

Children's Aid Society Files, City of Toronto Archives

Box 70, File 8 "Historical Analysis of Infants Admitted to Care 1967, 1970-71, and An Analysis of Admissions, Discharges, And Adoptions of Infants, January-June 1971"

Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto, "Analysis by Race of the Admissions, Discharges, and Adoption Placements of Children Under Three" Oct 21 1971, Table No. 1: Jan 1-June 30<sup>th</sup> 2 "entirely Oriental" babies from unmarried parents were placed; 4 "part Oriental"

Table No. II, "Analysis of Admissions to Care of Children Under Three by Race Jan 1-June 30<sup>th</sup>, Oct 21 1971, 1 "entirely Oriental" 2 "part Oriental" (compared to 288 entirely Caucasian and 39 entirely negro, 25 part negro. Other categories are Entirely North Am Indian, Part NAI, "Entirely Other," "Part Other."

Discharges excluding adoptions for same period, 2 "part oriental"

These numbers are based on a 10% sample of all children admitted under the age of three. "Summary and Implications of the Historical Analysis of Infants admitted to care, 1967-1970-71" September 20, 1971.

Analysis shows that the percentage on non-Caucasian children increased from 11.3% in 1967 to 19.8% in 1970-71. Non-Caucasian children were spending only 4-5 days longer in care than Caucasian children; in 1967 they spent LESS time in care, 22 days fewer on average.

Aug 5 1971 "An Historical Analysis of Infants Admitted to Care, 1967, 1970-71 p 1 : "Slightly more than 10% of 1970 U.P. [unmarried parents] children had parents who had been suspected or known to have used drugs during pregnancy or at conception. No instance of suspected or known drug usage appears in the 1967 sample but questions about drug use probably would not have been asked."

Box ?? File: Unmarried Parent Survey, 1958-61

Document: "Children Admitted to Infant Care East Branch During 1960 Total Admitted 340" Jan 31, 1961.

From Unmarried Parent Department, 263 were admitted, 157 placed, and of the 106 remaining in care, 7 are "racial" which I assume means they think this is why they have not been placed, but they don't say the race of those placed.

This file suggests that Negro children were hard to place.

Box ?? File: Unmarried Parent Survey, 1958-61, Document: "Unmarried Parent Department Pertinent Facts Regarding analysis of cases closed during 1958" March 1959. 85% were single, (p 1); "Socio-economic level, 1958" : Deprived 13%, Lower Strata 47%, Middle Strata 37% Upper Strata 2%.

Factors in conception:	1956	1957	1958
Casual Relationship	34%	34	31
Promise of Marriage	30	21	21
Continuing Relationship	19	26	27
Common Law Union	8	2	6
Other (intoxication, unknown)	9	7	15

1958 12% did not know the marital status of the putative father.  
 29% did not sign a decaration of paternity, 29% signed but refused action and 42% signed and requested action.

Photocopied p 2 and 6, 2 are prostitutes.

SC 1 Box 75 File 6 "History"

CAS and Infants' Home amalgamate in 1951.

SC 1 Box 75 File 7 Correspondence, W. Babb, 1966-74

Document: "Report of Provisional Membership Study the Children's Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto" Mary 21-25, 1966, Zelma J. Felten, Director of Field Services and Gertrude Layton, Consultant" This document is for membership in the Child Welfare League of America, Inc.

p. 17: The CAS is required to give "evidence that its attitude is non-discriminatory and that it either has or is working toward the goal of having racially integrated staff, board and services." They write: "It was reported during the study that persons of Indian and Oriental background represent the larger minority groups in Metropolitan Toronto; that Negroes constitute only about 2 percent of the total population. The arrival of Negroes and their absorption into the community has been gradual. There are no ghettos and inter-racial tension has never been a problem in Toronto. Agency services have traditionally been provided without discrimination because of race or national origin. The agency has placed children of mixed racial background - Indian, Oriental and Negro - for adoption with Caucasian families. Staff has included both Negro and Indian members. The board of directors includes two Jewish members. It is totally Caucasian at present. The board recognizes the desirability of having mixed racial representation if candidates meet other qualifications for board membership."

P 24 on "Services to the Unmarried Mother

"This service is based on the basic principle that no unmarried mother who needs service shall be turned away. As a result the caseload is high and certain limitations to this service are necessary under the present staffing pattern. While every effort is made to help the unmarried mother with her own problems, too often the largest concentration of time and effort must of necessity be on the unmarried mother's

plan for her child. All too often when the plan for the child is made and the release is signed, or when court action is taken to make the baby a permanent ward of the agency, the case is closed and no further service is offered the unmarried mother. “

Box 73 File 1 “Reports, LS Richardson, 1955-67, Document: “Report of the Executive Director, Annual Meeting, Children’s Aid Society of Metropolitan Toronto, April 8 1959”, p 2 12% increased in the number of children placed for adoption in the past year.

Document: “Report of the Executive Director, Annual Meeting, April 6, 1960” p 5 colored children are hard to place.

Document: “Report of the Executive Director to the Annual Meeting, Feb. 19, 1962” p 5 on how not all handicaps are visible: “The child of an unmarried mother is handicapped, no matter how healthy he may be, He hasn’t got a father to speak of...”

