



The Argument for Family Placement in Childcare Reform

Towards a Better Future for Vulnerable Children

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John Bowlby

Attachment Theory

Care for Children

Overview of Attachment Theory



Forming emotional bonds is crucial in child development.

Only family environments help children build healthy attachment.

Attachment disorders are linked with institutional care.

“

If the system doesn't meet the needs of the children, we must reform the system,
not the child.

Lord Laming

”



Shanghai Project

The first collaborative project to place children in foster care between the Chinese and British governments.

Shanghai project Overview



A 3-year initiative for 500 children.

Swift recruitment of foster parents.
Placement stability, particularly for
'hard to place' children.

**International evaluation by the
University of East Anglia, UK**



The project is undoubtedly an impressive achievement on a number of grounds.

Professor June Thoburn (University of East Anglia), and Mr Chris Beckett (University of Cambridge), Mrs Vivian Shen (Shanghai Children's Medical Centre), Professor Zeng Fanlin (East China Normal University)



1. The number of placements achieved in a short time, the number of foster-parents recruited (and the interest generated).

Professor June Thoburn (University of East Anglia), and Mr Chris Beckett (University of Cambridge), Mrs Vivian Shen (Shanghai Children's Medical Centre), Professor Zeng Fanlin (East China Normal University)

2. The stability of placements for children who are generally considered ‘hard to place’ and ‘hard to parent’.

Professor June Thoburn (University of East Anglia), and Mr Chris Beckett (University of Cambridge), Mrs Vivian Shen (Shanghai Children’s Medical Centre), Professor Zeng Fanlin (East China Normal University)

3. The diversity of placements.

Professor June Thoburn (University of East Anglia), and Mr Chris Beckett (University of Cambridge), Mrs Vivian Shen (Shanghai Children's Medical Centre), Professor Zeng Fanlin (East China Normal University)

4. The creative interplay of British and Chinese experience (from which, we believe, both British and Chinese projects could learn in the future).

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5. The observed benefits to many of the children, who have progressed rapidly since moving from institutional care to foster-care.

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CATEGORY OF CHILD	NUMBER PLACED (AND PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PLACEMENTS)	NUMBER OF BREAKDOWNS (AND PERCENTAGE CHILDREN IN THIS GROUP WHOSE PLACEMENTS BREAK DOWN)
Entered institution under 2 and placed before age 2	32 (14.56%)	0
Entered institution under 2 and placed aged 2 or 3	61 (28%)	1 (2%)
Entered institution under 2 and placed aged 4 and over	80 (36%)	9 (11%)
Entered institution aged 2, 3 or 4 and placed after less than a year	12 (5.5%)	0
Entered institution aged 2, 3 or 4 and placed after more than a year	21 (9.5%)	2 (9.5%)
Entered institution aged 5 and over and placed after less than a year	7 (3%)	2 (29%)
Entered institution age 5 and over and placed after more than a year	7 (3%)	1 (14%)



It is important that children who are to be placed are moved from institutional care quickly and this is especially so for those who enter as infants. Children who have spent some time in institutional care as babies and toddlers are harder to place successfully and are likely to require special preparation.

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*The First 100
Foster Families*

100个寄养家庭



SPECIAL EDITION
特别刊物



China National Rollout



With the invitation from Yan Mingfu, Dr Glover moved to Beijing to expand the programme nationwide.

Growth from 15 to 30 cities.

National rollout which results in legislation change in 2014.



China Projects - Key Figures

100+ local training workshops

8 national conferences

4 international study tours

1 publication: "Case & Practice: Facilitating Development of Disabled Orphans in Foster Care", 2011

China Projects - Key Figures

Stage One

2003 - 2007: 15 Project Sites

2007 - 2008: 30 Project Sites

Stage Two (National Rollout)

2009-2010, 38 project sites (after Sichuan earthquake, 8 new ones in Sichuan)

2010--2011, 38 project sites

2012-2013, 30 project sites (20 with fundings + 10 with training support)

2013-2014, 25 project sites (all with funding)

2014-2016, 33 project sites (all with funding)

Stage Three

Training resource centres, 2017-2019:

2017-2019, 20 project sites (5 regional training resource centres (hubs) + 15 with training support)

New Legislation

On 1 December 2014, the Chinese government issued 'National Regulations for Family Care' which required institutions to offer family care to any child who was suitable for family placement, indicating a permanent change in child welfare practice in favour of family care initiatives.

1 million children!

