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Questions: Harise Stein, MD harise@stanford.edu

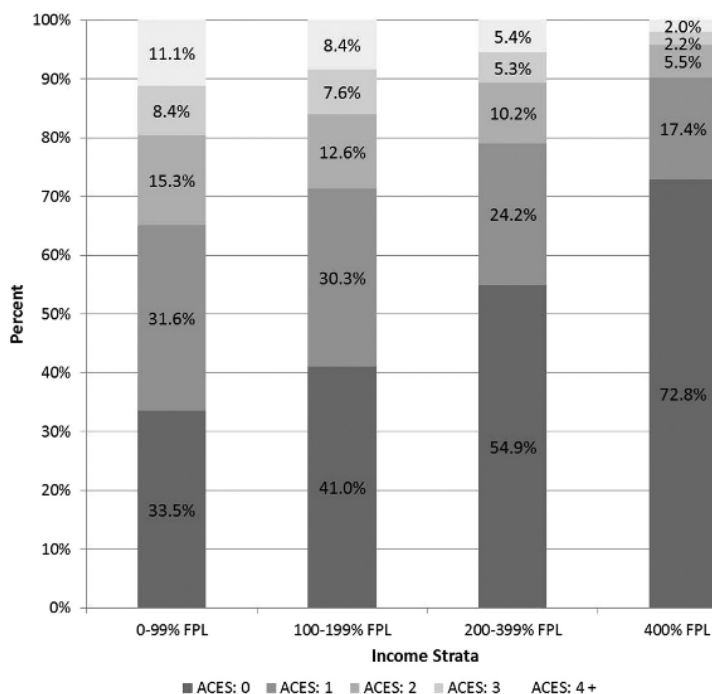
Child Abuse

Halfon N, Larson K, Son J, Lu M, Bethell C.

Income Inequality and the Differential Effect of Adverse Childhood Experiences in US Children.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S70-S78. PMID: [28865663](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28865663/)

of ACEs distribution stratified by income - % of Federal Poverty Level (FPL).



Guideline on Oral and Dental Aspects of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Pediatr Dent. 2016 Oct;38(6):177-180. PMID: [27931457](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27931457/)
http://www.aapd.org/media/Policies_Guidelines/G_Childabuse1.pdf

“In all 50 states, physicians and dentists are required to report suspected cases of abuse and neglect to social service or law enforcement agencies. The purpose of this report is to review the oral and dental aspects of physical and sexual abuse and dental neglect and the role of physicians and dentists in evaluating such conditions. “

Servaes S, Brown SD, Choudhary AK, et. al.

The etiology and significance of fractures in infants and young children: a critical multidisciplinary review.

Pediatr Radiol. 2016 May;46(5):591-600. PMID: [26886911](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26886911/)
 Official review from the Society for Pediatric Radiology “synthesizes the relevant scientific data distinguishing clinical, radiologic and laboratory findings of metabolic disease from findings in abusive injury.”

Ali-Panzarella AZ, Bryant TJ, Marcovitch H, Lewis JD.

Medical Child Abuse (Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy): Multidisciplinary Approach from a Pediatric Gastroenterology Perspective.

Curr Gastroenterol Rep. 2017 Apr;19(4):14. PMID: [28374307](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28374307/)
 Making the diagnosis of medical child abuse “involves a complicated process of piecing together inconsistencies among the history, examination, and clinical presentation. The diagnosis remains difficult and is not often considered during early presentation of symptoms. Once suspected, it is important that a multidisciplinary process is used.”

Barr AL, Knight L, França-Junior I, et. al.

Methods to increase reporting of childhood sexual abuse in surveys: the sensitivity and specificity of face-to-face interviews versus a sealed envelope method in Ugandan primary school children.

BMC Int Health Hum Rights. 2017 Feb 23;17(1):4. PMID: [28231854](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28231854/)
 3843 Ugandan primary school children, especially boys, were significantly more likely to report forced sex via a sealed envelope method rather than a face-to-face interview (7.0% vs. 1.1%).

McCroy EJ, Gerin MI, Viding E.

Annual Research Review: Childhood maltreatment, latent vulnerability and the shift to preventative psychiatry - the contribution of functional brain imaging.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2017 Apr;58(4):338-357. PMID: [28295339](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28295339/)

An emerging body of work indicates that altered neurocognitive functioning following maltreatment leads to neurocognitive alterations that “cause vulnerability to psychiatric disorders, establishing a compelling case for identifying those children at most risk and developing preventative interventions.”

Cecil CA, Smith RG, Walton E, Mill J, McCrory EJ, Viding E.
Epigenetic signatures of childhood abuse and neglect: Implications for psychiatric vulnerability.

