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Child Abuse

Arowolo T, Animasahun A, Baptiste-Roberts K, Bronner Y.
Effect of COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Parental Adverse Childhood Experiences on Child Health and Well-Being.

Journal of child & adolescent trauma. 2023;1-10. PMID: [36818743](#)

From a research review, "Parents with high ACE scores were more likely to cope poorly with childcare duties and engage in child neglect, verbal abuse, and reduced feeding frequency, specifically during the COVID-19 pandemic. The review findings support the framework of inadequate resilience and coping skills of adults with a history of ACEs during periods of stress and unpredictability such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The negative effects of these parental stressors on a child's health and well-being are modifiable and could be mitigated by targeted interventions."

Geprägs A, Bürgin D, Fegert JM, Brähler E, Clemens V.
Parental stress and physical violence against children during the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic: results of a population-based survey in Germany.

Child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health. 2023;17(1):25. PMID: [36804027](#)

Using data from a representative probability sample of the German population July-October 2021, "Higher parental stress levels, a stronger increase of parental stress during the pandemic, having pre-existing psychiatric disorders, and parental experience of child maltreatment predicted an increased use of physical violence against children during the pandemic. Our results...underline the need for low threshold support for families at risk in times of crises."

O'Hare K, Hussain A, Laurens KR, et al.

Self-reported mental health of children known to child protection services: an Australian population-based record linkage study.

Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2023;32(1):101-12. PMID: [34247296](#)

For 26,960 Australian children, all levels of CPS contact (non-threshold reports, unsubstantiated reports, substantiated reports, and out-of-home care (OOHC)) were associated with problematic self-report in 6 mental health categories – emotional symptoms, conduct problems, hyperactivity/inattention, peer relationship problems, prosocial behaviors, and psychotic-like experiences. The highest odds of reporting clinical levels of mental health difficulties in at least one domain were 48.1% of children with an OOHC placement and 45.6% of those with substantiated child protection reports.

Stewart SL, Vasudeva AS, Mistry D, Poss JW.

The impact of child maltreatment on mental health outcome improvements among children and youth accessing community mental health care.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;139:106066. PMID: [36791630](#)

For 16,517 Canadian children treated at 58 community mental health agencies, children without a trauma history consistently showed greater improvement than those with trauma. "Sexual abuse was associated with some of the most significant negative impacts on children's mental health improvements...Our findings highlight an urgent need for the implementation of standardized, evidence-based assessments that screen trauma histories of children accessing mental health supports, and research examining the impact of trauma on children's treatment responsiveness."

Machlin L, Egger HL, Stein CR, et al.

Distinct Associations of Deprivation and Threat With Alterations in Brain Structure in Early Childhood.

J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2023 Feb 10:S0890-8567(23)00061-8. PMID: [36775117](#)

Using brain scans from 72 children 5-10 years old, "Results suggest distinct associations of deprivation and threat on brain structure in early childhood. Threat [the presence of domestic violence, sexual abuse, physical abuse, or neighborhood violence] is associated with widespread differences in brain surface area, and deprivation [the presence of neglect] is associated with differences in cortical thickness. These observations are consistent with adult research, and reflect how dimensions of adversity differentially impact neural structure."

Daigneault I, Paquette G, De La Sablonnière-Griffin M, Dion J. **Childhood Sexual Abuse, Intellectual Disability, and Subsequent Physical and Mental Health Disorders: A Matched Cohort Study.**

American journal on intellectual and developmental disabilities. 2023;128(2):134-44. PMID: [36807477](#)

Using Canadian administrative databases of children who had a sexual abuse report corroborated by a child protection agency and a matched group from the general population, children with Intellectual disability (ID) were 3.5 times more likely to have a corroborated sexual abuse report when compared to their peers without ID, and a higher post-abuse number of medical consultations for physical and mental health disorders.”

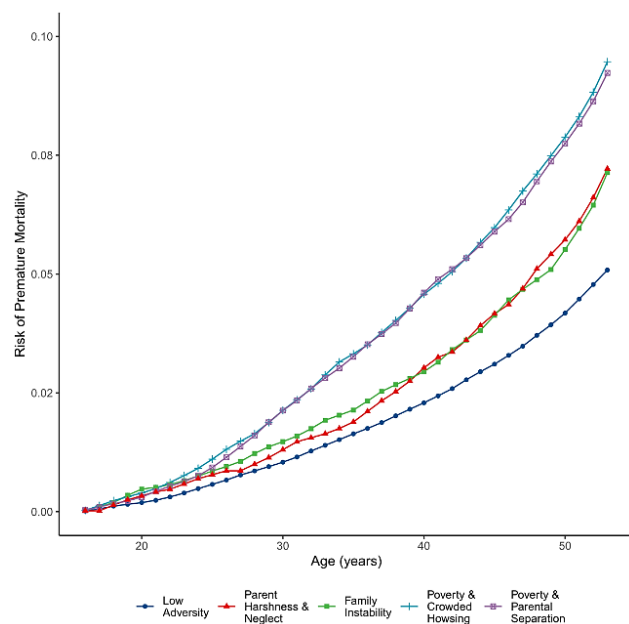
Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Yu J, Patel RA, Haynie DL, et al.

