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Child Abuse

Price JH, Khubchandani J.

Childhood Suicide Trends in the United States, 2010-2019.

J Community Health. 2022 Apr;47(2):232-236. PMID:

[34668128](#)

From CDC data 2010-2019 for US children 12 years of age and younger, "Child suicides statistically significantly increased for black (95%), white (158%), male (95%), and female (300%) children during the decade." Methods children used to commit suicide did not significantly differ by race or gender, with the leading method strangulation/suffocation (67%-85%), and the second most common by the use of a firearm (11%-30%). "Northeastern states had the fewest child suicides during the decade and Texas and California had the most child suicides."

Price JH, Khubchandani J.

Hispanic Child Suicides in the United States, 2010-2019.

J Community Health. 2022 Apr;47(2):311-315. PMID:

[34997530](#)

Using national data 2010-2019 for Hispanic children younger than 12 years of age, suicide is the 7th leading cause of death for Hispanic children, and significantly increased during the decade from 2010 to 2019 by 92.3%. "Suicide deaths were primarily in boys (59.6%) and among those 10-12 years of age (94.9%). Hispanic child suicides were most common in the West and South and least common in the Northeastern US. The method used to commit suicide was overwhelmingly (76-85%) hanging/strangulation/suffocation."

Offerman ECP, Asselman MW, Bolling F, et. al.

Prevalence of Adverse Childhood Experiences in Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders in Special Education Schools from a Multi-Informant Perspective.

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2022 Mar 14;19(6):3411.

PMID: [35329097](#)

Of 169 Dutch students mean age 11.58 years, 85.1% boys, from 5 schools for children with emotional and behavioral disorders, 96.4% self-reported 1 ACE

(89.5% parent reports, 95.4% school files), and 74.5% 4+ACEs (62.7% parents, 59.9% school files). 45.9% of the students experienced their first ACE before the age of 4.

Birkeland MS, Skar AS, Jensen TK.

Understanding the relationships between trauma type and individual posttraumatic stress symptoms.

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2022 Mar 18. PMID: [35304778](#)

Of 4,921 children and adolescents referred to mental health services, "Sexual trauma, domestic violence and severe bullying or threats were associated with higher levels of PTSS [post-traumatic stress symptoms]...Across all trauma types, reactivity to trauma reminders, avoidance, and difficulties with sleeping and concentrating were the most frequent symptoms."

Katz C, Tener D.

"It burns her more than it burns for me": The sibling subsystem in the context of child physical abuse as portrayed by children during forensic interviews.

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Oct;120:105251. PMID: [34392024](#)

From 60 forensic interviews with children aged 4 to 14 who referred to at least one sibling in the context of the abuse they experienced, "The main theme identified was physical abuse as a familial routine. This abusive routine was sometimes perceived as normal and sometimes traumatic, with descriptions of fear and physical pain...the children often captured the sibling subsystem as a source of security, comfort and protection...Within a few narratives, a split between the siblings was identified, which appeared to be a strategy of self-protection by going against their siblings...[showing] the centrality of the sibling subsystem in the experiences and consequences of child abuse."

Gewehr E, Hensel B, Volbert R.

Predicting disclosure latency in substantiated cases of child sexual abuse.

Child Abuse Negl. 2021 Dec;122:105346. PMID: [34627040](#)

From a review of 124 substantiated cases of childhood sexual abuse, delay in disclosure was related to younger child age and intrafamilial (including stepparents) vs. extrafamilial perpetrator relationship, but not child's gender, severity of abuse, or offender's usage of violent or nonphysical strategies to prevent disclosure.

Miller M, Ayoub D.

Metabolic Bone Disease of Infancy in the offspring of mothers with bariatric surgery: A series of 5 infants in contested cases of child abuse.

Clin Nutr ESPEN. 2022 Apr;48:227-233. PMID: [35331496](#)

Case report series of 5 infants with Metabolic Bone Disease of Infancy with poor bone mineralization and multiple unexplained fractures, being investigated for child abuse, and born to women who had prior bariatric surgery (stomach surgery for weight loss). Authors note that bariatric surgery is a known risk for nutritional deficiencies, and believe this puts subsequent infants born to these mothers at risk for bone fragility.

Test Matsuki T, Ebara T, Tamada H, et. al.

Repeated maternal non-responsiveness to baby's crying during postpartum and infant neuropsychological development: The Japan environment and children's study.

