

ABUSE RESEARCH

For archive and to sign up for distribution list:

<http://abuseresearch.info/>

Questions: Harise Stein, MD harise@stanford.edu

Child Abuse

Hong M.

The impact of social media in child sexual abuse.

J Paediatr Child Health. 2024 Oct;60(10):476-478. PMID: [39138844](#)

From an Australian study, “4 out of 5 children aged 4 are using the internet with 30% having access to their own device. One in 5 children aged 4–7 years old participated in online activities such as interactive games and video calls that potentially put them at risk of exploitation. The level of supervision also diminished...Only 21% of caregivers thought there was a possibility of online child sexual exploitation.” In one example, YouTube Kids includes “Elsagate”--“Elsagate is a made-up word based off the character Elsa from Frozen. It refers to harmful videos portrayed to be for children but which contain inappropriate themes or images...including fear and anxiety inducing videos, violence and at its extreme, amputation of limbs, murder, body dysmorphia, and sexual acts...Until significant changes within social media platforms occur and they are able to provide a safe environment for young people, children will need to be supervised when using the internet regardless of the platform and their age. This must be supported with regular conversation between the parents and their children regarding content. It is also vital that age-appropriate protective measures are in place so that parents can be flagged as soon as something inappropriate occurs.”

Bloxsom G, McKibbin G, Humphreys C, et al.

Five Forms of Coerced "Self-Produced" Child Sexual Exploitation Material: A Critical Interpretive Synthesis.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;15248380241271376. PMID: [39246005](#)

From a review, “Findings indicated five forms of coerced ‘self-produced’ CSEM [child sexual exploitation material]: Solicitation; Peer Sexting; Viral Challenge; Sextortion; and Financial Coercion. The forms are described and critically

analyzed...including identifying the coercive actions of the person responsible for the exploitation. The review found an absence of a consistent victim-centered approach to how the phenomena of coerced ‘self-produced’ CSEM is understood that would ensure children are not held responsible for being exploited.”

Barton N, Henson C, Lopez K, et al.

Characteristics of preschool-age children who engage in problematic sexual behaviors with siblings.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;107008. PMID: [39242269](#)

In a study of problematic sexual behaviors (PSB) of preschoolers towards siblings and others, PSB initiators had more emotional, physical, and sexual abuse histories. Beyond curiosity, “preschool aged children tried to undress other children against their will, forced sexual acts, and tried to have intercourse...preschooler’s intrusive sexual behaviors could be related to general poor impulse control and witnessing others model coercive and aggressive behavior rather than stemming from sexual gratification that is more expected among adolescents.”

Westlake BG, Seigfried-Spellar K, Brewer R, et al.

Innovations from the launch of the child sexual abuse reduction research network.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;155:106999. PMID: [39208599](#)

“To foster greater innovation and collaboration among stakeholders, we launched the Child Sexual Abuse Reduction Research Network (CSARRN)...The Network’s mission is to bring together scholars, practitioners, government agencies, and private and not-for-profit organisations to develop new, unified, yet interdisciplinary approaches to addressing child sexual abuse and exploitation.”

www.CSAresearch.org

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Amiri S, Mahmood N, Yusuf R, et al.

Adverse Childhood Experiences and Risk of Abnormal Body Mass Index: A Global Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

Children (Basel, Switzerland). 2024;11(8). PMID: [39201949](#)

From a research review, the pooled odds ratio for the relationship between having any ACEs and obesity was 1.42, 4+ ACEs 2.06, and childhood sexual abuse 1.46. "ACEs should be considered a factor associated with abnormal BMI."

Bader D, Frank K.

Understanding experiences of non-physical maltreatment in childhood in Canada: What is the relationship with suicidal ideation and mental health disorders?

Health reports. 2024;35(9):16-28. PMID: [39292857](#)

From a national Canadian survey of individuals 15+ years old on childhood non-physical maltreatment (emotional abuse, interpersonal aggression, exposure to physical intimate partner violence, emotional and physical neglect), "Interpersonal aggression was the most common (45.7%), followed by emotional abuse (40.4%) and emotional neglect (20.0%)". Individuals who experienced various types of non-physical maltreatment in childhood had a higher probability of lifetime suicidal ideation, mood disorder especially anxiety, and PTSD than those who never experienced the maltreatment examined. This "highlights the importance of including non-physical types of child maltreatment on population-based surveys."

Van Overloop E, Arms-Chavez C, Carol RN, LoBello SG.

Effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences and Chronic Health Conditions on Current Depression.

Community Ment Health J. 2023 Aug;59(6):1208-1216. PMID: [36840804](#)

From a national survey, after controlling for chronic illnesses, exposure to 3+ ACEs had the greatest association with current depression, and childhood sexual abuse had the single strongest association with current depression of any ACE exposure.

O'Mahony J, Bernstein CN, Marrie RA.

Adverse childhood experiences and psychiatric comorbidity in multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, and rheumatoid arthritis in the Canadian longitudinal study on aging.

J Psychosom Res. 2024;187:111893. PMID: [39306899](#)

From 13,977 participants in a Canadian aging study aged 45-85 years, 30% of those with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases (IMID including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, and inflammatory bowel disease) reported a psychiatric disorder, and 79% reported a history of ACEs. ACEs were associated with a 2.55 times increased risk of a

psychiatric disorder in this group, and did not differ by type of inflammatory disease. "Participants may benefit from trauma-informed mental health care."

