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# Foster Parenthood: A Role Analysis



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## Foster Parenthood: A Role Analysis

*David Fanshel*

1966

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## SUMMARY

Foster Parent hood was first published in 1966. Although many thousands of children in the United States live in foster family homes supervised by public or private agencies, surprisingly little attention has been focused on the men and women who serve as foster parents. This book will help to fill the gaps in our understanding of foster parents and consequently it will, it is hoped, aid in efforts to improve the administration of foster home care. Professor Fanshel inquires into the motivations of a group of foster parents and identifies psychological and sociocultural factors related to role performance. The study is based on research in depth with 101 foster families on the roster of a social agency in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Data were obtained through interviews with foster mothers and fathers, administration of a parental attitude questionnaire, and ratings by caseworkers of the role performance of the



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