J Psychiatr Res. 2016 Dec;83:184-194. PMID: [27643477](#)
From a sample of 124 high risk inner city youth, epigenetic (DNA) changes due to abuse were found to share some common patterns relating to brain and nervous system development, while other epigenetic signatures for a particular type of abuse were related to specific biological processes, such as childhood physical abuse associated with cardiovascular function.

Bick J, Fox N, Zeanah C, Nelson CA.
Early deprivation, atypical brain development, and internalizing symptoms in late childhood.

Neuroscience. 2017 Feb 7;342:140-153. PMID: [26384960](#)
Specific brain changes were noted in scans from 69 Romanian institutionally-reared children who had experienced severe neglect.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Nelson J, Klumppendt A, Doebler P, Ehring T.
Childhood maltreatment and characteristics of adult depression: meta-analysis.

Br J Psychiatry. 2017 Feb;210(2):96-104. PMID: [27908895](#)
"Childhood maltreatment, especially emotional abuse and neglect, represents a risk factor for severe, early-onset, treatment-resistant depression with a chronic course."

Cheong EV, Sinnott C, Dahly D, Kearney PM.
Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and later-life depression: perceived social support as a potential protective factor.

BMJ Open. 2017 Sep 1;7(9):e013228. PMID: [28864684](#)
From a group of Irish men and women aged 50-69, increasing ACE score was associated with increasing depressive symptoms, but only among those with low perceived social support. "Individuals with a history of childhood adversity may experience deficits in support-seeking behaviour and social attachments. Hence, interventions may include social skills training...to identify, invite and maintain healthy social connections with others."

Liu RT.
Childhood Adversities and Depression in Adulthood: Current Findings and Future Directions.

Clin Psychol (New York). 2017 Jun;24(2):140-153. PMID: [28924333](#)

Review of the existing research relating early adversities to adult depression, potential mediators, new targets for clinical intervention, and the development of individually tailored prevention and treatment strategies.

Dunn EC, Nishimi K, Powers A, Bradley B.
Is developmental timing of trauma exposure associated with depressive and post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms in adulthood?

J Psychiatr Res. 2017 Jan;84:119-127. PMID: [27728852](#)
For 2892 Atlanta adults, even after controlling for multiple factors, "participants first exposed to child maltreatment during early childhood had depression and PTSD symptoms that were about twice as high as those exposed during later developmental stages."

Thaler L, Steiger H.
Eating Disorders and Epigenetics.
Adv Exp Med Biol. 2017;978:93-103. PMID: [28523542](#)

In this review, eating disorders (intense preoccupation with shape and weight and maladaptive eating practices) are discussed in terms of genetics, epigenetics via obstetric complications and childhood abuse, and malnutrition.

Adolescents

Soleimanpour S, Geierstanger S, Brindis CD.
Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resilience: Addressing the Unique Needs of Adolescents.

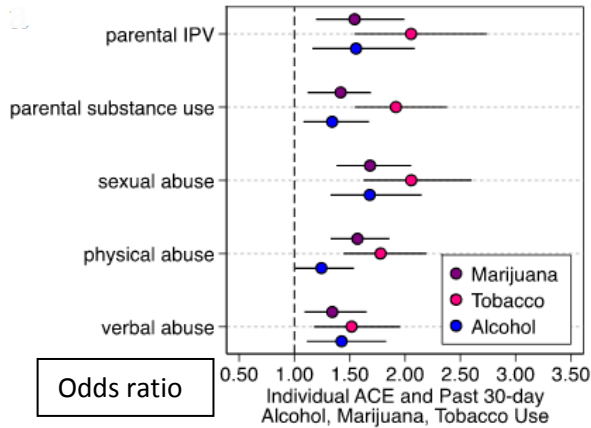
Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S108-S114. PMID: [28865641](#)
"Nationwide, over half of adolescents have reportedly been exposed to ACEs. Adolescents exposed to adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) have unique developmental needs that must be addressed by the health, education, and social welfare systems that serve them."

Shin SH, Cook AK, Morris NA, McDougale R, Groves LP.
The different faces of impulsivity as links between childhood maltreatment and young adult crime.

Prev Med. 2016 Jul;88:210-7. PMID: [27083525](#)
From a community sample of 337 young adults, childhood abuse leading to impulsivity was a factor involved in property crime, violent crime, and fraud. "Preventive interventions targeting impulsivity traits might have promising impact in curbing criminal behavior among maltreatment victims."