Adolescents

Johnson KL, Tham SW, Brown ECB, et al.

The spectrum of concern for medical child abuse among adolescents with chronic pain due to central sensitisation.

Child abuse review. 2024;33(1). PMID: [39308529](#)

"This qualitative retrospective study identified themes across three groups of adolescents with chronic pain related to central sensitisation and varying levels of concern for MCA [medical child abuse]. All adolescents in the three groups shared similar symptomatology including fatigue or sleep problems, psychosocial distress, and social withdrawal. For those who were referred for concern of MCA, additional themes included fragmented care, caregiver catastrophising, caregiver misrepresentation, medical provider exasperation, and sick identity."

Calvo N, Lugo-Marín J, Oriol M, et al.

Childhood maltreatment and non-suicidal self-injury in adolescent population.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107048. PMID: [39332140](#)

From a research review, the results describe strong positive associations between all child maltreatment subtypes and non-suicidal self-injury (e.g. cutting), especially with emotional abuse (odds ratio [OR] 2.91) and sexual abuse (OR 2.72), in clinical and non-clinical samples of adolescents.

Katz CC, Okpych N, Wall E, Shelton J, Courtney M.

Characteristics of Transition-Age Youth Engaging in Suicidal Behavior.

J Adolesc Health. 2024;75(4):600-9. PMID: [39127928](#)

"At age 17, 42% of California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study participants had thought of committing suicide and 24% had attempted suicide. Across ages, sexual minority youth reported significantly higher rates of suicidal ideation and behavior than their heterosexual peers. We also found that youth with (1) maltreatment experiences (both before and during foster care); (2) major depressive disorder, anxiety disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder; and (3) alcohol/substance abuse disorders were significantly more likely than their peers to engage in suicidal behavior... Routine screening for suicidal behavior among transition age youth is important for child welfare service providers to consider."

Woolverton GA, Rastogi R, Brieger KK, et al.

Barriers and risk factors associated with non-treatment-seeking for suicidality onset during the COVID-19 pandemic among young adults.

Psychiatry Res. 2024;340:116095. PMID: [39111234](#)

From a survey of 1956 young adults in 2022, “28.6 % of our sample developed suicidality during the pandemic, of whom 49.6 % did not seek treatment. Asian race and sexual minority status were strongly associated with increased odds of pandemic suicidality. Among suicidal ideation non-treatment-seekers, barriers were primarily attitudinal (e.g., ‘symptoms are not serious enough for treatment’); among non-treatment-seekers with suicide attempt, barriers were mostly structural (e.g., insufficient funds). Previous depression treatment was strongly associated with increased odds of treatment-seeking.”

Fucà E, Guerrera S, Falvo S, Sestito S, De Rose P, Vicari S.

Characterization of sleep difficulties in maltreated children and adolescents.

Eur J Pediatr. 2024;183(10):4445-55. PMID: [39133304](#)

Of 91 children aged 6 to 17 with a history of maltreatment and referred for a psychological evaluation, difficulty initiating and maintaining sleep were the most frequent sleep issues. “Adolescents exhibited more daytime somnolence [sleepiness] than school-age children. Children with sleep difficulties exhibited more anxiety symptoms and worse global functioning in comparison with children without sleep difficulties...Enhancing the sleep quality of these children could help foster their resilience.”

Parsons L, Cordier R, Chikwava F, et al.

Shedding light on the social and health realities of care-experienced young people in Western Australia: A population-level study.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107053. PMID: [39288530](#)

Using linked administrative data for 3 large groups from Australia – children in out-of-home care, child protection contact, and no contact, “Care-experienced young people fared significantly worse than their peers across the domains of health (physical and mental), disability, education, social housing and criminal justice involvement...An important finding is that compared to those with no child protection contact, care-experienced young people had a much greater likelihood of hospitalisation for nearly all mental health conditions...Mental health conditions with large effect sizes included substance use disorders, hyperkinetic disorders [ADHD, conduct disorders], pervasive and specific developmental disorders,

personality disorders, and schizophrenia or psychosis...A substantially higher proportion of care-experienced young people have an identified disability...greater odds of having an intellectual disability, head injury, or acquired brain injury as a primary diagnosis than most other disability diagnoses.”

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

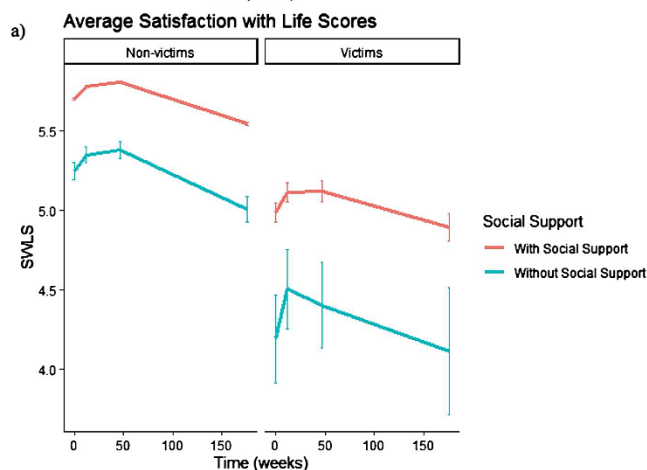
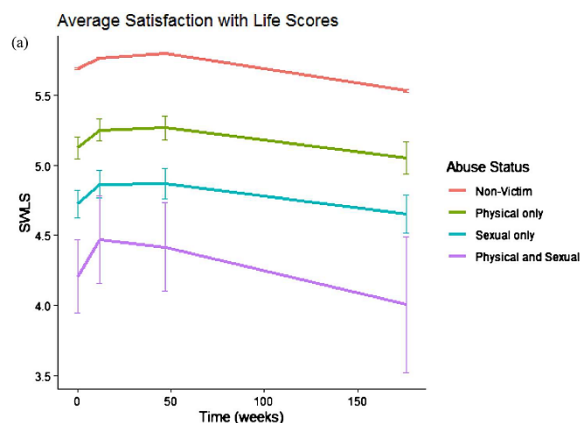
Mayerhofer L, Bang Nes R, Lan X, et al

