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Review of *Aids in Post-communist Russia and its Successor States*. Christopher Williams. Reviewed by Ronald J. Mancoske, Southern University at New Orleans.

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the timeliness of pending cases and the uncertainty surrounding existing cases makes any discussion of court cases necessarily incomplete. The text might have been made even more practicable if there were a concluding chapter on how social workers and other helping professionals can use the material to assist them in dealing with specific practice situations. Thankfully, Stoner does provide helpful hands-on sources at the end of each chapter.

Stoner's style is sufficiently readable for the undergraduate level yet it captures the complexity of this content, particularly in the policy area. This should also make the book highly suitable and welcome in graduate courses.

This book would be an excellent source in social policy and law or social problems. Interest for this book would also include providers in a number of fields including law, social work, mental health and public welfare.

Larry W. Kreuger
University of Missouri-Columbia

Cudore L. Snell, *Young Men in the Street: Help Seeking Behavior of Young Male Prostitutes*. Greenwood, CT: Praeger Publishers, 1995. \$39.95 hardcover.

Christopher Williams, *AIDS in Post-Communist Russia and its Successor States*. Brookfield, VT: Ashgate Publishing Co., 1995, hardcover.

The pathways leading to male prostitution are complex and multifaceted. Linear causality models ignore the experiences of those involved or simplify their experiences to a point where the models are neither descriptive nor explanatory. The motivators blend powerful forces of sexual expression, economic exploitation, psychosexual development, homophobia and bigotry along with complicated identity formation processes. As are the pathways to male prostitution diverse, the consequences too are a panoply ranging from relatively benign experimentation to exploitation of the vulnerable. HIV/AIDS is not the final consequence of risk, but an expression of under development of societies which fail to materialize human dignity and human rights of their most vulnerable populations.

Cudore Snell has woven together a mixture of research and vignettes which capture the socially conscious reader's attention. He reports the results of an empirical study of this marginalized population, reviews related studies of the 1960's and 1970's, and examines this social phenomenon in light of their help seeking behaviors. It has been reported since the early 1960's that male prostitution is far wider than gay male sexual expression. Complex developmental, identity and economic incentives intertwine with the vulnerabilities of youth confronting homelessness, substance abuse and family abandonments. Humphreys in the early 1970's reported that patrons of male prostitutes are frequently not a part of an identifiable group and are often transient escapees of religious, familial and personal identity conflicts.

The current socio-political climate makes it more pressing to realize that those youth shut out of opportunities are finding homes on the streets, in jails, and finding existences characterized by risk, violence, drugs, and health threats. Snell's small sample of these youth draws a consistent picture of deprivation, risk, exploitation and need, and a picture of youth struggling to make sense, make order, and make money. Risk is paramount, risk is pervasive, and of risk reduction they often are ill-informed. The limited help available is inadequate and often not used. Allow Snell's immanently readable descriptive approach tell you why in the voices of these youth.

Christopher Williams' *AIDS in Post-Communist Russia and its Successor States* offers another prism in which to view how health and social support systems contribute to the vulnerabilities of those living through social and economic changes. Williams examines HIV/AIDS epidemiology in the former Soviet Union in what is a fascinating tour through not only a dreaded epidemiological outbreak, but the dynamic political, social and economic structures responding to changing public health concerns. For the novice in understanding the health care delivery system in the former Soviet Union, Williams provides an enlightening blue print through this maze which is shaped by the recent dramatic geo-political events.

Williams paints a portrait of hope and of despair—of risk and of opportunity. In a chilling description of an impoverished health care delivery system—many hospitals lack water, sanitation, food, and medical supplies. Sharing needles is necessary

if care is to be provided—even “if” contamination risks are calculable. Williams shows how the changing political and economic landscape impacts not only responses to epidemics and shapes the infrastructure necessary to impact public health. The infection rates of HIV are comparatively low internationally. The time lapse in the outbreak of the epidemic gives opportunity to alter its course. Yet Williams identifies social and political forces, not unlike many in the West, which make responses too little, too late, and with a tendency to estrange human dignity rather than protect public health.

Williams reports how the collapse of the prior Soviet Union has led to greater governmental roles in the provision of human services. Yet economic pressures squeeze away the vitality of such efforts. Not unlike in the West, this has led to a questioning of basic rights, services and care. The social development theme “if you want peace, work for justice” herein aptly applied is “if you want health, work for human rights.”

Ronald J. Mancoske
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Kenneth France and Michelle Kish, *Supportive Interviewing in Human Service Organizations: Fundamental Skills for Gathering Information and Encouraging Productive Change*. Springfield, IL: Charles Thomas Publisher, 1995. \$65.95 hardcover, \$36.95 paperback.

This book adds an useful dimension to the burgeoning literature on the “art and science” of professional interviewing. The strength of the book lies in its eclectic approach to the critical task of information collection, intervention planning and client involvement in implementing behavior change. While the authors have borrowed their concept from the Analytical, Humanist, Problem solving and Behaviorist schools, they have done an excellent job of integrating these together in a comprehensive and easy to apply practice framework which can be used both by the novice learner as well as the experienced practitioner in interactional counseling situations.

The text supplies the reader with a plethora of examples, options and skills, adaptive to a range of styles and theoretical