community within a relatively short period. See also disease patterns.

epidemiology The study of the frequency and distribution of a specified phenomenon, such as a disease, that occurs in a population group during a given period. Usually this is expressed in terms of an incidence rate and prevalence rate. Other commonly used terms in epidemiology are point prevalence, period prevalence, and morbidity risk. See also morbidity rate.

epidermis The outer layer of the skin.

epigenesis 1. Emergence. 2. The perceived original occurrence of a phenomenon.

epilepsy A disorder characterized by recurrent, involuntary episodes of altered states of consciousness, frequently but not always accompanied by convulsive body movements. Most professionals now refer to this condition as seizure disorders.

episiotomy Surgical incision in the vaginal wall to prevent its tearing during childbirth.

episode of service (EOS) A specific social services goal and all the alternative means used by a social work team and their client to achieve it. The team members first assess the client's need and then, often with the client, translate this into specific and realistic goals. The team then discusses the variety of techniques and resources that might be used and selects those that are most feasible.

epistemology 1. The study of the nature, methods, and limits of knowledge. 2. For many social workers and family therapists, the term means how we know what we know.

Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)

The federal legislation (P.L. 93-495) enacted in 1974 that requires retail firms and lending institutions to use the same criteria for everyone in deciding whether to grant credit, regardless of gender, marital status, or minority- or ethnic-group background. To protect the economic rights of women, the act gives wives as well as husbands the right to have credit records in their own names.

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) The five-member federal panel that administers Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting discrimination by employers, labor unions, or employment agencies and striving to promote fair practices in the workplace.

equality The principle that individuals should have equal access to services, resources, and opportunities and be treated the same by all social, educational, and welfare institutions; a fundamental social work value.

equal rights The obligations of a society or organization to provide the same opportunities and access to all, regardless of status.

equifinality 1. The property of living systems that permits them to reach identical points, although by different routes. 2. A concept in systems theories stating that different behaviors by living organisms can lead to the same or "equal final" results. The opposite of equifinality is equipotentiality or multifinality.

equilibrium 1. A concept in systems theories in which opposing forces and elements achieve balance. 2. A state or condition that is never truly reached because each variable continues to change, requiring some offsetting or equivalent change in another variable. See also goodness of fit.

equipotentiality The property of living systems in which subsystems may have identical origins or beginnings but achieve different outcomes. This is the opposite and corollary principle to equifinality.

equitable distribution law (EDL) Distribution of real and personal property between interested parties in a way that is fair and just. In divorce cases, this law requires that all the property acquired during the marriage is divided equally or according to criteria that assure fairness. For example, if a wife works to put her husband through medical school and is then divorced, the degree may be considered marital property, and she may be entitled to part of his future earnings as a physician.

equity The state of fairness or impartiality, including any systems (for example, the criminal justice system and the social welfare system) that determine how one's rights and claims are fulfilled.

equity planning An orientation in social planning that gives the most attention to problem solving for populations that are most in need with the fewest resources.

erectile disorder A sexual disorder in which a man is unable to achieve or maintain penis rigidity sufficient for completion of sexual intercourse. Clinicians use the diagnostic term male erectile disorder.

ergonomics The analysis of working conditions, employee relations, tools, and working patterns to fit the person with the job and the job with the person.

ERIC See Educational Resources Information Centers (ERIC).

Eriksonian theory In human psychosocial development theory, the eight stages of life as proposed by German-born psychologist Erik Erikson (1902–1994). The stages are trust versus mistrust (occurring at about ages one to two), autonomy versus shame and doubt (about ages two to four), initiative versus guilt (ages three to six), industry versus inferiority (ages six to 12), identity versus role confusion (ages 12 to 18), intimacy versus isolation (ages 18 to 24), generativity versus stagnation (ages 24 to 54), and integrity versus despair (older than age 54).

ERISA The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-406), a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor and other agencies, which protects the interests of workers who participate in private pension plans.

erogenous zone Any area of the body whose stimulation leads to sexual arousal.

erotic orientation The orientation individuals have as to their objects of sexual desires. For example, an individual may be oriented for sexual gratification to a member of the opposite or the same sex, groups, objects, children, or various combinations. According to Harvey L. Gochros (“Sexual Distress,” in Richard L. Edwards [Ed.-in-Chief], *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, 19th ed., Washington, DC: NASW Press, 1995), an individual’s erotic orientation may change over time and in different circumstances.

erotomanic delusion A delusional disorder in which the individual develops a sense of idealized love or sexual attraction for another who is not reciprocating. Usually, the object of this delusion is an

unapproachable person, for example, a movie or athletic star or political leader.

erotomanic-type delusional disorder A disorder characterized by nonbizarre delusions, particularly the intense belief that one is the object of another person’s secret or overt desires and love.

ESRD See end-stage renal disease (ESRD).

essential hypertension Chronic high blood pressure, not resulting from immediate reactions to threat, vigorous physical activity, or a temporary stress or crisis situation.

EST 1. See electroshock therapy (EST). 2. The initials are also used, often not capitalized, for the psychoeducational group experience founded by Werner Erhardt and originally called Erhardt Seminar Training.

estrangement The loss of contact with or antagonism toward one’s relatives or associates because of apathy or active disagreement.

ethical conduct Behavior that meets a community’s positive moral standards—distinguishing right from wrong and adhering to the right. For professional social workers ethical conduct is also following the profession’s code of ethics, providing the highest and most skillful level of service to clients as possible and relating to colleagues, other professionals, all people, and society in an honorable manner.

ethical will A spiritual document prepared by one to be read after death that expresses wishes and advice for loved ones and attempts to summarize what has been learned in life. This information is usually comforting to survivors and helps minimize controversy when such thoughts are not included in a last will and testament.

ethics A system of moral principles and perceptions about right versus wrong and the resulting philosophy of conduct that is practiced by an individual, group, profession, or culture. See also code of ethics.

ethics committees Formal panels established by a service organization to provide practitioners opportunities to consult with one another about ethical issues. Institutional ethics committees (IECs) and institutional review boards (IRBs) are located in hospitals, universities, federal agencies, and many public and private organizations. Their functions include education of practitioners and their clients, formulating agency policies on ethical issues, providing case consultation, and

reviewing existing cases involving possible ethical dilemmas. The composition of the committees depends on the nature of the host agency, but often includes interdisciplinary staffs or staff members from only one discipline and sometimes outside representatives such as clients, community leaders, lawyers, and independent experts on ethics. See also committee on inquiry.

“ethnic cleansing” The term used for achieving racial, religious, or cultural homogeneity in a nation or area through policies that eliminate or force the permanent evacuation of minority group members and their sympathizers. See also holocaust and genocide.

ethnic group A distinct group of people who share a common language, set of customs, history, culture, race, religion, or origin.

ethnic intimidation A hate crime in which an individual or group threatens other individuals or groups who belong to ethnic minorities with words, gestures, or actions.

ethnicity 1. An orientation toward the shared national origin, religion, race, or language of a people. 2. A person’s ethnic affiliation, by virtue of one or more of these characteristics and traditions. Ethnicity is a powerful determinant of an individual’s patterns of feeling, thinking, and behaving.

ethnic-sensitive practice Professional social work that emphasizes and values the special capabilities, distinctive cultural histories, and unique needs of people of various ethnic groups. Social work values and ethics emphasize ethnic-sensitive practice.

ethnic stereotyping Preconceived, usually negative, ideas about the behaviors of a racial, religious, or geographic group.

ethnocentrism An orientation or set of beliefs that holds that one’s own culture, racial or ethnic group, or nation is inherently superior to others.

ethnology The scientific study of humanity’s division into races and the history, characteristics, and culture of these racial groups.

ethnoviolence A purposeful act to harm someone or some organization identified with an ethnic group. Such activities include assaults, property destruction, harassment, firebombings, and distribution of hate propaganda. See also hate crime.

ethology The scientific study of the formation of human character and animal behavior by assessing the genetic, physiological, and evolutionary development and adaptation to the environment of living organisms.

ethos The moral beliefs or ethical character of a people or culture.

etiology 1. The underlying causes of a problem or disorder. 2. The study of such causes.

ET programs Employment training programs, used in many states to help recipients of public assistance become economically independent by training them to get and keep jobs and to help them learn marketable skills. In most states in which ET programs exist, the children of the recipients are provided with health care and day care services while the parent is in the training program. See also GAIN programs.

eugenics The science of “improving” human qualities genetically or minimizing genetic disorders. The practice may be negative (discouraging or preventing parenthood among those who are considered biologically deficient) or positive (encouraging reproduction among healthy people).

euphoria A perception of extreme well-being, excessive optimism, and increased motor activity. It is often pathological and indicative of such conditions as bipolar disorder, mania, organic mental disorders, and drug intoxication. See also dysphoria.

euthanasia 1. Elective death. 2. Putting to death or permitting the death of a person with terminal illness, also known as mercy killing. See also “assisted suicide.”

euthenics The study and movement oriented to improving lifestyles and environments to improve humans and other species.

evaluation research Systematic investigation to determine the success of a specific program. For example, a social work researcher might conduct a study of the incidence rate of nutritional deficiency in an Appalachian town before and after its citizens are made eligible for an antipoverty program.

eviction Forcing an individual, family, or business to discontinue its occupancy of housing, land, or other real property, usually by due process of law.

exceptional children A designation applied to dependent youths who, because of unusual mental, physical, or social abilities or limitations, require extraordinary forms of education, social experience, or treatment. These children include mentally retarded youngsters who can benefit from educational training facilities designed to help them reach their potential. Other such children may be those with physical disabilities and deformities, mental disorders, special talents, very high intelligence, or unusual physical abilities. See also gifted child.

exceptional eligibility A social welfare policy in which services or benefits are established for people who constitute a special group even though they may not have unique or special needs and although others outside the group may have the same needs or be in the same circumstances. Such programs are often developed because of strong political pressure or public sympathy for the group. Some veterans' programs are a notable example.

exchange model In social work administration, the concept of interorganizational linkages whereby similar agencies (for example, those agencies with the same mandates, constituencies, supervising organizations, or sources of funds) sometimes transfer or trade their resources (such as personnel, clients, or information) according to specified criteria.

exclusion allowance A portion of some benefit that may not be counted as taxable income. Examples include certain tax-deferred retirement annuity plans and some social security benefits.

“ex-con” Slang for a person who once served time in a penal institution, that is, a former convict.

exhibitionism 1. The tendency to show off one's real or imagined traits and talents to gain the attention of others. 2. Frequently, the display of one's genitals or sexual characteristics in socially unacceptable circumstances. See also “flasher.”

existential social work A philosophical perspective in social work that accepts and emphasizes the individual's fundamental autonomy, freedom of choice, disillusionment with prevailing social mores, a sense of meaning derived from suffering, the need for dialogue, and the social worker's commitment to the concept of client self-determination.

ex officio member Someone who belongs to a group or board by virtue of holding another office or status. For example, an ex officio member of the board of a sectarian social agency might be the highest-ranking local clergy of that denomination.

exogenous Something that affects an individual emotionally or physically but originates outside the body or self.

exogenous depression Depression apparently due to some external life event that is stressful or unhappy. The term is often used to imply acute depression in an individual who has healthy affect but who is currently experiencing sorrow or dejection, as in bereavement or failure to achieve an important goal.

expatriation The process of leaving one's native country and living elsewhere, usually permanently.

expenditure A payment, or obligation to pay, for some goods or services received. For example, a social agency budgets for specific anticipated operating expenses. Capital expenditures are those the social agency makes to acquire or improve a relatively permanent asset, such as the building where the agency's activities take place. Revenue expenditures are those the agency makes from its operating budget for such purposes as expendable supplies.

experience rating 1. A measure of a corporation's employee retention-layoff rate. Employers with high ratings—that is, those who lay off fewer employees than their competitors in similar industries—may be rewarded with payroll tax benefits. 2. In the insurance industry, a measure used to indicate the probability of risk to a specified group.

experiential therapy A form of psychosocial intervention or clinical treatment that emphasizes activity, acting out of conflicts and situations, role playing, confrontation, and simulating situations that are similar to the frequent life experiences of the client. Experiential therapies focus on the “here and now” and discourage the client from relying solely on a description of past circumstances. Experiential therapies often occur in group therapy or family therapy settings.

experiment A systematic project to test a hypothesis.

experimental group In research, a collection of subjects who are matched and compared with a control group in all relevant respects, except that they are also subject to a specific variable being tested.

experimental programs See demonstration programs.

expert opinion The presentation of pertinent knowledge, thoughtful speculation, or demonstration of needed skills by a professional or an authority to a committee or organization that needs the information to make a decision with an effective means of implementing a plan it has developed. This information tends toward “educated guesses” and providing reasonable prognoses about the future consequences of an act the group is thinking about implementing. For example, a social worker may be asked by a court of law to provide information about the possible long-term harm and emotional consequence to a victim of child abuse.

expert witness One who testifies before a lawmaking group or in a court of law, based on special knowledge of the subject in question, enabling the decision makers to better assess the evidence or merits of the issue. Social workers are often called as expert witnesses before legislative bodies that seek to draft legislation to enhance the public welfare. Social workers are also frequently asked to testify as expert witnesses in court hearings, especially in disputes over custody of children, child neglect, welfare rights, marital dissolution, landlord-tenant controversies, and care for people with mental and physical disabilities. See also forensic social work.

explosive disorder An impulse control disorder characterized by an individual’s loss of control of aggressive impulses and fits of rage out of proportion to any stressor. The individual may have numerous repeated episodes of this aggressivity (called intermittent explosive disorder) or have a single discrete episode (called “isolated explosive disorder”). Isolated explosive disorder is not included in DSM-IV because of potential misdiagnosis based on one episode.

exponential growth Expansion of a system in which the amount being added is proportional to the amount already present, so that the bigger the system the faster it increases. This term is often applied to uncontrolled growth in social phenomena such as urban sprawl, population, taxes, and waste products.

ex post facto experiment In research, an experiment conducted after the event being tested has already occurred. Thus, the experimenter cannot introduce the experimental stimulus but attempts to control, sometimes statistically, all extraneous factors.

expressed need An indication of the degree to which needs exist and the number of people who perceive themselves to have the need as revealed by specific factors. These factors might include the number of people who wait in lines to ask for a service, the amount of money most people seem willing to pay, or the obstacles clients need to overcome to acquire the services.

expressive language disorder A communication disorder characterized by markedly limited vocabulary and amount of speech, difficulty producing sentences of appropriate length and complexity, errors in tense, and general difficulty expressing ideas. The language difficulties interfere with academic or occupational achievement or with social communication. This disorder may be developmental or acquired (as a result of medical conditions such as head trauma). If mental retardation, motor or sensory deficits, or sociocultural deprivation is present, the language difficulties are greater than usually found in those problems. See also mixed receptive-expressive language disorder, phonological disorder, and stuttering.

expunge A legal procedure in which certain records about an individual are destroyed. In many jurisdictions, some juveniles may have records pertaining to delinquent acts expunged on reaching adulthood; also, people who have been arrested unlawfully or not convicted may apply to have their arrest records expunged.

extended-care facilities (ECF) Nursing homes for patients who need to remain in a residential care facility for extended periods, up to 100 days. To receive the ECF designation and thus be eligible for Medicare reimbursement, the facility must meet special federal and state certification standards. It must have staffs that usually include a medical director; registered nurse, nursing director, nursing supervisor, and skilled nursing staff; dietician; physical therapist; occupational therapist; and a director of social services. ECFs are subject to utilization review by government bodies and third parties. See also skilled-nursing facility.

extended family A kinship group comprising relatives of a nuclear family, such as grandparents, uncles, aunts, and second cousins.

externality The concept in social group work in which the members apply what they have learned from their experiences in the group to their worlds outside the group and use their newly acquired skills to relate more effectively with their families and their communities.

externalization 1. The projecting of one's own thoughts or values onto some aspect of the environment. 2. The distinction young children make between themselves and their environments.

extinction In behavior modification, the elimination or weakening of a conditioned response (CR) by discontinuing reinforcement after the response occurs (operant conditioning). In respondent conditioning, this occurs through repeated presentations of a conditioned stimulus (CS) without the unconditioned stimulus (US).

extortion The crime of illegally taking money or other property from another person by using fear, coercion, or threats. Extortion is generally synonymous with blackmail; it differs from robbery in that the immediate personal and physical safety of the victim is not at risk.

extradition The legal process of bringing a person accused or convicted of a crime from one nation, state, or jurisdiction to another.

extrapolation Making inferential estimations based on, but beyond the scope of, available data. For example, a social worker might conclude that a client is not really as ill as claimed solely because the case record indicates a tendency toward hypochondriasis.

extrinsic anxiety The client's unnecessary anxiety that occurs in the individual or group therapy situation and derives primarily from the uncertainty about the goals of the therapy and the methods by which the therapist or group will seek to reach them. This is contrasted with intrinsic anxiety.

extrovert An individual who tends to be outgoing and directs attention to others. Carl Jung (1875–1961) spelled this "extravert." The opposite of an introvert.

face sheet A page, usually in the front of a client's case record or in front of a questionnaire, on which specific identifying data about the subject are recorded, such as age, gender, income, family members, and prior contacts with the agency.

face validity A simple method for assessing the validity of a scale or instrument, in which the researcher using his or her professional judgment alone accepts the instrument as valid if it looks or sounds valid.

facilitation An approach to social work intervention in which the social worker stimulates and mediates linkages between client systems, helps develop new systems, or helps strengthen existing ones. The social worker acts as an enabler, supporter, mediator, and broker for the client, paving the way for the client to reach desired goals. Facilitation activities include eliciting information and opinions, encouraging the expression of feelings, interpreting behavior, discussing alternative courses of action, clarifying situations, providing encouragement and reassurance, practicing logical reasoning, and recruiting members, usually within the context of a collaborative or bargaining relationship.

facilitator One who serves as a leader for some group experience.

facilitator role In social work, the responsibility to expedite the change effort by bringing together people and lines of communication, channeling their activities and resources, and providing them with access to expertise. Other primary social work roles are identified as the enabler role, the educator role, and the mobilizer role.

fact-gathering interview An interview in which the social worker seeks predetermined and specific data from the client. The social worker asks specific questions and records relevant answers, often on a face sheet or forms. Its purpose is not primarily therapeutic and thus gives relatively little opportunity for the client to ventilate feelings or work through problems.

factitious disorder Behavior that appears to be abnormal or a symptom of mental illness but is probably under the subject's voluntary control. It is similar to malingering, except that in factitious disorder there is no apparent benefit to be gained from the problem.

factitious disorder by proxy The deliberate feigning of mental or physical symptoms of someone under the individual's care. This most commonly occurs when a parent or guardian of a child reports and induces symptomatic behavior. Motivation is not for economic or other external gain but for the caregiver to assume a role in the illness or its treatment. This is a proposed official diagnostic category of the DSM-IV.

failure to thrive See marasmus.

Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Federal legislation, passed in 1977 (P.L. 95-109), to control abusive behavior made by debt collectors

such as late-evening telephoning, warnings about loss of reputation, and threats of job loss.

Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) The first federal program to monitor and eliminate discrimination in the U.S. labor force, created in 1941 by executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The program was opposed by Congress and finally abolished in 1945.

FairHousing and Equal Opportunity Office An organization within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) responsible for enforcing the laws that require home sellers and landlords to give all potential tenants or purchasers equal access.

Fair Labor Standards Act Federal legislation originally enacted in 1938 (52 Stat. 1060) and amended periodically and administered by the U.S. Department of Labor that sets minimum wages, payment of time-and-a-half for work beyond 40 hours in a week, provisions of equal pay for equal work, and child labor standards.

faith healing The use of prayer and belief in divine intervention to alleviate symptoms of physical or mental disorders.

falling out A culture-bound syndrome occurring primarily among people in the southern United States and Caribbean islands in which the individual suddenly collapses; "blacks out"; feels dizzy; and even though he or she usually hears and understands what is going on nearby, feels powerless to move or respond.

false-memory syndrome Confabulation, the act of filling gaps in memory by fabricating and reporting these thoughts. Some clients with this syndrome come to believe they remember an event that did not happen. Others who have used repression or suppression to help avoid the distress of painful experiences eventually remember but distort all or parts of the experiences. The many others who eventually remember and accurately report what truly happened are not, of course, experiencing a false-memory syndrome. This is often used as a legal defense by accused child molesters. See also memory recovery therapy.

familial Characteristics or traits that seem prevalent among closely related people.

family A primary group whose members assume certain obligations for each other and generally share common residences. The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Commission on Families (Promoting Family Supports Statement, 1990) defines a family as two or more people who consider themselves family and who assume obligations, functions, and responsibilities generally essential to healthy family life. Child care and child socialization, income support, long-term care (LTC), and other caregiving are among the functions of family life.

family allowance A demogrant form of benefit in many nations, not including the United States, in which every eligible family, regardless of financial need, is allocated a specified sum of money. There are many variations to this system depending on the nation's social policy goals. These variations include making higher payments for families with more children, reducing payments if families have more than a prescribed number of children, and requiring families whose income exceeds a certain amount to pay back the family allowance at tax time. In some nations, these programs are known as children's allowances or maternity benefits.

Family and Medical Leave Act The federal law (P.L. 103-3) enacted in 1993 that requires U.S. companies with more than 50 employees to offer up to 12 weeks each year of job-protected, unpaid leave with their health care coverage intact so they can care for any sick family member, newborn, or newly adopted or foster child.

Family Assistance Plan (FAP) A proposal to reform part of the U.S. social welfare system by providing every employed American family a guaranteed annual income above a specified low amount. The proposed legislation was developed in 1969 by the Nixon administration but was not passed by Congress.

family care The placement of institutionalized persons into the homes of relatives or unrelated guardians where they are permitted to participate as family members. Family care is often recommended for patients in mental hospitals, incarcerated juveniles, and frail elderly residents of nursing homes.

family court A court of law that hears cases pertaining to conflicts among family members, such as divorce, domestic violence, custody, and maintenance. In many jurisdictions, family courts also include juvenile court functions.

Family Credit in U.K. The welfare system of supplementing the income of low-wage working families in the United Kingdom. This program was started in 1988 to replace the Family Income Supplement program.

family-driven support system A program usually sponsored by state and local departments of public welfare and human services to help families provide at-home care for their mentally retarded members. The system provides funds to the family to be used in purchasing services or goods.

family, extended See extended family.

family map A pictorial representation of the way a family is structured around a specific problem or concern. Each member of the family is represented by circles or squares, and the type of relationship that tends to exist between them is illustrated by drawing various types of lines.

family myths A family therapy concept pertaining to a set of beliefs, based on distortions of facts or history, shared by members of a family. These beliefs serve to enforce the family rules that influence the way the members interact and ensure cohesiveness and stability in the family. (For example, one family might believe and communicate the view that its male members are less assertive than its female members.) The family members may be aware that these ideologies are inaccurate, but they are allowed to go unchallenged to preserve the existing family structure.

family, nuclear See nuclear family.

family of orientation A kinship group united not necessarily by blood but by such factors as common residence, shared experiences and backgrounds, mutual affection, and economic dependency.

family of origin A kinship group united by blood or genetic similarity.

family of procreation A kinship group created by an adult couple.

family planning Making deliberate and voluntary decisions about reproduction. A couple practicing family planning decides on the number and timing of pregnancies after considering economic

circumstances, life goals, the nature of the reproductive process, and contraception methods. See also reproductive technology and birth control.

family policy A nation's principles and planned procedures that are intended to influence or alter existing patterns of family life. Technically, all of a nation's social policy concerns (such as income maintenance, housing, education, and defense) affect families. Thus, the term family policy generally focuses more on issues such as fertility rates and family size, child care for working parents, care of older people, foster care programs, and income maintenance programs for families, as in family allowance. A nation's family policy may be explicit or implicit.

family preservation Planned efforts to provide the knowledge, resources, supports, health care, relationship skills, and structures that help families stay intact and maintain their mutual roles and responsibilities. Government family preservation programs have been developed in many nations to help keep families from losing their children, especially through foster placement, abandonment, runaway, and juvenile incarceration. Some of these programs also help empower fathers and mothers so they can maintain traditional roles.

family projection process A family therapy concept developed by Murray Bowen (1914-1990) that refers to the way some members of a family, especially parents, attribute sources of conflict to other members of the family, especially children. This process frequently results in one or more of the children in a family becoming the bearers of the symptoms of the family's ills.

family rules A family therapy term that refers to repetitious patterns of behavior and mutual expectations regulating that behavior in a family. One family, for example, might maintain a mutual expectation that none of its members is to express outwardly any feelings of affection for one another. Another family might have a rule that every dispute is to result in threatened or actual physical violence.

family sculpting An evaluation and intervention technique in some forms of family therapy in which family members are asked to position and choreograph the movements of other family members and to form a living tableau of people that reflects the communication and relationship patterns in the family unit.

family secrets A family therapy concept pertaining to shared but concealed beliefs and perceptions that some or all of the family members

may hold but hide from one another to achieve certain family interactions.

Family Service America (FSA) The national organization comprising privately funded, local family service organizations in most larger communities in the United States, plus professionals and private citizens interested in social services for families. Formerly known as the Family Service Association of America, FSA was established as an outgrowth of the National Association of Societies for Organizing Charities in 1911 and took its present name in 1983. Its member agencies provide family therapy and marital therapy, guidance and educational programs, and social services to the community. The national organization sets standards for member agencies, provides public relations and educational programs, and sponsors research and publications. Its board helps set policy and advise lawmakers about family needs.

family service organizations Social agencies that provide a variety of human services, especially to couples, families, and extended family units. These organizations are most often funded through grants and private donations and follow policies established by independently elected or appointed boards of directors. Services include family therapy and marital therapy, family life education, and community activities to enhance healthy family development. Many of these agencies are affiliated with national organizations.

Family Services Administration See Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

Family Support Act (FSA) of 1988 The welfare reform program (P.L. 100-485) that attempted to reduce the number of welfare recipients by encouraging vocational training while providing child care and maintaining Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibility and Medicaid benefits. Major features of the act were the JOBS program and provisions to maintain AFDC benefits and pay for child care for those in need for up to 12 months.

family system theories The application of systems theories (those that emphasize reciprocal relationships and mutual influences between the individual components and the whole and vice versa). Virtually all current family therapy approaches and theoretical orientations that focus on understanding or treating families use a systems theory; however, there are many variations and differences in emphases in these theories.

family therapy Intervention by a professional social worker or other family therapist with a group of family members who are considered to be a single unit of attention. Typically, the approach focuses on the whole system of individuals and interpersonal and communication patterns. It seeks to clarify roles and reciprocal obligations and to encourage more-adaptable behaviors among the family members. The therapist concentrates on verbal and nonverbal communications and on the “here and now” rather than on family history. Variations in family therapy techniques are practiced by proponents of psychosocial, behavioral, systems, and other orientations. Some of the more-influential family therapy “schools” have been influenced by Salvador Minuchin (structural family therapy), Jay Haley (strategic family therapy), Virginia Satir and the Palo Alto Group, Murray Bowen, Carl Whittaker, Henry V. Dicks, Mara Selvini-Palazzoli, and Peggy Papp.

Family Unification Program A program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) established in 1992 to provide rental housing assistance to families whose children are at risk of being placed in foster care because of the family’s potential for homelessness.

family violence Aggressive and hostile behaviors between members of a family that result in injury, harm, humiliation, and sometimes death. These behaviors may include physical abuse, rape, destruction of property, and deprivation of basic needs.

family welfare One of professional social work’s first designated fields of practice. The activities include marriage counseling, parent training, and child protective services (CPS), as well as helping clients get access to financial assistance, health care, educational provisions, and employment. Family welfare work takes place in public and private agencies such as departments of public assistance and family service organizations.

famine A widespread and severe scarcity of vital needs, especially food.

fantasy The mental picturing of events, objects, or other forms of symbolic thought in daydreams or while sleeping. Normally, fantasy is a healthy outlet for an individual’s adjustment and creative needs but when excessive can be a symptom of mental disorder.

FAO See Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

FAP See Family Assistance Plan (FAP).

fascism A political ideology and party that advocates a totalitarian structure of governance, extreme nationalism under a charismatic dictator, high favor for private capitalism, a regimented populace devoted to social productivity, and sanctions against individuals who are considered less economically productive or responsible for economic problems. Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler espoused this ideology.

Fauri, Fedele F. (1909–1981) Public welfare expert and social work educator, Fauri was long-time dean at the University of Michigan School of Social Work after serving as the state's director of social welfare. He helped develop doctoral programs for social work and presided over many national social welfare organizations.

FDA See Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

FDIC See Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

fear The emotional and physical reaction to an identifiable or perceived source of danger.

feasibility study A systematic assessment of the resources needed to accomplish a specified objective and concurrent evaluation of an organization's existing and anticipated capabilities for providing those resources.

featherbedding Requiring an employer to hire workers who are not needed. For example, a union contract might require that 10 workers are hired even though the job needs only five. The Labor-Management Relations Act (Taft-Hartley Act) of 1947 forbids the practice, but it is easily circumvented.

fecundity A given population group's potential for reproduction, determined by counting the number of fertile women of childbearing age.

Federal Crime Insurance Program A program established in 1971 and administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that underwrites insurance against the risks of crime when it is unavailable from commercial insurance companies. It is used primarily by small businesses located in high-crime neighborhoods.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) A government corporation that insures people's deposits in national and some state banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System. Depositors are assured that their funds, up to an amount specified in advance, will be returned to them in the event that the bank fails or has insufficient resources to meet all its obligations.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) An independent agency of the U.S. government designed to organize and coordinate the nation's emergency preparedness. It oversees civil defense programs, urban riot response, and disaster relief.

Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) The government organization established during the Roosevelt administration in 1933 and directed by Harry Hopkins (1890–1946), a social worker. The program distributed federal funds to the states for emergency unemployment relief and required every local administration to have at least one experienced social worker on its staff. FERA and other New Deal programs were terminated as World War II began.

Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) A program that provides health benefits for employees of the federal government. In 1986, the program was amended by the Federal Employees Benefits Improvement Act (P.L. 99-251); one of the provisions eliminated the requirement for physician supervision as a condition for reimbursing clinical social workers.

Federal Housing Administration (FHA)

The national program implemented in 1938 to encourage home ownership. Its most important feature has been to guarantee loans to finance individual homes, permitting homeowners to make lower down payments (5 and 10 percent) and to take longer to pay the balance (30 and sometimes 40 years).

Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) The federal law that authorizes the government to levy payroll taxes on employers and employees. The revenues are earmarked to finance Old Age, Survivors, Disability, and Health Insurance (OASDHI). See also Self-Employment Contributions Act (SECA) of 1954.

Federal Register The U.S. government publication in which all executive orders, proclamations, proposed rules and legislation, and

notices of all government agencies are printed and distributed to the public.

Federations of Social Agencies Organizations comprising private welfare agencies in a given community that combine some of their resources and efforts for fundraising, public relations, lobbying, and educational activities.

feedback Transmitting information about the results of an action to the individual who performed that action. This permits a more-objective evaluation of the action's effectiveness. It also permits modifications in the ongoing action to increase the likelihood of success. In social work administration, feedback is often used in supervision, personnel evaluations, client reports, and objective outcome evaluations to help social workers achieve desired improvements or to give them positive indicators when they are performing well.

feeding disorder of infancy or early childhood Persistent failure to eat adequately resulting in weight loss or failure to gain weight. The onset of this disorder is in the first year but occasionally occurs after ages two or three. The disorder is not the result of gastrointestinal, endocrinological, or neurological conditions or lack of food. See also eating disorders, rumination disorder, and pica.

fee for service A charge made to clients or their fiscal intermediaries for a specified service (such as an hour of counseling) provided by a social worker.

fee schedule A listing of the maximum fee that a health plan will pay for any service based on codes

FEHBP See Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP).

Feingold diet A treatment modality designed for children who have attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). B. F. Feingold claimed that children with behavioral and learning problems have a natural toxic reaction to flavorings, preservatives, and coloring in food, and he proposed a nutritious diet free of such additives. The hypothesis is empirically unsubstantiated but has a wide following.

felony A crime that is more serious than a misdemeanor. Felonies include burglary and some categories of larceny, homicide, rape, and assault.

FEMA See Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

female orgasmic disorder A sexual disorder in women characterized by the persistent or recurrent delay or absence of orgasm following a normal sexual excitement phase. This condition has also been known as "inhibited female orgasm" or as "orgasmic impairment." See also male orgasmic disorder.

female sexual arousal disorder A sexual disorder in women characterized by a persistent or recurrent inability to attain or maintain a satisfactory lubrication and swelling response of sexual excitement (when sexual stimulation is adequate in focus, intensity, and duration) leading to distress or interpersonal difficulties. When using this term as a diagnosis, sex therapists and other clinicians specify whether the condition is lifelong or acquired, generalized or situational, and due to psychological or combined factors. See also male erectile disorder.

feminism The social movement and doctrine advocating legal and socioeconomic equality for women. The movement originated in Great Britain in the 18th century. See also women's liberation movement.

feminist social work The integration of the values, skills, and knowledge of social work with a feminist orientation to help individuals and society overcome the emotional and social problems that result from sex discrimination.

feminist therapy A psychosocial treatment orientation in which the professional (usually a woman) helps the client (usually a woman) in individual or group settings to overcome the psychological and social problems largely encountered as a result of sex discrimination and sex role stereotyping. Feminist therapists help clients maximize potential, especially through consciousness-raising, eliminating sex stereotyping, and helping them become aware of the commonalities shared by all women.

feminization of poverty concept The fact that women, especially those raising children without husbands or significant others, are far more vulnerable to being poor. The high rate of divorce, unwed motherhood, family breakdowns, and the burden of child care tending to fall on the mothers, many of whom have not had good employment experience, result in gender-skewed poverty rates.

fence One who receives stolen property and sells it for a profit.

FEPC See Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC).

FERA See Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA).

