



**How the law in social work
grew and grew and grew**

Pre-Seebohm 1960's Children's departments

Leeding's Child Care Manual *the* book for child care social workers.

- 1. Children Act 1948**
- 2. Adoption Acts 1926 and 1949**
- 3. Children and Young Persons Act 1963**

Plus some knowledge of divorce law, National Assistance Act 1948, housing law

welfare and mental health departments

Do not appear to be any books on relevant law.

- 1. National Assistance Act 1948**
- 2. Mental Health Act 1959**

Plus some knowledge of housing legislation, welfare benefits

Children's services

2002

2022

Several books on social work law. Major component of qualifying courses.

23 Acts with significant impact, especially:

Children Act 1989

Adoption and Children Act 2002

Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999

Plus professional registration (Care Standards Act 2000), family law, domestic violence law, homelessness provision, asylum seeker/refugee law, but **ABOVE ALL:**

Human Rights Act 1998 and European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR)

Even more books on social work law. Major component of qualifying courses.

41 Acts, principally:

Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004, Children and Families Act 2014, Children and Social Work Act 2017

Adoption and Children Act 2002

Sentencing Act 2020

Plus professional registration (Children and Social Work Act 2017), family law, domestic violence law, homelessness provision, asylum seeker/refugee law, ECHR, but now **in addition:** data protection, greater accountability to courts (Bedfordshire case), detailed court guidance (Public Law Outline), mental capacity (Coventry case)

adult care social services

2002

Plethora of books on social work law generally but few on this aspect. Major component of qualifying courses.

20 Acts with some impact on adult care social work, piecemeal, but 2 Acts predominate:

National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990

Mental Health Act 1983

Plus ...

Professional registration (Care Standards Act 2000), domestic violence law, homelessness provision, need awareness of:

Human Rights Act 1998 and European Convention on Human Rights

2022

Far more books on this aspect of social work law. Larger component of qualifying courses.

20 Acts, more systematic, principally **Care Act 2014 (consolidating Act)**

Mental Health Act 1983, Mental Health Act 2007

Mental Capacity Act 2005 including Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards / Liberty Protection Safeguards

Plus ...

Professional registration (Children and Social Work Act 2017), family law, domestic violence law, homelessness provision, law relating to abuse, Human Rights Act 1998 and European Convention on Human Rights, but now **in addition** data protection, more accountability to courts (Cheshire West case), detailed guidance from courts (Court of Protection), tribunal appeals, much more accountability