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Child Abuse

Caldas SJ, Bensy ML.

The sexual maltreatment of students with disabilities in American school settings.

J Child Sex Abus. 2014;23(4):345-66. PMID: [24819521](#)

From an online survey of caregivers/parents/guardians and professional advocates regarding students with disabilities who were sexually maltreated in American schools, the majority of perpetrators were school personnel, and 35% of children experienced more than 10 incidences of maltreatment. Article provides data on types of maltreatment, characteristics of victims and abusers, the manner of reporting and the school's response.

Yamada F, Fujiwara T.

Prevalence of self-reported shaking and smothering and their associations with co-sleeping among 4-month-old infants in Japan.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2014 Jun;11(6):6485-93. PMID: [25003171](#)

3.4% of 1307 new mothers in Japan reported shaking or smothering their infant at least one time during the past month. Shaking/smothering was associated with parental stress due to crying, but not related to co-sleeping.

Wood JN, Fakeye O, Mondestin V, et.al.

Prevalence of abuse among young children with femur fractures: a systematic review.

BMC Pediatr. 2014 Jul 2;14:169. PMID: [24989500](#)

In a review of research articles on thigh fractures in children, among children less than 12 months old with all types of femur fractures, abuse rates ranged from 16.7% -35.2% vs. 1.5%-6% in children greater than 12 months old. "In multiple studies, age less than 12 months, non-ambulatory status, a suspicious history, and the presence of additional injuries were associated with findings of abuse."

Sheybani EF, Gonzalez-Araiza G, Kousari YM, et. al.

Pediatric nonaccidental abdominal trauma: what the radiologist should know.

Radiographics. 2014 Jan-Feb;34(1):139-53. PMID: [24428287](#)

Review of radiological findings in non-accidental trauma to a child's abdomen, where injuries such as bowel perforation or damage to the pancreas, liver or spleen often are multiple, severe, and have high rates of surgical intervention.

Hobbs CJ, Wright CM.

Anal signs of child sexual abuse: a case-control study.

BMC Pediatr. 2014 May 27;14:128. PMID: [24884914](#)

Using a case-controlled design, review of more likely physical signs of anal abuse in children, some of which were observed up to 6 months after assault.

Rajindrajith S, Devanarayana NM, Lakmini C, et. al.

Association between child maltreatment and constipation: a school-based survey using Rome III criteria.

J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. 2014 Apr;58(4):486-90. PMID: [24253365](#)

7.7% of 1792 Dutch children fulfilled criteria for constipation. "The prevalence of constipation was significantly higher in those exposed to sexual (5.8% vs 2.6% P = 0.03), emotional (40.9% vs 20.8%, P < 0.0001), and physical abuse (41.6% vs 23.2%, P <0.0001)."

Melville JD, Kellogg ND, Perez N, Lukefahr JL.

Assessment for self-blame and trauma symptoms during the medical evaluation of suspected sexual abuse.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):851-7. PMID: [24630439](#)

Of 501 children presenting for medical evaluation after disclosure of sexual abuse, 83% had at least one trauma symptom, 60% had difficulty sleeping, and 1/3 had thoughts of self-harm. The children of parents who did not completely believe the initial disclosure of abuse were twice as likely to feel self-blame. "Screening for behavioural and emotional problems during the medical assessment of suspected sexual abuse should include assessment of emotional and behavioural symptoms, self-blame, and family responses to the child's disclosure."

Straube A, Heinen F, Ebinger F, von Kries R.

Headache in school children: prevalence and risk factors.

Dtsch Arztebl Int. 2013 Nov 29;110(48):811-8. PMID:

[24333367](#)

In a review of research articles on headache in children, authors conclude that headaches are becoming a more common symptom. Positive risk factors for headache chronicity included a dysfunctional family situation, physical or emotional abuse, bullying by peers, and unfair treatment in school.

Lee SJ, Grogan-Kaylor A, Berger LM.

Parental spanking of 1-year-old children and subsequent child protective services involvement.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):875-83. PMID: [24602690](#)

For 2,788 families enrolled in an early child study, 30% of one-year-olds were spanked within the past month. Those who spanked their child at one year of age were 33% more likely to be involved with CPS by the child's 5th birthday.