Child Abuse Negl. 2022 Mar 5;127:105581. PMID: [35259689](#)

From a large national Japanese study of mother-infant pairs, babies of mothers who reported "sometimes or more" "ignoring the crying baby" from six months to three years reported significant associations with developmental delay in communication, gross motor skills, fine motor skills, problem-solving, and personal-social domains. "Repeated maternal non-responsiveness to baby's crying during postpartum may suppress neuropsychological development during early childhood."

Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Cay M, Gonzalez-Heydrich J, Teicher MH, et. al.

Childhood maltreatment and its role in the development of pain and psychopathology.

Lancet Child Adolesc Health. 2022 Mar;6(3):195-206. PMID: [35093193](#)

"In this Review, we propose a biobehavioural framework in which childhood maltreatment and the associated aberrant neurobiological mechanisms and behavioural processes additionally lead to the onset of altered pain processing and, ultimately, the existence of pain syndromes... We have proposed that experiencing childhood maltreatment is a root cause of both psychiatric and pain-related symptoms...Several clinical instruments and research methods can be used to better understand pain or pain phenotypes in individuals who have experienced childhood maltreatment."

Panel 1: Pain and psychiatric symptoms

Somatosensory and pain symptoms

- Hypoalgesia (lack of response to painful stimuli)
- Hyperalgesia (heightened response to painful stimuli)
- Allodynia (painful response to non-painful stimuli)
- Pain amplification (excessive sensitivity to chronic or acute pain, or both)
- Central sensitisation (heightened response in the CNS to painful or non-painful stimuli)
- Functional somatic syndrome (one or more chronic symptoms with no known bodily cause)
- Nociceptive pain (pain arising from altered nociception without evidence of objective peripheral tissue damage or lesions with the somatosensory system)

Loss of function symptoms

- Anhedonia (lack of pleasure)
- Alexithymia (lack of ability to identify one's emotions)
- Avolition (lack of motivation)
- Apathy (lack of interest)
- Alogia (lack of speech)
- Asociality (lack of interest in social interactions)
- Dissociation (disconnection from one's thoughts, identity, or sensory experiences)
- Numbing (lack of emotions)

	Age group	Information gathered
General measures for pain		
Pediatric Pain Screening Tool	8-18 years	9-item child report of pain experience
Pain Frequency-Severity-Duration Scale	8-18 years	7-item self-report of pain amplification state over 2 weeks
Brief Pain Inventory	≥13 years	32-item self-report of the location, intensity, quality, and relief from chronic or acute pain in the past week
McGill Pain Questionnaire	≥12 years	15-item self-report of sensory and emotional components of pain
Affective and behavioural pain		
Pain Catastrophizing Scale	8-18 years	13-item child and parent report of threat or helplessness in the presence of pain
Fear of Pain Questionnaire	8-17 years	30-item child and parent report of avoidance and fear of pain
PROMIS Pain Quality—Affective	5-17 years	8-item child report to describe affective pain
PROMIS Pain Behavior	5-17 years	8-item child report of behavioural response to pain
Sensory Pain		
PROMIS Pain Quality—Sensory	5-17 years	8-item child report to describe sensory pain
Children's Somatization Inventory	8-18 years	24-item child and parent report of somatic symptoms over 2 weeks
Central Sensitization Inventory	≥10 years	25-item self-report of multisensory sensitisation
PainDETECT	≥10 years	16-item self-report to detect presence of neuropathic pain
Illness-specific measures		
PedMIDAS	5-18 years	6-item child report of headache severity and frequency
MIDAS	≥18 years	5-item self-report of headache severity and frequency
Headache Impact Test-6	≥6 years	6-item self-report of headache interference with work, school, home, and social functioning
Questionnaire on Pediatric Gastrointestinal Syndromes	4-18 years	83-item parent report and 69-item child report of gastrointestinal symptoms
PROMIS—GI symptom scale	≥18 years	102-item self-report of gastrointestinal symptoms within 8 domains
Modified Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire for Children	10-20 years	19-item self-report of fibromyalgia symptoms over 1 week
Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire	≥18 years	21-item self-report of fibromyalgia symptoms over 1 week
Research approach		
Cyberball game	≥7 years	Measurement of socioemotional pain
emBODY tool	≥6 years	Measurement of bodily awareness for 14 different emotions
Quantitative Sensory Testing	≥7 years	Behavioural pain testing to measure presence of allodynia, hypoalgesia, and hyperalgesia

pedMIDAS- Pediatric Migraine Disability Assessment. PROMIS-Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System. GI-gastrointestinal.

Table: Overview of clinical tools and research approaches with a focus on measures informing on sensory and pain symptoms in paediatric and adult

Nelles-McGee T, Khoury J, Kenny M, Joshi D, Gonzalez A.