Wellbeing and illbeing in women exposed to physical and sexual violence during peripregnancy: a population-based longitudinal study.

European journal of psychotraumatology.

2024;15(1):2398961. PMID: [39267605](#)

From a large Norwegian study of families from pregnancy through toddlerhood (3 years), women who experienced physical and/or sexual abuse within 6 months of the pregnancy had significantly lower well-being (life satisfaction) and higher illbeing (anxiety and depression). Social support was beneficial to all pregnant women.



Meinhofer A, Chandra N, Byanova D, Keyes KM.
Foster Care and Health in Medicaid-Enrolled Children Experiencing Parental Opioid Use Disorder.
JAMA Netw Open. 2024 May 1;7(5):e2410432. PMID:
[38717771](#)

Participants included almost 2 million Medicaid-enrolled children experiencing parental opioid use-related disorder during ages 4 to 18 years, mean age 10 years. “The prevalence of foster care involvement was 3%, increasing from 1.5% in 2014 to 4.7% in 2020. Compared with those without foster care involvement, foster care involvement was associated with a higher prevalence of developmental delays (12% vs 7%), depression (10% vs 4%), trauma and stress (35% vs 7%), and substance use-related disorders (4% vs 1%)...These findings underscore the importance of policies that support children and families affected by opioid use disorder, as well as the systems that serve them.”

Morgan MH, Coe JL, Kranzler EC, et al.
Implementation of family centered substance use treatment for pregnant and postpartum people to prevent the intergenerational transmission of adverse childhood experiences.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107066. PMID: [39326097](#)
Few treatment programs use family-centered substance use treatment (FCSUT), “despite reported benefits (e.g., improving parenting and communication skills; promoting healthy relationships with children, partners, and other family members; and facilitating a support system for long-term recovery)...Meeting the needs of all family members during treatment supports safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments for children that may decrease ACEs.”

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Kafka JM, Adhia A, Martin DD, et al.
Deaths Related to Domestic Violence in Washington State.
JAMA network open. 2024;7(9):e2429974. PMID: [39230906](#)

In Washington state 2015-2020, 12.9% of deaths were connected to DV, including 588 suicides (62.0%) and 360 homicides (38.0%). For 420 DV-related deaths (44.3%), the person who died or their intimate partner(s), family, or cohabitants had prior contacts with the legal system or social services; 33.5% mentioned prior contacts with law enforcement or the criminal legal system (eg, prior 9-1-1 calls, criminal convictions), and 23.7%

described engagement with social services or the civil legal system (e.g. civil protection order, divorce, or child custody problems). “The findings suggest that more resources are needed to support law enforcement, court professionals, and social services specialists to proactively identify and refer families to wraparound supports before the situation can escalate to a fatality.”

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Simpson LE, Kumar SA, Brockdorf AN, et al.
The Cumulative Impact of Recurrent Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence on Emotion Dysregulation: A Longitudinal Investigation.
J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241278996. PMID:
[39329351](#)

For 291 young adult community women mean age 21.74 years experiencing IPV and who were surveyed every 4 months for 28 months, “the accumulation of IPV experiences over time was associated with increases in difficulties controlling impulsive behaviors when distressed and accessing effective emotion regulation [“the ability to exert control over one’s own emotional state”] strategies...Results highlight emotion dysregulation as a potentially important construct to assess and target in interventions for women experiencing recurrent IPV.”

Cooper CE, Sweet PL.
"Daddy Issues" and Diagnoses: Gendered Weaponization of Mental Health in Intimate Relationships.
Violence Against Women. 2024;10778012241277894. PMID:
[39223964](#)

“We offer new empirical evidence for a tactic of coercive control: mental health weaponization... involves three key features: gendered accusations that victims are ‘crazy’ and emotionally unstable; leveraging victims’ past traumas against them, particularly that they form ‘bad’ attachments to men; and mobilizing victims’ mental health diagnoses or symptoms against them to cast them as noncredible...These personalized strategies rely on the abuser’s deep knowledge of the victim’s vulnerabilities which are then transformed into interpersonal weapons of abuse. The result is that power imbalances in the relationship are created, sustained, and/or intensified.”

Golden KB, Fitchett G, Shen S, Godlin AE, Gobin RL.
In Coping with Intimate Partner Violence, Women's Beliefs About Forgiveness Matter.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241260616. PMID: [39252565](#)

Of 110 women who experienced IPV from men and separated from them, "Women are more likely to return to abusers if they believe forgiveness involves reconciliation or treating their abusers better than before. They are less likely to return if they believe it is possible to forgive their abusers and still avoid them. Interventions targeting women's beliefs about forgiveness may increase their safety."

