



Fig. 2 Reflective, circular family treatment process.

single-parent families, the variation in family size has been wide, up to families with eight members. The educational level of parents has varied from very low to academic, the social status has also varied greatly.

The referred child has been a boy in 66% (109 of 165) of the treatment periods, so boys have been over represented in the number of identified patients, which

is a common situation in child psychiatry. The age distribution of the referred children during these five years has changed toward younger age groups (Table 1), which has been one aim of the new treatment model. Interestingly, the majority of referred boys have been preschool age (4–6 years in Finland) while most girls have been younger, infants and toddlers (Table 1). The

Table 1 The Distribution of Age and Gender of Identified Patients Since The Opening of The Family Ward

Age	1993		1994		1995		1996		1997		1998		N	%
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys		
0–3	–	–	4	1	8	4	9	2	3	4	1	9	45	27
4–6	–	–	1	3	2	9	5	7	3	13	6	14	63	38
7–	–	2	5	16	1	5	1	6	1	8	6	6	57	35
Total	–	2	10	20	11	18	15	15	7	25	13	29	165	100