Adverse childhood experiences and premature mortality through mid-adulthood: A five-decade prospective study.

Lancet Reg Health Am. 2022 Nov;15:100349. PMID: [36467261](#)

From a long-term study of 46,129 persons 48% Black and 49.5% female, premature mortality was shown for parent harshness and neglect, family instability, poverty and crowded housing, and poverty and parental separation.



van den Oord CLJD, Copeland WE, Zhao M, et al.

DNA methylation signatures of childhood trauma predict psychiatric disorders and other adverse outcomes 17 years after exposure.

Mol Psychiatry. 2022 Aug;27(8):3367-3373. PMID: [35546634](#)

Using blood methylation data (changes to DNA from outside influences) from 489 participants as teens and as adults, “Trauma-related methylation risk scores (MRSs) significantly predicted adult depression, externalizing problems, nicotine dependence, alcohol use disorder, serious medical problems, social problems and poverty. The predictive power of the MRSs was higher than that of reported trauma...Rather than measuring the occurrence of traumatic events, the MRSs seemed to capture the impact of trauma. The majority of predictive sites did not remain associated with the outcomes, suggesting the signatures of trauma do not become biologically embedded...The MRSs have the potential to be a novel clinical biomarker for the assessment of trauma-related health risks.”

Chen D, Lin L, Li C, Chen W, Zhang Y, Ren Y, et al.

Maternal adverse childhood experiences and health-related quality of life in preschool children: a cross-sectional study.

Child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health. 2023;17(1):19. PMID: [36747212](#)

Of 4243 Chinese mother-child dyads who attended randomly selected preschools, 85.8% of mothers reported at least 1 ACE, with 22.3% reporting 3+ ACEs. Compared to children of mothers with no ACEs, children of mothers with any number of ACEs “all had significantly lower scores of physical, social, and school functioning, as well as lower psychosocial health summary score. However, only children of mothers with two or more ACEs had significantly poorer emotional functioning... screening maternal ACEs in young children and promoting targeted interventions might be a feasible way to mitigate or stop the potential negative intergenerational health and wellbeing implications of ACEs.”

Bourassa KJ, Moffitt TE, Harrington H, et al.

Childhood Adversity and Midlife Health: Shining a Light on the Black Box of Psychosocial Mechanisms.

Prev Sci. 2022 Sep 9:10.1007/s11121-022-01431-y. PMID: [36083434](#)

From a study of 859 individuals followed from birth to age 45, children who experienced more ACEs had poorer mid-life health; they also experienced more stressful life events, perceived stress, negative emotionality, and poor health behaviors, all of which were factors in poorer mid-life health.

Dunn KE, Turner GM, Oswald LM.

Effects of Early Life Trauma on Risks for Adult Opioid Use Disorder Are Mediated by Stress and Occur Independent of Depression and Anxiety.

J Addict Med. 2022 Nov-Dec 01;16(6):709-715. PMID: [35914024](#)

From an online survey of 310 person with exposure to opioids, 93% reported at least 1 lifetime trauma, and 65% met criteria for opioid use disorder (OUD). All types of early life trauma (total, general, physical, emotional, or sexual) showed an almost dose-dependent association with more severe current OUD. Perceived stress, but not psychiatric functioning, was a robust contributor to this association.

Adolescents

Hegel J, Cummings JA, Toews K, et al.

Women Survivors of Adolescent Dating Violence Describe the Maintenance of Their Abusive Relationships: First Person Stories via YouTube.

Violence Against Women. 2023;29(5):817-35. PMID: [36006920](#)

Authors analyze YouTube videos of teenage IPV survivors regarding why they had maintained their abusive relationship, sharing insights about themselves, the behaviors of their partner, the course of their relationship, and the influence of others. "Using the stories of young women survivors, the results of this study provide valuable insight into the reasons ADV relationships are maintained in adolescence as well as the types of messages being shared by survivors of ADV and possibly received by survivors seeking information online."

Hodgdon HB, Lord KA, Suvak MK, et al.

Predictors of symptom severity and change among youth in trauma-informed residential care.

Child Abuse Negl. 2023;137:106056. PMID: [36708646](#)

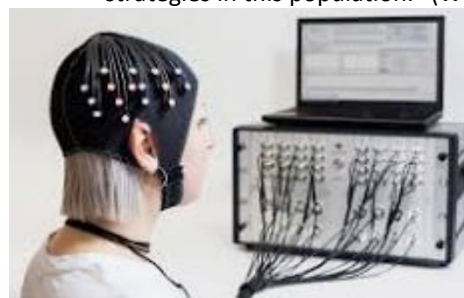
Of 547 youth ages 12-18 in trauma-informed residential care (mean age = 15.84, 43.2 % male) evaluated during 21 months (with considerable attrition), trauma-informed residential care was associated with significant reductions in symptoms of PTSD, depression, dissociation, psychological dysregulation, and externalizing behaviors. Females had more symptoms at intake, but showed equivalent or greater improvement than males. Severity of trauma history was associated with more symptoms at intake, but did not decrease treatment response.

