



## Leaving residential care DK

### The rights of children in institutional care

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Council of the Baltic Sea States  
Childrens Unit

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[www.ufc-bu.dk](http://www.ufc-bu.dk)



## DK law of social service

Provide

- Personal support regarding personal life skills to 23 yrs
- Special support to education and work
- Basic social economic welfare

[www.ufc-bu.dk](http://www.ufc-bu.dk)



## Danish research

The National Institute of Social Research DK states

- They move into their own homes - rented rooms - earlier than peers
- they have huge difficulties in completing basic school and to start further education
- they are marginalized in the educational system and at the labour market.

[www.sfi.dk](http://www.sfi.dk)

[www.ufc-bu.dk](http://www.ufc-bu.dk)



## Disfavored adolescents

- Their financial situation is strained
  - Lowest rate of social welfare
  - low parental support – compared with peers
  - Low administration skills
- They have a very small network of family and friends – and feel lonely.
- They are in risk of being involved in criminal and drug abuse networks

[www.ufc-bu.dk](http://www.ufc-bu.dk)



## What we know

- Early parenthood – single mothers – Uncertain parental skills
- Bad health and nutrition
- mental illness
- Suicidal – low selfesteem – high deathrate

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## Campbell review june 06

Studies indicates

- That adolescents that receive support manage living in adulthood better than adolescents that receive other types of support or none at all.
- Independent Living programmes has a positive effect related to possibilities in education, labourmarket and general living conditions

[www.nc2.net](http://www.nc2.net)

[www.ufc-bu.dk](http://www.ufc-bu.dk)



## British research

- Positive effect from Independent Living programmes – conditioned on
  - adequate housing
  - Learning practical and social skills
  - support school and education
- Support networking
- Mobilize next of kin

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## ambivalent adolescents

“Don’t ever abandon us - even if we reject you and say that we don’t want your help at all”

“We need a lot of chances, if we are going to manage our own life in the long term.”

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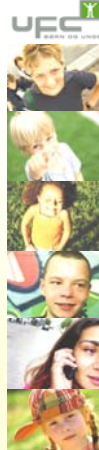


## Articulate adolescents

- need to be met by adults they feel they can trust and get attached to (continuity)
- suffer from low selfesteem and weak social network
- network should be strengthen during placement (coordination)

[www.tabuka.dk](http://www.tabuka.dk)

www.ufo-bu.dk



## Articulate adolescents

- difficult to be educated and get jobs
  - their lives are chaotic after leaving residential care
- experience lack of support from adults
  - in need compared with their peers

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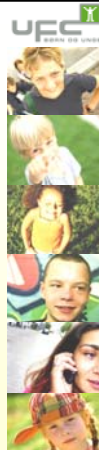


## perspectives

The latest social reform in DK states the necessity of

- Coordination of interventions and transitions
- Continuity of professionals
- Collaboration between organisations and systems

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## challenge

- The residential care is only part of the way - obligations to go all the way
- Case coordinator might be an way
  - secure transitions, professional staff interventions and short/long term goals and the systems involved

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## challenges & perspectives

- documentation and research might give us knowledge - it depends ...
- research can tell us, what we search for
- knowledge can tell us, what we know
- wisdom can help us to consider, how we use knowledge and research - to act wisely

thank you

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