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Danese A, Tan M.

Childhood maltreatment and obesity: systematic review and meta-analysis.

Mol Psychiatry. 2014 May;19(5):544-54. PMID: [23689533](#)

A review of research articles, which included 41 studies containing 190,285 participants, demonstrated that childhood maltreatment was associated with significant risk of lifetime obesity.

Cooke BM, Weathington JM.

Human and animal research into sex-specific effects of child abuse.

Horm Behav. 2014 Apr;65(4):416-26. PMID: [24657521](#)

Using human and animal models, authors hypothesize why girls and women experience the effects of child abuse more severely than males.

Wells TT, Vanderlind WM, Selby EA, Beevers CG.

Childhood abuse and vulnerability to depression: cognitive scars in otherwise healthy young adults.

Cogn Emot. 2014;28(5):821-33. PMID: [24313549](#)

Despite no current or past psychopathology in a selected sample of college students, those who experienced childhood abuse showed increased vulnerability to depression in validated written testing.

McLeod GF, Fergusson DM, Horwood LJ.

Childhood physical punishment or maltreatment and partnership outcomes at age 30.

Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2014 May;84(3):307-15. PMID:

[24827025](#)

For 900 New Zealand adults, childhood physical abuse was associated with greater negative partner relationships, partner social adjustment problems, and interpartner violence victimization and perpetration.

Berthelot N, Godbout N, Hébert M, Goulet M, Bergeron S.

Prevalence and correlates of childhood sexual abuse in adults consulting for sexual problems.

J Sex Marital Ther. 2014;40(5):434-43. PMID: [24127985](#)

Of 218 Canadian adults receiving sex therapy, 56% of women and 37% of men reported childhood sexual abuse, and were more likely to also report psychological and relationship problems.

Oswald LM, Wand GS, Kuwabara H, et. al.

History of childhood adversity is positively associated with ventral striatal dopamine responses to amphetamine.

Psychopharmacology (Berl). 2014 Jun;231(12):2417-33.

PMID: [24448898](#)

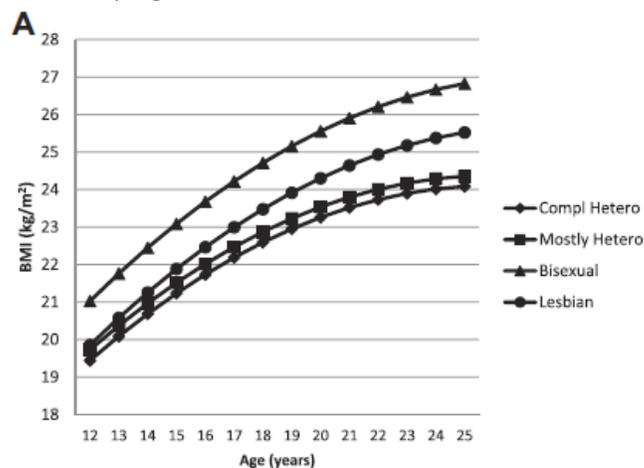
28 healthy young non-chronic or recent drug using male and female adults received brain scans before and after amphetamine administration. Those with a history of childhood adversity showed increased brain activation/sensitivity to the drug, consistent with prior research that childhood abuse increases vulnerability to drug abuse.

Katz-Wise SL, Jun HJ, Corliss HL, et. al.

Child abuse as a predictor of gendered sexual orientation disparities in body mass index trajectories.

J Adolesc Health. 2014 Jun;54(6):730-8. PMID: [24388110](#)

Chart shows body mass index by sexual orientation for females. The bisexual group had the highest BMI (body mass index), which was partly explained by higher rates of child abuse.



Adolescents

Milne L, Collin-Vézina D.

Disclosure of sexual abuse among youth in residential treatment care: a multiple informant comparison.

J Child Sex Abus. 2014;23(4):398-417. PMID: [24640965](#)

For 53 Canadian youth (ages 14-17) in residential treatment, "Child sexual abuse was self-reported by 38% of youth, with reporting by females almost four times higher. Child sexual abuse co-occurred with physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect in 75% of cases. Agreement between youth and residential treatment worker reports was high, while agreement between youth reports and their child protective services record was low."