Mark CA, Poltavski DV.

Functional near-infrared spectroscopy is a sensitive marker of neurophysiological deficits on executive function tasks in young adults with a history of child abuse.

Applied neuropsychology Adult. 2023:1-14. PMID: [36803059](#)

"Functional near-infrared spectroscopy affords a view into the brain based on blood oxygenation without the need for a big, immobile scanner." (PNAS.org) This study found that 37 young adults who reported emotional, physical, or sexual abuse as children, compared to a control group, showed significantly higher rate and number of errors when measuring executive function, and a decrease in blood oxygenation in certain related brain areas. "These findings have implications for the development of remediation and treatment strategies in this population." (Wikipedia picture)



Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Liévano-Karim L, Thaxton T, Bobbitt C, et al.

A Balancing Act: How Professionals in the Foster Care System Balance the Harm of Intimate Partner Violence as Compared to the Harm of Child Removal.

International journal on child maltreatment: research, policy and practice. 2023:1-24. PMID: [36785696](#)

"In 2020, 42 participants from four different professional backgrounds (attorneys, nonprofit leadership, licensed therapists, and social workers) were interviewed or participated in a focus group discussion. All groups acknowledged the shortfalls of current intervention practices, which often result in child removal...Participants whose employment required them to advocate for parents tend to view child removal from a non-offending parent as harmful for both the child and IPV survivor...The results of this study strongly suggest that reform is needed, and further research is needed to better understand what changes would best serve the diverse needs of families struggling with IPV and resulting child protection involvement."

Hiscox LV, Fairchild G, Donald KA, et al.

Antenatal maternal IPV exposure is associated with sex-specific alterations in brain structure among young infants: Evidence from a South African birth cohort.

Developmental cognitive neuroscience. 2023;60:101210. PMID: [36764039](#)

Exposure to IPV during pregnancy was measured in 143 South African mothers, and their infants underwent brain MRIs at mean age 3 weeks. Maternal IPV exposure was associated with certain infant brain changes that were different for male and female babies, the results of which stood even after removing participants with pregnancy complications. "Further research is required to understand how these early alterations are linked to the sex-bias in neuropsychiatric outcomes later observed in IPV-exposed children."

Testa A, Lee J, Semenza DC, et al.

Intimate partner violence and barriers to prenatal care.

Soc Sci Med. 2023;320:115700. PMID: [36708607](#)

Using data from 35 states and New York City with 166,840 participants, "women with IPV exposure - especially those who experience IPV both before and during pregnancy - are more likely to experience inadequate prenatal care. In addition, women with IPV exposure incur a higher rate of barriers to prenatal care, including not having transportation, not being able to get time off work, being too busy, being unable to find child care, and keeping the pregnancy a secret."

Davidson CA, Jackson KT, Kennedy K, et al.

Vaccine Hesitancy Among Canadian Mothers: Differences in Attitudes Towards a Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Among Women Who Experience Intimate Partner Violence.

Matern Child Health J. 2023:1-9. PMID: [36800061](#)

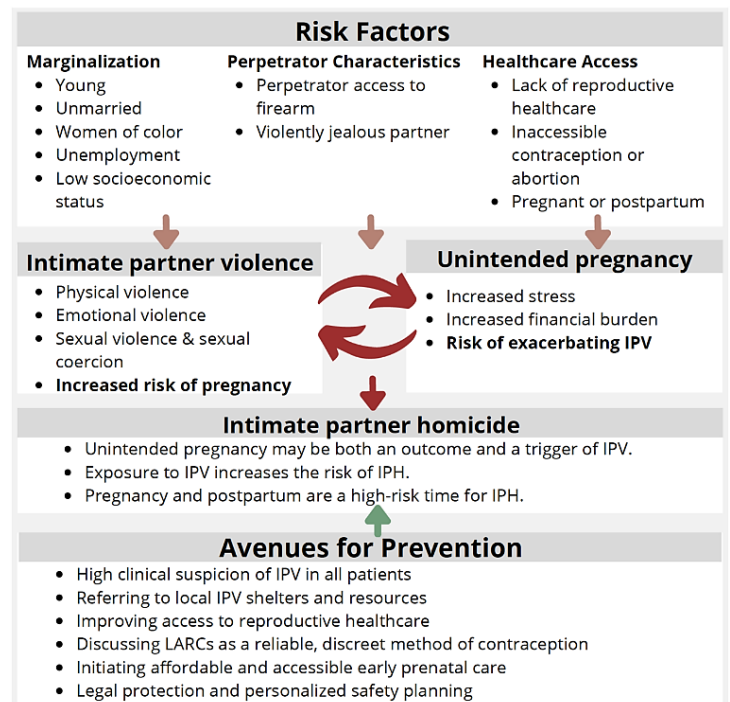
Of 129 Canadian mothers participating in an online study, 14.5% were hesitant towards routine child vaccinations and 97.0% hesitant about the Covid-19 vaccine for their child. Experiencing IPV was significantly associated with COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy. "Further research is required to fully understand the factors that build confidence and mitigate hesitancy in mothers regarding vaccination, especially mothers who have experienced IPV. Until then, messaging by public health institutions and care provided by healthcare practitioners will be inadequate in improving vaccine confidence."