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Klun M, Bučar Ručman A, Frangež D.

Violence Against Parents by Adult Children: A Systematic Literature Review of Empirical Studies.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;15248380241280955. PMID: [39323236](#)

"Violence against parents by adult children is the abuse of physical, psychological, social, or economic power committed by a grown-up child against his/her parent or foster parent with the intention of achieving a specific goal such as control, subordination, economic gains, or internal satisfaction. It encompasses physical, psychological, sexual, and financial violence, neglect, and property crime...Findings of the literature review show that violence against parents is an under-researched phenomenon and points to the need for further research, including the prevention, detection, consequences, and treatment of such violence."

Koga C, Tsuji T, Hanazato M, Nakagomi A, Tabuchi T.

Intergenerational Chain of Violence, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Elder Abuse Perpetration.

JAMA network open. 2024;7(9):e2436150. PMID: [39331391](#)

From an online survey of 13,318 Japanese adults aged 20-64 years, mean age 41.1 years, asked about their perpetration of physical and/or psychological abuse against an older person (aged ≥ 65 years), "Compared with individuals without ACEs, the odds ratios (ORs) for perpetrating violence were 3.22 for those with 1 ACE and 7.65 for those with 2 or more ACEs...Factors with large indirect effect estimates included depression (OR, 1.13), mental illness other than depression (OR, 1.12), and self-rated health (OR, 1.04). These findings suggest that

intergenerational cycles of violence may extend to any vulnerable group, not only children but also older adults."

Kong J, Easton SD, Fletcher JM.

Lifetime Revictimization: Evidence From the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study.

J Interpers Violence. 2024 Oct;39(19-20):4113-4134. PMID: [39254269](#)

Using data from 5,391 adults in their early 70s from the Wisconsin Longitudinal Study, "a higher ACE score was associated with exposure to IPV victimization in middle adulthood, which was in turn associated with exposure to elder abuse victimization. This indirect association was stronger for women than for men. Regarding specific types of childhood victimization, parental physical abuse, sexual abuse, and witnessing domestic violence significantly predicted elder abuse victimization via IPV victimization...A life-course-based, trauma-informed approach would greatly enhance prevention and intervention services for elder abuse."

Sexual Assault

Jaffe AE, Howard Valdivia RL, Blayney JA, Stappenbeck CA.

Beyond Force, Incapacitation, or Verbal Coercion: Rates and Outcomes of Sexual Assault without Warning.

J Sex Res. 2024;1-10. PMID: [39297496](#)

"To date, most sexual assault research has focused on specific perpetrator tactics, including verbal coercion, substance-related incapacitation, and force...we examined the occurrence and outcomes of sexual assault without warning - when a perpetrator 'just does' a behavior without giving a chance to say 'no.' Participants were 850 college students (mean age 19.70; 70% cisgender women, 28% cisgender men, 2% transgender/gender expansive)...72% reported sexual assault without warning, including 18% for whom this was the only tactic experienced...sexual assault without warning was associated with more severe posttraumatic stress, depression, and anxiety...Findings support the integration of this tactic into sexual assault assessments for college students of diverse gender and sexual identities."

Leclerc S, Martin LA.

Overcoming Rape: A Mixed-Methods Approach to Understanding Psychological and Physical Health Functioning of Male Survivors.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241277275. PMID: [39223877](#)

From an online survey of 22 male survivors of sexual assault, mean age 44.19 years, 50% heterosexual, “Three key themes emerged: (a) Help is Elusive, (b) Internal Struggles and External Strengths, and (c) Living with Clinical Diagnoses [including PTSD, alcohol use disorder, sexual dysfunction]...It is important that when male-identified individuals come in contact with loved ones, advocates, medical professionals, police officers, and mental health professionals...to be treated with the respect, empathy, and professionalism they deserve.” (Columns below show # and %)

Sexual dysfunction		
Lack of sexual desire	13	59.1
Difficulty getting or maintaining an erection	6	27.3
Premature ejaculation	3	13.6
Inability to ejaculate	9	40.9
Lack of orgasm	7	31.8
Aversion to sexual contact	9	40.9
Pain associated with sex	3	13.6

Human Trafficking

Stephens S.

Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism Perpetration: An Expansion of the Ecosystem Model.

Arch Sex Behav. 2024;53(9):3347-63. PMID: [39020243](#)

“The sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT), also referred to as child sex tourism...Research on the perpetration of SECTT is vastly underdeveloped. The present review considers the operationalization of SECTT, its prevalence, and existing theoretical models.”

Savoia E, Liu A, Leffler A, Nadril Churchill LK, Su M.

Raising Awareness about Sex Trafficking among School Personnel.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2024;21(8). PMID: [39200590](#)

From a survey of 741 school personnel, “Predictors of knowledge about sex trafficking were years of experience in working with youth, level of education, and being a female. Exposure to educational videos improved school personnel's basic knowledge and interest in seeking additional educational material...There is a need to develop more comprehensive training initiatives for school personnel on sex trafficking...also a need for developing school protocols and programs to provide adequate support to victims of this crime.”

LGBTQ Concerns

McKetta S, Hoatson T, Hughes LD, et al.

Disparities in Mortality by Sexual Orientation in a Large, Prospective Cohort of Female Nurses.