Fernandis, Sarah (1863–1951) Founder of the first black social settlement house in the United States, she received her MSW degree from New York University before beginning her work as organizer for improved health and sanitation in black neighborhoods.

fertility The biological capacity to reproduce.

fertility rate A demographic characteristic indicating the number of live births that occur in a population group during a specific time span.

fertilization in vitro See in vitro fertilization.

fetal alcohol syndrome Various forms of damage to a fetus as a result of heavy maternal alcohol consumption. Potential problems include retarded growth, mental retardation, and sometimes craniofacial and limb abnormalities.

fetishism A sexual disorder of the paraphilia class involving erotic attraction to an inanimate object or specific body part, especially clothing, shoes, and hair. See also erotic orientation.

fetology The science and medical specialty that deals with the study, care, and treatment of the fetus during prenatal development.

fetus An unborn infant; usually the term is applied to developing human organisms from the third month after conception until birth. Development from the ninth week consists primarily of the refinements of existing organ systems and increases in size.

feudalism The socioeconomic and political system in medieval Europe in which people of high social rank were given land grants (fiefs) by people of even higher rank in exchange for tax payments and the military services of those who managed and worked the land.

FFA See force field analysis (FFA).

FHA See Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

FICA See Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA).

fidgetiness Restless movements and increased motor activity, often seen in people experiencing anxiety, hyperactivity, anger, or impatience. It also occurs in tics and gross motor disturbances.

field instruction In social work education, an integral part of the BSW and MSW educational curricula, providing students with supervised opportunities to engage in direct social work practice with individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations. Students are helped to refine professional skills, acquire and solidify social work values, and integrate the knowledge acquired in the academic setting with that obtained in the field.

field placement A part of the social work student's formal educational requirement, consisting of ongoing work in a community social agency. The MSW student typically is given a work assignment (of 16 to 20 hours weekly) in one agency during the first training year and assigned to another agency with about the same time requirements during the second year. The student receives close supervision by agency personnel and has the opportunity to integrate, use, and apply classroom content to practical experiences. Field placements also exist in undergraduate (BSW) social work programs and in some doctoral programs. See also concurrent placement and block placement.

fields of practice The social work term pertaining to the profession's various practice settings and the special competence needed to work in those settings. Fields of practice were established by the 1920s when it became apparent that social work practice itself was so far-reaching that it was becoming difficult for individuals to encompass. The first fields of practice included family welfare, child welfare, psychiatric social work, medical social work, and school social work. These fields have, to some extent, subsequently changed their names and their focus (for example, from psychiatric social work to "social work in mental health," and from medical social work to "social work in health care"), and new ones have emerged. They now also include occupational social work, geronto-logical social work, rural social work, police social work, and forensic social work.

field study A social research method of investigating subjects in their natural environments instead of in a laboratory or clinician's office. For example, a social worker doing research in a ghetto would stay in that neighborhood making systematic observations for an extended period.

Fifth Amendment rights Protections under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing that no citizen may be compelled to give self-incriminating testimony for a court or congressional committee. This amendment also protects the individual from being tried a second time for the same crime (double jeopardy) or being deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. See also self-incrimination.

filial responsibility See relatives' responsibility.

filial therapy The use of parents in a structured intervention for children with mental, social, or behavioral disorders. The therapist meets with small groups (six to eight parents) in didactic and information-gathering sessions. The parents then rehearse treatment techniques in the group before using them at home with their children. They discuss the ongoing results with the group.

financial management The planning, control, and direction of one's income and expenditures. This includes appropriate recording and bookkeeping, establishing and implementing consistent priorities and timing for purchasing decisions, minimizing waste, and budgeting. Social work administrators are concerned with financial management as an integral part of their managerial responsibilities. Social workers in direct practice often teach or help some of their clients plan and control their finances. See also administration in social work.

fine motor skills The ability of muscles to make small movements, increments, and adjustments to achieve delicate manipulations such as threading a needle, putting a golf ball, or tying a shoelace. See also gross motor skills.

First Amendment rights Protections under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing that government will not abridge the rights of free speech and press, worship, and peaceable assembly, or of petitioning the government for redress of grievances.

first-order change In systems theories, a temporary or superficial change in a system and the way it functions. See also second-order change.

fiscal intermediaries Organizations that provide third-party and fourth-party financial services between recipients and providers of a benefit. For example, whereas a government organization (third party) provides funds for Medicaid health care providers, a private insurance

company such as Blue Cross-Blue Shield (fourth party) may provide the related administrative support.

fiscal policy A nation's economic goals and the manipulation of its finances to reach those goals, usually through raising or lowering taxes, spending levels, and interest rates.

fiscal year A 12-month accounting period used by governments, business organizations, and social agencies that often does not coincide with the calendar year. The fiscal year of the U.S. government begins October 1 and ends September 30.

501(c) organizations A type of nonprofit public interest or public service organization, such as a lobbying group, social welfare group, or charitable foundation, identified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to indicate its tax status. Lobbying organizations are 501(c) (4) groups and not exempt from paying taxes. Contributors to political action committees (PACs), which are 501(c) (5) groups, cannot deduct from their taxes. Charitable foundations are 501(c) (3) groups and are tax exempt. To take advantage of tax laws, many 501(c) organizations form foundations outside of their functions. For example, the Sierra Club comprises several organizations, including a PAC that is a 501(c) (5) organization and a foundation that is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

fixation 1. A continuing mode of behavior, persistent thought, or enduring emotional attachment that has become inappropriate for one's present circumstances or age.
2. In psychodynamic theory, the partial or complete arrest of personality development at one of the psychosexual stages.

fixed assets An organization's or social agency's financial holdings, such as land, buildings, and properties, that are not readily negotiable. Fixed assets exclude such values as accessible cash, expertise of personnel, and the agency's reputation or goodwill factors.

fixed-interval schedule A procedure used in behavior modification in which a reinforcement is delivered when a specified period has elapsed after a response has occurred. For example, a child may be given a reward 10 minutes after completing a homework assignment.

Fizdale, Ruth (1908-1994) A social work practitioner, administrator, and scholar, Fizdale developed the fee-for-service system now used in public and private social agencies and by private practitioners. She encouraged efforts to provide social work services to more-affluent clients

and led the pro-profession's movement toward more accountability, licensing, peer review, and competence certification.

flashback A mental sensation of a sudden recurrence of a previous experience or perception. See also hallucinogen persisting-perception disorder.

“flasher” Slang for a certain type of exhibitionist who suddenly opens and closes articles of clothing, such as an overcoat, to reveal flashing glimpses of genitals. See also exhibitionism.

flat affect The appearance of apathy in mood. For example, an individual may show no emotion when told of bad news or take good news with indifference. It is sometimes a symptom of schizophrenia or depression.

flat-rate fee A predetermined amount of money charged by a social worker or other professional for providing a particular service. The amount assessed is related to the service itself rather than to the client's unique economic circumstances. See also sliding fee scale.

Flexner, Abraham (1866–1959) Educational reformer whose study about medical education led to changes in the curricula of medical schools; his Flexner Report (1915) stimulated social work to develop changes that led to its becoming a profession.

Flexner Report An influential paper delivered to social workers in 1915 by Abraham Flexner (1866–1959) that declared that social work was not yet a profession because it lacked a unique technology, specific educational programs, a professional literature, and practice skills. Although it was controversial, the report stimulated social work to make the changes that eventually resulted in the fulfillment of Flexner's criteria of professionalism.

flight into health A phenomenon commonly seen in clinical social work and other psychotherapies in which the client's symptoms or problems suddenly seem to cease without intervention. At that point, the client wants to terminate treatment or change the focus of attention in the treatment. The major reason this occurs is that the client fears some material or emotions that the therapy is uncovering and hopes to avoid the revelation by ending the work. Other causes are that the client is being pressured by financial or family constraints to end treatment.

flight into illness A phenomenon commonly seen in clinical social work and other psychotherapies in which the client whose therapy is coming to an end suddenly exhibits new symptoms of the presenting problem. It is considered a manifestation by the client of overdependency on the social worker, a transference experience, or fear of abandonment.

flight of ideas Rapid skipping from one thought or mental association to another without much basis for connection. It is sometimes a symptom of hyperkinesia, bipolar disorder (manic type), and drug-induced euphoria.

flooding A procedure used in behavior therapy in which stimuli that elicit anxiety are presented, either in reality or imagery, with such regularity or intensity that the subject eventually stops responding with anxiety. See also implosive therapy.

“flophouse” A derisive term sometimes applied to cheap transient hotels, mission homes, and shelters for homeless people.

Florence Crittenden Association An organization of private social agencies throughout the United States that originated to provide residential treatment and social services for unwed mothers and to facilitate adoption of children. The association has expanded its range of services to include education, pregnancy prevention, and counseling. See also maternity homes.

fluid intelligence The mental skills and abilities that pertain to problem solving, adaptability, and integration of ideas. Unlike crystallized intelligence, which continues to develop throughout life, fluid intelligence tends to decline in later adulthood. See also multiple intelligences.

focus group A group typically of six to 12 people convened to discuss a specific issue or single topic, often with the aid of questionnaires and a moderator who actively keeps the conversation oriented to that topic. Such groups are often established to acquire information and generate ideas that would not be as accessible through individual interviews. Focus groups are frequently used in social group work and community organization and may include the nominal group technique, the Delphi method, and brainstorming.

folie à deux The sharing of delusions by two people. For example, a husband and wife may come to believe and help reinforce one another's conviction that they are being ridiculed secretly by their neighbors. This

phenomenon is also known as shared psychotic disorder. See also codependency and conjugal paranoia.

folklore The traditions, legends, beliefs, and sayings of a group of people (such as an ethnic group, a tribe, a nation, a regional group, or an extended family).

Folks, Homer (1867–1963) A child welfare reformer, he worked at the Children’s Aid Society in New York but disagreed with their methods. He became an advocate of home placement of orphans and juvenile delinquents and urged an end to child dumping in orphanages and almshouses and unsupervised placing-out programs. In 1904 he wrote the influential text *Care of Destitute, Neglected, and Delinquent Children*.

folkways Informal, traditional, and not strongly enforced patterns of behavior and standards of conduct in a culture.

Follett, Mary Parker (1868–1933) Social activist in the vocational guidance movement, she also developed many of the principles used in administration in social work and wrote the posthumously published text *Dynamic Administration* (1941).

following responses In the social work interview, the process of giving clients immediate feedback that their messages have been heard and understood. The social worker does this not by asking questions or directing discussion but by paraphrasing the client’s words, conveying empathy, and showing attentiveness through such verbalizations as “I see,” “I understand,” or “You did?”.

Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) An agency of the United Nations established in 1945 to improve the world’s agricultural production and distribution and to enhance the nutritional level of all peoples. It devises plans for improving yields in agriculture, oceans, and forests and also supervises research to improve seeds and hybrid crops and to develop fertilizers and pesticides.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) A federal program, established in 1931 and now part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), that maintains standards and conducts research on the safety, reliability, and value of food and drug products available for human consumption.

food assistance programs Social welfare benefits for eligible people to assure that their nutritional requirements are met. The major food assistance programs in the United States are managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and include the Food Stamp program, the school breakfast and School Lunch program, and the WIC program. USDA also arranges the donation of surplus agricultural products to some charitable institutions and nonprofit summer camps.

Food Stamp program A federal food assistance program, enacted in 1964 and administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) through state welfare departments. Coupons are distributed to needy eligible individuals and families to be used like cash in participating stores to purchase most foods, plants, seeds, and sometimes meals-on-wheels, but not alcohol or tobacco products. The objective is to improve the diets of low-income households by supplementing their food-purchasing ability.

force field analysis (FFA) A problem-solving tool often used in social welfare planning, administration, and community organization for assessing the degree of resistance or receptivity to a proposed change. FFA includes listing the social forces that push for change (such as high costs of the existing program or ineffectiveness in reaching stated goals) and then listing those forces expected to obstruct change (such as the existing personnel’s fear of losing job security or authority). FFA then delineates actions that can be taken to increase or decrease certain forces so as to facilitate movement toward the desired goal.

foreclosure The legal termination of the right to a specified property, usually as a consequence of nonpayment of the obligation.

Foreign Equivalency Determination Service A program of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) that evaluates the academic credentials of people educated in nations other than the United States to determine their equivalency to CSWE-accredited education programs. These evaluations are used to establish qualifications for certification, licensing, employment, graduate school admission, and membership in social work-related professional associations.

forensic social work The practice specialty in social work that focuses on the law and educating law professionals about social welfare issues and social workers about the legal aspects of their objectives. The activity also includes being an expert witness (or preparing other social workers to provide such testimony) in courts of law on such disputes as custody of children, divorce, juvenile delinquency, nonsupport, relatives’ responsibility, and welfare rights.

forgery Counterfeiting or fabricating an object of value, such as a signature, document, or work of art, with the intent to commit fraud.

formal operations stage In Piagetian theory, the developmental stage that occurs during adolescence and that is characterized by greater flexibility in thought, increasing ability to use logic and deductive reasoning, the ability to consider complex issues from several viewpoints, and a reduction of egocentrism.

fossil fuels Burnable products, including oil, natural gas, and coal, formed from ancient living organisms extracted from the earth.

foster care The provision of physical care and family environments for children who are unable to live with their natural parents or legal guardians. Foster care is typically administered by county social services departments. Their social workers evaluate children and their families to help legal authorities determine the need for placement, evaluate potential foster homes as to their appropriateness for placing the particular child, monitor the foster home during the placement, and help the legal authorities and family members determine when it is appropriate to return the child to the natural family. The precedent for foster care in the United States originated largely with apprenticing and indenture, procedures in which homeless youths were placed in the care of a merchant or craftsman for instruction and lodging in exchange for work. The term "foster care" also applies to full-time residential care for older, developmentally disabled, or mentally ill adults. See also adult foster care.

Foster Grandparents A federal program, administered by ACTION, that employs low-income senior citizens to provide care and emotional support for children who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, mentally retarded, or neglected.

foundations Institutions through which private funds are distributed for public purposes such as education, international relations, health, welfare, research, the humanities, and religion.

foundling hospitals Institutions that receive and care for abandoned children. Traditionally, the hospitals have been financed by philanthropy and by local taxpayers. The first foundling hospital was established in Milan, Italy, in 787. Thomas Coram established the first one in England in 1739. St. Vincent's Infant Asylum was established in

1856 as the first such facility in the United States. For the most part, they have been replaced by foster care programs.

four freedoms President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposed goal for the peoples of all the world and the major objective for the forthcoming United Nations. The four freedoms were freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

4-H club An international organization for young people interested or involved in agriculture or homemaking through the development of one's head, heart, hands, and health.

fourth force The name given to a trans-personal psychology orientation toward understanding people and providing psycho-social services. It refers to the major orientations of psychological thought and therapy. The first force was the psychodynamic or analytical orientation that grew in the psychologically repressive Victorian era and focused on the psychopathology of inner-directed humans. The second force was the behaviorist orientation that focused on outer-directed human action and responses to the stresses faced in the environment. The third force was the humanistic, experiential, existential approach to therapy whose goal was self-actualization. The transpersonal fourth force goes beyond self-actualization toward a "trans-human" orientation centered in the connection of the soul and morality with the cosmos.

fourth party A fiscal intermediary between the provider of a health care or social service, the consumer of that service, and the organization that pays for the service. The fourth party does not provide the cash to cover the charges but provides administrative services for the cash provider (third party). For example, the U.S. government is the third party for the CHAMPUS program, which pays health care providers for their treatment of dependents of military personnel. But in most locales, CHAMPUS contracts with a private insurance company, such as Blue Cross-Blue Shield (the fourth party), to process the administrative details.

Fourth World The underdeveloped nations, colonies, and protectorates that have extremely low per-capita incomes and rates of literacy, few natural resources, and low financial reserves. Countries including Bangladesh, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Chad are called "Fourth World" to distinguish them from nonaligned (Third World) countries, which do have resources and aspirations and are working toward more economic sufficiency.

frail elderly Older men and women who suffer from or are vulnerable to physical or emotional impairments and require some care because they have limited ability or opportunity to provide entirely for their own needs. See also elderly and old old.

franchising The process by which one organization grants another organization, group, or individual the right and obligation to fulfill one of its customary functions. For example, a state government might contract with a private company to provide penal facilities and services to some of its convict criminal population. Or a county government might engage a group of private social work practitioners to conduct all the investigations for foster care placements.

Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) Founder of the Franciscan Order whose members lived in poverty while serving poor and ill people. Although many members of his order or its branches became priests and nuns, he remained a layman. The Roman Catholic Church declared him to be a saint after his death.

fraud Intentionally deceiving someone who thereby is injured.

fraudulent contract 1. An explicit or implied agreement between two closely related people that is repeatedly violated by one person, forcing the other to adopt new behaviors to accommodate. 2. In law, the term refers to a written document, to which both parties agree, that contains deceptive statements or information.

free association A therapeutic procedure, most commonly used in psychoanalysis and other insight therapies, in which the professional encourages the client to express whatever thoughts or emotions come to mind. The client verbalizes at length, and the therapist gives no distracting external cues that could influence the material being presented. See also catharsis and Freudian theory.

Freedmen's Bureau Originally known as the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, this U.S. War Department organization was established in 1865 and was the nation's first federal welfare agency. Its major purpose was to assist former slaves in the transition to freedom by distributing food rations to the needy, finding employment opportunities, developing educational and medical institutions, and providing legal assistance. The bureau was eliminated in 1872.