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Smith EJ, Bailey BA, Cascio A.

Sexual Coercion, Intimate Partner Violence, and Homicide. Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023:15248380221150474. PMID: [36722380](#)

"This scoping literature review indicates that sexual coercion is associated with both an increased risk of unintended pregnancy and increased severity of IPV. Moreover, pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of onset or increasing severity of IPV which contributes to higher pregnancy-associated homicide rates among this population, and this risk increases when the pregnancy is unintended or mistimed. We propose a conceptual model that interrelates these themes and highlights unintended pregnancy as a potential avenue for intervention in reducing both IPV victimization and homicide."



Hutchinson M, Cosh SM, East L.

Reproductive and sexual health effects of intimate partner violence: A longitudinal and intergenerational analysis.

Sexual & reproductive healthcare. 2023;35:100816. PMID: [36753812](#)

Using data from two generations of women from a national Australian study, "IPV exposure was associated with increased odds of experiencing a range of sexual and reproductive health outcomes, including sexually-transmitted infection, endometriosis, infertility, termination, and miscarriage, which increased with greater exposure to IPV." Significant intergenerational trends were also identified. Sexual orientation had a significant predictive value for IPV, with women who identified as bisexual 2.91 times more likely to report IPV.

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

White SJ, Sin J, Sweeney A, et al.

Global Prevalence and Mental Health Outcomes of Intimate Partner Violence Among Women: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2023;15248380231155529. PMID: [36825800](#)

From a research review of IPV globally, “increased odds for all mental health outcomes associated with IPV including depression (odds ratio [OR] = 2.04-3.14), posttraumatic stress disorder (OR = 2.15-2.66), and suicidality (OR = 2.17-5.52)...Future research should seek to understand women's perspectives on service/support responses to IPV to address their mental health needs.”

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Rosen T, Zhang H, Wen K, Clark S, Elman A, Jeng P, et al.

Emergency Department and Hospital Utilization Among Older Adults Before and After Identification of Elder Mistreatment.

JAMA network open. 2023;6(2):e2255853. PMID: [36787139](#)

For 114 US elders mean age 72 years and 64.9% women who were identified as being mistreated, compared to a control group, during the 12 months before and especially the 12 months following the injury maltreatment identification, the maltreated group were significantly more likely to experience multiple ED visits, at least 1 ED visit for injury, visits to multiple EDs, high-frequency ED use, return ED visits within 7 days, ED visits for low-urgency issues, multiple hospitalizations, at least 1 hospitalization for injury, hospitalization at multiple hospitals, and hospitalization for ambulatory care conditions.

Sexual Assault

Holliday R, Nichter B, Holder N, et al.

Childhood Sexual Abuse and Military Sexual Trauma Interact to Increase Suicide Risk: Results from a Nationally Representative Veteran Sample.

J Interpers Violence. 2023;38(5-6):5354-69. PMID: [36124932](#)

In a study of 4,069 US military veterans, “After accounting for sociodemographics, psychiatric comorbidity, and trauma-related characteristics, we detected a significant interaction between military sexual trauma and childhood sexual abuse as it related to report of past-year suicidal ideation, lifetime suicide attempt, and risk for future suicide attempt. These findings underscore the impact of sexual trauma throughout the lifespan, highlighting the continued importance of screening for trauma exposure and connecting veterans to appropriate, evidence-based treatment.”

Monteith LL, Miller CN, Polzer E, et al.

"Feel the need to prepare for Armageddon even though I do not believe it will happen": Women Veterans' Firearm Beliefs and Behaviors during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Associations with Military Sexual Assault and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms.

PLoS One. 2023;18(2):e0280431. PMID: [36763646](#)

From a survey of 501 female veterans, “PTSD symptom severity and military sexual assault history were associated with higher prevalence of changes in firearm beliefs (13.88%) and engagement in firearm behaviors (22.15%) during the pandemic,” including “making household firearms more accessible (16.13%) and purchasing ammunition (11.97%). Smaller percentages reported carrying a firearm more frequently (6.71%), loading previously unloaded firearms (5.69%), or purchasing a firearm (4.24%).”

Widanaralalage BK, Hine BA, Murphy AD, Murji K. A

Qualitative Investigation of Service Providers' Experiences Supporting Raped and Sexually Abused Men.

Violence Vict. 2023 Feb 1;38(1):53-76. PMID: [36717192](#)

“The present research utilized semi-structured interviews with 12 service providers from specialist organizations in the United Kingdom...revealed three superordinate themes: (a) survivors' needs for agency, safety, and control as functions of their masculinity; (b) the impact of rape myths and their challenge to therapeutic intervention; and (c) survivors' expectations around reporting and the police. The role of masculinity and social stigma permeated participants' accounts, with negative stereotypes and male rape myths influencing reporting, access to services, and survivors' coping mechanisms.”

Human Trafficking

Greenbaum J, Kaplan D, Young J.