JAMA. 2024 May 21;331(19):1638-1645. PMID: [38662342](#)

Using data from the Nurses’ Health Study II, “In an otherwise largely homogeneous sample of female nurses, participants identifying as lesbian [7.0%] or bisexual [10.1%] had markedly earlier mortality during the study period compared with heterosexual women [4.6%]. These differences in mortality timing highlight the urgency of addressing modifiable risks and upstream social forces that propagate and perpetuate disparities.”

Coulter RWS, Dougherty M, Clark MB, et al.

Online Human-Centered Design Methods are Acceptable, Appropriate, and Feasible for Generating Adolescent Relationship Abuse Intervention Ideas With Sexual and Gender Diverse Youth.

J Adolesc Health. 2024;75(4):656-64. PMID: [39066750](#)

From an online human-centered design study of 46 sexual and gender diverse youth (SGDY) aged 14-18 years recruited via social media, participants “co-created a breadth of adolescent relationship abuse intervention concepts, including commonplace ideas (e.g., curriculum for schools) and novel ideas, such as social media-based interventions to foster healthy relationships, incentivization interventions for performing social justice work, and school plays with SGDY storylines.”

Race/Cultural Concerns

AuBuchon KE, Stock ML, Mathur VA, Attey B, Bowleg L.

Bystander Acknowledgment Mitigates the Psychological and Physiological Pain of Racial Discrimination for Black Young Adults: A Randomized Controlled Trial.

J Pain. 2024;25(9):104560. PMID: [38735424](#)

In a simulated racial exclusion laboratory study (ball tossing game) of 92 young Black adults, “Continual exposure to racism likely contributes to inequities in pain sensitization. We demonstrate that acute exposure to mild racism increases acute pain sensitization. Results suggest that a white bystander acknowledging witnessed racism can buffer the acute sensitizing effects of racism on pain, pointing to the potential of interpersonal interventions targeting racism.”

Piquero AR, Roman JK.

Firearm Homicide Demographics Before and After the COVID-19 Pandemic.

JAMA Netw Open. 2024 May 1;7(5):e2412946. PMID: [38776086](#)

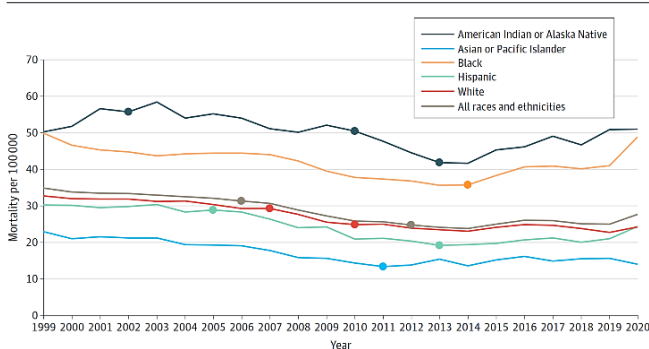
“In 2020, the US experienced the largest 1-year increase in homicide since 1960. The spike began in the first few months of the year, accelerating during the COVID-19 pandemic, emergency measures, the murder of George Floyd, and social protests. Three additional observations are relevant. First...the homicide increase in 2020 was due to firearm injuries. While the overall homicide rate increased 28.4%, the firearm homicide rate increased 34.6%. Second, the spike in violence was concentrated within certain demographic groups...61% were Black individuals, and they experienced firearm homicide at 14 times the rate of White individuals in 2020. This racial disparity does not exist for other types of violence. Third, the largest increases in death by firearm homicide were for Black men aged between 10 and 44 years old.”

Wolf ER, Rivara FP, Orr CJ, Sen A, Chapman DA, Woolf SH. Racial and Ethnic Disparities in All-Cause and Cause-Specific Mortality Among US Youth.

JAMA. 2024 May 28;331(20):1732-1740. PMID: [38703403](#)

“From 2016 to 2020, the homicide rate in Black youth was 12.81 per 100 000, which was 10.20 times that of White youth. The suicide rate for American Indian or Alaska Native youth was 11.37 per 100 000, which was 2.60 times that of White youth. The firearm mortality rate for Black youth was 12.88 per 100 000, which was 4.14 times that of White youth. American Indian or Alaska Native youth had a firearm mortality rate of 6.67 per 100 000, which was 2.14 times that of White youth. Black youth had an asthma mortality rate of 1.10 per 100 000, which was 7.80 times that of White youth.”

Figure 1. All-Cause Mortality Rates in Youth Aged 1-19 Years, 1999-2020



Perpetrators

Baidawi S, Newton D, Mendes P, Bollinger J, Purtell J. From Care to Corrections: A Scoping Review of Pathways from Child Protection to Adult Criminal Justice Systems.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;15248380241279861. PMID: [39302839](#)

“The review identified that many factors associated with increased likelihood of adult criminal justice system contact reflect those identified for youth justice involvement (e.g., male gender, racial minority or Indigenous status, a history of substantiated maltreatment, particularly physical abuse, placement in out of home care, particularly placement in residential care, placement for reasons of problem behavior, initial placement in early adolescence, and placement instability). While youth justice system contact is associated with increased risk, engagement in education or employment (for males), and becoming a parent appear to be associated with decreased risk of criminal justice system contact among adults previously involved in child protection systems.”

Czarnietzki M, Ricono-Kaufhold S, Darjee R, et al.

Murdering the person closest to you: Similarities and differences between intimate partner sexual homicide and non-intimate partner sexual homicide.