Livingstone S, Smith PK.

Annual research review: Harms experienced by child users of online and mobile technologies: the nature, prevalence and management of sexual and aggressive risks in the digital age.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2014 Jun;55(6):635-54. PMID: [24438579](#)

"Risks of cyberbullying, contact with strangers, sexual messaging ('sexting') and pornography generally affect less than one in five adolescents...evidence reveals several risk factors: personality factors (sensation-seeking, low self-esteem, psychological difficulties), social factors (lack of parental support, peer norms) and digital factors (online practices, digital skills, specific online sites)."

Mayes SD, Fernandez-Mendoza J, Baweja R, et. al.

Correlates of suicide ideation and attempts in children and adolescents with eating disorders.

Eat Disord. 2014;22(4):352-66. PMID: [24842006](#)

Of 90 children ages 7-18 with eating disorders, suicidal ideation was more prevalent in children with bulimia nervosa (43%, all of whom did attempt suicide) vs. anorexia nervosa (20%, only 3% of whom attempted suicide). Correlates of making a suicide attempt included history of physical or sexual abuse.

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Eno EE, Fawole AA, Aboyeji AP, Adesina KT, Adeniran AS.
Domestic violence and obstetric outcome among pregnant women in Ilorin, north central Nigeria.

Int J Gynaecol Obstet. 2014 May;125(2):170-1. PMID: [24612642](#)

Comparing 100 Nigerian women with a history of domestic violence during pregnancy with a matched control group, those experiencing DV were significantly more likely to have preterm labor, instrumental vaginal delivery, cesarean delivery, breastfeeding problems, postpartum depression and anxiety. Neonates were more likely to have low birth weight, birth asphyxia and neonatal death.

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Caleyachetty R, Echouffo-Tcheugui JB, Stephenson R, et. al.
Intimate partner violence and current tobacco smoking in low- to middle-income countries: Individual participant meta-analysis of 231,892 women of reproductive age.

Glob Public Health. 2014;9(5):570-8. PMID: [24773510](#)

In an analysis of research studies from 29 countries with 231,892 women of reproductive age, after controlling for multiple factors including age, education, occupation and household income, women experiencing domestic violence were 55% more likely to smoke.

Clark CJ, Everson-Rose SA, Alonso A, et. al.

Effect of partner violence in adolescence and young adulthood on blood pressure and incident hypertension.

PLoS One. 2014 Mar 21;9(3):e92204. PMID: [24658452](#)

From a national study of 9699 adolescents followed through adulthood, 33% of men and 47% of women reported any IPV exposure. Men, but not women, who experienced severe IPV perpetration and victimization had a 59% higher increased odds of developing hypertension compared to men not exposed to IPV.

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Weinmeyer R.

Statutes to combat elder abuse in nursing homes.

Virtual Mentor. 2014 May 1;16(5):359-64. PMID: [24847705](#)

Brief history and review of major national laws regarding elder abuse in nursing homes.

Wood S, Rakela B, Liu PJ, et. al.

Neuropsychological profiles of victims of financial elder exploitation at the los angeles county elder abuse forensic center.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2014;26(4):414-23 PMID: [24848863](#)

Comparing a group of elder victims of financial exploitation who interacted with the Los Angeles County Elder Abuse Forensic Center to a community elder group, those reporting financial abuse performed worse on a variety of executive function tests (ability to evaluate and make decisions).

Cannell MB, Manini T, Spence-Almaguer E, et. al.

U.S. population estimates and correlates of sexual abuse of community-dwelling older adults.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2014;26(4):398-413. PMID: [24410194](#)

Using data from 18 states, 0.9% of community-dwelling elders reported experiencing sexual abuse in the previous year. [While this is a small percentage, it represents over 90,000 individuals.]

Sexual Assault

van Wijk E, Harrison TC.

Relationship difficulties postrape: being a male intimate partner of a female rape victim in Cape Town, South Africa.

