FIND & CONNECT

Cards of Patients Examined by the State Psychological Clinic

1920 – 1960
URL: http://search.archives.tas.gov.au/default.aspx?detail=1&type=S&id=AA36

To access these records:	Please contact the Information Coordination and Strategy Unit, Department of Health and Human Services: Address: GPO Box 125, Hobart TAS 7001 Email: pipapplications@health.tas.gov.au Website: http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/about_the_department/your_rights/accessing_personal_information
Reference Number	Quote this number to access your records: Tasmanian Archives Series Number, AA36
Records Location	These records are held by Tasmanian Archives (2011 - current)

Details

The Cards of Patients Examined by the State Psychological Clinic are an index to the Case Files of Persons Examined by the State Psychological Clinic, file number AA8, and Patients' Case Files, file number AA4. They contain details about individuals seen by the Clinic such as their sex, date of birth, the date of the first examination, and the name of the agency or person who referred them.

Access Conditions

Closed D75 years
D75 means these records are closed to the general public for 75 years from the date of the last entry in them. People wishing to access these records should contact Mental Health Services at the Department of Health and Human Services. Applicants will be required to fill out a Personal Information Protection (PIP) form. Staff at the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office may be able to assist you in finding other relevant records.

Records

Children diagnosed with intellectual disabilities may not have had them as it is understood today. Challenging behaviour, inadequately managed physical disabilities such as deafness, educational disadvantage, an institutional upbringing, and poverty, neglect or abuse could all lead to a diagnosis of 'mental deficiency' and supervision by the Mental Deficiency Board.

The language used in the cards is disturbing. At the time they were written, eugenics had a considerable influence and its apparently scientific approach made it all right to use this language. In 2014, we would consider it demeaning and insulting.

More info

Organisations in these records

Related Organisations
- State Psychological Clinic (1922 - 1964)
- Mental Health Services (1989? - current)

Related Legislation
- Mental Deficiency Act, Tasmania (1920 - 1963)

Related Archival Series
- Patients Case Files, Mental Deficiency Board (1922 - 1964)
- Case Files of Persons Examined (1922 - 1978)

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