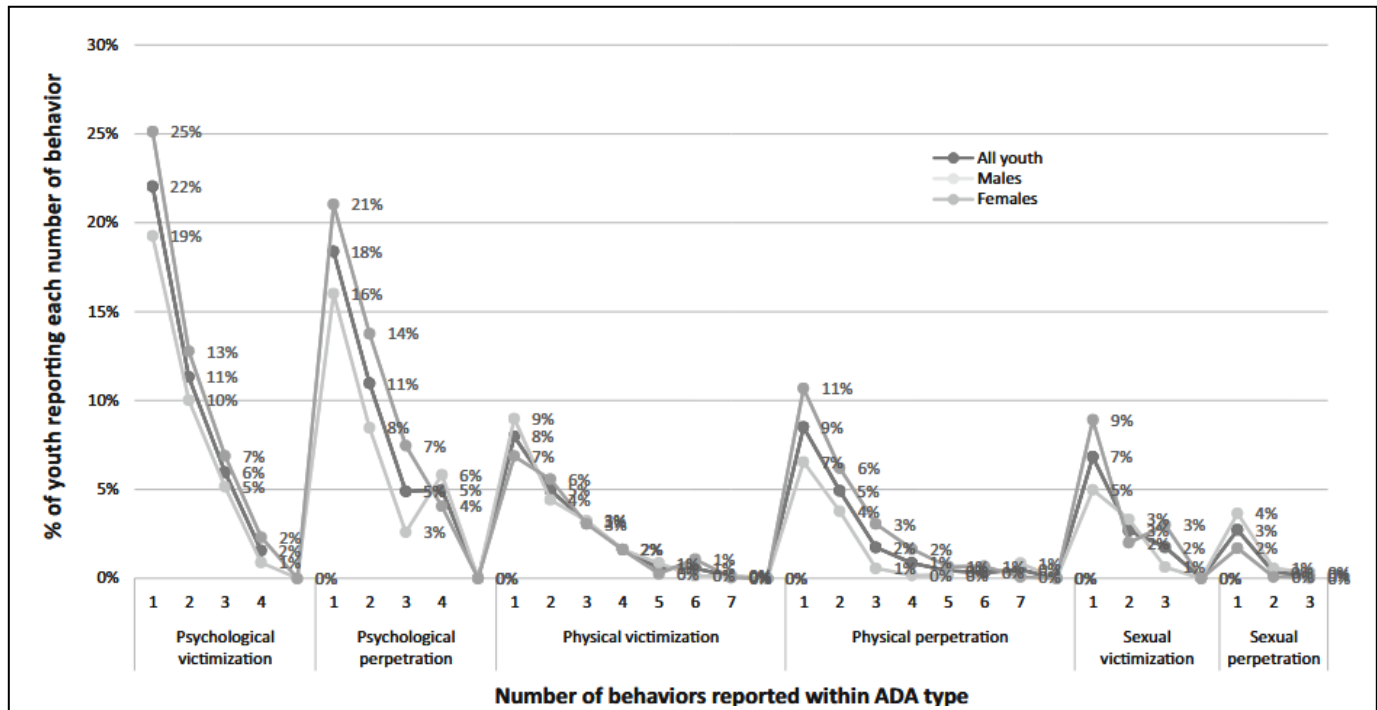
Forster M, Grigsby TJ, Rogers CJ, Benjamin SM.
The relationship between family-based adverse childhood experiences and substance use behaviors among a diverse sample of college students.

Addict Behav. 2018 Jan;76:298-304. PMID: [28889058](#)
 From a national survey of 2953 college students, despite controlling for age, gender, ethnicity and depression, ACEs were significantly associated with increased odds of past 30 day drug use.



Ybarra ML, Espelage DL, Langhinrichsen-Rohling J, et. al.
Lifetime Prevalence Rates and Overlap of Physical, Psychological, and Sexual Dating Abuse Perpetration and Victimization in a National Sample of Youth.

Arch Sex Behav. 2016 Jul;45(5):1083-99. PMID: [27098763](#)
 In a national online survey of US 14-21 year olds, youth reported being both perpetrators and victims and/or involved in multiple forms of adolescent dating abuse (ADA).
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Chen FR, Rothman EF, Jaffee SR.
Early Puberty, Friendship Group Characteristics, and Dating Abuse in US Girls.

Pediatrics. 2017 Jun;139(6). pii: e20162847. PMID: [28562261](#)
 From an ongoing national study, early female pubertal development was a risk marker for adolescent dating abuse, particularly when a higher percentage of girls' friends were boys.

Castellví P, Miranda-Mendizábal A, Parés-Badell O, et. al.
Exposure to violence, a risk for suicide in youths and young adults. A meta-analysis of longitudinal studies.

Acta Psychiatr Scand. 2017 Mar;135(3):195-211. PMID: [27995627](#)
 From a research review, for victims of any IPV, the odds ratio (OR) of subsequent suicide attempt was 1.99; for child maltreatment, 2.25; for bullying, 2.39; for dating violence, 1.65; and for community violence, 1.48. Young victims of IPV had an OR of suicide death of 10.57."