Freedom of Information Act Federal legislation enacted in 1966 (P.L. 89-487) to establish the right of citizens to know (with specific exceptions) what information the government and some other organizations are keeping about them. For example, under certain circumstances, the act gives clients of federally administered health and welfare agencies the right of access to their case records. See also relative confidentiality and absolute confidentiality.

freedom riders Civil rights activists who rode buses into the American South in the 1960s to challenge racial segregation laws and practices.

free-enterprise system An economic orientation of a nation or community that permits open competition for customers with minimal government regulation or involvement in the economy. This is a relative concept, because any social system except anarchy must have some public regulation or controls.

free-floating anxiety Pervasive tension not attached to specific threats, situations, or ideas.

freestanding social services Social services agencies and programs that operate independently of other service provider organizations and usually offer a wide range of personal social services. Examples include child welfare and family service organizations. Freestanding social services are contrasted with those provided within "host" organizations, such as the social services departments of hospitals, schools, industrial organizations, and the military.

Freudian slip See parapraxis.

Freudian theory An integrated set of principles about human behavior and the treatment of personality disorders based on the ideas of Viennese neurologist Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) and his followers. Central concepts about personality development include the growing organization of drives (instincts, libido, pleasure principle, and reality principle), personality structure (unconscious, preconscious, and conscious), personality dynamics (id, ego, and superego), and the stages of psychosexual development (the oral phase, the anal phase, and the phallic phase). Treatment concepts include free association, catharsis, transference, and countertransference. See also psychoanalytic theory and psychosexual development theory.

frictional unemployment One of the four kinds of unemployment (the others being seasonal unemployment, cyclical unemployment, and structural unemployment) that occurs when people are moving geographically or occupationally from one job to another with only slight intervals of time with no work.

friendly visitors Volunteers and, later, paid employees of the Charity Organization Societies (COS) who eventually became known as social workers. Their primary job was to investigate the homes of needy people, determine the causes of problems, provide guidance for solving problems, and—as a last resort—provide material assistance to those clients deemed “worthy.” Friendly visiting was supplanted by casework as the “visitors” developed greater professionalism, more-thorough training, and better understanding of the causes of problems. This term is used currently in some social services organizations to refer to a professional practice of systematically going to the houses of clients, usually shut-ins.

“frigidity” An early term used to describe sexual disorders of women who do not experience sexual arousal or orgasms. Whereas the terms now used to describe these problems include sexual aversion disorder, dyspareunia, and vaginismus, the preferred term is female sexual arousal disorder.

frotteurism A sexual disorder characterized by strong and recurring sexual urges and erotic fantasies involving touching and rubbing against a nonconsenting person. The individual usually acts on these urges (commits frottage) in crowds where the behavior is less noticeable—except to the victim.

frustration A state of tension that occurs as a result of some goal-directed behavior being thwarted or postponed.

frustration tolerance The capacity to endure having a goal thwarted or postponed.

FSA 1. See Family Service America (FSA). 2. See Family Support Act (FSA) of 1988.

FTE Full-time equivalent, determined by the number of hours that staff work measured against the hours in a work-week. For example, if an agency’s work-week is 40 hours and a program employs one staffperson 40 hours a week and another 28 hours a week, the program employs 1.7 FTEs.

fugue Amnesic flight; a psychogenic condition in which individuals, usually after experiencing intolerable internal or external stress, develop amnesia and abandon their homes, jobs, or familiar environments. The more-appropriate term is psychogenic fugue.

functional assessment Systematic procedures and criteria used by social workers and other professionals, especially in health care and institutional settings, to determine the capacity of clients to provide for their own care and well-being. The client is evaluated as to his or her ability to carry out needed activities of daily living (ADL) and possession of the tools needed to fulfill those activities.

functional community A class of people or organizations that have common purposes, goals, or orientations toward their achievement. Examples are the education, military, business, religious, or medical communities. Social workers and others belong to the welfare or human services functional community.

functional dyspareunia Painful sexual intercourse resulting from psychogenic rather than organic factors. The term currently preferred by professionals is dyspareunia.

functional encopresis Uncontrolled bowel movements resulting from psychogenic rather than organic factors.

functional enuresis Involuntary urination resulting from psychogenic rather than organic factors.

functional illiteracy See illiteracy, functional and literacy volunteer programs.

functional impairment The inability of an individual to meet certain expectations or responsibilities because of temporary or permanent physical or mental incapacitation. The term is used by some social workers to refer to a situation in which an individual is only partially disabled and can effectively carry out most, but not all, normal functions.

“functional mental illness” A term that pertains to psychological disorders for which there is no apparent physical or organic basis. With increased recognition of the importance of physiological factors in mental processes, this term is becoming obsolete.

functional requisites In social policy development, the delineation of anticipated program activities and services, identification of service targets, and specification of anticipated types of intervention to be used.

functional school in social work A theoretical and practice orientation in social work based partly on the “will” concept of Otto Rank and the ideas of Virginia Robinson (1883–1977) and Jessie Taft (1882–1960). It is also known as the Rankian School and the Pennsylvania School to distinguish it from the diagnostic school in social work. Most influential from 1930 to 1950, the approach deemphasized diagnostic inquiry, history taking, and Freudian theory; instead, it stressed a strategy that was time-limited and focused on those issues that came within the function of the agency.

functional vaginismus A sexual pain in women in which continuing involuntary spasms of the musculature of the outer third of the vagina interfere with coitus. This term is now replaced by the term vaginismus.

function-versus-cause issue See cause-versus-function issue.

fundamentalist movements The religious-based political and social cause activities of people with strong religious convictions who espouse their faiths to be the basic and only truthful tenets and who work toward convincing others likewise. These movements tend to be politically conservative and often are led by charismatic clergy who cite the holy writings of their faiths to justify and advocate for social change.

funding Allocation of a specific amount of money to be used in carrying out an organization’s program for a certain amount of time.

fundraising The process of soliciting and acquiring income through philanthropy and other private donations, grants, fee for service, investment, and other means.

furthering responses The interview strategy of encouraging clients to communicate with more clarity, depth, and focus and to enhance the working relationship. These activities are based on attentive listening and stimulating the client’s verbalization. Furthering responses include minimal prompts (“I see” and “And then . . . ?”) and accent responses (repeating a word or phrase from the client’s

verbalization to encourage further elaboration). See also following responses.

fusion In family systems theory, the obscuring of separate identities between the family members. See also differentiation.

GA See general assistance (GA).

GADE See Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE).

GAF Scale See Global Assessment of Function (GAF) Scale.

gag order Instructions from some authority to refrain from disclosing, discussing, or advocating specified information. The order is sometimes issued by judges to witnesses or jurors during a trial, military officers to their troops, and social agency administrators to their staffs during budget hearings with legislators.

Gaia The earth and its ecosystem seen as a single, living creative system (named after the Greek goddess of the earth). The hypothesis is that the earth is a living organism, or superorganism, that adjusts and regulates itself. Whereas proponents maintain that some parts of the earth (tropical rain forests, oceans, ozone layer) are equivalent to vital organs, opponents argue that the Gaia analogy does not conform to the usual definitions of life, including the ability to reproduce itself.

GAIN programs Greater Avenues to Independence, a series of state public welfare programs originating in California, in which public assistance recipients are provided with training, education, job counseling, and job placement. If the programs are not successful in getting an eligible Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) family head into the work force, the recipient is provided with up to one year of employment in relevant public service positions. See also ET programs.

Gamblers Anonymous A self-help organization for compulsive gamblers and all people who experience problems as a result of gambling. Patterned to some extent after the Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) program, the organization was founded in 1957 and now has chapters in major cities throughout the United States.

gambling, compulsive A behavior disorder in which the individual becomes preoccupied with wagers and develops a progressively

worsening urge to bet money. The urge often becomes uncontrollable and occurs even when funds for making bets are unavailable.

gaming A process in which participants are role playing potential or actual life simulations in which problems must be resolved. The term “simulation” refers to an analogy to some process in the real world, however it is perceived. Unlike other role-playing situations, gaming has specified rules that are used to govern actions. There are “move rules” (which specify who can do what, with or to whom, and with what resources) and “termination rules” (which define who has won and when the game is over). Games and simulations, as herein defined, are social, as contrasted to such physical simulations as wind tunnels in aircraft-design centers.

gang In sociological terms, a group that originally forms spontaneously and whose members maintain a relationship because they share certain attributes. These attributes include age, ethnicity, residence in a neighborhood, or common values that lead to mutual bonding. Social workers and legal authorities often use the term to refer to a fairly cohesive group of adolescents who support one another in various antisocial pursuits.

Ganser’s syndrome A pattern of behavior in which the client gives silly or absurd and irrelevant answers to questions. The behavior is sometimes seen in defiant or shy youngsters and prison inmates. Sometimes it is a symptom of severe anxiety, depression, or schizophrenia.

GANTT chart A scheduling technique commonly used in social work and social planning to show graphically each of the activities of an organization and the time taken to complete each of them. For each activity, there is a horizontal line drawn under calendar dates, and a horizontal bar is drawn to show the duration of time spent on the task. Because the GANTT chart does not show interconnections between activities, the Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT) chart tends to be used for more-complex planning.

GAO See General Accounting Office (GAO), U.S.

GARF Scale See Global Assessment of Relational Functioning (GARF) Scale.

garnishment A legal process by which a creditor may have a judgment against a debtor’s money or other property (such as wages,

salary, or savings) in the possession or control of a third party. Under state law, the court may order the employer, banker, or other holder of the property to remit such funds to an agent of the court or to the creditor until the obligation has been fulfilled. For example, an employer may be required to withhold a portion of an employee’s salary and remit it to the court to meet the employee’s child support obligation.

gastroenterology The medical specialty that focuses on diseases of the digestive system, stomach, and intestines.

gatekeeper 1. One who facilitates or obstructs movement from one status to another or communication between one group and another. 2. In community organization, the term refers to an indigenous member of a community who permits or precludes real access by the organizers to those in the target population. In this sense, gatekeepers are typically the natural leaders of a community, or they work in key positions that permit them to know what and who is influential. These people may be playground workers, traffic patrol people, gang leaders, bartenders, or neighborhood “busybodies.” 3. In social work education, it refers to the role of the faculty person who is instrumental in including or excluding certain students as members of the profession. 4. The gatekeeper role is also performed by formal organizations and social agencies that evaluate potential clients for certain eligibilities.

Gault decision The 1967 judgment rendered by the U.S. Supreme Court (In re Gault) that affirmed the right of juveniles to the same legal protections as adults in criminal court proceedings. This decision gave juveniles the right to proper advance notification of the charges, the right to counsel, freedom from self-incrimination, and the opportunity to have their counsel confront witnesses. Before the Gault decision, juvenile proceedings were regarded as civil, not criminal, and the state was supposedly acting in the interest of the child. The decision strengthened the role of law enforcement personnel and formalized court procedures. It decreased the influence of social workers and required new modes of operation by social work personnel.

gay The term preferred by many homosexuals, primarily males, in describing themselves and their sexual orientation. Female homosexuals usually prefer the term lesbian. See also homosexuality.

GED certificate General Equivalency Diploma, a program by which people who did not obtain high school degrees can demonstrate to prospective employers, college admission boards, and others that they

have achieved an equivalent level of education. In some educational institutions, the “GED” refers to Graduate Equivalency Diploma.

gender bias An attitude or predisposition, usually negative, about all males or all females. See also sex discrimination and sex role stereotyping.

gender dysphoria An aversion to the physical or social characteristics associated with one’s own sex.

gender equity A fair and appropriately balanced distribution of resources and responsibilities between the sexes. In many nations and cultures, gender equity is unrealized in that vocational and educational opportunities are heavily weighted in favor of males. Gender inequities may be explicit, as a part of national policy, or implicit, as in the existence of the “glass ceiling.” See also Title IX.

gender gap A nonspecific term referring to disparities between men and women in employment and promotion opportunities, pay, and sex-based discrimination.

gender identity The relative degree to which an individual patterns himself or herself after members of the same sex. See sexual identity. See also sex roles.

gender identity disorder A strong and persistent self-identification with members of the opposite sex and feelings of discomfort and denial about one’s ascribed sex role. In gender identity disorders of childhood, children often “cross-dress” and may become convinced they will grow up to be members of the opposite sex. They tend to maintain their preoccupations with the stereotypical activities of the opposite sex despite pressure against this behavior from parents, peers, teachers, and professionals. In adults, transsexualism is the most common of these disorders.

gender roles The behaviors and personality characteristics that are attached, often inaccurately, to people because of their sex. For example, men often are expected to be more competitive and aggressive, and women often are expected to be more emotional and nurturing. These gender role distinctions are criticized by feminists and others, but many in society use them to define what is considered “socially appropriate” male and female behavior. Gender role is used, for example, in identifying the mental disorder called gender identity disorder.

gene pool The totality of genetic information within any species, people, or other biological group.

General Accounting Office (GAO), U.S. The independent federal agency within the legislative branch of government that assists the Congress in determining whether public funds are efficiently and economically administered and spent and in evaluating the results of existing government programs and activities. As such, GAO has general rights of access to and examination of any records of the federal departments and agencies for which Congress has allocated funds.

general assistance (GA) A residual or emergency welfare program operated under state and local auspices to provide means-tested financial and other aid to individuals who are ineligible for any categorical program, such as social security; Old Age, Survivors, Disability, and Health Insurance (OASDHI); Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Local departments of public welfare (also called departments of human services or social services in some counties) determine eligibility and help coordinate the distribution of these funds. See also emergency basic-needs services.

General Equivalency Diploma See GED certificate.

generalist A social work practitioner whose knowledge and skills encompass a broad spectrum and who assesses problems and their solutions comprehensively. The generalist often coordinates the efforts of specialists by facilitating communication between them, thereby fostering continuity of care. See also generic social work.

generalization 1. The process of forming an idea, judgment, or abstraction about a class of people, things, or events based on limited or particular experiences. 2. In psychotherapy, an act or pattern of behavior in which an individual avoids discussing personal problems by characterizing them as being universal. For example, a client may say, “Every couple fights,” to conceal current marital conflicts. 3. Generalizations are also used in social work practice to connect or clarify a client’s experiences with others. For example, the social worker might say, “Everyone feels depressed at times.”

generalization, behavioral In behaviorism or social learning theory, the tendency of a response to occur in the presence of a stimulus that is similar to one that was present when the response was learned.

generalized anxiety disorder One type of anxiety neurosis (or anxiety state). This disorder is characterized by such symptoms as motor tension, apprehension (fear and worry), autonomic hyperactivity (sweating, clammy hands, dizziness, light-headedness, upset stomach, flushing, and increased pulse and respiration rate), inability to concentrate, insomnia, irritability, and general impatience.

general medical condition The relative health and presence of one or more diseases in a client. The term is used by psychiatrists and other physicians in diagnosing mental disorders that are the direct result of specific organic and physiological disorders, for example, "dementia, due to (the general medical condition of) Parkinson's disease."

general practitioners Nonspecialist licensed physicians. In the United States, nearly all new physicians qualify in one of the 23 medical specialties. Primary care, or initial contact health care, is now provided by doctors who specialize in internal medicine or family practice. Other aspects of the general practitioner's role have been taken over by registered nurses (RNs), physician's assistants (PAs), paramedics, and other allied health professionals.

general systems theory A conceptual orientation that attempts to explain holistically the behavior of people and societies by identifying the interacting components of the system and the controls that keep these components (subsystems) stable and in a state of equilibrium. It is concerned with the boundaries, roles, relationships, and flow of information between people. General systems theory is a subset of systems theories that focuses on living entities, from microorganisms to societies. See also ecological perspective and life model.

general welfare clause Part of the U.S. Constitution, in Article I, Section 8, which authorizes Congress and the government to "provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States." Social workers traditionally have cited this clause to justify improvements in the nation's welfare programs.

generational equity A fair and appropriately balanced distribution of resources and responsibilities between age groups. Where such equity does not exist, for example, younger people might be unfairly burdened with high taxes and future national indebtedness to provide a standard of living for older people that is higher than what they can expect when they become old. Conversely, in a "pay-as-you-go"

economy, older people could be required to pay high taxes for the education and infrastructure used by the young without a commensurate assurance that their own economic needs will be met in their older years.