Exploitation, Labor and Sex Trafficking of Children and Adolescents: Health Care Needs of Patients.

Pediatrics. 2023;151(1). PMID: [36827522](#)

Detailed report for pediatricians. “Knowledge of risk factors, recruitment practices, possible indicators, and common medical, mental, and emotional health problems experienced by affected individuals will assist health care providers in recognizing vulnerable children and adolescents and responding appropriately. A trauma-informed, rights-based, culturally sensitive approach helps providers identify and treat patients who have experienced or are at risk for trafficking/exploitation.”

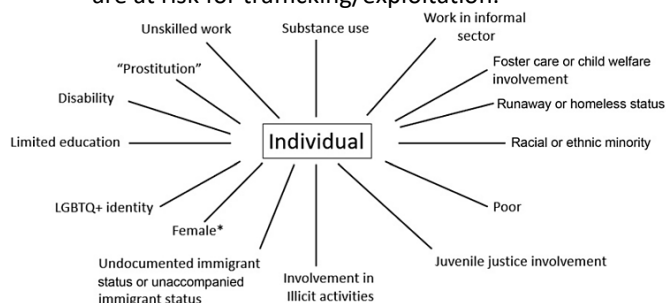


FIGURE 1

Intersectionality of bias and stigma with trafficking and exploitation. *Male status may also lead to stigma in situations involving sexual exploitation.

LGBTQ Concerns

Hazelwood A.

Looking Within: An Analysis of Intimate Partner Violence Victimization Among Sexual Minority Youth.

J Interpers Violence. 2023;8862605231153887. PMID: [36762523](#)

“Using two waves of data (2017, 2019) from the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey...sexual minority youth are at elevated risk of IPV victimization compared to their heterosexual peers. Within-LGB+ analyses show that bisexual youth are more likely than gay/lesbian youth to be victims of sexual IPV...intervention and prevention programming should be tailored to identify, and treat, the risks and needs of unique, at-risk populations.”

Tillewein H, Shokeen N, Powers P, et al.

Silencing the Rainbow: Prevalence of LGBTQ+ Students Who Do Not Report Sexual Violence.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2023;20(3). PMID: [36767386](#)

For 808 LGBTQ+ college students, “Regardless of type of sexual violence, many LGBTQ+ individuals do not report due to embarrassment or believing that no action would be taken against the perpetrators.

Survivors of sexual violence face negative health outcomes such as depression, anxiety, and negative mental health.” In addition, students noted mistrust of support services.

Race/Cultural Concerns

Tavrow P, Paulus K, Huynh D, et al.

Psychosocial barriers to, and enablers of, IPV disclosure among Asian-American immigrant women.

Cult Health Sex. 2023;1-16. PMID: [36794320](#)

“Although Asian women immigrants to the USA rarely disclose intimate partner violence, local research indicates that among them domestic abuse is prevalent...for sixty married women from four ethnicities (Korean, Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese) barriers to disclosure were more compelling and tangible than enablers. Five main barriers were: victim-blaming, beliefs in female inferiority and male dominance, familial shame, individual shame, and fear of undesirable consequences. Only extreme violence and the need to protect children from harm were seen as warranting disclosure. As a result, health and other providers' encouragement of disclosure is unlikely to be sufficient to achieve behavioural change. Abused Asian immigrant women need anonymous ways of obtaining professional counselling, information and resources. In addition, community-level awareness programmes in Asian languages are needed to reduce victim-blaming and misinformation.”

Liu SR, Davis EP, Palma AM, et al.

Experiences of COVID-19-Related Racism and Impact on Depression Trajectories Among Racially/Ethnically Minoritized Adolescents.

J Adolesc Health. 2023 Feb 12:S1054-139X(23)00011-3. PMID: [36788046](#)

In this sample of 100 racial/ethnic minority youth enrolled in an ongoing study, “depressive symptoms were elevated during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to pre-pandemic levels, and increases were more pronounced over time for those who endorsed exposure to COVID-19-era-related racism. In general, Asian American participants endorsed racism experiences at the highest rates compared to others, including being called names (42%), people acting suspicious around them (33%), and being verbally threatened (17%). Additionally, more than half of Black and Asian American participants reported worry about experiencing racism related to the COVID-19 pandemic, even if they had not experienced it to date.”

Simons RL, Ong ML, Beach SRH, et al.

Direct and Indirect Effects of Socioeconomic Status and Discrimination on Subjective Cognitive Decline: A Longitudinal Study of African American Women.

J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci. 2023 Feb 22:gbad029. PMID: [36810805](#)

In this study of 293 African American Women, socioeconomic status and discrimination both directly affected cognitive decline. These factors also influenced depression and accelerated biological aging leading to chronic illness, both of which in turn were also associated with cognitive decline.

Miller CA, Wilkins CL, de Paula Couto C, Farias J, Lisnek JA.

Anti-Black attitudes predict decreased concern about COVID-19 among Whites in the U.S. and Brazil.