Miller AB, Jenness JL, Oppenheimer CW, et. al.
Childhood Emotional Maltreatment as a Robust Predictor of Suicidal Ideation: A 3-Year Multi-Wave, Prospective Investigation.

J Abnorm Child Psychol. 2017 Jan;45(1):105-116. PMID: [27032784](#)
 In a 3 year survey of 682 community youth, "emotional maltreatment is a robust predictor of suicidal ideation, over and above history of suicidal ideation and depression."

Björkenstam E, Kosidou K, Björkenstam C.

Childhood household dysfunction and risk of self-harm: a cohort study of 107 518 young adults in Stockholm County.

Int J Epidemiol. 2016 Apr;45(2):501-11. PMID: [27032414](#)

From a large Swedish study, individuals exposed to five or more indicators of childhood household dysfunction (CHD) had a 5-fold increased risk of self harm...Exposure to five or more CHD indicators plus poor school performance conferred a 20-fold increased risk, compared with non-exposed individuals.

Hornor G.

Nonsuicidal Self-Injury.

J Pediatr Health Care. 2016 May-Jun;30(3):261-7. PMID:

[27094986](#)

Review of adolescent nonsuicidal self-injury, including epidemiology, diagnosis and co-morbidity, risk factors, relationship with suicidal behaviors, and implications for practice.

Cha S, Ihongbe TO, Masho SW.

Racial and Gender Differences in Dating Violence Victimization and Disordered Eating Among U.S. High Schools.

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2016 Aug;25(8):791-800. PMID:

[26871758](#)

"In 2013, 1 in every 10 students who dated or went out with someone in the previous 12 months reported some form of dating violence...Victims of physical and sexual DV were significantly more likely to report disordered eating."

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Chisholm CA, Bullock L, Ferguson JEJ 2nd.

Intimate partner violence and pregnancy: epidemiology and impact.

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2017 Aug;217(2):141-144. PMID:

[28551446](#)

"Adverse health effects are amplified in pregnancy, with an increased risk of pregnancy outcomes such as preterm birth, low birthweight, and small for gestational age. In many US localities, suicide and homicide are leading causes of pregnancy-associated mortality."

Castro M, Alcántara-López M, Martínez A, et. al.

Mother's IPV, Child Maltreatment Type and the Presence of PTSD in Children and Adolescents.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2017 Sep 17;14(9). pii: E1077.

PMID: [28926979](#)

For 152 Spanish women experiencing IPV and their children, 20.4% of the children met criteria for child PTSD. The two types of maltreatment with the largest contribution to PTSD were physical maltreatment directly suffered by the child, and child eyewitness of physical maltreatment suffered by the mother.

Islam MJ, Broidy L, Baird K, Mazerolle P.

Intimate partner violence around the time of pregnancy and postpartum depression: The experience of women of Bangladesh.

PLoS One. 2017 May 4;12(5):e0176211. PMID: [28472056](#)

For 426 new Bangladeshi mothers, exposure to IPV during pregnancy significantly increased the odds of post-partum depression – 1.79 times increased risk of depression for physical abuse, 2.25 for sexual abuse and 6.92 for psychological abuse.

Islam MJ, Rahman M, Broidy L, et. al.

Assessing the link between witnessing inter-parental violence and the perpetration of intimate partner violence in Bangladesh.

BMC Public Health. 2017 Feb 10;17(1):183. PMID: [28187721](#)

From a survey of 3374 married Bangladeshi men, men who had witnessed father-to-mother violence as children were 3.26 times more likely to report physical or sexual IPV perpetration, and 1.34 times more likely to endorse attitudes justifying spousal abuse.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Misca G, Forgey MA.

The Role of PTSD in Bi-directional Intimate Partner Violence in Military and Veteran Populations: A Research Review.

Front Psychol. 2017 Aug 15;8:1394. PMID: [28861023](#)

Review of military population "role of PTSD in bi-directional IPV not only as a risk factor for perpetration but also as a vulnerability risk factor for victimization."

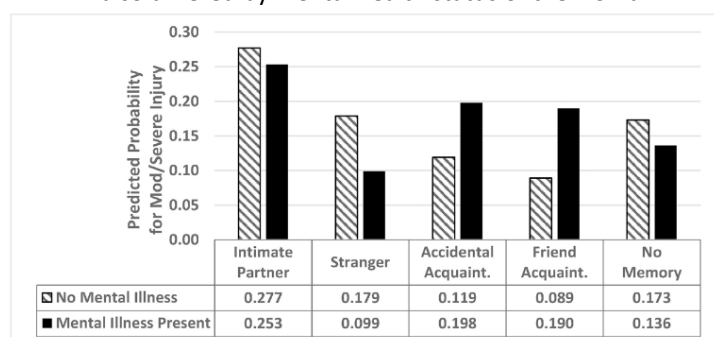
Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Zilkens RR, Smith DA, Kelly MC, et. al.