Health Care Women Int. 2014;35(7-9):1081-105. PMID: [24821128](#)

Interviews with 9 male intimate partners of female rape victims in South Africa describe “changes in communication and sexual intimacy post-rape and how these changes spiraled into a dysfunctional relationship.” Participants were interested in education and interventions for both partners post rape.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Standards to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving unaccompanied children.

Interim final rule (IFR). Fed Regist. 2014 Dec 24;79(247):77767-800. PMID: [25546883](#)

Federal Register standards and procedures which must be in place by June 24, 2015 to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment involving unaccompanied children in care facilities of the Office of Refugee Resettlement.

Klingensmith K, Tsai J, Mota N, Southwick SM, Pietrzak RH.

Military sexual trauma in US veterans: results from the National Health and Resilience in Veterans Study.

J Clin Psychiatry. 2014 Oct;75(10):e1133-9. PMID: [25373123](#)

From a national study, “7.6% of US veterans screen positive for MST, with substantially higher rates among female and younger veterans. MST is associated with elevated rates of several psychiatric morbidities and suicidality, reduced functioning and quality of life.”

Shale JH.

A proposal to refine the definition of military sexual trauma for purposes of treatment and research.

J Clin Psychiatry. 2014 Oct;75(10):e1190-1. PMID: [25373130](#)

Author proposes a tighter definition of types of military sexual trauma for future national studies, and that results be separated by type.

Juraska A, Wood L, Giroux J, Wood E.

Sexual assault services coverage on Native American land.

J Forensic Nurs. 2014 Apr-Jun;10(2):92-7. PMID: [24847872](#)

30.7% of Native American land is within a 60-minutes driving distance of a facility offering sexual assault services, however more than 2/3 of lands have coverage gaps, including 381 lands with no coverage.

Gautam L, Sharratt SD, Cole MD.

Drug facilitated sexual assault: detection and stability of benzodiazepines in spiked drinks using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry.

PLoS One. 2014 Feb 19;9(2):e89031. PMID: [24586489](#)

Benzodiazepines (anti-anxiety agents such as valium), which may be used in drug-facilitated sexual assaults, have short half-lives for detection in blood and urine. However this study showed that 3 different types of drug in this class were recoverable in a variety of drinks held at room temperature or refrigerated for 25 days. Policy recommendations should include drinks be collected and analyzed whenever possible.

Chave-Cox RS.

Forensic examination of the mentally disabled sexual abuse complainant.

J Forensic Leg Med. 2014 Jul;25:71-5. PMID: [24931867](#)

Since those with mental disabilities are more vulnerable to sexual abuse and have greater barriers to support and reporting, this review article discusses the identification and management of these individuals.

Human Trafficking

Zimmerman C, Schenker MB.

Human trafficking for forced labour and occupational health.

Occup Environ Med. 2014 Dec;71(12):807-8. PMID: [25261529](#)

“This editorial aims to call attention to the links between human trafficking and occupational health to foster more coordinated strategies to combat the severe occupational health hazards associated with trafficking for forced labour.”

McConkey SJ, Garcia C, Mann A, Conroy R.

Sex trafficking in Ireland from a health care perspective.

Ir Med J. 2014 Oct;107(9):270-2. PMID: [25417383](#)

Article on Irish sex trafficking including history of legal oversight, means used to educate healthcare providers, and management and referral with a flow chart.

Cultural Issues

Dong X.

Do the definitions of elder mistreatment subtypes matter? Findings from the PINE Study.

J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2014 Nov;69 Suppl 2:S68-75. PMID: [25378451](#)

Of 3159 US Chinese older adults living in Chicago, using different definitions, the prevalence of psychological abuse was 1.1%-9.8%, physical abuse 1.1%, sexual abuse 0.2%, caregiver neglect 4.6%-11.1%, and financial exploitation 8.8%-9.3%. Overall, maltreatment varied from 13.9%-25.8% depending on defining criteria.

Hoffman BR.

The interaction of drug use, sex work, and HIV among transgender women.

Subst Use Misuse. 2014 Jun;49(8):1049-53. PMID: [24779504](#)

Discussion of the challenges, suggestions and criteria for successful interventions for transgender women with a cycle of drug use, sex work, and HIV.