Soc Sci Med. 2023;320:115712. PMID: [36753995](#)

“In five studies conducted in two countries (US and Brazil, total N = 3425), we found that anti-Black attitudes (above and beyond political orientation, White racial identification, and perceptions of racial disparities) were associated with less concern about COVID-19, lower adoption of health and social distancing behaviors, and greater interest in returning to normalcy.”

Parmar DD, Minnis AM, Caballero E, et al.

Latina mothers' perspectives on adverse experiences and protection of Latinx youth in an agricultural community.

BMC Public Health. 2023;23(1):223. PMID: [36732714](#)

20 Latina mothers of Salinas teens, “shared the impacts of immigrant-related experiences on systemic inequities in the United States which are currently missing from the ACEs framework...The most cited community-level ACEs were housing instability and community violence. Immigrant-related adversities included experiences of systemic racism with loss of resources, political instability limiting structural resources, and language-limited accessibility. These were exacerbated by the loss of family supports due to immigration-related family-child separation including deportations and staggered parent-child migration...mothers discussed their strategies for building family unity, instilling resilience in their children, and improving socioeconomic opportunities for their family.”

Perpetrators

Jimenez-Arista LE, Reid DB.

Realization, Self-View, and Disclosure of Pedophilia: A Content Analysis of Online Posts.

Sex Abuse. 2023;35(2):214-40. PMID: [35503894](#)

“We conducted a qualitative content analysis of online posts from self-identified individuals with pedophilia, finding four categories: (1) Awareness and Initial Self-View (with emotions including denial, shame, and fear), (2) Disclosure (typically made to family, friends, or therapists, but also done online in an anonymous way), (3) People's Reactions to Disclosure (ranging from rejection to support), and (4) Current Self-View (including minimization, distortions, despair, resignation, and non-offending/anti-contact commitment). Our findings highlight the internal process experienced by individuals with pedophilia when first recognizing their attraction to minors, what is involved in disclosure, the importance of others' reactions after disclosure, and the factors that can reinforce a non-offending commitment. Clinical and social implications are discussed.”

Kim A, Beauregard E, Chopin J.

Strangulation in sexual homicide: Is it opportunity, victim's vulnerability or sadism?

J Forensic Leg Med. 2023;94:102488. PMID: [36731365](#)

“Although most homicides involve the use of a weapon...Personal weapons, such as strangulation, asphyxiation, and beating, are the most commonly used killing methods in sexual homicide.” Authors discuss possible hypotheses for this preference.

Lansdell GT, Saunders BJ, Eriksson A, Bunn R.

Strengthening the Connection Between Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and Family Violence: The Importance of Ongoing Monitoring, Research and Inclusive Terminology.

J Fam Violence. 2022;37(2):367-380. PMID: [33994661](#)

Authors interviewed stakeholders as well as individuals with acquired brain injury (ABI) seen in an Australian justice system. “ABI and FV [family violence] often co-occur with substance abuse, mental health problems, socio-economic and many other significant disadvantages, and for some FV perpetrators with an ABI, their ABI symptoms and characteristic co-morbidities may be a mitigating factor in their offending...the impact of FV on too many of our participants with an ABI compels us to call for further related research and secondary prevention programs targeted at FV victims, and offenders, living with ABI.”

Police and Court Systems

Nash C, Dioso-Villa R.

Australia's Divergent Legal Responses to Women Who Kill Their Abusive Partners.

Violence Against Women. 2023;10778012231156154. PMID: [36794459](#)

“This article examines how abused women are currently treated within the Australian legal system by analyzing homicide cases involving women prosecuted for killing an abusive partner in Australia from 2010 to 2020...there needs to be an increased focus toward pre-trial stages of criminal proceedings and to address persistent misconceptions and stereotypes associated with domestic abuse.”

Providers

Kyle J.

Intimate Partner Violence.

Med Clin North Am. 2023;107(2):385-95. PMID: [36759104](#)

General review article. “IPV encompasses a wide range of negative behaviors towards a person's romantic partner which include physical aggression, sexual violence, stalking, psychological torment, and coercive behaviors. Persons who experience IPV face a wide range of debilitating physical, mental health, and financial outcomes compared to those who have never experienced violence. Providers can serve as an important access point for education, resources, and support for persons experiencing violence.”

- Confidentiality is essential to IPV discussions with patients; practitioners must be aware and disclose confidentiality limits when discussing violence.
- Educating all patients about violence and its impacts assists patients in recognizing violence and that it is undeserved.
- Support and empathy while recognizing a patient's autonomy is key in caring for patients who experience violence.
- Approaching all patients with “universal precautions” when it comes to potential trauma can help to create a caring environment welcoming to all persons.

Heikel AR, Rankin JA, Then KL.

Intimate partner violence: A practice development issue for orthopaedic nurses.

Int J Orthop Trauma Nurs. 2023;48:100998. PMID: [36805315](#)

“The purpose of this article is to raise awareness of IPV in the orthopaedic patient population and to provide a review on IPV for orthopaedic nurses...Facilitators and barriers to addressing IPV are discussed...The authors discuss unit policies, guidelines, and resources to address IPV.”

Schecter A.

How Should We Respond When Clinicians' Calls to CPS Are Punitively Weaponized Against Families?

