Authors divided the articles into six major groupings: general, congenital anomalies, infections, rheumatoid arthritis and related disorders, trauma, and tumors. Each grouping is arranged alphabetically by primary author. Although rehabilitation of the hand is addressed, the bulk of the citations deal with diagnosis of primary care of upper extremity pathology. Clinicians, researchers, and educators will find that this book facilitates access to appropriate resources and circumvents hours of library work. It is helpful in providing more expert patient care, in compiling relevant bibliographies, and in referring the student or novice to the classic literature in the treatment of the hand.

Robert E. Dorer, Jr., M.O.T., OTR

Women in Crisis, Penelope Rus­sianoff, Ph.D. Editor, Human Science Press, 72 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011, 263 pp (1981), $29.95, $12.95, paper.

The complexity of problems that women face because they are female are described in this book. Topics cover concerns such as addiction, abuse, alcoholism, rape, incarceration, limited career mobility, and “learned helplessness.” Women who suffer from these problems may be referred to occupational therapy, and it is useful for the therapist to consider the overwhelming social forces that shape the client’s role performance.

Woman in Crisis is an edited collection of papers delivered during the first Women in Crisis Conference, May 16-19, 1979. More than 30 government and private agencies and foundations endorsed, supported, and participated in the conference. Many papers are short because the presentations were scheduled for only 15 minutes. Topics are divided into three sections: 1. Women in Crisis: The Issue; 2. Intervention: Problems and Approaches; and 3. Making Change. The papers provide background information and describe successful and unsuccessful programs.

The basic assumption apparent throughout the conference was the double jeopardy of women who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, or other stigmatized social roles. These women suffer once because of the traditional “in­ dignities of social discrimination inherent in our society” (p 15). Our social system—laws, institutional policies, and values—offers the second level of discrimination because services, although ava­ ilable, are not tailored to meet female needs. For example, a 15-year-old runaway girl may be incarcerated to “protect” her.

The conference was designed to promote a dialogue among members of the helping network. The goal is to promote change that benefits the high-risk woman. The editor emphasizes that “new self-attitudes—healthy self-attitudes—and self-motivation can be taught to vast numbers of people.” (p 21)

In summary, Women in Crisis is a series of papers presented in one book. The topics link the problems of a powerless group of women to the values that operate in our society. The list of contributors and conference participants and their affiliations is a useful resource tool. Russianoff expressed a hope that this book “... will not just end up on the desks of agency personnel” (p 21). Instead, the ideas should promote new approaches to help women whose lives are “miserable and who are unwitting victims of society.”

Ruth E. Levine, Ed.D., OTR

Authors’ Correction

In the article “Hip-Abduction, Knee-Extension Orthosis,” which appeared in the July 1982 issue of AJOT, pages 461-62, the authors made a typing error. It is the hip adductor muscle that is being stretched when the orthosis is worn, rather than the hip abductor muscle, as stated in the article.

Paula Spector, OTR
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