Perpetrators

Thomas SP, Phillips K, Gunther M.

Childhood sibling and peer relationships of perpetrators of child sexual abuse.

Arch Psychiatr Nurs. 2013 Dec;27(6):293-8. PMID: [24238009](#)

For community-dwelling adults who had sexually molested children, the majority had experienced multiple forms of childhood abuse. This article describes their relationships with their siblings and peers, the majority of which were lacking or troubled. “With few exceptions, neither sibling nor peer relationships adequately promoted participants' capacity for developing and maintaining healthy relationships in adulthood. They did not develop the core attributes of self-control, resilience, and confidence that should be developed in the formative stages of life.”

Police and Court Systems

He AS, Traube DE, Young NK.

Perceptions of parental substance use disorders in cross-system collaboration among child welfare, alcohol and other drugs, and dependency court organizations.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):939-51. PMID: [24268380](#)

Collaborative process is hindered when staff members from different organizations (child welfare, drug rehab, dependency court) have different perceptions of the abilities and future potential of parents with substance abuse issues. Authors discuss cross-system communication and policy needs.

Lewis TE, Klettke B, Day A.

The influence of medical and behavioral evidence on conviction rates in cases of child sexual abuse.

J Child Sex Abus. 2014;23(4):431-41. PMID: [24641628](#)

In an Australian review of 113 child sexual abuse cases, “the most significant predictor of verdict was the behavior of the child rather than the presence of medical evidence.”

Katz C, Barnetz Z, Hershkowitz I.

The effect of drawing on children's experiences of investigations following alleged child abuse.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):858-67. PMID: [24534613](#)

In an Israeli study of children being investigated for possible child abuse, using a strict protocol with two random groups either including the child drawing vs. not drawing, “The results clearly demonstrate the advantage that drawing has on the children's experience of the investigation, with children in the drawing group more often reporting feelings of hope and success.”

Providers

Chin JL, Yee BW, Banks ME.

Women's health and behavioral health issues in health care reform.

J Soc Work Disabil Rehabil. 2014;13(1-2):122-38. PMID: [24410361](#)

Description of how changes in reimbursement and restructuring of care coordination through accountable care organizations and medical homes will potentially improve women's health care.

Hovey A, Stalker C, Rye BJ.

Asking women survivors about thoughts or actions involving sex with children: an issue requiring therapist sensitivity.

J Child Sex Abus. 2014;23(4):442-61. PMID: [24641711](#)

From telephone interviews with 22 Canadian therapists, discussion of difficulties in bringing up thoughts/behaviors involving sex with children with women survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

Valpied J, Hegarty K.

Intimate partner abuse: identifying, caring for and helping women in healthcare settings.

Womens Health (Lond Engl). 2015 Jan;11(1):51-63. PMID: [25581055](#)

General review of identification and support of patients experiencing IPV in the healthcare setting.

Raja S, Rajagopalan CF, Kruthoff M, et. al.

Teaching dental students to interact with survivors of traumatic events: development of a two-day module.

J Dent Educ. 2015 Jan;79(1):47-55. PMID: [25576552](#)

Description of the development of a series of training modules for dental students re: "how these patients [who experienced trauma] may present in oral health settings, the basic mandated reporting requirements, and communication strategies to help engage trauma survivors in dental treatment."

Gotlib Conn L, Young A, Rotstein OD, Schemitsch E.

"I've never asked one question." Understanding the barriers among orthopedic surgery residents to screening female patients for intimate partner violence.

Can J Surg. 2014 Dec;57(6):371-8. PMID: [25421078](#)

From focus groups of Canadian orthopedic residents, "Residents were aware of the issue of abuse generally, but had received no specific information or training on IPV in orthopedics. Residents did not see orthopedics faculty screen patients for IPV or advocate for screening. They did not view IPV screening or intervention as part of the orthopedic surgeon's role."

Prevention

Holden GW, Brown AS, Baldwin AS, Croft Caderao K.