2018 Beijing Bureau of Statistics: 85% of children in family care.

National Standards

On 30 April, 2019, National Standard: Assessment of Foster Family



The Bamboo Boy

Theory to Practice

One Family, One Million Lives



Children of SHANGHAI

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Bear Grylls

A 20-year journey

Now on Sky TV and Discovery Asia

Narrator: BEAR GRYLLS | Director: RICHARD NASH | Producers: MATTI GAO, RICHARD NASH | Editors: JONNY HALL, NAUDENE LEISEGANG
Archive: AP ARCHIVE, ITV ARCHIVE, POND 5, SKY NEWS/GETTY IMAGES | Camera: JONNY HALL, ADAM KERBY, WEINAN LI
Sound: CUIXIN DUAN, XIAO YU | Gaffer: DANGJUN YUE | Music: FIONA TAYLOR | Grading: THE ATTIC | Sound Mix: THE ATTIC | Graphic Designer: ROGER WEBB
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www.childrenofshanghai.com

Children of Shanghai

A DOCUMENTARY NARRATED BY BEAR GRILLS

XU GUOQI
28, Special Olympic Champion

adidas

Special Olympics
China



My Family

Care for Children

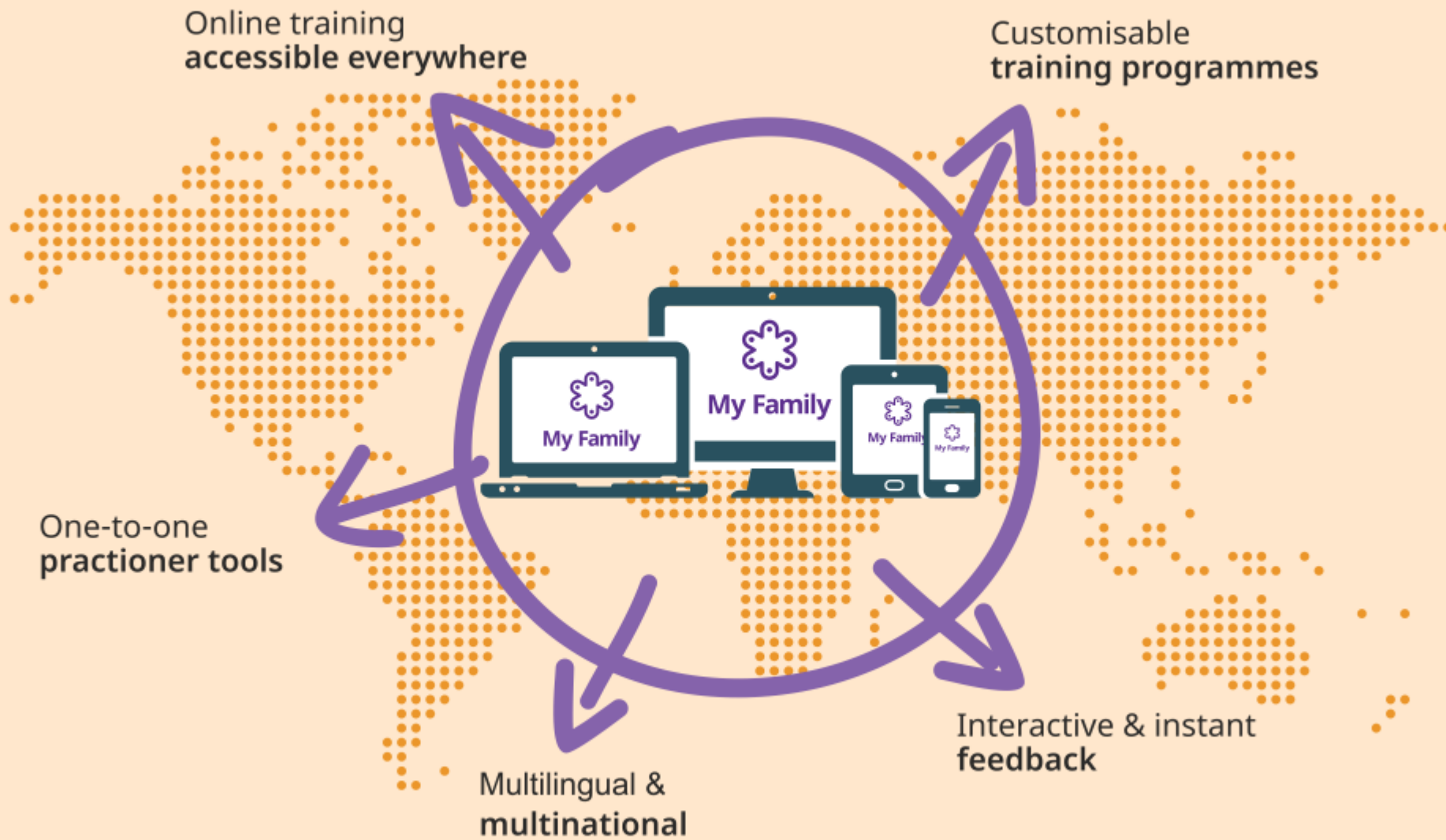


summer
activities to
do with your
children



myfamily #familytips





Conclusion



Government needs to take the lead in setting legislation, policies and funding for childcare reform.

Family Placement and Residential Care need to join hands as a complementary and holistic approach to care for the vulnerable children. (Community based model)

When we are investing into the children, we are investing into the future of a nation.

“

Healthy families, healthy nations.

”

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