Generation X People born in the years 1962 to 1978, identified as unique because of the claim that although they are less well-prepared educationally to cope with future realities, they are expected to assume a disproportionate burden of repaying the national debt, to pay the social security entitlements for prior generations, and to deal with decaying infrastructure and international competition. The members of this generation are the children of the baby boom generation.

generativity An orientation and activity involving some contribution to the quality of life for future generations. According to Eriksonian theory, this orientation develops as a normal stage of life in healthy people and most commonly occurs toward the end of middle adulthood.

generativity versus stagnation According to the psychosocial development theory of Erik Erikson (1902-1994), the longest stage of a person's psychosocial development, occurring roughly from ages 24 to 54. In it, the individual tries to reconcile conflicts between egocentric desires and the need to contribute to the well-being of future generations. See also Ericksonian theory.

generic drug A medical compound that possesses no proprietary or brand name. The active ingredients of the drug are chemically identical to the brand name medicine but are less expensive because the consumer does not pay for advertising or promotion.

generic social work The social work orientation that emphasizes a common core of knowledge and skills associated with social service delivery. A generic social worker possesses basic knowledge that may span several methods in social work. Such a social worker would not necessarily be a specialist in a single field of practice or professional technique but would be capable of providing and managing a wider range of needed client services and intervening in a greater variety of systems.

generic-specific controversy A debate among social workers that has existed since at least the 1920s. One faction sees the profession as comprising a group of different specialists, each with a unique body of knowledge and highly refined professional skills that require considerable training and practice to master and that are applied to a specific and defined area of social welfare needs. The other faction sees professional social work as being made up of generalists who have a macro orientation

and who can be useful by developing and integrating services and channeling people to them. The generalist faction also believes that social work skills are sufficiently similar from one specialty to another so that a social worker can be effective in a variety of settings. Since the 1929 Milford Conference was convened to attempt to resolve the controversy, most social workers have taken positions that fall somewhere between these extremes. See also content-and-process issue.

genetic counseling The specialty in medicine and related fields that helps people who have, or risk having, physical problems as a result of inherited defects. Such problems include Down's syndrome, cystic fibrosis, diabetes, sickle-cell anemia, hemophilia, and Huntington's disease. Counseling includes prevention of new problems by advising individuals about their reproductive risks and alternatives.

genetic disorder Diseases or dysfunctions that have resulted from defective genes, genomes (constellations of genes), or chromosomes. There are four categories of genetic disorder. First are the single-gene disorders in which a defective gene results in such diseases as cystic fibrosis, sickle-cell anemia, Tay-Sachs disease, Huntington's disease, Marfan's syndrome, hemophilia, neurofibromatosis, and Duchenne's muscular dystrophy. Second are the multifactorial inheritance disorders in which several genes and environmental factors interact to sometimes result in such disorders as cleft palate, spina bifida, congenital heart disease, and some cases of mental retardation. Third are the chromosomal disorders, resulting from the faulty structures or incorrect numbers of chromosomes, which can cause miscarriage, stillbirths, neonatal death, congenital abnormalities, and Down's syndrome. Fourth are environmentally induced genetic disorders in which factors potentially damaging to an embryo or fetus, such as alcohol, infections, drugs, tobacco, and some prescription medicines, harm fetal development.

genetic engineering The planned modification of genes or genetic material in living organisms to produce desirable traits and eliminate undesirable ones.

genital personality A descriptive term originating in psychoanalytic theory referring to one who is excessively preoccupied and concerned about sexuality; the term is also known as the oedipal personality or genital character. The individual is seen as having personality problems involving self-image, sexual identity, and sexual

orientation, and sometimes a paraphilia. See also anal personality and oral personality.

genital stage In psychodynamic theory, the last significant phase of psychosexual development, that begins with puberty and continues for several years thereafter. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) postulated that, with the onset of adultlike sexual feelings, the individual has an opportunity to resolve the Oedipus complex, sever erotic attachments to parents of the opposite sex, and transfer sexual drives to peers of the opposite sex.

genius A nonspecific lay term that refers to a person of one or more extremely superior traits, especially intellectually and creatively. Professionals are more likely to use somewhat more-specific descriptions of such persons. For example, educators sometimes describe such a child as gifted in a specific trait.

genocide The systematic elimination of racial, religious, ethnic, or cultural groups, usually through mass extermination by the government of the nation in which they reside. See also Holocaust and "ethnic cleansing."

genogram A diagram used in family therapy to depict family relationships extended over at least three generations. The diagram uses circles to represent females and squares for males, with horizontal lines indicating marriages. Vertical lines are drawn from the marriage lines to other circles and squares to depict the children. The diagram may contain other symbols or written explanations to indicate critical events, such as death, divorce, and remarriage, and to reveal recurrent patterns of behavior.

genophobia The fear of sexual intercourse. The term preferred by professionals is sexual aversion disorder.

genotype The inherited traits common to a biological group.

gentrification The social phenomenon in which homes in formerly poor, overcrowded ghettos are purchased and privately rehabilitated by more-affluent families for their personal dwellings or for investment. This has the effect of raising the property values, rents, and property tax rates of all the homes in the neighborhood, forcing the removal of the remaining less-affluent people and their replacement by those who can afford to live there. The gentrified neighborhood may seem more desirable, but the people who are displaced have to crowd into other

neighborhoods, and the resulting overcrowding causes those neighborhoods to decline. See also urban homesteading and redlining.

genuineness Sincerity and honesty; one of the important qualities in developing an effective therapeutic relationship. Genuineness includes being unpretentious with clients, speaking honestly rather than only for effect, acknowledging one's limitations, and providing only sincere reassurances.

geragogics The education and training of gerontologists and others who provide professional health care and social services to older people. This term is used mostly in Britain and Northern Europe. See also gerontology and gerontological social work.

geriatricians Board-certified physicians who specialize in treating older people, especially frail elderly people with complex age-related medical problems.

geriatric mental status interview A systematic procedure for assessing the possibility and type of mental deterioration in an older person. The procedure is nearly the same as in any other mental status exam, except that the interviewer tends to use shorter, more-frequent sessions, a more formal and gentle manner, and is careful to assure the older person about why such questions are being asked.

geriatrics A branch of the medical profession that specializes in the prevention and treatment of diseases of old age. Physicians practicing geriatrics are known as geriatricians.

geriopharmacotherapy The prescription and administration of medications to prolong the physical and emotional health of older persons. This process includes monitoring, counseling, and educating the older person about health factors and the use of the medicine.

gerontological social work An orientation and specialization in social work concerned with the psychosocial treatment of older people—the development and management of needed social services and programs for older individuals.

gerontology The multidisciplinary study of the biological, psychological, and social aspects of aging.

gerontophobia Fear or loathing of older people.

Gerry, Elbridge Thomas (1837–1927) Founder of the Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (SPCC) in 1885. As a practicing lawyer, he worked in cases of child abuse and discovered the only laws and programs were those protecting animals. He modeled the society, also called “Gerry Societies,” after the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Later he fought against national child protection laws and structures such as the U.S. Children’s Bureau, saying that local controls and administrations would be more effective.

gerrymandering The creation of political boundaries of unusual or unnatural shape so that some groups are politically under-or overrepresented. For example, a city might divide its legislative districts so that residents of an inner-city ghetto are divided among five other districts, making them minorities in each new district.

gestalt psychology A group of theories that emphasizes the whole of an organism or environment rather than its parts and focuses on the interrelationships in mental perceptions. It is a school of psychology influenced by Kurt Lewin and Wolfgang Kohler in the 1920s and 1930s. Gestalt psychology has influenced, but is not synonymous with, gestalt therapy.

gestalt therapy A form of psychotherapeutic intervention developed and popularized by Frederick S. Perls and others in the 1960s. The approach seeks to help individuals integrate their thoughts, emotions, and behaviors and orient themselves more realistically toward their current perceptions and experiences. Emphasis is placed on becoming aware of and taking responsibility for one’s own actions, on spontaneously expressing emotions and perception, and on recognizing the existence of gaps and distortions in one’s own thinking.

gestation The period from conception to birth. For humans, the healthy gestation period is between 266 and 294 days, with 280 the average.

ghetto A geographic and usually poor section of a city, inhabited predominantly by ethnic groups or people of color. Usually, those who reside in such areas do not do so by choice. Ghettos originated in Spain in the late 14th century to segregate Jewish people, often behind guarded walls, to minimize their influence on Christian people. Ghettos for Jewish people continued to exist in various European cities until after World War II.

ghost sickness A culture-bound syndrome sometimes related to witchcraft, found most commonly among some Native American tribes whose individuals experience anxiety, hallucinations, loss of consciousness, feelings of futility, fainting, and sleep problems.

GI Bill The common name for the group of laws and programs starting in 1944 that provide educational, housing, insurance, medical, and vocational training opportunities for U.S. military veterans. These programs originated to help the veterans returning from World War II integrate into society and to upgrade the American work force.

GIDAANT Gender identity disorder of adolescence or adulthood, nontranssexual type.

Gideon v. Wainwright The 1963 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that all indigent defendants in criminal cases have the right to free legal counsel.

gifted child A child who possesses one or more talents, exceptional skills, or high intelligence. This designation has come to be preferred by parents of such children over the former designation, exceptional children, which also included children with disabilities or below-normal intellectual functioning.

Gilbert Act The 1782 English welfare reform laws that classified needy people into groups including the elderly, infirm, children, and the "idle." The legislation repealed the right of overseers of the poor to contract them out to private caretakers. Overseers were to find jobs for employable people or maintain them in the community rather than the workhouse.

Ginnie Mae See Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA).

Girls Clubs of America See youth services organizations.

"glasnost" The Russian term, roughly implying "openness" and "public relations." Government officials and social agency administrators in many nations increasingly use the term to describe their own organization's intent to be more candid and forthright about policies and activities.

"glass ceiling" A popular term referring to barriers to advancement in industry and government leadership positions that

tend to restrict women and minorities. The term implies that the barrier cannot actually be seen and is not part of the organization's official policy but is manifested in women and minorities of equal or greater competence being passed over for promotions. See also gender equity.

glaucoma An eye disease in which fluid builds up between the cornea and the iris, and the resulting pressure on the eyeball injures certain nerve cells.

Global Assessment of Function (GAF) Scale A tool used by mental health professionals to rate the relative degree to which a client is able to function psychologically, socially, and occupationally, not due to physical or environmental limitations. The practitioner rates the client's functioning on a rating scale with a continuum from 100 (superior functioning in a wide range of activities and no symptoms) to under 10 (persistent danger of severely hurting self or others or persistent inability to maintain minimal personal hygiene, or serious suicidal act with clear expectation of death). The GAF checklist was developed by L. Luborski ("Clinicians Judgments of Mental Health," Archives of General Psychiatry, 7[1962], pp. 407-417) and subsequently modified for use with the DSM-IV. It is used in the Axis V part of DSM-IV in completing a clinical assessment. See also Global Assessment of Relational Functioning (GARF) Scale and the Defensive Functioning Scale.

Global Assessment of Relational Functioning (GARF) Scale A 100-point scale in development by the American Psychiatric Association to assist in the clinician's evaluation of the degree to which a relational unit (such as a family or other ongoing relationship group) meets the affectional or instrumental needs of its members. Those relational units that function most satisfactorily (from self-reports and perspectives of observers) score highest (81-100), whereas those that become too dysfunctional to maintain attachment and contact score lowest (1-20).

GNMA See Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA).

GNP See gross national product (GNP).

goal-directed behavior Any activity that is directed toward conscious or explicitly defined objectives.

goal-setting A strategy used by social workers and other professionals to help clients clarify and define the objectives they hope to achieve in the helping relationship and then to establish the steps that must be taken and the time needed to reach those objectives. The

community organizer-social worker uses goal-setting by helping key members of the target population or client community define their objectives and spell out the goals they want their people to achieve.

go-between role The process of mediation that occurs when a social worker or other professional intervenes between conflicting parties (such as husband and wife, parent and child, buyer and seller, landlord and tenant, or two members of a therapy group) and seeks to enhance mutual understanding and reduce tensions.

“goldbricking” A pejorative term indicating that an individual is only appearing to be working on a job but is actually loafing.

gold coast An affluent neighborhood, often where a city’s most-influential families live.

gonorrhea One of the sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that causes inflammation of the genitals and may eventually lead to sterility. The gonococcus organisms are highly vulnerable to most antibiotics. The disease was once a major cause of blindness among newborn children whose mothers were infected, but the routine use of silver nitrate solution in babies’ eyes at birth has largely overcome the problem. See also chlamydia.

good-faith bargaining The requirement that both parties in a dispute, such as a couple or members of a family or community, discuss issues with open minds and make the possibility of discussion equal for all participants.

goodness of fit The degree of congruence between people’s needs, capacities, and goals and the properties of their social and physical environments. See also adaptation, ecological perspective, and life model.

good works A term formerly used to describe activities to help disadvantaged people through philanthropy, charity, volunteerism, and personal examples of moral behavior. These activities were viewed by religious and political leaders and social philosophers as moral obligations to God and society, a view that motivated many of the social welfare activities that preceded government-funded welfare programs.

go-round The procedure used in some social work groups in which each member is specifically asked, in turn, to discuss a particular topic

or respond to a specific stimulus. Often the go-round is a structured exercise or technique aimed at helping members get acquainted and keep oriented to one another. It is also used to get a group started or establish the topics for the session’s agenda. See also check-in.

government The established institutions and formal processes by which a society or organized group determines, implements, administers, and evaluates its decisions.

Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) An agency of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that finances or ensures financing for the purchase of low-cost housing or of homes in areas where conventional loans are difficult to obtain. Mortgages issued by the association are informally known as “Ginnie Maes.”

grace period A time after a decision or agreement is reached and before its terms must be implemented.

graduated tax See progressive tax.

Graduate Equivalency Diploma See GED certificate.

graft Misappropriation of public money by one or more public officials.

Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act The budget reduction legislation (Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, P.L. 101-508) requiring progressively lower deficits in the federal budget in each fiscal year from 1986 through 1991. The act’s deficit-lowering goals were not reached.

grandiose-type delusional disorder A subtype of delusional disorder characterized by nonbizarre delusions, particularly an exaggerated sense of self-importance and the conviction of having some great mission, talent, insight, or potential.

grandiosity An exaggerated sense of self-importance; in its more extreme forms, it is equivalent to delusions of grandeur.

grand jury A group of citizens selected by the justice system of a jurisdiction to decide together whether there is enough evidence to justify accusing a person of a crime (which would result in a trial before a petit jury). Most grand juries have 23 members.

grand larceny Larceny that involves property valued in excess of a certain amount. Each jurisdiction legislates the cutoff amount at which a larceny becomes grand larceny (in most U.S. states it is between \$50 and \$500).

grandparenting clause Also known as a “grandfather clause,” an exemption to a new agreement, rule, or requirement so that those who were already engaged in the relevant activity before a certain time need not fulfill the new requirements. For example, social workers who were members of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and who met certain practice and supervision requirements before 1973 could become members of the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW) without having to pass the qualifying examination that was required of later applicants. See also recertification.

Granger, Lester (1896–1976) Social and civil rights activist and proponent of equal opportunity for African Americans, he was a long-time leader of the National Urban League; he also helped the U.S. Armed Forces become racially integrated and served as president of national and international social work organizations.

granny flats The informal name for ECHO housing, they are temporary, mobile-home-style living units for one or two people usually installed on the grounds of their offspring and connected to the utilities of the main house. These facilities are designed to give older people privacy and security while enabling them to be close to their children or others who care about them.

grant A transfer of funds or assets from one government, organization, or individual to another for fulfilling some broadly specified function or purpose (usually to enhance knowledge or otherwise provide for the well-being of people and their cultural institutions). See also block grant and categorical grant.

grants-in-aid Payments made by one organization, such as a government agency, to another to achieve a specified purpose. For example, the federal government might grant payments to states or states might make such payments to cities to help fund and ensure the existence of the local organization’s public assistance programs. See also block grant.

grantsmanship In social administration, the ability to develop proposals for special project funding. The ability includes skills in

research design, verbal communication, sales, writing, needs assessment, innovation of new techniques for problem solving, coordination of plans, and political and administrative activity, as well as knowledge about the appropriate sources of project funds.

grass roots The public, especially the voters, and those who provide the basic support for a political movement or social cause. See also political activism.

grass-roots organizing The community organization strategy of helping at the local level the members of a neighborhood or geographic region to develop stronger relationships, common goals, and an organization that will help them achieve those goals. The focus is on organizing the people who will be affected by change, rather than on organizing only the community leaders. This involves educating and mobilizing people for action toward agreed-on goals. See also political activism.

gray ghettos 1. Neighborhoods or housing projects, often in older, decaying areas of inner cities, whose residents are primarily poor and elderly. 2. Private retirement villages and communities zoned for the exclusive use of people older than a certain age.

gray-market adoption The adoption of dependent children outside the legitimate social agencies and legal institutions. Such adoptions are often arranged by physicians, lawyers, or other professionals who personally know the couples who seek to adopt and the birth mothers who choose to give up their children for adoption. See also private adoption.

Gray Panthers An intergenerational advocacy group founded by Maggie Kuhn in 1970 to work on behalf of the social and economic needs of elderly people. The group’s major focus is on state and national legislation affecting older people and on issues affecting all ages. It also acts as watchdog in implementing legislation.

Great Depression The severe and extended economic crisis that occurred in the United States and many other nations during the 1930s, ending with reindustrialization in preparation for World War II. In 1933, 16 million people were unemployed (nearly one-third of the U.S. work force). Largely in response to the resulting hardship, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s administration established the New Deal programs, which redefined the role of the federal government in helping individuals and assuring the general welfare.

