

Special Issue

Substance Use and Child Welfare: Intersecting Crises

Message from the Guest Editors

Alcohol and other substance misuse is a significant factor in the majority of child welfare cases, contributing to a cascade of challenges related to safety, stability, and well-being. The intersections of these challenges present critical public health issues, demanding comprehensive, coordinated responses that extend beyond surveillance and removal to include prevention, treatment, and long-term recovery support. Families impacted by substance use often face fragmented systems of care, with limited access to timely, evidence-based interventions. This Special Issue invites empirical and theoretical contributions that explore innovative strategies for supporting families at the intersection of substance use and child welfare. We encourage research focused on models that span the full continuum—from prevention and early identification to treatment and sustained recovery. Topics of interest include integrated care delivery, family-centered practice, trauma-informed approaches, recovery housing, workforce training, and policy innovations that reduce barriers to treatment, support recovery, and promote lasting family well-being.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Social Sciences is an international, open access, peer-reviewed journal publishing the latest research across all disciplines of the social sciences, including anthropology, economics, law, linguistics, education, geography, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and other related areas. The journal is especially interested in interdisciplinary research, and aims to encourage creative, innovative, and critical reflections across social science disciplines. The journal welcomes conventional length articles, shorter Research Notes or articles, as well as Special Issue submissions, as long as they meet the journal's standards of quality and originality.

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