

behaviours in children. In the past, there has been a trend towards school personnel and families implementing reactive strategies that focus on deficits and fail to adequately address issues associated with the development of conduct problems in children. In the last decade, there has been an increasing shift towards the development of early intervention and prevention programs designed to arrest the development of problem behaviour in children. Further, a range of intervention frameworks are emerging that are underpinned by strength-based principles that serve to draw on child competencies to ameliorate some of the factors that place children at-risk for ongoing behaviour problems. This paper reports on a recently evaluated program titled 'The Early Impact Program' (Larmar, 2006). The program consists of school and home components that focus on drawing on the capacities, competencies and resources inherent within the child, family and school. Some of the unique features of the program are highlighted and a summary of findings is presented that illustrates the effectiveness of this program, including its utility across a range of community contexts. Finally, the paper identifies existing limitations in early intervention and prevention science as a means of signposting areas for future research.

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS Rethinking and Reforming Child Protection Systems**

**Dr. Bob Lonne**

The history of statutory child protection and child welfare in many Western nations is characterised by significant achievements in highlighting the incidence of abuse and neglect, promoting protective interventions and ensuring the safety of vulnerable and at risk children. However, there is increasing evidence from research and government and judicial inquiries that State-based forensic child protection systems in Western nations are failing many children, their parents, staff and management. There is growing disquiet about interventions that irreparably harm those who need help as well as those who seek to render assistance. The punitive and blaming orientation of these systems requires critical examination for its ideological underpinnings. This keynote address argues for a fundamental rethink and reform of the underlying paradigm of child protection in order to reorient it to be strengths based, ethically oriented, and neighbourhood and community-based child wellbeing practice. Importantly, developing countries need to evaluate both the benefits and consequences of mimicking child protection systems that can disempower families and communities. Strengths based responses offer a more complete and ethically appropriate way of protecting the safety and wellbeing of children and facilitating the active participation of their families and communities in these processes.

## **Let's Wake Up Before We Die**

**Nira Manghrani**

How do people approach terminal illness? What sensitivities prevail around this in each culture? Why it is that better preparation of loved ones, the young and those that will be left behind is hardly seen as a priority in certain cultures? The structure of coping, the role of the social system and counseling are amongst a few issues that this paper will discuss. Based partly on a concept mapping study in a large city it draws on the prevailing attitudes people have and sense they make out of early counseling to avoid too much of grief. As it is a small research study, methodology along with its limitations are discussed. The paper identifies needs such as coping, role of support systems, developing variable strength in the dying patient by sharing the right information about illness so that the patients are realistic. There is reason to believe that a terminally ill patient with sufficient knowledge about his condition can assist him/herself in self coping and assist his supporters in better coping.

## **Movements to Empower Women Entrepreneur**

**Sr Lourthu Mary**

Based on Indian Philosophy and tradition every individual and group has inevitably 8 types of movements. They are backward, and forward, left and right, internal and external, upward and downward movements. These Movements determine their future and growth. These movements are related to one another and each one influences the other for either to push or pull to promote or to de-promote. These eight movements and directions play a significant role in every individual's and group life. Keeping these movements as a base the study has tried to link the activities of women group micro enterprises and SHG movements in the present scenario. While reflecting on these movements, it was decided to develop a training package for the Women Group members and to conduct a training programme to get the data. The researcher has tried to link her social work profession to help the group to reflect and evaluate their own process of growth and achievements. The concepts were introduced with suitable examples, symbols and stories so that it is easily conceptualized and comprehended by all the participants. Backward and Forward Movements: To draw the Vision and Mission of the Enterprises; Internal and External Movement: To reflect about the values and principles that guide their enterprise activities; Left and Right Movements: To learn about the need for integration and development of emotional and rational self; Upward and Downward Movements: To discuss about the present reality, problems, constraints, difficulties and challenges that they face in running the enterprises and the need to introduce innovations, new strategies and value additions that would help them to transcend the present situation. In all these movements the Women Group Enterprises are subjected to two types of dynamism called Pull down factors and Push Up factors. The pull and push factors are the inevitable dynamism of any growth process. But the focus of the study is to learn how these groups have learnt to withstand such forces with a balanced approach, and what are the strategies applied and adopted to emerge as successful group enterprises.