Sexual assault and general body injuries: A detailed cross-sectional Australian study of 1163 women.

Forensic Sci Int. 2017 Oct;279:112-120. PMID: [28863402](#)

Of 1163 Australian women seen at a sexual assault center, 71% received general body injury (52% mild, 17% moderate, and 2% severe). Mod-severe injury was observed more in women assaulted by intimate partners than by strangers or acquaintances. This also differed by mental health status of the woman.



Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Yunus RM, Wazid SW, Hairi NN, et. al.

Association between elder abuse and poor sleep: A cross-sectional study among rural older Malaysians.

PLoS One. 2017 Jul 7;12(7):e0180222. PMID: [28686603](#)

For 1648 community-dwelling elderly Malaysians, abuse, especially neglect, was associated with poor sleep in a dose-response relationship to number of types of abuse.

Levine M.

Sex and the nursing home.

Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2016;86(3):355-9. PMID: [27196391](#)

Discussion of a court case in which an 80 year old man was accused by the local district attorney of having unlawful sexual contact with his wife who had developed Alzheimer's disease, "because she had 'a mental defect or incapacity which precludes giving consent' to sex acts. "

LGBTQ Concerns

Woodyatt CR, Stephenson R.

Emotional intimate partner violence experienced by men in same-sex relationships.

Cult Health Sex. 2016 Oct;18(10):1137-49. PMID: [27109769](#)

From focus group discussions with gay and bisexual men, they perceived emotional IPV to be commonplace, and "described emotional violence as the most threatening form of intimate partner violence, driven largely by factors including power differentials, gender roles and internalised homophobia."

Simpson PL, Reekie J, Butler TG, et. al.

Factors Associated With Sexual Coercion in a Representative Sample of Men in Australian Prisons.

Arch Sex Behav. 2016 Jul;45(5):1195-205. PMID: [26597645](#)

In a survey of 2000 incarcerated Australian men, 2.3% reported experiencing sexual coercion (being forced or frightened into doing something sexually that was unwanted) while in prison. Non-heterosexual men were 7.28 times more likely to have experienced sexual coercion.

Sexual Assault

FBI Violent Crime Stats for 2016

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016/topic-pages/violent-crime>

Tsai SL, Acosta E, Cardenas T, Sigall JK, Van Geem K.

Legal, Social, Ethical, and Medical Perspectives on the Care of the Statutory Rape Adolescent in the Emergency Department.

Ann Emerg Med. 2017 Jul;70(1):72-79. PMID: [28238498](#)

Discussion of assessment and management of adolescent rape "from the perspectives of an attorney on the legal parameters, two social workers on the psychosocial issues, an ethicist on the moral considerations, and a pediatric emergency physician-who is also a sexual assault forensic examiner-on the medical treatments."

Ferguson CE, Malouff JM.

Assessing Police Classifications of Sexual Assault Reports: A Meta-Analysis of False Reporting Rates.

Arch Sex Behav. 2016 Jul;45(5):1185-93. PMID: [26679304](#)

In a research review, the confirmed false sexual assault reporting rate was about 5%.

Littleton H, Grills AE, Kline KD, Schoemann AM, Dodd JC.
The From Survivor to Thrive program: RCT of an online therapist-facilitated program for rape-related PTSD.

J Anxiety Disord. 2016 Oct;43:41-51. PMID: [27513363](#)

Both an online therapist-facilitated cognitive-behavioral program for rape-related PTSD and a psycho-educational self-help website led to large reductions in PTSD, depressive and anxiety symptoms in 87 college women with rape-related PTSD. The interactive program worked better for those with more initial symptoms. The nine modules included: welcome; relaxation and grounding; adaptive and maladaptive coping; automatic thoughts; the challenging questions technique; coping with stigma, low self-worth and shame; trust and intimacy concerns; coping with self-blame; and coping with safety concerns.

Human Trafficking

FBI US Human Trafficking Stats for 2016

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016/additional-publications/human-trafficking>

Gibbons P, Stoklosa H.

Identification and Treatment of Human Trafficking Victims in the Emergency Department: A Case Report.

J Emerg Med. 2016 May;50(5):715-9. PMID: [2689628](#)

“We report a clinical case of human trafficking of a white, English-speaking United States citizen and discuss the features of presentation and treatment options for human trafficking victims upon presentation to the ED.”

Hemmings S, Jakobowitz S, Abas M, et. al.

Responding to the health needs of survivors of human trafficking: a systematic review.