Great Society The name given by President Lyndon B. Johnson to social welfare goals and programs established as a War on Poverty during his administration. Some of these efforts included the Model Cities program, Head Start, the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), Medicaid, and Medicare.

green card The name commonly used for the registration card issued by the U.S. government that identifies the holder as a permanent U.S. resident who is a citizen of another nation. The card (no longer green), which is issued by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), is officially U.S. Government Form I-551, "Alien Registration Recipient."

greenhouse effect The heating of the environment as a result of the burning of fossil fuels (such as coal and oil). Burning these fuels results in an atmospheric gain in carbon dioxide molecules. The excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere does not prevent the sun's rays from reaching the earth's surface but prevents the escape of heat radiating from the ground. Some scientists believe that unless there is a drastic reduction in the use of fossil fuels the earth's weather and heat level is likely to increase by five degrees in the next 30 to 100 years, an increase that could significantly change the earth's climatic patterns.

greenlining A tactic used by community organizers in which residents of a neighborhood are mobilized to withdraw their funds from banks that are not equal opportunity lenders or that practice redlining. See also Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA).

Greenpeace An international social activist organization devoted to preserving the environment and wildlife habitats through education, lobbying, political campaigning, and overt obstruction of those activities that it considers environmentally destructive.

green politics A social movement initially concerned with pursuing environmental goals through political action. Its major goal is protecting the environment and enhancing its declining mechanisms, as well as fighting organizations whose actions and products are considered harmful to the environment. This ideology has led to formation of several political parties, especially in Germany, Italy, France, United Kingdom, Belgium, and New Zealand.

green revolution The movement throughout the world to increase food production, especially in developing countries, by using high-yield hybrid seeds, plants that are resistant to destruction, crop rotations, fertilizers, and biotechnology.

gregariousness A tendency to be with and interact with other people.

"greystocking" A term applied, somewhat derisively, to social workers and other helping professionals and volunteers in Great Britain and some other English-speaking nations. The term was originally applied to welfare investigators who supposedly made unexpected visits to the homes of welfare recipients, but were usually identified by their neighbors in advance because of their predictable attire. The most similar term in the United States has been "lady bountiful."

grief Intense and acute sorrow resulting from loss. It has many of the same symptoms as physical or mental illness, although it tends to diminish with time. However, like all illnesses, grief can end in complete or partial recovery.

grief reaction Experiencing deep sadness as the result of an important loss. This emotional response is normal and in healthy people will gradually subside in a limited time.

grief work A series of emotional stages or phases following an important loss, which gradually permit adjustment and recovery. The individual typically reminisces, expresses emotions, accepts, adjusts to the new situation, and forms new relationships.

grievance A formal complaint about some procedure or regulation that is not being followed and that has resulted in some harm to the complainant.

grievance committee A formal group established to evaluate whether an organization's policies and activities have resulted in harm to a complainant, to recommend changes in the policy or activity that has been deemed harmful, and to recommend ways to make amends for those harmed. Grievance committees usually comprise members of the organization.

grippe Influenza, or sometimes colds. The term is used by older people and people from nations in the former British commonwealth.

Griscom, John (1774–1852) Founder in 1817 and long-time leader of the Society for the Prevention of Pauperism, the most influential of the early efforts to understand, resolve, and prevent problems of poverty.

gross motor skills The ability to cause effective movement of the body's large muscle groups.

gross national product (GNP) The total value of a nation's annual output of services and goods.

group A collection of people, brought together by mutual interests, who are capable of consistent and uniform action. Major types of groups include the primary group and the secondary group.

"group balance" A term used in social group work or by group therapists for achieving the optimal mix of group members to achieve the group's goals. For example, if the group consists of so many socially withdrawn people that its norm is silence, more outgoing members are added to give it better balance.

group climate The social-emotional atmosphere of a group, also called the "group mood." Group leaders often describe the group in terms of its climate: angry, depressed, celebrative, serious, flighty, suspicious, caring, and so forth. Leaders often try to influence climate or use it to influence individual members in desirable ways. The group achieves its climate when the attitudes, ideas, and feelings of one or more members of the group become those of the other members by their association. See also reciprocal interactions.

group cohesiveness The degree of mutual attraction or reciprocal benefit experienced or anticipated by individuals in relation to a social collective with which they identify. See also reciprocal interactions.

group contagion The process of association and interconnectedness among members of a group that leads to the group climate or group mood. See also reciprocal interactions.

group development Changes through time in a group's internal structures, norms, processes, and culture.

group development phases In social group work, the stages through which the group grows in its normal life cycle. Various group work theorists have identified five phases: (1) the preaffiliation phase,

(2) the power-and-control phase, (3) the intimacy phase, (4) the differentiation phase, and (5) the separation phase.

group dynamics The flow of information and shifts of power influence among members of a social collective. These exchanges can be modified by group leaders or helping professionals and used to achieve certain predetermined objectives that may benefit the members.

group eligibility Being qualified for benefits or obligations as the result of membership in some association or occupation of a defined social status. For example, everyone who reaches a certain age may become qualified for specified social insurance benefits.

Group for the Advancement of Doctoral Education in Social Work (GADE) The association of social work educators in the nation's doctoral programs. These educators began meeting in 1974 to synchronize their efforts to coordinate and standardize doctoral requirements. The organization became official in 1977, and its members now have annual meetings, conduct workshops, and prepare materials to assist doctoral programs in schools of social work.

group goals model A concept about different types of group work and therapy groups based on the overall objectives of the group. The delineation was originated by Catherine Papell and Beulah Rothman ("Social Group Work Models: Possession and Heritage," *Journal of Education for Social Work*, 1966, pp. 66–77) and emphasized three major types: social goals model, remedial goals model, and reciprocal goals model.

group health insurance A plan for insuring against the cost of illness all members and dependents of an established group who want to enroll (for example, all employees of a company, all government workers, all members of the National Association of Social Workers [NASW]).

group identity The degree to which an individual affiliates with, feels part of, and emulates the characteristics of a social collective.

group leader An individual who facilitates group processes. The leader can be an indigenous member (for example, one of the students in a class) who, through charisma, skill, or other attributes, influences the others. The leader also can be external (for example, a group therapist) whose position or expertise usually results in some influence over the group. Each group has a leader (whether or not the group recognizes it as

such), but the leader may change from one meeting to the next or from one minute to the next.

group leadership roles Activities that an indigenous or professional group leader uses to accomplish the group's goals include giving and seeking information and opinions, proposing tasks and goals, summarizing, coordinating, diagnosing, energizing, testing reality, and evaluating whether goals have been accomplished. Activities that leaders use to maintain the group's social and emotional bonds include encouraging participation, compromising, relieving tension, helping members communicate, setting standards, listening actively, and building a climate of trust for others to emulate.

group psychotherapy A form of psychotherapy that treats individuals simultaneously for emotional and behavioral disorders by emphasizing interactions and mutuality. Most professionals consider the term to be synonymous with group therapy. Some writers, however, make a distinction between group psychotherapy, group therapy, and social group work; they consider group psychotherapy to be only one type of group therapy. Whereas group psychotherapy uses group treatment techniques to help individuals resolve emotional problems, group therapy uses a wider range of intervention strategies to help individuals deal with both social maladjustment and emotional disorders. Social group work, although sharing some of these objectives and techniques, is not limited to treating disorders and problems but includes education support groups and positive group experiences that help healthy individuals achieve greater personal fulfillment and change conditions in the environment and society.

group, structured A purposeful bringing together of clients, who meet some predetermined criteria, for social group work or group therapy membership. Because effectiveness is achieved largely by the characteristics each member brings to the group, the social worker or therapist may seek the right balance or structure. For example, the structured group might include at least one outgoing and talkative person, one who is quiet, one who is tense, and one who is relaxed. The opposite of a structured group is not an open group but a blanket group.

group support systems Computer-based technologies designed to assist groups that are convened to accomplish specific tasks. For example, the group support system known as "electronic brainstorming" asks the group participants to interact in idea formation and development, using integrated computers and

programs that often hasten the process and give equal credence to those who may be reluctant to discuss ideas or suggestions in face-to-face encounters.

group therapy An intervention strategy for helping individuals who have emotional disorders or social maladjustment problems by bringing together two or more individuals under the direction of a social worker or other professional therapist. The individuals are asked to share their problems with other members of the group, discuss ways to resolve their problems, exchange information and views about resources and techniques for solving the problem, and share emotional experiences in a controlled (by the professional) setting that enables the members to work through their difficulties. A typical format in group therapy is to have six to eight members meet with a professional therapist in a facility provided by the therapist for 90 minutes once each week. Among the many variations of group therapy are closed group and open group. Group therapy is a format used by practitioners of many orientations, including behaviorism, transactional analysis (TA), family therapy, gestalt therapy, and psychoanalysis. See also sensitivity group and marathon group.

group, transitional See transitional group.

group-type conduct disorder One of the three types of conduct disorder, in which the maladaptive behavior occurs as part of a gang or group of peers. The other types are solitary aggressive-conduct disorder and "undifferentiated type."

group work See social group work.

GROW mutual help group A mutual help organization founded in Australia in 1957, now with thousands of groups throughout the world to provide reciprocal support for people who have shared the experience of emotional or mental disorder. In communities where it exists, it is a vital part of the mental health care system and usually maintains 24-hour support, long-term availability, regular group meetings, and social activities. See also support system.

guaranteed annual income A proposal made by some social policy experts to eliminate the means test. Rather than evaluate each person's resources and needs as the basis for assistance, every individual or family would receive a specified amount of money or service each year from the relevant government agency, regardless of need. See also negative income tax.

guardian A person (or entity) who has the legal responsibility for the care and management of another person, usually a child or an adult who has been declared in court to be incapable of acting for himself or herself.

guardian ad litem A court-appointed representative designated to preserve and manage the affairs and property of another person who is considered incapable of managing his or her own affairs in the course of litigation. The guardian ad litem has no permanent control over the person's property and is considered an officer of the court.

guerrilla warfare Military operations within an area controlled by the opposition, often in the form of surprise raids and harassment of the people and facilities protected by the controlling force. The strategy is to patiently wear down the ruler force and replace it after it has lost its power to rule. "Guerrilla" is a Spanish term for "small war."

guidance counselor A professional who is knowledgeable and skilled in delineating alternatives, articulating goals, providing information and advice, and facilitating client self-awareness. Guidance counselors are frequently employed in educational institutions and personnel offices of business organizations to provide guidance in vocation opportunities, work and study habits, and problem resolution.

guilt An emotional reaction to the perception of having done something wrong, having failed to do something, or violating important social norms. The reaction is often a loss of self-esteem and a desire to make restitution. In psychodynamic theory, this reaction can be unconscious and be based not on any actual wrongdoing but on concealed drives and motives that are contrary to the prohibitions established by the superego.

Gulf War syndrome A series of symptoms, including vision loss, headaches, skin rashes, and joint pain, found in a significant number of soldiers who served in the Kuwait-Iraq military action in 1990-1991.

gun control Laws and other efforts by governments and citizens to regulate the acquisition and use of firearms. Most nations have stringent gun controls that make it difficult to possess firearms; firearm use for those who get permission is strictly monitored. The United States is an exception. The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states, "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms,

shall not be infringed." Although gun control advocates interpret this amendment to refer to the military, opponents say the amendment gives citizens the right to possess and carry guns with only limited, if any, controls. See also Brady Bill.

gustatory hallucination An imagined perception of taste; tasting something that does not exist outside subjective experience.

gynecology The branch of medicine specializing in female reproductive health.

habeas corpus A court requirement that the custodian of a prisoner (or otherwise institutionalized individual) bring the person before the judge. The court may then determine whether the party is being held in violation of his or her constitutional rights to due process of law. See also Fifth Amendment rights.

habilitation A practice orientation of the social worker that views the client as a competent and coequal problem solver who is empowered through education, newly developed coping skills, and resources. This view is in contrast to the rehabilitation orientation in which the social worker sees clients as dysfunctional or dependent recipients of treatment.

habituation 1. A type of adaptation in which an individual has learned to eliminate responses to repeated and distracting stimuli. For example, an abused child might appear to become indifferent to continued physical punishment. 2. Some social workers and other professionals also use the term to refer to a form of drug dependence in which the individual has more of a psychological craving than a physical addiction (manifested by withdrawal symptoms).

halfway houses Transitional residences for individuals who require some professional supervision, support, or protection but not full-time institutionalization. Such facilities are used primarily by formerly hospitalized mental patients and those under parole or who have problems with alcohol dependence and drug dependence. Other transitional residences are quarterway houses and three-quarterway houses, which offer more or fewer services, according to need.

hallucination An imagined perception of some object or phenomenon that is not really present. Often a symptom of a psychosis, it may involve hearing nonexistent voices (auditory hallucination), seeing objects that

are not there (visual hallucination), smelling (olfactory hallucination), tasting (gustatory hallucination), and touching (haptic hallucination).

hallucinogen A drug or chemical that when ingested results in hallucination. Examples are LSD and mescaline.

hallucinogen abuse Ingestion, usually orally, of an illicit drug that is known to result in hallucination. Such drugs include LSD (lysergic acid diethylamine, dimethyl-tryptamine (DMT), and mescaline. The resulting hallucinosis is accompanied by other symptoms such as intensification of perceptions; depersonalization; and sometimes tremor, tachycardia, sweating, blurred vision, and poor coordination.

hallucinogen affective disorder A depressive or manic mood disturbance and accompanying recurrent hallucinations, all occurring as a result of hallucinogen abuse but lasting longer than the period of direct effect.

hallucinogen persisting-perception disorder A substance-related disorder characterized by a flashback reminiscent of the experiences (hallucinations) during earlier intoxication by a hallucinogen.

hallucinosis Disorders characterized by hallucination either resulting from a substance abuse, psychotic disorder, or general medical condition.

halo effect The tendency to evaluate individuals either too favorably or too negatively on the basis of one or a few notable traits. See also devaluation and idealization.

Hamilton, Gordon (1892-1967) Social work educator and writer who advanced social casework in the profession. As an educator, she helped develop doctoral training in social work, and as a writer, she produced the classic social work text *Theory and Practice of Social Casework* (1940, revised in 1951), used by countless social work students. She was also the first editor of the journal *Social Work*.

handicap A physical or mental disadvantage that prevents or limits an individual's ability to function as others do.

handicapism Prejudicial behavior that promotes unequal or unjust treatment of people because of apparent or assumed physical or mental disability; a synonym for able-ism. The behavior most

commonly occurs in speech ("he's a moron . . . a spastic"), behavior (avoiding contact with a disabled person), and policies (unequal access to facilities).

Handicapped Children Act of 1975 See Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975. See also Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1986 and Education of the Handicapped Act Amendments of 1990.

hangover Physical aftereffects of consuming alcohol or other drugs, which often lead to such temporary symptoms as nausea, tremor, headache, dry mouth, anxiety, and depression. The symptoms of hangover are similar to but less severe than alcohol withdrawal.

haptic hallucination An imagined perception of touching something or being touched by something that does not exist outside of subjective experience.

harassment See sexual harassment.

harboring a fugitive The illegal practice of concealing someone wanted by law enforcement authorities or providing a refuge or shelter for one who should be in police custody.

hard-core unemployment The lack of job availability, even when ample employment opportunities exist, for those people who lack appropriate education or social skills or have a physical or mental disorder.

"hard sciences" The name sometimes attached to empirically based bodies of knowledge, including such natural sciences as biology, chemistry, and physics. This is contrasted to what are called the "soft sciences," including such social sciences as economics, psychology, and sociology. Social work is usually placed in the "soft science" category as an applied social science.

hard-to-reach clients Individuals, families, and communities who need and are eligible for professional assistance and social work intervention but who are unaware of, unmotivated for, or fearful of the service offered.

hardware In computer technology, the physical machinery—including the computer, keyboard, monitor, modem, and other equipment—

designed for entering, storing, processing, analyzing, and transmitting data. See also software.

Hart, Hastings Hornell (1851-1932) Prison reformer and leader of the child-saving movement, Hart helped develop the juvenile court system, championed defendant's rights, and established the federal parole system. He criticized then-current efforts to place out orphaned children as being too unsupervised to protect them. For many years he was consultant on child help, delinquency, and penology to the Russell Sage Foundation.

Hartley, Robert M. (1796-1881) Founder of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor in 1843 and its long-time leader, Hartley believed the major causes of poverty were intemperance, improvidence, and extravagance and worked to correct these characteristics in individuals. His advocacy resulted in laws requiring school attendance and parental responsibility. He divided cities into sections and got volunteers to visit poor families within these neighborhoods.

hashish A resin produced in the tops of marijuana plants, which contains the most powerful concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active ingredient in marijuana.

hate crime The illegal acts motivated by the wish to harm groups or individuals whose affiliations, values, or actions are intolerable to the perpetrator. Such crimes include vandalizing synagogues or black churches, killing physicians who administer abortions, and terrorizing or intimidating people who want to speak out on a certain political issue. See also ethnoviolence.

Hawthorne effect The phenomenon that often occurs in social research in which subjects behave differently from their norm because of their awareness of being observed. For example, a social worker who observes the interactions of the members of a psychiatric ward may not be seeing the same behaviors that occur when the ward is not being observed.

Haynes, George E. (1880-1960) Cofounder, with Ruth Standish Baldwin, of the National Urban League, Haynes was the first black graduate of the New York School of Philanthropy and was an authority on the effects of migration on black people.

hazardous substances Manufactured materials or their residue (or some products of nature) that can lead an exposed person to immediate or gradual illness or death. These substances are often associated with cancer, brain damage, respiratory diseases, birth defects, and reproductive damage. Exposure is usually through air or drinking water. Most toxic dumps are near population centers and directly above groundwater supplies. Exposure to some of these substances occurs in homes where asbestos, lead, and radon (a natural radioactive gas) are often found.