AMA journal of ethics. 2023;25(2):E159-65. PMID: [36754080](#)

“This narrative illuminates the need for students and clinicians to be well prepared to face ethically and structurally complex realities of identifying and responding to children who might have been abused. The commentary considers how to draw on equity as an ethical value when communicating with children's family members in clinical settings.”

Hornor G.

Nonoffending Caregiver Support After Child Sexual Abuse: Essentials for the Forensic Nurse.

J Forensic Nurs. 2023;19(1):60-6. PMID: [36812374](#)

“A disclosure of CSA [childhood sexual abuse] affects not only the child but also everyone close to the child. Nonoffending caregiver support after a disclosure of CSA is key to optimal victim functioning. Forensic nurses play an integral role in the care of CSA victims and are uniquely positioned to ensure best outcomes for both child victims and their nonoffending caregivers.”

Rouse A, Jenkinson E, Warner C.

The use of "art" as a resource in recovery from the impact of sexual abuse in childhood: A qualitative systematic review.

Arts Health. 2023;15(1):86-109. PMID: [35220874](#)

“Creative activities can play a significant role in the unique paths to recovery that sexual abuse survivors develop...Arts-based activities were identified as offering a safe space in which to find a voice, to engage in self-exploration, and to communicate experience and connect with others where a new sense of self and empowerment could emerge.”

Nan J, Salina N, Chong ST, Jiang HJ.

Trajectory of suicidal ideation among medical students during the COVID-19 pandemic: the role of childhood trauma.

BMC Psychiatry. 2023;23(1):90. PMID: [36747156](#)

Of 2192 Chinese medical students who were assessed during the pandemic, level of suicidal ideation could be placed into two groups – a low level, slowly rising group, and a constant, higher risk level group. Childhood emotional neglect, physical neglect, emotional abuse, and physical abuse all had significant positive predictive effects for the high risk, continuous group.

Prevention

Joshi DS, West AL, Duggan AK, Minkovitz CS.
Referrals to Home Visiting: Current Practice and Unrealized Opportunities.

Matern Child Health J. 2023 Mar;27(3):407-412. PMID: [36737527](#)

“Evidence supports ongoing investment in maternal and early childhood home visiting in the US. Yet, a small fraction of eligible families accesses these services, and little is known about how families are referred.” From a survey of stakeholders, “Programs prioritized enrollment of pregnant women; parents with mental health, substance abuse or intimate partner violence concerns; teen parents; and children with developmental delays or child welfare involvement. Most respondents reported capacity to enroll more families in their programs. Few reported receiving any referrals from pediatric providers, child welfare, early care and education, or TANF/other social services.”

Pugh SJ, Murray C, Groenewald CB.
Positive Childhood Experiences and Chronic Pain Among Children and Adolescents in the United States.

J Pain. 2023 Feb 10;S1526-5900(23)00034-2. PMID: [36775002](#)

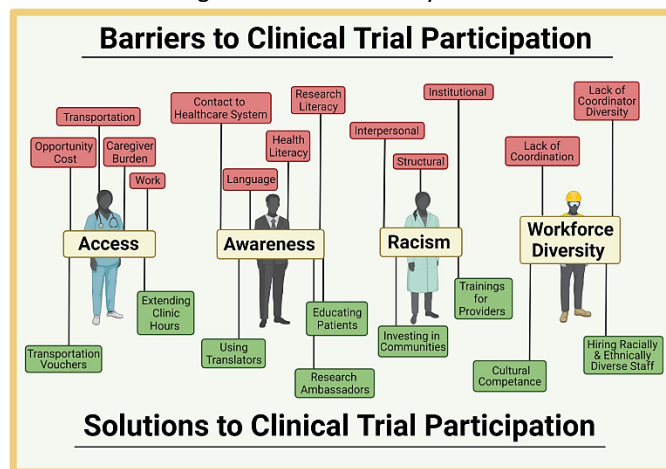
“Parents of 47,514 children ages 6 to 17 years old reported on their child's exposure to 7 PCEs [positive childhood experiences] and 9 ACEs. Associations between PCEs and chronic pain were evaluated...[and] adjusted for sociodemographic factors. We found that PCEs had dose-dependent associations with pediatric chronic pain; children exposed to higher numbers of PCEs (5-7 PCEs) had the lowest reported rate of chronic pain (7.1%), while children exposed to 2 or fewer PCEs had the highest rate of chronic pain (14.7%).” PCEs included 1) the child volunteering in the community; 2) child participating in after-school activities; 3) child having an adult mentor, other than their parent/caregiver; 4) child being a member of a resilient family; 5) child feels connected with their family; 6) child lives in a supportive neighborhood; and 7) child lives in a safe neighborhood.

Researchers

Reopell L, Nolan TS, Gray DM, 2nd, et al.
Community engagement and clinical trial diversity: Navigating barriers and co-designing solutions-A report from the "Health Equity through Diversity" seminar series.
PLoS One. 2023;18(2):e0281940. PMID: [36795792](#)

“Despite racial and ethnic minority groups making up nearly half of the US population,

underrepresentation in clinical trials remains a critical challenge. The community engaged co-developed solutions detailed in this report to address access, awareness, discrimination and racism, and workforce diversity are critical to advancing clinical trial diversity.”