BMC Health Serv Res. 2016 Jul 29;16:320. PMID: [27473258](#)

“Human trafficking survivors require healthcare that is trauma-informed and culturally sensitive to their particular needs. Coordination is needed between health providers and statutory and voluntary organisations. Future research should generate empirical evidence to develop trafficking indicators for use by health providers, alongside validated screening tools, and evaluate the effectiveness of psychological interventions.”

Perpetrators

Ly T, Murphy L, Fedoroff JP.

Understanding Online Child Sexual Exploitation Offenses.

Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2016 Aug;18(8):74. PMID: [27325170](#)

Review of the impact of the internet on child sexual abuse, and the characteristics of online child pornography offenders.

Police and Court Systems

Christensen LS, Sharman SJ, Powell MB.

Identifying the characteristics of child sexual abuse cases associated with the child or child's parents withdrawing the complaint.

Child Abuse Negl. 2016 Jul;57:53-60. PMID: [27318035](#)

From a review of 659 Australian child sexual abuse cases, certain factors significantly predicted whether the child or caregiver withdrew the complaint, including age 0-6 or 13-15, female offender, the relationship was extrafamilial, and single incident rather than repeated. Authors speculate on various reasons for each factor.

Ernberg E, Tidefors I, Landström S.

Prosecutors' reflections on sexually abused preschoolers and their ability to stand trial.

Child Abuse Negl. 2016 Jul;57:21-9. PMID: [27286134](#)

In focus groups, Swedish prosecutors discuss the difficulties of preparing for and prosecuting suspected childhood sexual abuse cases with preschool-aged victims.

Providers

Griese B, Burns MR, Farro SA, Silvern L, Talmi A.

Comprehensive grief care for children and families: Policy and practice implications.

Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2017;87(5):540-548. PMID: [28945443](#)

The death of a parent, sibling, or other important attachment figure - often noted as one of the most disruptive and potentially traumatic experiences for a child - has received relatively little attention. This article explores the current landscape of support for grieving children and families, including significant barriers to care and gaps in empirical knowledge.

Ballan MS, Freyer MB.

Supporting female survivors of intimate partner violence with disabilities: Recommendations for social workers in the emergency department.

Soc Work Health Care. 2017 Nov-Dec;56(10):950-963. PMID: [28862916](#)

Review of IPV in women with disabilities, and SW management in the ED.

Foushee JP.

Domestic Violence, Concussion Injuries, and the Imaging Professional's Role in Identifying Traumatic Brain Injury.

Radiol Technol. 2017 Sep;89(1):83-85. PMID: [28904161](#)

Review of concussion and domestic violence assessment and management from the standpoint of the radiology technician.

Cohen AR, Renner LM, Shriver EM.

Intimate partner violence in ophthalmology: a global call to action.

Curr Opin Ophthalmol. 2017 Sep;28(5):534-538. PMID: [28549018](#)

“45% of injuries acquired from IPV involve the eyes. IPV is the third leading cause of orbital fractures, and traumatic ocular injuries from IPV tend to be severe in nature with a large percent of women sustaining scleral rupture. The high prevalence of IPV as a mechanism of orbital and ocular injury demands training all members of the ophthalmology team in identifying IPV, providing support, and making appropriate referrals to improve patient safety and well-being.”

Prevention

Bethell CD, Solloway MR, Guinasso S, et. al.

Prioritizing Possibilities for Child and Family Health: An Agenda to Address Adverse Childhood Experiences and Foster the Social and Emotional Roots of Well-being in Pediatrics.

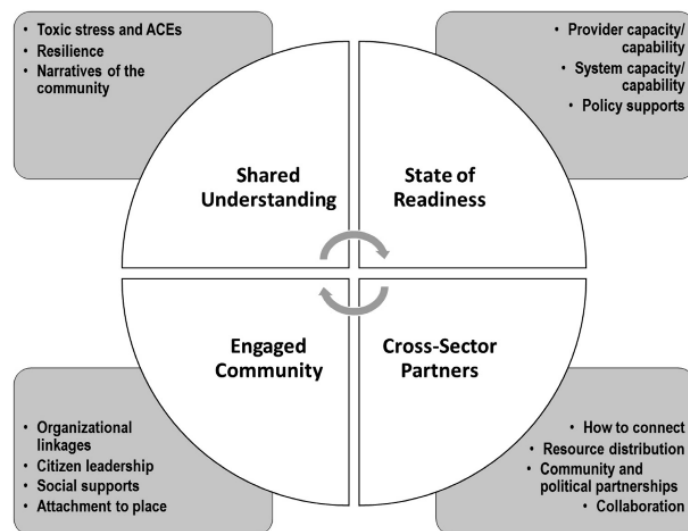
Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S36-S50. PMID: [28865659](#)

Through a multi-year, extensive Delphi process, child health stakeholders determined a policy agenda and research priorities relating to ACEs. “Efforts to address the high prevalence and negative effects of ACEs on child health are needed, including widespread and concrete understanding and strategies to promote awareness, resilience, and safe, stable, nurturing relationships as foundational to healthy child development and sustainable well-being throughout life.”