HCFA See Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA).

head injury A trauma that temporarily or permanently damages tissue in or near the cranium, possibly resulting in brain or nerve damage. Internal head injury may affect some cognitive or motor functions or result in some functional impairment, even though there may be no overt symptom of damage. Many victims of even severe head injuries can be treated by physicians and health care and social services personnel and can achieve virtually full return to healthy functioning.

head lice Skin parasites found in the scalp hair, especially among school-age children, and spread by direct contact and sharing combs, hats, pillows, and so forth. The tiny lice and lice eggs may be seen attached to hairs, and the major symptom is severe itching. Although the condition is mostly associated with children from poor and unhygienic environments, it is also seen in children from affluent families. Lice infestations are called "pediculosis." The disease typhus is transmitted by lice to humans.

"headshrinker" A slang expression applied to psychiatrists, psychologists, and clinical social workers who seek to develop insight and to bring about behavioral changes in their clients.

head of household A family member or other resident of a dwelling unit who is regarded by the other residents and relevant outsiders as the arbiter and ultimate decision maker for those belonging to the group. Usually, but not always, this person is the household's primary income producer or money manager.

Head Start The Great Society program established by the federal government in 1965 to provide preschool children of disadvantaged minority families with compensatory education to offset some of the effects of their social deprivation. Project Follow Through was established in 1967 to help children from low-income families receive additional

compensatory education through the elementary years. See also Upstream Head Start program and Migrant Head Start program.

head tax See poll tax.

health According to the World Health Organization (WHO), not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, but the state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being.

Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of See Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. (HHS).

health care Activities designed to treat, prevent, and detect physical and mental disorders and to enhance people's physical and psychosocial well-being. The health care system includes personnel who provide the needed services (physicians, nurses, hospital attendants, medical social workers, and so on); facilities where such services are rendered (hospitals, medical centers, nursing homes, hospices, outpatient clinics); laboratories and institutions for detection, research, and planning; educational and environmental facilities that help people prevent disease; and myriad other organizations and people involved in helping people to become more healthy, stay healthy, return to health, or minimize the consequences of ill health.

health care facility Organizations and structures in which the detection and treatment of physical and mental disorders take place, including hospitals, medical centers, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, and hospice centers.

Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) The organization within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that assesses the nation's health care programs and their financing and oversees Medicare in cooperation with the Social Security Administration (SSA) and Medicaid in cooperation with state departments of public assistance. HCFA sets the standards that hospitals, skilled-nursing facilities, and hospices must meet to be certified to provide Medicare services.

health care workers The generic name for all the professional, paraprofessional, technical, and general employees of a system or facility that provides for the diagnosis, treatment, and overall well-being of patients. Informally, this designation is more commonly used when referring to nonprofessional hospital staff. When referring

to professionals other than physicians and nurses in such settings, the term most commonly used is allied health professionals or allied health workers. Those included in this designation are home health aides, medical records personnel, nurses aides, orderlies, and attendants.

Health, Education, and Welfare, U.S. Department of See Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, U.S. (HEW).

health maintenance organization (HMO)

A comprehensive health care program and medical group that offers services for a fixed annual fee. In this alternative to the fee-for-service model, enrollees voluntarily prepay for their medical and health care, including treatment and prevention of physical and mental illness. HMOs usually have their own medical care facilities, staffed by physicians of all specialties as well as social workers and other health care providers. See also managed health care program and independent practice associations (IPAs).

health planning Rational efforts to assure that people's physical care and mental health care needs are being met and that available health care resources are used as effectively as possible toward this end. Health planning is conducted in government organizations, private medical and research organizations, and educational institutions. It includes prevention and early-detection activities as well as treatment and follow-up care. Health planning also involves decision making about such matters as how many health care personnel will be needed in the future, how to finance and control health care costs, where to locate medical facilities, and what methods are most effective and cost-effective. It also involves environmental considerations such as proper sewage treatment, air quality, and the provision of nutritious food.

Health Resources Administration (HRA) The organization within the U.S. Public Health Service whose mission is to maintain and improve the utilization, quality, and cost-effectiveness of the nation's health care system. HRA helps fund the training of health care personnel, facilitates the appropriate distribution of health resources and personnel, stimulates the construction of needed health care facilities, and identifies anticipated health resource problems.

Health Services Administration (HSA)

The organization within the U.S. Public Health Service that helps local communities find effective ways of meeting their present and future

health needs. HSA provides health professionals to areas designated as having critical shortages of such personnel.

Hearn, Gordon (1914-1979) Social work educator and theoretician, Hearn developed theories about social group work and general systems theory into social work thought. He wrote *Theory Building in Social Work* in 1958.

hearsay evidence Statements made by witnesses in courts of law based not on their direct observation but on what they have heard others say. When social workers or other professionals testify as expert witnesses, they are sometimes challenged about the conclusions they have reached on the basis that it is hearsay.

heart attack Partial failure of the pumping action of the heart. Generally, an event in which the blood vessels that feed the heart become blocked and the heart muscle does not receive enough blood. Symptoms usually include severe chest pains, sweating, hot flashes, and nausea; moreover, permanent damage to the heart may occur. See also myocardial infarction.

heart disease A term for any of a variety of disorders affecting the heart muscle, adjacent tissue, and the circulatory system. Heart disease is the leading cause of death among men older than age 40. Those with increased risk include smokers, people with diabetes, people with high blood pressure, and individuals with high serum cholesterol.

hebephrenic schizophrenia A type of psychosis characterized by wild excitement, giggling, silly behavior, and rapid mood shifts. This disorder is known as "schizophrenia, disorganized type" in current diagnoses. See also disorganized schizophrenia.

hedonistic behavior Pleasure-seeking activity without much concern about the accompanying responsibilities or consequences.

helping network A linkage comprising various combinations of individuals, groups, families, organizations, government offices, or social agencies and so forth, all of which work together or autonomously to provide a person with the supports, resources, information, and access that is required for problem solving or meeting a need. Helping networks differ from social networks in that they are linked only with respect to the help they seek to provide, whereas social networks have far more bases for their existence. One

form of helping network is the natural helping network. See also collaboration.

helplessness, learned See learned helplessness.

help line A telephone-based social service to provide contact between people in need of assistance and professionals or volunteers who provide encouragement and access to necessary services. Trained listeners are immediately available for callers, especially those at risk of suicide and family violence and runaways and those seeking information about how to get needed services. The term is often used interchangeably with hot line, although the latter may also emphasize communications such as whistle blowing, where the caller is not seeking help but providing information. See also Neline.

help-rejecting complaining A pattern of complaining and appeals for help followed by explanations about why the offer of assistance was deficient. One who engages in this behavior is often dealing with emotional conflicts and seeks help to disguise unconscious feelings of hostility and self-pity. The pattern is often seen in hypochondriasis and narcissistic personality disorder.

hematophobia The pathological fear of blood.

hemodialysis The medical process of purifying the blood of patients who have had kidney failure. This process involves a machine through which the body's blood circulates past a semipermeable membrane. Waste products in the blood are absorbed through the membrane and discarded.

hemophilia A genetic disease in which the blood has insufficient capacity for rapid clotting, often resulting in excessive bleeding when injuries occur.

Henrician Poor Law The English legislation, enacted in 1536 during the reign of King Henry VIII, whose primary purpose was to organize the ways the nation would deal with its "able-bodied" poor population. Officially named "The Act for the Punishment of Sturdy Vagabonds and Beggars," it placed responsibility for the care of the poor with local officials who could collect taxes for the purpose. The officials furnished work for unemployed people and restricted begging to people with disabilities. Penalties for begging by the able-bodied included branding; enslavement; removal of their children; and for repeated offenses, execution.

hepatitis A viral disease resulting in swelling and inflammation of the liver. Symptoms include nausea, fever, weakness, loss of appetite, and often jaundice. Treatment involves extensive bed rest and controlled diet. The virus is spread by contact with contaminated food or water (infectious hepatitis), injections of contaminated blood, or the use of contaminated needles (serum hepatitis). It also sometimes occurs as a complication of other diseases, such as cirrhosis of the liver, mononucleosis, and dysentery.

heredity 1. The transmission of characteristics from parents to offspring through chromosomes that bear the genes. 2. The tendency of an individual to manifest the traits of his or her progenitors. See also chromosomal disorders and genetic disorder.

heroin A potent narcotic synthesized from morphine. It can be snorted or injected under the skin or into a vein (“mainlining”). Its effect on the user is euphoria or apathy, and for some, a “rush”—a sensation described as similar to an orgasm throughout the entire body. Once addicted, the user also seeks further doses to avoid the intensely discomforting experience of withdrawal symptoms. Heroin is highly addictive and, partly because of its high cost and nonexistent quality control, contributes to an increased death rate and to higher incidence of organized and street crime. Heroin use is illegal in most nations. See also opioid abuse and methadone treatment.

herpes A viral infection resulting in blisterlike eruptions. Herpes simplex takes the form of recurring blisters filled with clear fluid, known as cold sores when they appear around the lips and as canker sores when in the mouth. Herpes genitalis is a viral infection in the genital area. Herpes zoster, also called shingles, is a painful viral infection of the nerves, most commonly appearing on the chest-abdomen area and sometimes following other nerve pathways.

heterogeneous Possessing dissimilar traits.

heterogeneous groups Groups whose memberships comprise people with different traits, such as a wide age range, different ethnic backgrounds, and divergent political orientations. Some group leaders who hold the dissonance theory of groups seek to have a disparate membership as a catalyst for more dynamic interactions. See also homogeneous groups.

heterosexism Institutional and sociocultural arrangements that discriminate against people who are homosexual. These arrangements may be actively discriminatory, as in military regulations against homosexuals or court decisions about lesbian mothers and child custody. Or it may occur through omission of equal rights, such as the lack of marriage and inheritance rights for homosexual partners. Heterosexism is the equivalent in society to homophobia in individuals.

heterosexuality Association with and orientation toward sexual activity with members of the opposite sex.

heterostasis The tendency of a system or organism to become unstable.

HEW See Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, U.S. (HEW).

HHS See Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. (HHS).

hidden agenda The underlying goals, expectations, and strategies of members within a group, as opposed to the overt purposes of the meeting.

hidden inflation An economic situation in which costs for products or services apparently remain constant while the quality or quantity declines. For example, the price for a box of cereal stays the same, but the manufacturer puts less in each box.

hierarchy of needs The view developed in 1954 by Abraham Maslow and other professionals with a humanistic orientation that people’s needs occur in ascending order. One fulfills physiological needs first, followed by needs for safety, belonging, self-respect and self-worth, and finally self-actualization or achieving one’s full potential. See also motivation.

high blood pressure See hypertension.

high-rise slums Groups of multifloored apartment houses, usually surrounded by bare earth or asphalt, in disrepair and crime-ridden, and most often part of public housing projects.

hijos de crianza In Spanish-speaking cultures, “the children of upbringing,” a term that refers to the traditional practice of everyone in a community assuming responsibility for helping to raise a child as one’s own without the necessity of blood or even friendship ties. See also compadrazgo and padrinos.

“hillbilly” A disparaging term referring to an individual who comes from mountainous regions or other nonmetropolitan areas.

Hill, Octavia (1838–1912) Advocate for better housing for poor people in England, Hill developed principles for more equitable landlord-tenant relationships. She founded the London Society for the Prevention of Pauperism, a forerunner of the first of the Charity Organization Societies (COS).

Hispanic Pertaining to the culture of Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking people. In the United States, the term is often applied to people of Latin American ethnic background and to aspects of the culture of Spanish-speaking people. Some people prefer the term “Latino.” See also Chicano.

historical research The systematic collection and evaluation of data about past events. It follows the procedures of all research (defining the problem to be studied, posing hypotheses, collecting data in a systematic way, analyzing the information obtained, and interpreting it within the limits of generalizability). Because the data that survive are so limited and the studied phenomena are not replicable, the potential for bias is great.

histrionic personality disorder One of the 11 types of personality disorders with all or many of the following characteristics: overly dramatic behavior, overreaction to minor events, craving for attention and excitement, tantrums, appearance to others of shallowness and lack of genuineness, apparent helplessness and dependence, proneness to manipulative gestures, and threats of suicide. A person who has this disorder is commonly referred to as a “hysterical personality” or a “hysteric.”

histrionics Manipulative behavior that is overly dramatic, demanding, volatile, self-indulgent, and attention-seeking.

HIV See human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

HIV disease See acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

HIV negative A result of a blood test to detect antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) when no antibodies are found. Care must be taken to gather an accurate history of risk practices or

behaviors to ensure that the antibody test was not given during the “window period.”

HIV positive A result of a blood test that has determined the existence of antibodies to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

HMO See health maintenance organization (HMO).

hoarding Acquiring and holding goods, such as food, water, gold, and money. Disaster planners have to contend with a tendency of some people in impending crises to buy up all available supplies leaving others without access to needed goods.

Hoey, Jane (1892–1968) A public welfare administrator influential in advances of the federal government in social welfare policy, Hoey was a social researcher for health and welfare organizations and served as president of the National Conference on Social Welfare (NCSW) and the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

holistic Oriented toward the understanding and treatment of the whole person or phenomenon. In this view, an individual is seen as being more than the sum of separate parts, and problems are seen in a broader context rather than as specific symptoms. One who maintains a holistic philosophy seeks to integrate all the social, cultural, psychological, and physical influences on an individual.

holistic medicine An approach to health care that stresses treatment of the whole person, with emphasis on the interconnections of the various physical systems, including the mind. It encourages the active involvement of the patient in the treatment process through diet, exercise, pleasurable activities, and positive attitude.

Hollis-Taylor Report A 1951 study of social work education conducted by Ernest Hollis and Alice Taylor, demonstrating the profession’s increasing specialization, fragmentation, and growing orientation toward the case-by-case treatment of problems. The report recommended social work education that emphasized a more-generic orientation and a greater concern for social issues and social action. Many of the recommendations were accepted by the profession and became a foundation for the current objectives of social work education.

Holocaust Great destruction of the lives and property of a people. Today, the term is most often applied to the planned efforts of the Nazis

during World War II to eliminate the Jewish population of Europe. See also genocide, pogrom, and "ethnic cleansing."

home-alone children Children whose parents or guardians leave them without needed care and supervision. See also latchkey child.

home-based instructional services Pro-grams designed to provide education for children or adults who are unable to attend schools or other training facilities, usually as a result of illness or severe physical disability.

homebound A term referring to a shut-in or one who because of illness or disability must remain bedridden or within the confines of the home, institution, or immediate neighborhood. See also location bound.

homebound employment Jobs that people who are homebound are paid to do in their homes. Typical jobs include babysitting and day care, telephone solicitation, direct mail marketing, secretarial work, and computer services.

home care The provision of health care, homemaker, and social services to clients in their homes.

home care services Programs usually conducted by local and state departments of human services to assist people who have problems that preclude basic self-care needed to remain in their own homes. Such programs include homemaker services, meals-on-wheels, chore service, home health services, respite care, and attendant care. Some social workers also call this domiciliary care services; others use the term "home care services" as a synonym for "homemaker services" and "domiciliary care services" as a synonym for programs to help needy people with the physical repairs and maintenance of their homes.

home detention A corrections program in which as part of the sentence a convicted felon is confined to home or other restrictions outside of penal facilities. Many jurisdictions use electronic home-monitoring systems to ensure compliance. In these systems, convicts are fitted with small radio transmitters riveted on their ankles, which keep a central computer notified about the person's whereabouts.

home health aides Health care workers who provide personal care and homemaker services and some nursing to patients who are disabled or recovering on discharge from health care facilities.

home health services Programs that provide for medical, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and follow-up care of patients in their homes. Many of these services are provided in the private sector for a fee by health care personnel or by private nursing service care, financed in part by third-party payment. Public health care services in the patient's home are also available. This provides a system that often is more comfortable for the patient and more economical than hospitalization or nursing home care.

homelessness The condition of being without a home. Generally, the homeless man or woman is impoverished and transient and often lacks the social skills or emotional stability needed to improve the situation unless help is provided.

homeless shelters Private or publicly funded residential facilities for individuals and families who otherwise have no homes. The shelters typically offer beds, meals, and sometimes health and social services to as many needy people as possible, depending on available room, supplies, and demand. Some shelters have strict requirements about who is accepted, whereas others admit anyone on an as-available basis. Many shelters are highly dependent on private contributions of money, food, and volunteer workers.

homemaker A person whose primary role and activity is to maintain a comfortable and secure living environment for his or her family.

homemaker services A health or social services program to help clients remain in their own homes. Usually, one or more helpers visit the clients' homes on predetermined schedules to prepare meals, do laundry, clean house, and provide transportation and some nursing care. These homemakers are usually public employees or volunteers, and their services often help keep clients out of more-expensive hospitals or nursing homes. In many communities, the homemaker service program is oriented primarily to educating and training family members to do this work, and those in chore service do the work.

homeostasis The tendency of a system or organism to maintain stability and, when disrupted, to adapt and strive to restore the stability previously achieved. See also general systems theory.

homeowner tax deferrals State and local laws that allow property owners to postpone paying residential taxes until the homes are sold or the owners die. The program is designed to protect older people (whose property taxes have increased substantially because of the escalating value of their homes) from being forced by taxation to vacate. See also circuit-breaker tax relief.

home relief A means-tested welfare program operated under state and local auspices to provide financial assistance to needy individuals and families who are not eligible for any other categorical program. The term is synonymous with general assistance (GA) and is used in many larger cities in the eastern United States, including New York City.