P 4 on the rise of teenage pregnancy across North Am and in TO, it “points up a serious moral sickness within our 20<sup>th</sup> Century industrial society. Or a variety of reasons people tend to become embarrassed when moral values are mentioned, It is always more convenient to find explanations of bad behaviour within the social structure – and I would hasten to say these should never be minimized. The authority of parents needs to be encouraged, not the stupid and punitive kind, but the authority based on concepts of decency and responsibility. It is no favour to allow teen-agers to run around all hours without adequate supervision just because other teen-agers in the neighbourhood do so. I believe that it is the (p 5) responsibility of us who might be described as elders to reaffirm vigorously the fundamental values of mankind. The church, when it does not become preoccupied with the minor peccadillos [sic] of human nature, can be a solid rock to build on.”

Document: “Services needed to meet the needs of children in care” L.S. Richardson, 1964. p. 4 Rise in the number of infants under 3: In 1958 598 children and in 1963 780 children were placed on adoption.

Document: “Executive Director’s Speech to Annual Meeting” Feb 26, 1965. “The number of unmarried mothers coming to us for help increased to 2,040 last year, an increase of 15% over the past year.”

Document, “Report of the Executive Director April 1965” 4 pages reflecting on the recent Child and Welfare League conference on the unmarried mother; again denouncing moral laxity and calling for “a return to more emphasis on the sterner moral virtues and a consequent disapproval of the unmarried mother.” P 3,

Box 95 File 9 p 2.311 a list of maternity homes in Toronto

Box 90 File 2 “Staff Bulletins”

1950 June were asked by the City Council and the Board of control to submit a report on the adoption program. Look in their records for it, unless it is the one I took notes on.

19 Nov 1951 bulletin notes that bec of the merger with Ingants' Homes, 'our Unmarried Parents Department has this week been given additional responsibilities in respect to the administration of the Children of Unmarried Parents Act. Our workers will now be taking declarations of Paternity and the Oath of Affiliation from the unmarried mothers who are now being served or who will be coming to us in the future. This is the first of 3 steps to be taken in the process of transferring this work from the Provincial Children's Department to our agency.

Box 90 File 4

March 7 1952 Bulletin, they now are more formal and have numbers, this on Vol No 2 (ie no vol number), notes that from Feb 21-23 there was an Institute in Adoption at the YWCA

Social work journals a likely source. See esp *Canadian Welfare*

Vol 1 No 7 May 19 1952

"When the child of an unmarried mother is admitted to care for instance, she is asked to contribute wholly or in part towards her child's maintenance, if she is able. The cost per child in 1951 was \$1.52 or \$45.60 per month as set by the Court. ..

"Of course, not many girls earn enough to be expected to pay \$45.60 a month for a child. On the other hand, many feel a sense of responsibility for their children, even when they request adoption. They pay maintenance to the best of their ability until the children are adopted. In one particular instance an unmarried mother gave birth to twins. This girl paid a total of \$700. for her children, until it was possible to place them for adoption. She was an independent person who wanted to pay her own way. Her motivation was not, as it sometimes the case, a need for self-punishment, Her average weekly income was \$42.00. her weekly payments to the agency were \$16.00 ..."

1954 the child welfare act changes.

Box 90 File 9

1957 changes to mothers allowance, mother no longer has to maintain her child for 2 years before becoming eligible.

Box 100 File 6 "A Project in the Area of Unmarried Parent Services, Carmina Gordon"

P 1 notes that the last time a study of the needs of unmarried mothers was undertaken in Toronto was 1943 by Gwynedd Owens, "Children Born out-of-wedlock," "issued by" the Child Welfare Council of Toronto.

P 4 citing a US study of pregnant adolescent girls, white keep and "releasing", but African AM (negro) "overwhelmingly keeping". 1962 data.

P 12 the researcher created a discussion group to gain a better understanding of their needs, the "putative father was a prime concern" of the women, thus one can imagine that gay women would not at all benefit from the social service world's move toward addressing the needs of unmarried parents.

P 22 1970 Social Planning council survey of out-of-wedlock births for Feb 1970. IN that month there were 146 live births to unwed mothers, 37.7% (55) of whom were under 20 years of age; 46.3% (56) of the 121 kept their children.

Box 105 File 3 "The Protection Client who Drinks to Excess" is a MA thesis for the school of social work by John Barnes 1957 and does not seem too relevant so I did not read it.

Box 108, File 8 "An experiment in group service to unmarried parents"  
This one focused largely on the method of group meetings, less on the clients.

"Our experience within the department has been the unmarried mothers are generally as judgemental [sic] about illegitimacy as the society in which they live. In spite of changing values within our society, and increased intellectual acceptance of new standards, almost every girl seen here who is pregnant outside of marriage shows evidence of great guilt over her condition. The group situation exposes a girl to the fact that illegitimacy reaches every level of the social strata... Many are isolated either physically or emotionally from friends and family at this period.

Did not read: "Girls in Trouble Again: A study of case records of thirty-six unmarried mothers who have had two or more pregnancies out-of-wedlock" School of Social Work, 1947, University of Toronto