Ellis WR, Dietz WH.

A New Framework for Addressing Adverse Childhood and Community Experiences: The Building Community Resilience Model.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S86-S93. PMID: [28865665](#)



Steverman SM, Shern DL.

Financing Mechanisms for Reducing Adversity and Enhancing Resilience Through Implementation of Primary Prevention.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S144-S149. PMID: [28865648](#)

“Although a strong scientific literature documents the effectiveness of primary prevention in reducing childhood adversity, promoting well-being and lessening the incidence of negative outcomes, funding for these interventions is highly fragmented across multiple government agencies as well as private and philanthropic sectors. It is becoming increasingly clear that improving population health will require a concentrated public health effort to improve access to and the accountability of these interventions as well as the development of novel financing schemes.”

Pachter LM, Lieberman L, Bloom SL, Fein JA.

Developing a Community-Wide Initiative to Address Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress: A Case Study of The Philadelphia ACE Task Force.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S130-S135. PMID: [28865645](#)

Lessons learned from the Philadelphia ACE Task Force during a five year metamorphosis from a narrow to an expanded focus, involving professional training and workforce development, community education, and local practical interventions around adversity, trauma, and resiliency.

Rideout L.

Nurses' Perceptions of Barriers and Facilitators Affecting the Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Initiative: An Exploratory Study of a Massachusetts Public Policy.

J Trauma Nurs. 2016 May-Jun;23(3):125-37. PMID: [27163220](#)

Massachusetts nurses discuss barriers, challenges and facilitators to implementation of a state-required educational intervention for parents on child abusive head trauma/shaken baby.

Yount KM, Krause KH, Miedema SS.

Preventing gender-based violence victimization in adolescent girls in lower-income countries: Systematic review of reviews.

Soc Sci Med. 2017 Nov;192:1-13. PMID: [28941786](#)

From a review of interventions to decrease gender-based violence, those showing promise included community engagement, skill-building to enhance voice/agency, and social-network expansion.

Researchers

Draucker CB, Martsof DS, Crane S, Romero L, McCord AL.

Designing an Internet Intervention for Emerging Adults Who Experience Troubled Relationships.

Arch Psychiatr Nurs. 2017 Jun;31(3):296-301. PMID: [28499571](#)

[28499571](#)

Description of using the concepts of emerging adulthood, narrative identity, and mechanisms of change to develop an online intervention for young adults who experience IPV.

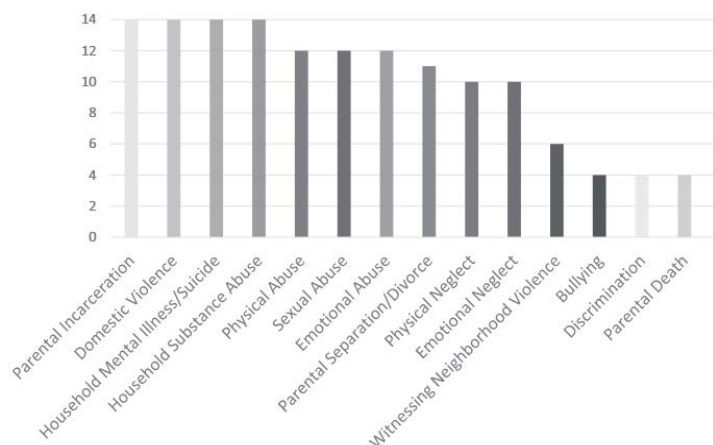
Bethell CD, Carle A, Hudziak J, et. al.

Methods to Assess Adverse Childhood Experiences of Children and Families: Toward Approaches to Promote Child Well-being in Policy and Practice.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S51-S69. PMID: [28865661](#)

[28865661](#)

Review and analysis of 14 ACE assessment tools.



Ford DE.

The Community and Public Well-being Model: A New Framework and Graduate Curriculum for Addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Acad Pediatr. 2017 Sep - Oct;17(7S):S9-S11. PMID: [28865666](#)

Suggested graduate-level curriculum for whole community and public well-being professionals; new masters and PhD content and skill sets. "Now is the time to up the ante and create a national initiative for building community well-being across the public and private sectors focused on the root causes of ACEs. Establishing graduate schools of community and public well-being to grow the necessary skilled professionals to lead this change is an essential component of this new national strategy and should begin immediately."

