This chapter examines the relationship between children, parents, and the state, looking at how the law responds to children needing services, care, and protection. Topics discussed include: Part III of the Children Act 1989; the threshold for compulsory intervention in family life based on the concept of ‘significant harm’; protecting children in an emergency; interim care and supervision orders; the local authority’s care plan and respective roles of the local authority and court; and discharge of care orders.

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10. Children needing services, care, and protection

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