Biological embedding of child maltreatment: A systematic review of biomarkers and resilience in children and youth.

Psychol Trauma. 2022 Apr;14(S1):S50-S62. PMID: [34881944](#)

Summary of the state of research on the effects of child maltreatment on telomere length (a measure of cell aging) and DNA methylation (a measure of the effects of environment on DNA), and the importance of resilience factors in mitigating risk.

Banihashemi L, Peng CW, Verstyne T, et. al.
Opposing relationships of childhood threat and deprivation with stria terminalis white matter.
 Hum Brain Mapp. 2021 Jun 1;42(8):2445-2460. PMID: [33739544](#)

For 100 young adults with a full distribution of maltreatment history and mood symptom severity, threat (measured by childhood abuse and traumatic experiences), and deprivation (measured by childhood socioeconomic status) each created measurable and opposing influences on the structural integrity of certain brain “white matter” fibrous tracts responsible for communication between brain areas, “providing new evidence that the context of childhood adversity may have an important influence on its neurobiological effects, even on the same structure.”

Jasthi DL, Nagle-Yang S, Frank S, Masotya M, Huth-Bocks A.
Associations Between Adverse Childhood Experiences and Prenatal Mental Health and Substance Use Among Urban, Low-Income Women.
 Community Ment Health J. 2022 Apr;58(3):595-605. PMID: [34184153](#)

Of 98 low-income pregnant women with mean age 25.4 years referred for mental health care, and controlling for marital status, education, and age, “Findings indicate high levels of childhood adversity, specifically childhood abuse, are associated with negative perinatal mental health and substance use outcomes, including suicidal thoughts, anxiety, mood dysregulation, and tobacco and marijuana use. Inquiring about ACEs during prenatal care may help identify patients' overall risk and provide opportunities for intervention.”

Salokangas RKR.
Emotional neglect in childhood is common and associates with adult mental ill health.
 Nord J Psychiatry. 2022 Mar 23;1. PMID: [35318883](#)

In this survey of Finnish individuals from the general population, primary care clinics, and psychiatric outpatient clinics, the most frequently cited childhood adverse experience for all groups was emotional neglect. In the general population emotional neglect was associated with “people had a negative attitude towards them”, and in the medical and psychiatric populations emotional neglect had negative effects on depression, anxiety, and substance use.

Nichter B, Tsai J, Pietrzak RH.
Prevalence, correlates, and mental health burden associated with homelessness in U.S. military veterans.
 Psychol Med. 2022 Mar 18;1-11. PMID: [35301973](#)

“Homelessness is a major public health problem among U.S. military veterans.” From a 2019-2020 survey of 4069 veterans, one in ten U.S. veterans has experienced homelessness, with more than 80% reported their first episode of homelessness following military service a mean of 10.6 years post-discharge. Veterans with a history of homelessness had elevated odds of lifetime suicide attempts, PTSD, major depression, generalized anxiety, and drug use disorders. “ACEs were the strongest factor associated with homelessness, thus underscoring the importance of targeting early childhood adversities and their mental health consequences in prevention efforts for homelessness in this population.”

Adolescents

Fialkowski A, Shaffer K, Ball-Burack M, et. al.
Trauma-Informed Care for Hospitalized Adolescents.
 Curr Pediatr Rep. 2022 Mar 7:1-10. PMID: [35280451](#)

Using case examples, “In the setting of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a marked increase in adolescent presentations and admissions to hospitals for mental health crises. This pandemic has also exacerbated long-existing disparities in healthcare based on race, socioeconomic status, and sexual and gender orientation...Regardless of explicitly known ACEs or traumatic instances, approaching patients and families with a TIC lens can improve patient experiences and outcomes.”