Other of Interest

Gerra LM, Gerra G, Mercolini L, et. al.

Increased oxytocin levels among abstinent heroin addicts: Association with aggressiveness, psychiatric symptoms and perceived childhood neglect.

Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry. 2017 Apr

3;75:70-76. PMID: [28093220](#)

[28093220](#)

In this small study of abstinent heroin users compared to non-drug abusing controls, oxytocin serum levels were unexpectedly significantly higher among abstinent patients, and were associated with aggressiveness and mother neglect. "Our findings appear to contradict the simplistic view of oxytocin as a pro-social hormone and confirm previous evidence concerning the peptide levels direct association with aggressive behavior and mood disorders. Considering a more complex mechanism, oxytocin would increase the sensitivity to social salience cues related to contextual or inter-individual factors, promoting pro-sociality in 'safe' conditions and, in contrast, inducing more defensive and 'anti-social' emotions and behaviors when the social cues are interpreted as 'unsafe'."

Kim YD, Jung YH, Caso V, et. al.

Countries with women inequalities have higher stroke mortality.

Int J Stroke. 2017 Oct;12(8):869-874. PMID: [28946830](#)

Of 176 countries with data available, higher female-to-male stroke mortality ratio was associated with 14 indices of women's rights, including getting a job or opening a bank account, domestic violence legislation, and inequalities in ownership right to property.

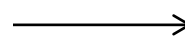
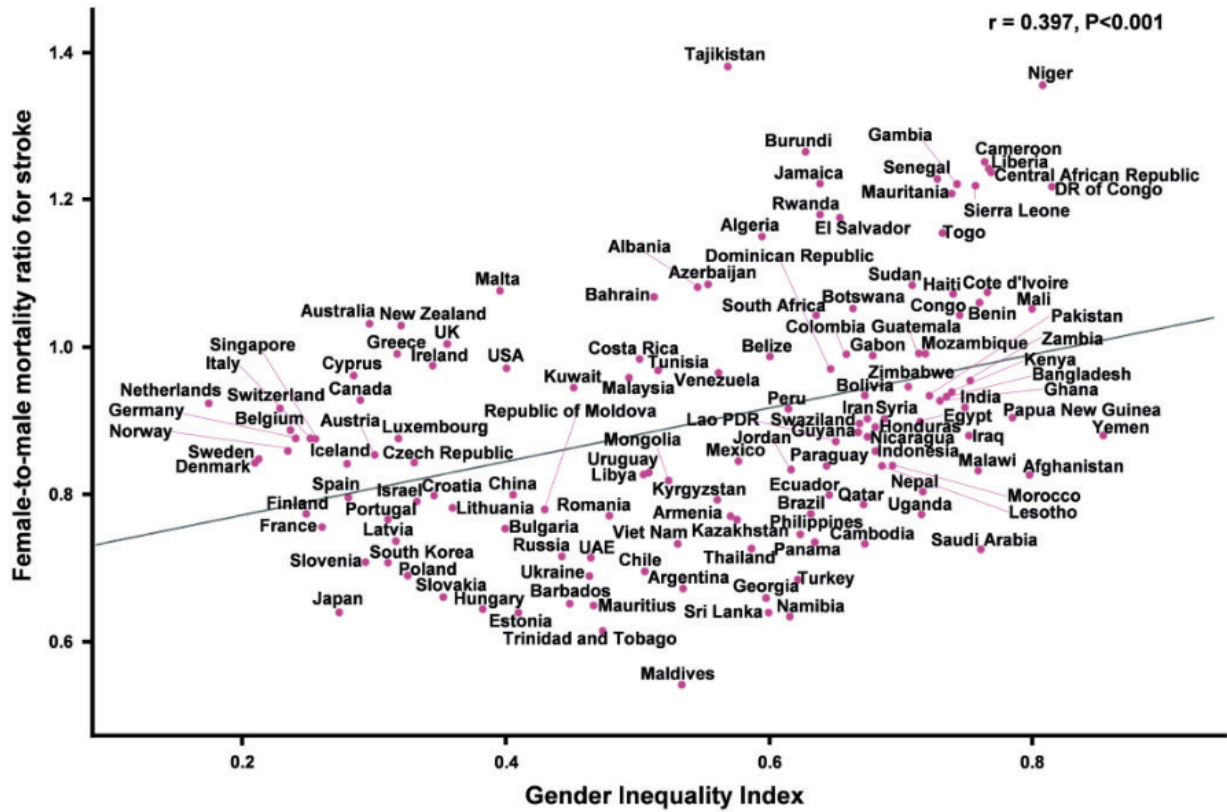


Figure 2. Correlation between Gender Inequality Index and female-to-male stroke mortality ratio.



Higher GII values indicate higher levels of inequalities.