DESINTERNACIÓN:
Vivir en familia ES UN DERECHO

INTERNATIONAL TRENDS IN HIGH INCOME COUNTRIES

IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILE AND URUGUAY

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The investigative turn has left child welfare in crisis

- Increasing reports and investigations
- High rate of involvement in child protection
- Deprived communities and ethnic minorities
- Increased removal from parents
- Low levels of child well-being
Our results show no clear evidence for an overall decrease in child maltreatment despite decades of policies designed to achieve such reductions (Gilbert et al., 2012, p. 770).

Trocme et al (2014) found no change in urgent protection referrals in Canada 1998 to 2008 (36,299 in 2008) but other investigations doubled (199,572 in 1998) - a significant proportion of children receiving ongoing support or entering care because of a concern to promote the long-term well-being of children rather than urgent responses to protect from harm.
10 YEAR TRENDS IN SEPARATION ENGLAND

- Children adopted: Increase 42%
- Special Guardianship: Increase 2922%
- Children in care: Increase 21%
- Overall: 52% Increase in children separated from parents
OUTCOMES OF SEPARATION

- Poorer education outcomes
- Crime
- Unemployment
- Homelessness
- Mental Illness
- Higher mortality & suicide
- Sexual Exploitation
- Early pregnancy
- Children in care/adopted
- Lower IQ in children’s homes
- Drugs, prostitution, autism and more …

“Outcomes are poor even when compared to children with comparable backgrounds and problems.”
[Source: UK Parliament 2009 ]
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
AN ALTERNATIVE PARADIGM FOR SOCIAL WORK

Key features of social development:

**Social investments** that enhance capabilities including: “employment placement, childcare, adult literacy, micro-enterprise, and asset savings accounts”

- **Advocacy oriented** to move from a narrow preoccupation with practice with families and children

- **Community oriented** and asset based approaches to combat social exclusion

- **Strengths-basis** acknowledging and focussing on family and community assets and aiming to promote resilience

- **Interdisciplinary** focus including promoting access to housing, medical care, education, and recreational facilities
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

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REFERENCES