Homestead Act The 1862 federal legislation designed to redistribute the population, provide opportunities, and settle the open lands in the West. The law authorized any U.S. citizen to receive 160 acres of unoccupied government land free of charge by agreeing to live on it for five years.

homestead exemptions State and local laws that give property tax breaks to qualified homeowners to permit them to remain in their homes or encourage people to live in certain neighborhoods. The law subtracts some of the home's value from the property assessment to lower its taxes. The law is designed mostly to protect older people from being forced out of their increasingly valuable homes because of tax increases. It is also used to encourage occupancy of vacant homes in transitional neighborhoods.

home visits In social work, the act of going to clients' homes to provide professional social services. Home visits have been part of the social work repertoire since the days of friendly visitors, and they occur for many reasons. Some social workers make home visits because their clients have disabilities or otherwise are unable to come to the agency. Some do so because they believe the helping process can be more effective and efficient if conducted in an environment familiar to the client. Children and frail elderly people, for example, may benefit. Other home visits occur because the social worker seeks to mobilize a neighborhood or county toward a social cause. In some instances, social workers are required to make such visits unexpectedly to investigate the client's normal living conditions. This is occasionally done to find out if the client is as poor or as incapable of providing child care as has been claimed.

homicide The killing of one human being by another.

homogeneous Possessing the same or similar traits. See also heterogeneous.

homogeneous groups Groups whose membership comprise people of similar traits; for example, members who are of the same age or sex or who share the same problem. Some group leaders believe homogeneity permits the members to focus on their core problem areas without having to deal so much with distracting side issues. See also single-focus group, heterogeneous groups, and dissonance theory of groups.

homophobia The irrational fear or hatred of people oriented toward homosexuality. The term is often applied to people who have strong negative feelings about homosexuals and to people who support antihomosexual activities. See also heterosexism.

homosexuality The sexual or erotic orientation by some men and women for members of their same sex. This orientation is not considered to be a mental disorder. The term is used for men and women. See also gay and lesbian.

homosexuality, latent In psychodynamic theory, the presence of erotic impulses outside the individual's conscious awareness toward one or more members of the same sex. The individual might give behavioral clues about this orientation but does not engage in overt homosexual activity. Some theorists suggest that latent homosexuality, accompanied by efforts by the individual to conceal the orientation from oneself and others, can result in homophobia. See also latent homosexual.

homosexual panic Severe distress related to an individual's fear or delusion of being thought to be homosexual by others or of being raped or seduced by someone of the same sex. It sometimes appears as an initial symptom of schizophrenia (especially paranoid type) or as a manifestation of latent homosexuality.

honor system A principle followed by members of some organizations or associations based on mutual trust and the understanding that all members will fulfill their responsibilities without being monitored or coerced. This system is implicit in the adult learner model in social work education.

"Hooverville" A term of derision for the shantytowns and encampments of poor people that formed near various cities during the

Great Depression. They were named for President Herbert Hoover who was president when the depression began.

Hopkins, Harry (1890-1946) Administrator of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), President Franklin D. Roosevelt's adviser on New Deal programs, and director of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). After completing his social work training, he worked for the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor (AICP) and as a relief worker. He also served Roosevelt as the U.S. Secretary of Commerce in 1938.

Horatio Alger story An expression referring to an individual's transition from poverty to affluence supposedly because of hard work, thrift, and honest character; based on the 19th-century "rags-to-riches" novels of the Reverend Horatio Alger, Jr.

horizontal career move Taking a new job that represents the same level of attainment as the old, such as similar pay and benefits, responsibilities, and prestige, usually to fulfill nonvocational objectives. See also vertical career move.

horizontal disclosure In social group work, the revelation by a member of a therapy group of some distressing information and the group's analysis of that information as it affects the relationship between the revealer and the other group members. This is the opposite of vertical disclosure.

hospice A philosophy of caring and an array of programs, services, and settings for people with terminal illness. Hospice services are usually offered in nonhospital facilities with homelike atmospheres where families, friends, and the significant other can be with the dying person.

hospice care The provision of health care and homemaker and social services in nonhospital, homelike facilities for people with a terminal illness.

hospital social work The provision of social services in hospitals and similar health care centers, most often within a facility's department of social services or social work. The services provided include prevention, rehabilitation, and follow-up activities, as well as discharge planning and information gathering and providing. Other services include assisting patients with the financial and social aspects of their care and counseling patients and their families.

host setting An organization within which another organization provides specialized services. For example, a host setting for a hospital social services department would be the hospital.

hot line A communications system that provides for immediate and direct telephone contact between certain people in times of emergency. Many communities have established such systems so that trained listeners are on hand to receive calls from people who experience emotional or social problems. There are also special-purpose hot lines such as those for runaways, whistle-blowing, suicide prevention, family violence, and other problems. See also help line and Neline.

hot-seat technique In social work with groups and other group therapy approaches, a procedure in which the group leader and all members focus exclusively on one member for a long period of time.

household The U.S. Bureau of the Census term referring to all people, whether related or not, who live in the same dwelling unit. This includes individuals (single-person households) as well as groups of people.

house of corrections A jail or prison. Usually the term is applied to minimum-security facilities for incarcerating those convicted of minor offenses who have good potential for rehabilitation.

housing allowance Funds allocated and earmarked for payment of rent or mortgage on one's home, usually provided by an employer or human services agency.

Housing Benefit in U.K. The welfare provision in the United Kingdom for low-income families and individuals that provides financial assistance to cover rent payments and reduces property taxes on the residences of needy people. See also Family Credit in U.K.

housing programs Publicly funded and monitored programs designed to provide suitable homes, especially for those unable to find or pay for them themselves. In the United States, most of these programs are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These programs include Low-Rent Public Housing, the Rent-Subsidy Program, Lower-Income Housing Assistance, Home Ownership Assistance for Low-Income Families, Rural Rental Housing Loans, Farm Labor Housing Loans, Indian Housing Improvement programs, and Housing Repair Assistance for Low-Income Families. In

addition, the government sponsors a guaranteed mortgage loan program and housing assistance for veterans.

HPV See human papillomavirus (HPV).

HRA See Human Resources Administration (HRA).

HR-10 plan See Keogh Plan.

HSA See Health Services Administration (HSA).

HUD See Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. (HUD).

Hull House The most famous of the settlement houses, founded in Chicago in 1889 by Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr. Among the first of its kind, it was a community center for poor and disadvantaged people of the area and was the setting for initiating various social reform activities.

human capital 1. Expenditures to enhance the quality of a people, which increase their productivity. 2. Investment in the citizens of a nation through public education, health and security programs, and job training, which ultimately contributes to a more economically healthy society. 3. An individual's overall skills, abilities, educational experience, and intellectual potential, which are brought to the labor market. See also investment-versus-consumption concept.

human development The physical, mental, social, and experiential changes that occur over a person's life cycle. These changes are continuous, occur in fairly consistent sequences, and are cumulative with other changes. Human development occurs in a predictable manner, but the rate of change is unique to each individual.

human diversity The range of differences between peoples in terms of race, ethnicity, age, geography, religion, values, culture, orientations, physical and mental health, and many other distinguishing characteristics.

human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) The acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus, which attacks the body's immune system and thereby leaves the HIV-infected person vulnerable to a debilitating or fatal opportunistic infection, cancer, or neurological

condition. Two types of HIV have been identified: HIV 1 is found worldwide and HIV 2 appears mainly in central Africa. The progression of infection is similar. Blood, semen, vaginal secretions, and breast milk have been implicated in transmission. HIV is transmitted by unprotected penetrative sexual intercourse with an infected person, by infected hypodermic needles, by medical transfusion of untreated blood, and from infected mother to child (in utero, during birth, or shortly after birth). HIV cannot be transmitted casually through, for example, touching an infected person or sharing a drinking glass. HIV infection and infectiousness are presumed to be lifelong.

humanistic orientation A group of concepts, values, and techniques that emphasize people's potential rather than their dysfunctions. Social workers and other therapists with this orientation tend to help clients by developing the therapeutic relationship and by concentrating on the "here and now." See also self-actualization.

human papillomavirus (HPV) One of the sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that causes genital warts, HPV is also known as venereal warts. HPV affects up to 40 million people in the United States.

human resources The knowledge and skill that some people can and do make available to others for the improvement and enrichment of their lives. See also natural resources.

Human Resources Administration (HRA) The title used in many state and municipal governments, such as New York City, for their departments of social services, public welfare, social welfare, or human services.

human rights The opportunity to be accorded the same prerogatives and obligations in social fulfillment as are accorded to all others without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion. In 1948, the U.N. Commission on Human Rights spelled out these opportunities. They include the basic civil rights recognized in democratic constitutions such as life, liberty, and personal security; freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention, or exile; the right to fair and public hearings by impartial tribunals; freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; and freedom of peaceful association. They also include economic, social, and cultural rights such as the right to work, education, and social security; to participate in the cultural life of the community; and to share in the benefits of scientific advancement and the arts.

human SERVE Human Service Employees Registration and Voter Education Fund, an organization founded in 1983 to encourage people to vote and to make the voting process more accessible. The organization's supporters, most of whom have backgrounds in the social services, achieve their objectives through educating people about how to register; by bringing registration facilities to the potential voters; and by placing legal or political pressures against boards of elections that make it difficult for some groups, especially racial and ethnic groups, to register. See also motor voter law and voter registration drives.

human services Programs and activities designed to enhance people's development and well-being, including providing economic and social assistance for those unable to provide for their own needs. The term "human services" is roughly synonymous with the terms "social services" or "welfare services" and includes planning, organizing, developing, and administering programs for and providing direct social services to people. The term came into wider use in 1979 when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) was established to replace the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW). It was thought that the term "welfare" had a negative connotation and that the organization would have more influence with the new name. Use of the term "human services" (and "human resources") instead of "social welfare services" is also part of the trend toward employing other professionals in addition to social workers in the services arena. Some social scientists identify the six basic human services as (1) personal social services, (2) health, (3) education, (4) housing, (5) income, and (6) justice and public safety.

hunger strike Refusal to eat, as a protest against unjust or unacceptable conditions. Social workers and other activists have called attention to existing conditions by going on such fasts themselves or by organizing groups to refuse food.

Huntington's disease A genetic disorder also known as Huntington's chorea. It is transmitted by a dominant gene and affects half the offspring of those who carry the genes. The symptoms, which include mental deterioration, such as hallucination, profound mood swings, dementia, and choreiform movements, do not appear until about age 30. Genetic counseling is important for those who have the disease and for their offspring.

"hustling" The term used by "street people" to describe any activities designed to extract money from those they encounter.

Hustling may occur through prostitution, swindling, panhandling, "borrowing," gambling, stealing, and extortion.

hwa-byung A culture-bound syndrome most commonly found among Korean peoples in which the individual experiences insomnia, fatigue, panic, fear, and various somatic complaints said to be the result of suppressing anger.

hyperactive child syndrome A term formerly used for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

hyperactivity Excessive muscular activity, usually with rapid movements, restlessness, and almost constant motion. Its causes may be a symptom of anxiety, neurosis, organic mental disorders, or physiological or neurological disorders. This term is still used informally, but has been replaced diagnostically by attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

hyperacusis Extreme and sometimes painful sensitivity to sounds.

hyperkinesis A childhood disorder characterized by excessive motor activity, reduced attention span, and accompanying difficulties in learning and perceiving accurately. Roughly synonymous with hyperactivity, the term now preferred by professionals is attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The syndrome has also been known as "hyperactive child syndrome," "hyperkinetic reaction of childhood," "minimal brain damage," "minimal brain dysfunction," and "minimal cerebral dysfunction."

hyperkinetic reaction of childhood A term formerly used for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

hypersomnia One of the sleep disorders that involves excessive sleepiness and sleep attacks during all daytime and nighttime hours; the condition is the opposite of insomnia.

hypertension High pressure of blood pulsing against the walls of the blood vessels. This chronic disorder of the cardiovascular system, is a predominant risk factor in stroke, heart attack, renal disease, and eye diseases. A person with high blood pressure generally cannot feel any symptom, so it can only be detected reliably by using a blood pressure cuff (sphygmomanometer). Physicians are especially concerned when the systolic pressure (caused when the heart contracts) exceeds 140 or the diastolic pressure (caused when the heart relaxes) exceeds 90.

hypertonia Extreme muscle tension.

hyperventilation Taking in more air than can be processed by the body, which results in lowered levels of carbon dioxide in the blood stream. Usually the behavior is the result of anxiety and often causes the individual to feel dizzy, light-headed, and faint.

hypnosis The phenomenon of being in a mental state of aroused concentration so intense that everything else in the subject's consciousness is ignored. All hypnosis is self-hypnosis, and the role of the hypnotist is to offer suggestions for deepening the level of concentration. Generally, hypnotized subjects will not do anything contrary to their moral or ethical codes and can come out of trances at will. Forms of hypnosis are used successfully in therapeutic interventions, such as hypnotherapy. Subjects can be taught to use self-hypnosis to achieve specific goals such as weight loss, cessation of smoking, pain relief, and overcoming of a phobia.

hypnotherapy The use of hypnosis and self-hypnosis is an adjunct or central tool in the psychotherapy process. Hypnotherapy has been used in psychotherapy since Sigmund Freud's (1856-1939) earliest analytic cases and is now used especially in the treatments of phobia, pain relief, weight loss, cessation of smoking, and anxiety.

hypoactive Less active than what is considered normal.

hypoactive sexual desire disorder A sexual disorder in which the individual has little or no urge for sexual activity. In making this diagnosis, sex therapists and other clinicians specify whether the condition is lifelong or acquired, generalized or situational, and caused by psychological or combined psychological-physiological problems. See also sexual arousal disorders.

hypochondriasis Preoccupation with the details of one's bodily functions and excessive concern about the possibility of having a disease. It is generally believed to be caused by neurotic anxiety. Hypochondriacal individuals typically present physical symptoms but no actual disturbance in bodily function. These people often develop physical symptoms such as dizziness, sweating, and rapid pulse, arising from fears about their health. They often seek help from various medical specialists but are reluctant to accept reassurance of well-being. See also neurosis and somatoform disorders.

hypoglycemia Low level of sugar in the blood. Left untreated, it may cause the appearance of psychogenic symptoms that can lead to

inappropriate treatment for emotional disorders. Because of the possibility of hypoglycemia, prudent social workers advise clients about to enter psychotherapy to get a physical exam first.

hypokinetic Fewer movements than what is considered normal.

hypomania Behavior that is similar to but less severe than that observed in individuals with bipolar disorder, manic type. The individual in this state seems euphoric, energetic, and creative but may also be impatient and grandiose and use poor judgment.

hypomanic episode A symptom found in some of the mood disorders, especially bipolar disorder, consisting of an abnormally and persistently elevated, expansive, or irritable mood lasting at least four days. This may include feelings of inflated self-esteem, grandiosity, pressured speech, flight of ideas, distractibility, and psychomotor agitation, all of which are a clear departure from the individual's usual mood and functioning. The symptoms are identical to those in a manic episode except they are not as severe and do not include the possibility of delusion or hallucination or other psychotic features.

hypothalamus The part of the brain that controls the autonomic nervous system (ANS) and many of the body's regulating systems such as hunger, thirst, and temperature. It is also thought to play a major role in emotion and motivation.

hypothesis A tentative proposition that describes a possible relationship among facts that can be observed and measured. The proposition is often stated in negative fashion as a null hypothesis (for example, "There is no difference between the work of MSWs and BSWs as measured by. . ."). Social workers and other professionals also use the term informally to indicate a theory believed to account for what is not entirely understood.

hypotonia Minimal muscle tension; flaccidity.

hypoxia Less oxygen than is needed to maintain health.

hysteria A term originally used by Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) to describe patients with symptoms he believed to be the result of suppressed sexual and oedipal conflicts. Lay people tend to use this term for any intensely felt and dramatically expressed range of emotions. See also conversion disorder and anxiety hysteria.

“hysterical” A historical term still used informally and inappropriately by social workers and other professionals to describe a person with some or all of the following characteristics: overly dramatic behavior, overreaction to minor events, craving for attention and excitement, tantrums, appearance to others of shallowness and lack of genuineness, apparent helplessness and dependency, proneness to manipulative gestures, and suicide threats. In treatment, such a person would likely to be diagnosed as having a histrionic personality disorder.

hysterical neurosis, conversion type A somatoform disorder caused by anxiety and resulting in the appearance of some physical dysfunction that has no apparent physical cause. The individual is said to use the symptoms unconsciously to avoid some undesired activities or to get some support from others that might not otherwise be available. This psychiatric label is no longer used in official diagnoses. It is now called conversion disorder.