

Orphans in Custody: Issues in Rearing and Caring for Orphans of Parents who were Both Killed in Terror Attacks

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The premature death of a person's loved one shakes his or her world. The significance of the loss is sharpened and intensified when both parents die. This article describes the difficulties and challenges facing individuals who are left to raise the orphans. It studies 17 families that raised 62 orphans from both parents. The information was collected through a focus control group of rehabilitation social workers from the National Insurance Institute, responsible for caring for these children. The issues discussed refer to the role of caregivers, finances, mental help and collaboration between various community agencies. The findings reveal the complex characteristics of this unique group of orphans and indicate the lack of legal and procedural instructions to support them. The findings also raise the need for institutional legislation that will serve as guidelines, but will not limit the options for creative and flexible solutions.

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