Behav Sci Law. 2024 Sep-Oct;42(5):560-587. PMID: [38885340](#)

“Intimate-partner sexual homicides (IPSHs), comprising approximately 20% of SHs [sexual homicides], have received limited attention. This study compares IPSHs (n = 56) and non-intimate partner sexual homicides (NIPSHs) (n = 236) in Australia and New Zealand...IPSH perpetrators were typically older, separated, and had prior domestic violence convictions...Whereas drivers of IPSH commonly were grievance and anger, associated with offences occurring after arguments, drivers for NIPSH were more often sexual deviance and sadism.”

Merry OJ, Whitfield KC.

The Landscape of Sexual Harm in the Video Game, Streaming, and Esports Community.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241271349. PMID: [39169727](#)

“Offenders use their position of fame within the community to access victims and bypass the need for other coercive behaviors. Online offenses were more common with children...offenders preferred voice chat and video calling, rather than instant messaging or sharing images of themselves. This limits the digital evidence left behind...esports organizations, live-streaming platforms, and educational providers can do more to safeguard players, fans, and viewers in this community.”

Police and Court Systems

Campbell R, Gregory K, Engleton J, et al.

"This Time It Was Different:" Creating a Multidisciplinary, Trauma-Informed, Victim-Centered Approach to Sexual Assault Cold Case Investigations and Prosecutions.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241284068. PMID: [39323175](#)

"Current estimates indicate there are 300,000 to 400,000 untested SAKs [sexual assault kits] in law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. In response to this national problem, the U.S. Department of Justice created the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Project to support kit testing, re-investigation, and prosecution of these 'cold case' sexual assaults. The SAKI program also provides training and technical assistance to police, prosecutors, and victim advocates on how to use a multidisciplinary, trauma-informed, and victim-centered approach in cold case prosecutions." From "interviews with 32 sexual assault survivors from the first cohort of cold cases that were re-opened...Nearly all cases ($n = 31$) ended in a guilty plea or trial conviction, and the vast majority of survivors indicated that they had positive experiences with the SAKI team. Survivors noted that they were listened to, believed, supported, and well-prepared by a multidisciplinary team of practitioners who were personally invested in their cases and in their well-being."

Stefanska E, Longpré N.

Unveiling the shadows: Investigating the interplay of stalking and sexual homicide-A case study.

Behav Sci Law. 2024 Sep-Oct;42(5):511-524. PMID: [38857252](#)

"Using an exploratory case study analysis of 7 males convicted for sexual homicide...results revealed: (1) The presence of obsession prior to the homicide; (2) The victims were ex-intimate partners or acquaintances; (3) The victims were followed several times prior to the index offence; (4) Stalking elements were not always considered by the authorities, which led to an escalation of behaviours."

Providers

Asp RA, Paquette ET.

Parent Perspectives on Social Risk Screening in the PICU.

Pediatr Crit Care Med. 2024 Oct 1;25(10):953-958. PMID: [39016706](#)

"Our study aimed to understand parent perspectives on screening for SDOH/ACEs in the PICU [pediatric ICU], with the primary objective of determining whether screening would be acceptable in this setting...Ten [10/11] participants found SDOH/ACEs screening to be acceptable and valuable in the PICU, even for topics without a readily available resource. Participants did not have broad experience with ACEs screening, though all believed this provided the medical team with valuable context regarding their child. Ten participants recommended screening occur after their child has been stabilized and that they are notified that screening is universal."

McNeal-Trice K, Cauley L.

Trauma-informed Child Welfare in North Carolina: An Interview with Child and Family Services Senior Director Lisa Cauley.

N C Med J. 2023;84(5):319-21. PMID: [39312796](#)

"In this interview, Child and Family Services Senior Director Lisa Cauley discusses the implementation of a trauma-informed child welfare model and the biggest challenges and opportunities in addressing inequities in the system...Our practice model really shapes how child welfare workers interface with families in a more positive and proactive manner. There is a focus on understanding what the family is experiencing and engaging in problem-solving through a trauma-focused lens, and addressing the need for parenting skills. We are really figuring out what matters to parents. Typically, it's that they want their child to do well in school, and they want to have the resources needed to take care of their family."

Bennett CL, Kit Delgado M, Pasao M, et al.

Preventive Health Services Offered in a Sampling of US Emergency Departments, 2022-2023.

West J Emerg Med. 2024;25(5):823-7. PMID: [39319815](#)

In a random sampling of 20% of all 5613 US EDs, with a 28.4% response rate, "94% reported offering at least one preventive health service, with a median of five services. The most common service offered was intimate partner violence screening (83%), while the least common was routine HIV screening (19%)...A small proportion of directors opposed offering preventive health services...many expressed concerns that preventive health services in the ED would lead to longer lengths of stay (56%), increased costs to their ED (58%), a diversion of staff time from providing acute care (50%), or that their patients would not have access to adequate follow-up (49%)."

Gross E, Jakubowski E, Sahai S.

Social Determinants of Health in Hospitalized Children.

Pediatr Ann. 2024;53(9):e337-e44. PMID: [39240180](#)

“We must recognize the importance of screening and documenting for social determinants of health and how these factors affect our patients’ health prior to, during, and after inpatient admission. Once these factors are identified, it is our role to work alongside each other and other agencies outside the health care system to provide patients with appropriate resources and advocate for changes on a larger scale.” Authors note available screening tools and resources.

