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0521651948 - Early Prevention of Adult Antisocial Behaviour  
Edited by David P. Farrington and Jeremy W. Coid  
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## Early prevention of adult antisocial behaviour

This book presents a comprehensive and up-to-date summary of how adult crime, antisocial behaviour and antisocial personality disorder can be prevented by interventions applied early in life. It reviews important childhood risk and protective factors for these adult outcomes. Alternative strategies of primary prevention (targeting the whole community) and secondary prevention (targeting persons identified as high-risk) are also discussed. The book also contains extensive information about prevention programmes in pregnancy and infancy, preschool programmes, parent education and training programmes, and school programmes (including the prevention of bullying). There is special emphasis on preventing the intergenerational transmission of antisocial behaviour by focusing on family violence, and a special review of whether risk factors and prevention programmes have different effects for females compared to males. Cost–benefit analyses of early prevention programmes are also reviewed, leading to the conclusion that adult antisocial behaviour can be prevented both effectively and cost-efficiently.

DAVID P. FARRINGTON is Professor of Psychological Criminology at the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge University. He has published extensively on criminological and psychological topics including twenty-eight books and monographs, one of which, *Understanding and Controlling Crime* (1986), won the prize for distinguished scholarship of the American Sociological Association Criminology Section.

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 and David P. Farrington, *Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge*

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*University of Cambridge*

**Jeremy W. Coid**

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## Preface

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The origins of this book lie in a Network on the Primary Prevention of Adult Antisocial Behaviour that was established by the High Security Psychiatric Services Commissioning Board of the UK Department of Health. Dilys Jones was instrumental in creating this network, and we were chosen to chair it. In light of the relative paucity of information about this area, we decided to assemble a scholarly report summarising the current state of knowledge.

We invited international experts in the field, drawn from the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Germany, to write chapters on particular topics and to present their conclusions at a large Network conference held in London. We also invited discussants to comment (both verbally and later in writing) on each chapter, and we are very grateful to Avshalom Caspi, Jonathan Hill, Israel Kolvin, Barbara Maughan, Gillian Mezey, Mark Perfect, Stephen Scott, Kathy Silva, Michael Wadsworth and Donald West for their helpful comments. All authors subsequently revised and updated their chapters in light of all comments from discussants and from ourselves as editors.

We are very grateful to the UK Department of Health for funding the Network activities that led to this book. Since there is no other volume exactly on this topic, we hope that this book will simultaneously summarise what has been learned and also stimulate more research, especially on the early prevention of adult antisocial personality and psychopathy.

DAVID P. FARRINGTON  
JEREMY W. COID