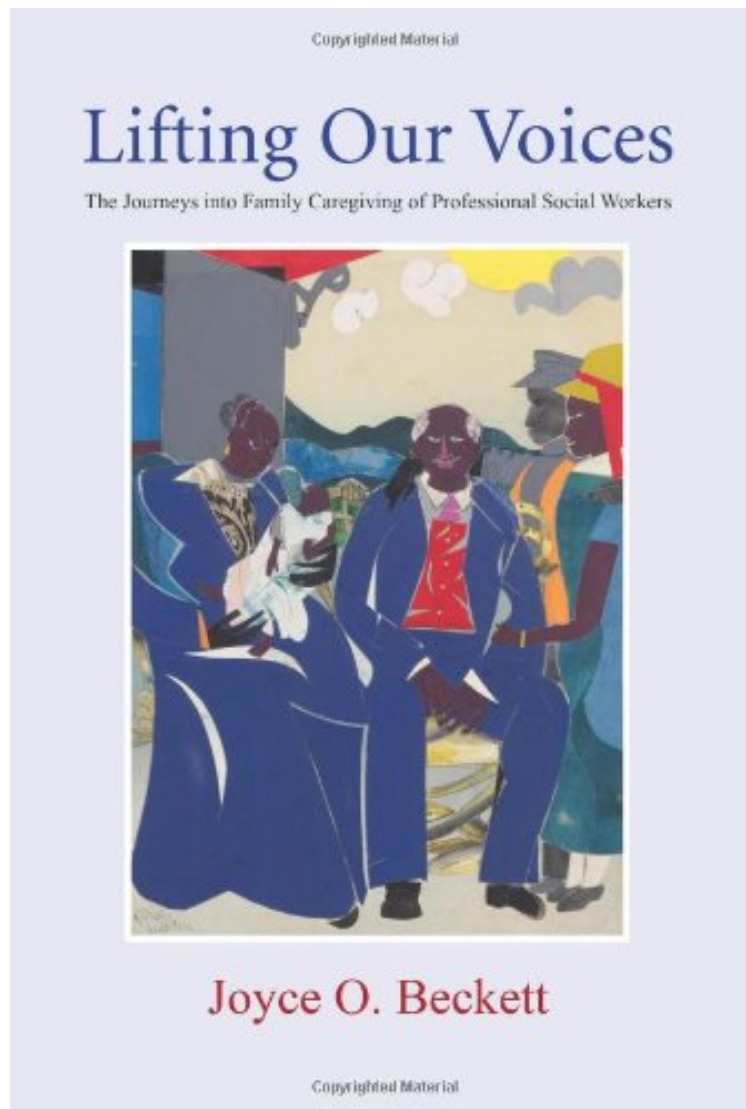


(Download free ebook) Lifting Our Voices: The Journeys Into Family Caregiving of Professional Social Workers

Lifting Our Voices: The Journeys Into Family Caregiving of Professional Social Workers

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From Columbia University Press : **Lifting Our Voices: The Journeys Into Family Caregiving of Professional Social Workers** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lifting Our Voices: The Journeys Into Family Caregiving of Professional Social Workers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well-written and informative.By P. TweetThis book was published

in 2008, but I still use it in the classroom. Each chapter was written by a practicing professional in social work. These are accounts of the authors' experiences in their personal lives as family caregivers. While their analyses are retrospective, the details suggest close observation at the time events were occurring. An introductory chapter by the book's editor lays out the social work themes addressed in the ten accounts that follow. An effort was made to represent the range of caregiving experiences, across age, gender, and race. An excellent book for introducing students to the profession of social work, and exploring new developments in caregiving.

Lifting Our Voices is the only book to explore the dual roles of professional social workers who are also family caregivers and the only collection on caregiving in which the majority of contributors are African American. After discussing the relevant literature, *Lifting Our Voices* vividly and sensitively presents the caregiving experiences of ten professional social workers. Using professional and theoretical knowledge and skills, each contributor draws implications for various levels of social work and human service interventions. These poignant descriptions and analyses recount both the frustrations and barriers of negotiating social service agencies and other institutions and the joys and triumphs of family caregiving. *Lifting Our Voices* frankly discusses how a professional education either prepares or fails to equip an individual with the skills for successful intervention on behalf of a loved one. Contributors hail from rich and varied backgrounds, revealing the importance of age, ethnicity, gender, marital status, and gerontological expertise in the practice of family caregiving. These essays explore situations rarely reported on in the literature, such as caregivers and care recipients who represent the lifespan from preschool to retirement. *Lifting Our Voices* graphically describes types of caregiving that are seldom discussed, including simultaneous caregiving to multiple family members and reciprocal and sequential caregiving, thus broadening and refining the very concepts of "caregiving" and "family."

Beckett's remarkable compilation of caregiving narratives provides insight into the diversity of caregiving experiences... Essential. (Choice)An engaging and accessible text... This book is a strong addition to the caregiving literature and is well recommended. (Leslie Hempling *Social Work in Health Care*)Two things that stand out to this reviewer are the efforts by individuals to impact policy and practice where they could and the use of tables to provide a visual of implications as they are discussed in each chapter. (Needha M. Boutt-Queen *Families in Society*)The great diversity of caregiving is also on display in *Lifting Our Voices*, which vividly illustrates the challenges caregivers of diverse ethnic/racial background experience. (Joseph E. Gaugler *Gerontologist*)Beckett's book will initiate meaningful discussions in Bachelor's in Social Work and Masters in Social Work courses on caregiving and aging. It should also prove illuminating to students seeking to understand the broad range of family caregiving experiences. The book provides a clarion call for more culturally competent social work practice and services. (Debra E. Allwardt *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*)
About the AuthorJoyce O. Beckett is professor emerita of the School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University. She received her A.B. from Temple University and her M.S.S. and Ph.D. from Bryn Mawr College, and completed her postdoctoral studies in gerontology at Duke University. Her professional career spans almost forty years and includes clinical work in a variety of agency settings and private practice.