Johnsen M, O'Donnell M, Harries M, Fisher C.

Hospital-Based Healthcare Workers' Experiences of Involvement in Perinatal Child Protection Processes: A Scoping Literature Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(4):3388-404. PMID: [38686924](#)

“Involvement in child protection processes is an inherently conflictual experience for HBHCWs [hospital-based healthcare workers] and gives rise to internal, interpersonal, and interorganizational tensions. Involvement can have an enduring impact on the HBHCWs, particularly when an infant is removed from hospital by child protection authorities. Appropriate peer, managerial, and organizational level responses are essential to ameliorate risk to HBHCWs themselves and subsequently their practice with women, infants, and families.”

Lines LE, Kakyo TA, McLaren H, et al.

Interprofessional Education in Child Protection for Preservice Health and Allied Health Professionals: A Scoping Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(4):2657-71. PMID: [38281156](#)

“Health and allied health professionals are uniquely positioned to collaborate in prevention, early intervention and responses to child maltreatment. Effective collaboration requires comprehensive interprofessional education (IPE), and inadequate collaboration across sectors and professions continually contributes to poor outcomes for children.” This research review notes a lack of quality preservice IPE education (the education received before initial qualification) on child abuse. Key challenges included a lack of institutional support and competing priorities across disciplines who must meet requirements of separate regulatory bodies.

Prevention

Davis CJ, Burrow AL.

Perceived control ameliorates the impact of adverse childhood experiences on downstream mental health.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107015. PMID: [39299063](#)

From a battery of surveys of 567 US undergraduates, “perceived control [“an individual’s belief that they can be influential over meaningful outcomes”] moderated the relationship between ACEs and both anxiety and depressive symptoms, respectively...for those reporting high levels of perceived control, we found no association between ACEs and self-reported symptoms...perceived control may serve as a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing against the influence of adverse childhood experiences.”

Du Y, Liu J, Lin R, Chattun MR, Gong W, Hua L, et al.

The mediating role of family functioning between childhood trauma and depression severity in major depressive disorder and bipolar disorder.

J Affect Disord. 2024;365:443-50. PMID: [39187177](#)

For 562 patients with depression, family functioning (adaptability and cohesion/emotional bonds) mediated the impact of childhood trauma on depressive symptoms severity in major depressive disorder and bipolar disorder. “Our findings highlighted the importance of family-focused preventive interventions in mitigating the long-term effects of childhood trauma.”

Blackwell CK, Cella D, Mansolf M.

Intergenerational transmission of adverse and positive childhood experiences and associations with child well-being.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107050. PMID: [39303434](#)

From a national online survey of 1016 US parents of children aged 1-5 years, “Results support the intergenerational transmission of PCEs and ACEs...Findings underscore the importance of extending clinical surveillance of ACEs to include PCEs in pediatric and adult healthcare settings. Dual-generation programs that address the negative consequences of parental ACEs may be able to increase their impact by adding a parallel emphasis on PCEs and providing parents with tools to foster PCEs in their children.”

Sullivan ADW, Merrill SM, Konwar C, et al.

Intervening After Trauma: Child-Parent Psychotherapy Treatment Is Associated With Lower Pediatric Epigenetic Age Acceleration.

Psychol Sci. 2024;35(9):1062-73. PMID: [39141017](#)

Of 45 low-income children aged 2-6 years with a trauma history receiving child-parent psychotherapy, “posttreatment, epigenetic age [a measure of cellular aging] acceleration in the treatment group was lower than in the matched community sample. Findings highlight the potential for a dyadic [2 group - parent and child] psychosocial intervention to ameliorate accelerated biological aging in trauma-exposed children.”

Blake C, Lewis R, Riddell J, Willis M, Wylie L, Dawson K, et al.

Prevention of, and response to, sexual harassment at secondary school: A system map.

Soc Sci Med. 2024;358:117092. PMID: [39216136](#)

From workshops with students and staff from multiple secondary schools in Scotland, “This study highlights the interconnectedness of factors shaping disclosure, reporting and handling of sexual harassment within secondary schools. The map surfaces key challenges for schools and provides a foundation for learning and discussions on where to focus efforts in future.”

Bornscheuer L, Gauffin K, Almquist YB.

Mapping resilience: a scoping review on mediators and moderators of childhood adversity with a focus on gender patterns.

BMJ Open. 2024;14(9):e080259. PMID: [39313285](#)

“There is untapped potential in resilience research. By considering structural-level factors simultaneously with individual-level factors, and including gender as one of the elements that shape resilience, we can map resilience as a heterogeneous, multilevel process from a public health perspective.”

Cuartas J, Salazar A, Backhaus S, et al.

Strategies to Prevent Violence Against Children in the Home: A Systematic Review of Reviews.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;25(4):3419-33. PMID: [38682572](#)

“We found extensive evidence supporting the effectiveness of parent and caregiver support interventions...We also found a vast underrepresentation of samples from low- and middle-income countries, children with disabilities, and families affected by forced displacement and conflict. In sum, this systematic review suggests that there are several promising strategies to prevent violence against children (e.g., home visiting and

parent education), but further research is necessary to strengthen the... implementation and scale-up of evidence-based interventions to protect children from violence globally.”

McMillen JC, Lansing J, Havlicek J.

Building narrative identity in a context of audience failures: Stories of resistance in young adults formerly in foster care.

