

## PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

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he future of a nation lies within its children! This statement requires a close look at the conditions which exist in our country for our growing children.

Sadly, crime immediately jumps to mind, in its various horrific forms. There are many subjects that cover this theme:

- safe motherhood
- physical and emotional development
- nutrition for normal growth
- immunisation
- the plight of street children
- effects of drugs and alcohol
- sexual abuse.

As Child Protection Week runs from 29 May - 3 June 2007 there is plenty of time for librarians to make a display with relevant books to

stimulate library users to read more about any of these subjects.

Featured above is a display which we have put together to inspire you. To make it easy templates are supplied on the two following pages.

The most important aspect of the display is to create a strong contrast between the images of the healthy, cared-for children and the neglected and deprived children.

Note the colours used - bright cheerful colours versus dark, dreary ones. Next, note the shapes which connect the major colours...a blue rounded, flowing shape suggesting clean flowing water, as opposed to a sharp, jagged black edge, resembling a razor edge.

More contrast is achieved through the lettering on different coloured rectangles. The 'good' is depicted through bright, happy colours and the 'bad' through black, grey, dull colours.

The colourful flowers placed below the images of the happy children set the mood for this image whereas the positions of the unhappy children evoke nothing more than sorrow - the girl crying and the boy dead or unconscious.

Finally, the lettering is dramatically placed across both pages to link the two at the same angle to their contrasting colours.

Two coloured boxes have been used to elevate the books onto different levels. Note the bright yellow box on the 'happy' side and the dark reddish box on the 'sad' side. These boxes provide a place for articles photocopied from newspapers to be displayed. There are many dramatic news items in our daily papers dealing with this subject.

If an article does not fit the space, cut it out and place in sections that will fit and tape together on the back side. Even just a heading and picture would also add to the emotional effect one is attempting to create.

Use this simple but effective display to raise awareness to the plight of many unfortunate children.

DISPLAYS

Neglect

FOOD

Hunger

Laughter

CRIME

LOVE

FEAR

School

DRUGS

FUN

ABUSE

Care

## CHILD PROTE CTION WEEK

