Boeke/Books

Sexual abuse of children in South Africa

Sexual Abuse of Children in South Africa: Understanding and Dealing with the Problem. Ed. by Grant Robertson. Pp. 78. R17,95. Hammanskraal: Unibook 1989.

This book on sexual abuse attempts to address the problem from a South African perspective. It includes definitions, case histories and the opinions of the author, who served in the South African Police Child Protection Unit. There is no reference to any other studies or data, and no index. Only two articles are included in the bibliography. The language is often subjective, emotive and unacademic. The help-line directory provided may be useful, and reflects the fragmentation of services offered to the abused child.

In my opinion the book is not a useful addition to the academic literature on sexual abuse.

Peter Lachman

Books received

Operative Manual of General Surgery. 1st ed. By D. F. du Toit. Pp. iv + 336. Cape Town: Mainline. 1990.

Haematological Aspects of Systemic Disease. Ed. by I. W. Delamore and J. A. Liu Yin. Pp. 568. £45. London: Baillière Tindall. 1990.

Progress in Liver Diseases. Vol. IX. Ed. by H. Popper and F. Schaffner. Pp. xv + 750. £110. London: WB Saunders. 1990.

The Merck Manual of Geriatrics. Ed. by W. B. Abrams and R. Berkow. Pp. xxii + 1267. £14,50. Rahway, N.J.: Merck & Co. 1990.

Evaluation of Certain Food Additives and Contaminants. WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives. Pp. 1 + 48. SFr. 6. Geneva: WHO. 1990.