Popay J, Chekar CK, Griffiths A, et al.
Strengthening the equity focus of applied public health research: introducing the FOR EQUITY platform.

Public Health. 2023;215:12-6. PMID: [36608600](#)

Focus On Research and Equity (FOR EQUITY) is a new Web-based platform aiming to strengthen the intersectional equity focus of applied health research...FOR EQUITY encompasses (1) a Health Inequalities Assessment Tool, with an intersectional perspective on inequalities; (2) a FOR EQUITY Guidance Inventory providing access to a range of international research toolkits and guidance; and (3) a FOR EQUITY Library including case studies illustrating how researchers have attempted to integrate an equity lens into the research process, and more general resources on health inequalities.” <https://forequity.uk/>

Ravi KE, Cronley C, Lawler A, Held ML.
Presenting Methodological Resilience for Conducting Research with Vulnerable Populations During Current and Future Pandemics: A Case Study with IPV Shelters and Survivors in the United States.

J Fam Violence. 2023:1-8. PMID: [36743688](#)

“In this brief report, we highlight the challenges that we experienced while attempting to conduct primary data collection with intimate partner violence (IPV) survivors living in an IPV emergency shelter throughout the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic and our strategies to overcome them.”

Varese F, White C, Longden E, et al.

Top 10 priorities for Sexual Violence and Abuse Research: Findings of the James Lind Alliance Sexual Violence Priority Setting Partnership.

BMJ Open. 2023;13(2):e062961. PMID: [36806139](#)

223 British abuse survivors and stakeholders “identified research priorities relevant to the health and social care needs of adults with lived experience of recent and/or historical sexual violence/abuse...These included research into forms of support and recovery outcomes valued by survivors, how to best support people of colour/black, Asian and minority ethnic and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) survivors, improving access to high-quality psychological therapies, reducing public misconceptions/stigma, the impact of involvement in the criminal justice system on well-being, and how physical and mental health services can become more 'trauma informed'.”

Other of Interest

Khurana B, Prakash J, Loder RT.

Holiday effect on injuries sustained by assault victims seen in US emergency departments.

Emerg Radiol. 2023 Apr;30(2):133-142. PMID: [36443620](#)

“We examined data from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System Database between 2005 and 2017 for six categories of assault-related injuries: altercation, sexual assault, robbery, intimate partner violence (IPV), other specified, and unknown...The difference between the daily number of assault-related ED visits was significantly higher during the holiday period than baseline non-holiday period. Altercations and IPV were significantly higher than baseline for New Year's Eve (highest), St. Patrick's Day, July 4th, and Labor Day. IPV also remained significantly higher than baseline during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Sexual assaults were significantly higher than baseline during the New Year's Eve period but lower than baseline during Christmas and Easter...The resource and time demands of this influx are also when important resource limitations occur; these time periods are associated with vacation and holiday breaks for health-care professionals and are traditionally under-staffed. This creates a perfect storm, as those days having fewer available healthcare professional resources are also associated with increased numbers of assault-related injuries. We thus strongly recommend using ED-based forecasting

approaches such as time series analysis to anticipate strain on healthcare systems and inform resource planning.”

Schellenberg M, Walters A.

The uprise of gun violence in the United States: consequences of a dual pandemic.

Curr Opin Anaesthesiol. 2023;36(2):132-6. PMID: [36421076](#)

“Dual pandemics have mutually contributed to a worsening in many social determinants of health and thereby have had a particularly dramatic impact on many of our most vulnerable patients, including patients of minority races and ethnicities, in terms of interpersonal violence. Firearm injuries are at their highest rate in decades. The challenges in the trauma care of these patients have been compounded by staffing and resource shortages related to the COVID-19 pandemic and attrition of medical workers related to burnout...A broad approach to improving social determinants of health should be pursued in order to decrease the risk of gun violence from the recent near-historical high levels.”

Schönenberg KH, Glaesmer H, Nesterko Y.

[Assessment of the Individual Experience of Sexual Violence in War and Forced Displacement and its Consequences Among Male Victims: A Narrative Literature Review].

Article in German

Psychotherapie, Psychosomatik, medizinische Psychologie. 2023;73(2):53-61. PMID: [35793671](#)

“From a psychological perspective, male survivors of sexual violence in the context of war and forced displacement represent a highly burdened population. An adequate assessment of traumatic events and trauma related disorders is often hampered by both disclosure barriers from the patient side as well as by lack of awareness on the part of healthcare professionals regarding male victimization...[there are] eight dimensions of individual experience of violence (form of violence, frequency and severity, perpetrator-victim context, societal discrimination, subjective evaluation, concept of masculinity, culture-specific norms, and trauma sequelae)...there is a need for sensitivity on the part of practitioners to the signs of male victimization and regular assessment of sexualized violence in male patients. In this context, certainty about the confidentiality of the information disclosed and recognition of the injustice are of central importance for those affected. In the long term, the development of specialized support services for male victims is needed.”