Research findings can change attitudes about corporal punishment.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):902-8. PMID: [24246718](#)

Description of a short educational intervention (reading brief research summaries on the problems associated with corporal punishment) that changed parental attitudes towards spanking.

Researchers

Almuneef MA, Qayad M, Noor IK, et. al.

Multidimensional model to assess the readiness of Saudi Arabia to implement evidence based child maltreatment prevention programs at a large scale.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 Mar;38(3):527-32. PMID: [23998922](#)

An "implementation readiness" tool was developed by WHO to assess the CMP (Childhood Maltreatment Prevention) situation in Saudi Arabia. The tool measured 10 dimensions: "(a) attitudes toward CMP; (b) knowledge of CMP; (c) scientific data on CMP; (d) current program implementation and evaluation; (e) legislation, mandates, and policies; (f) will to address CM problem; (g) institutional links and resources; (h) material resources; (i) human and technical resources; and (j) informal social resources (non-institutional)."

Roelen K.

Sticks or carrots? Conditional cash transfers and their effect on child abuse and neglect: researchers observe both benefits and harms of CCT programs.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 Mar;38(3):372-82. PMID: [24594014](#)

Description of the pros and cons of worldwide Conditional Cash Transfer programs (programs providing cash to families who meet certain criteria, for example child vaccination or schooling) on child abuse and neglect.

George J, Stith SM.

An updated feminist view of intimate partner violence.

Fam Process. 2014 Jun;53(2):179-93. PMID: [24749960](#)

Authors suggest that one doesn't need to be either solely a "family violence" researcher or a "feminist" researcher of violence against women, and describe an updated intersectional view.

Other of Interest

ACEsConnection (<http://www.acesconnection.com>)

This is a social networking site, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The California Endowment, for all people interested in implementing ACEs-, trauma-informed, and resilience-building practices. Besides networking opportunities around various topics, emailed updates on ACE research is available.

Janson S.

Children left behind.

Acta Paediatr. 2014 Jun;103(6):572-3. PMID: [24811703](#)

Editorial on the needs of children “left behind” when parents work away from home, which may include higher anxiety scores, poorer family function and physical abuse. [For example, 5% of Filipino children have one or both parents working abroad.]

Lonne B, Parton N.

Portrayals of child abuse scandals in the media in Australia and England: impacts on practice, policy, and systems: most media coverage distorts the public understandings of the nature of child maltreatment.

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):822-36. PMID: [24942126](#)

“This article describes how the media have played a key role in placing the issue of child maltreatment and the problems associated with child protection high on public and political agendas over the last 50 years. It also describes how the influence of the media is far from unambiguous...in being so concerned with scandals and tragedies...the media have portrayed the nature of child maltreatment in ways which deflect attention from many of its core characteristics and causes.”

Kendall-Taylor N, Lindland E, O'Neil M, Stanley K.

Beyond prevalence: an explanatory approach to reframing child maltreatment in the United Kingdom

Child Abuse Negl. 2014 May;38(5):810-21. PMID: [24942125](#)

Very worthwhile read for those involved with child abuse and the public. A U.S. organization analyzed the “core story of child maltreatment” from experts and advocates, and found gaps in the British public understanding of child maltreatment. They suggest ways to “reframe” and talk to (and not talk to) the public about issues such as: a personal problem vs. a system problem, maltreatment and class, emotional vs. brain-based issues, family perpetuation, scope, and prevention.

Cardazone G, U Sy A, Chik I, Corlew LK.

Mapping one strong 'Ohana: using network analysis and GIS to enhance the effectiveness of a statewide coalition to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Am J Community Psychol. 2014 Jun;53(3-4):346-56. PMID: [24682889](#)

Geographic information systems mapping was used in Hawaii to ascertain the effect of a public information campaign to increase awareness of child maltreatment and protective factors, as well as the effectiveness of the coalition network.

Fig. 4 This combined map integrates the GIS representation of public awareness survey data and network analytic information describing the centrality of organizations located on the four most populous islands (a Oahu, b Hawai'i, c Maui, d Kauai). This map illustrates opportunities for further engagement, particularly in areas demonstrating both low scores in public awareness (*light gray*) and an absence of active and central Coalition member organizations