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;157:107035. PMID: [39277971](#)

From life story interviews with 12 young adults who aged out of the foster care system in Illinois, “Many participants forged resistance identities around a fierce sense of agency, motivated to not be another foster care statistic or like their parents. Challenges to identity construction included the scarcity of trusted audiences willing to listen fully to their life stories, missing information about key events, and the senselessness of maltreatment experiences. College and work opportunities provided normative contexts and new audiences where identities shifted, but often at the cost of not revealing their histories, limiting social relations...Intervention efforts designed to provide willing and helpful audiences for narrative work may help young people from foster care find meaning in their pasts that help them forge identities that promote satisfying and successful adult lives.”

Researchers

Short NA, Witkemper KD, Burud GA, et al.

Research with women sexual assault survivors presenting for emergency care is safe: Results from a multi-site, prospective observational cohort study.

J Psychiatr Res. 2024 Oct;178:156-163. PMID: [39141995](#)

“We report the experiences with research of adult women sexual assault survivors participating in a large-scale, multi-site, prospective observational study that enrolled participants at the time of presentation for emergency care. Participants (n = 706, M = 28 years of age; 57% white, 15% Black)...the vast majority rated the research experience as positive (95-97%), reported no drawbacks (84-89%), and felt that participating was worth it (93-95%). Positive experiences with research remained stable across the year, were generally consistent across demographic and clinical groups...Given the tremendous morbidity experienced by sexual assault survivors and lack of progress in developing improved treatments for this population, ethically-conducted research with sexual assault survivors receiving emergency care should be encouraged.

Fares-Otero NE, Seedat S.

Childhood maltreatment: A call for a standardised definition and applied framework.

European neuropsychopharmacology. 2024;87:24-6. PMID: [39024857](#)

“Researchers and clinicians interfacing with survivors of childhood maltreatment (CM) have been hampered by the lack of an internationally agreed-upon definition of CM...Maltreatment during childhood is a particularly potent form of early life stress compared to other stressors, such as natural disasters...One element of CM that distinguishes it from other forms of adversity (such as poverty, war, or school bullying) is the potential role of parents or other caregivers as perpetrators. Articulating a clear set of distinguishable boundaries for CM, regardless of whether there may also be other forms of adversity and/or traumatic exposures, is key for prevention, intervention and longitudinal prevalence, and health outcome monitoring.”

Gabriel RA, Litake O, Simpson S, et al.

On the development and validation of large language model-based classifiers for identifying social determinants of health.

Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2024;121(39):e2320716121. PMID: [39284061](#)

“The assessment of social determinants of health (SDoH) within healthcare systems is crucial for comprehensive patient care and addressing health disparities. Current challenges arise from the limited inclusion of structured SDoH information within electronic health record (EHR) systems, often due to the lack of standardized diagnosis codes...This study underscores the potential of large language models in extracting SDoH information from clinical text. Automated detection of SDoH may be instrumental for healthcare providers in identifying at-risk patients, guiding targeted interventions, and contributing to population health initiatives aimed at mitigating disparities.”

Other of Interest

Amsel L, Cycowicz YM, Rodriguez-Moreno DV, et al.

The Long-Term Physical-Psychiatric Comorbidities Related to Childhood Exposure to 9/11 Trauma.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2024;21(8). PMID: [39200599](#)

“We examined individuals directly exposed to 9/11 as children (N = 844 high exposure and N = 104 low exposure) and compared them to a matched unexposed, control group (N = 491). Fourteen years after their 9/11 exposure...those individuals with

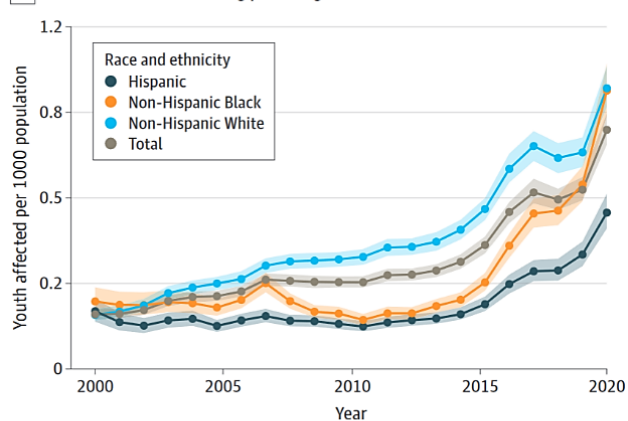
high 9/11 exposure were significantly more likely to have experienced a psychiatric disorder in the past year and a lifetime physical health condition compared to unexposed individuals,” and were 3.5 times more likely to have both a mental and physical health condition. Authors “highlight the importance of early and ongoing interventions to prevent future comorbidities and promote better quality of life throughout the lifespan.”

Schlüter BS, Alburez-Gutierrez D, Bibbins-Domingo K, et al. Youth Experiencing Parental Death Due to Drug Poisoning and Firearm Violence in the US, 1999-2020.

JAMA. 2024 May 28;331(20):1741-1747. PMID: [38703404](#)

“In this cross-sectional study of the US population using publicly available data between 1999 and 2020, an estimated 1.19 million US youth had a parent die by drug poisoning or firearms. In 2020, drugs and firearms caused 23% of all parental deaths compared with 12% in 1999, and Black youth experienced a disproportionate burden, mainly due to firearm deaths of fathers.”

A Death of father due to drug poisoning



C Death of father due to firearms