	Piaget's Cognitive Stages ⁶²	Erickson's Psychosocial Stages ⁶³	Relationship with Caregiver ⁶⁴	Pertinent Trauma Symptoms ^{65*}	Trauma-Informed Responses ⁶⁶
Adolescence	Concrete Operational (7-11 yo) - Can think logically about objects and events	Task: Industry vs. Inferiority (5-13 yo) Associated virtue: Competency "How can I be good?"	Begins a period of separation and detachment from caregiver Adolescents begin to ask for more autonomy and independence	Worries/fears of specific situations Change in continence (ex. new bedwetting) Over/under reliance on caregiver Nightmares or sleep problems Perfectionism	Hold conversations about diagnosis and treatment as a group with medical team, adolescent, and their chosen caregiver(s). Encourage adolescent-driven supported decision making when choices available. Promote psychological safety by reassuring adolescents that they are not being assessed as "right" or "wrong". Communicate directly with adolescent rather than through a caregiver. Engage adolescents in making plans and setting goals.
	Formal Operational (11+ yo) - Can think logically about abstract propositions - Can test hypotheses systematically - Becomes concerned about the hypothetical, future, and ideological problems	Task: Identity vs. Role Confusion (13-19 yo) Associated virtue: Fidelity "How can I fit into the adult world?"	Parents/caregivers often begin to relax control Adolescents strive for a satisfying relationship with caregivers and increased connectedness	Risk taking in excess of peers Self-destructive behaviors Academic performance changes Difficulty maintaining friendships Change in eating habits Abrupt change in interests/activities Conflict/difficulty in romantic relationships	Inquire about important peer relationships and how adolescents would like them involved; consider how they can provide support in person or virtually. Assist adolescents in communicating with school, work, and/or family as desired. Plan for safe discharges when adolescents have less caregiver support.
	Late (17-20 yo)	Task: Intimacy vs. Isolation (19-35 yo) Associated virtue: Love "How can I love?"	Often considered a "recovery process" after earlier struggles for autonomy	Unexplained chronic pain Legal system involvement High risk sexual activity	

Ojeda M, Del Rey R.
Lines of Action for Sexting Prevention and Intervention.
 Arch Sex Behav. 2022 Apr;51(3):1659-1687. PMID: [34791584](#)

This thorough review examines different aspects and impacts of sexting as well as prevention and intervention options for school, home and the community.

Walsh WA, Tener D.

"If you don't send me five other pictures I am going to post the photo online": A qualitative analysis of experiences of survivors of sextortion.

J Child Sex Abus. 2022 Apr 21:1-19. PMID: [35445638](#)

"We conducted in-depth telephone interviews with 48 adults aged 18 to 25 who had been targets of sextortion. Nearly half of participants were minors at the time of the sextortion incident...There was a wide range of emotional connections, from brief connections to close intimate relationships or strong friendships. Some threats remained unfulfilled, while other were carried out. Some threats were one-time and some lasted for years. Societal responses were central in participants' narratives...Many expressed thankfulness for the opportunity to tell their story during the interviews. For the majority of participants sextortion was perceived as a central event in their lives, one that changed them forever. Listening to the voices of survivors helps professionals understand these harmful situations."

Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Ragavan MI, Skinner CM, Killough EF, et. al.

Child protective services reports in the context of intimate partner violence: A Delphi process examining best practices.

Acad Pediatr. 2022 Mar 5:S1876-2859(22)00088-2. PMID: [35259548](#)

Using multiple survey rounds for 23 experts in IPV and child maltreatment, "Consensus was not achieved for children directly witnessing IPV or experiencing health symptoms due to IPV exposure. Participants were in consensus regarding need for CPS reporting when CAN [child abuse/neglect] was present and that reporting should not occur for exposure to IPV only. Best practices included supporting IPV survivors, developing healthcare-based IPV advocacy programs, and optimizing the child welfare system...This study provides expert-driven recommendations for filing CPS reports in the context of IPV and highlights the inherent complexity of filing and the need for further guidelines."

Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Gilbert LK, Zhang X, Basile KC, Breiding M, Kresnow MJ.
Intimate Partner Violence and Health Conditions Among U.S. Adults-National Intimate Partner Violence Survey, 2010-2012.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Mar 25:8862605221080147. PMID: [35337195](#)

From a US national random digit telephone survey 2010-2012, "Any IPV was associated with all health conditions for both sexes with a few exceptions for males. Female penetrative sexual victimization and male stalking victimization were associated with the most health conditions. For each health condition, a significant linear trend indicated that as the number of forms of IPV experienced increased, prevalence of each health condition increased, with a few exceptions for males." Multiple health conditions were surveyed, including asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, chronic pain, disability, and mental health.

Thurston RC, Chang Y, Matthews KA, et. al.

Interpersonal Trauma and Risk of Incident Cardiovascular Disease Events Among Women.

J Am Heart Assoc. 2022 Mar 24:e024724. PMID: [35322675](#)

Of 2201 women aged 42-52 years at baseline and followed for over 22 years, "Childhood abuse, particularly sexual abuse, was associated with increased risk of CVD in women. IPV was associated with risk for CVD, with the higher systolic blood pressure among IPV-exposed women important in these associations. Interpersonal violence prevention may contribute to CVD risk reduction in women."

Case SM, Feldman CH, Guan H, et. al.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Risk of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) among Medicaid Recipients.

Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2021 Jul 26:10.1002/acr.24758. PMID: [34309239](#)

"In this large, racially and sociodemographic diverse US population study, we found that patients with prior PTSD diagnosis had twice the odds of a subsequent diagnosis of SLE [lupus]."

Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Showalter K, Maguire-Jack K, McCloskey R.
Mothers' Resilience: Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence Survivors at Work.

Children (Basel). 2022 Mar 8;9(3):373. PMID: [35327745](#)
 From interviews with 18 working mothers who had experienced IPV, "abusive partners disrupted their work through compromising or withholding childcare, manipulating them through children, and jeopardizing child safety during work hours. However, mothers showed resilience when coworkers extend housing, childcare, and genuine concern for their situations. Implications for researchers, practitioners, and employers of survivors are discussed."

Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Liu PJ, Hass Z, Stratton SK, Conrad KM, Conrad KJ.
Examining Adult Protective Services Outcomes: Services Associated with the Decrease of Mistreatment Differed by Elder Mistreatment Type.

Gerontologist. 2022 Mar 22;gnac040. PMID: [35323945](#)
 Using data from 6 months of elder abuse investigation and subsequent case closure after services were provided in the San Francisco Bay area, "on average, level of mistreatment decreased across mistreatment types after APS intervention. Care/case management services were associated with physical and emotional abuse reduction, legal services further correlated with emotional abuse reduction; financial planning services were associated with financial abuse reduction; care/case management and other services were associated with neglect reduction."

Sexual Abuse

Spungen HH, Bryan KM, Sachs CJ, Wheeler MJ.
Symptoms and Physical Exam Findings in Sexual Assault-related Non-fatal Strangulation.

West J Emerg Med. 2022 Feb 8;23(2):268-275. PMID: [35302463](#)
 In this retrospective study of 580 subjects seen for a forensic sexual assault examination who also reported strangulation during the sexual assault, 99% were female with a median age of 27 years. Only 57.2% had visible neck injuries, and 19.1% had

no physical injuries seen. 29.8% reported a loss of consciousness.

Brokke SS, Bertelsen TB, Landrø NI, Haaland VØ.
The effect of sexual abuse and dissociation on suicide attempt.

BMC Psychiatry. 2022 Jan 10;22(1):29. PMID: [35012509](#)
 Of 97 Norwegian acute psychiatric patients with suicidal ideation, of whom 32 had experienced [lifetime] sexual abuse, "Patients who had experienced sexual abuse reported higher levels of dissociation and were younger at onset of suicidal thoughts, more likely to self-harm, and more likely to have attempted suicide; and they had made more suicide attempts." Dissociative experiences were significantly related to increasing number of suicide attempts, especially more than 4 attempts.

Human Trafficking

Klein LB, Chesworth BR, Rizo CF, et. al.
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Indicators and Recommended Inquiries and Responses for Social Workers.

Soc Work. 2021 Jul 21;66(3):265-268. PMID: [34151371](#)
 "It is critical that SSWs learn to recognize warning signs that youths are experiencing commercial sexual exploitation, ask appropriate follow-up questions, approach youths in a trauma-informed way, and provide immediate response and connection to resources."

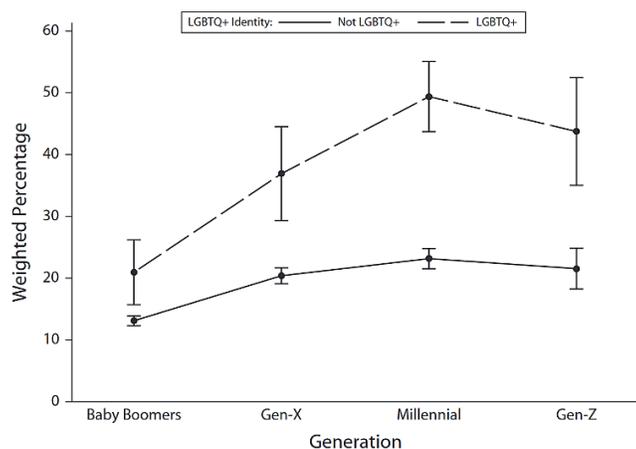
Area	Possible Questions to Ask
CSEC and other abuses	Have you ever exchanged sex for food, money, shelter, or drugs? Did you ever do anything that made you feel unsafe or in danger? Have you ever been forced to perform sex acts? Has anyone ever asked you to have sex with another person? Have you ever taken your clothes off for a photograph or an audience? Has someone made money off you doing these things?
Home	Where were you staying last night? Where do you stay or sleep? Do you sleep in a bed, on a cot, or on a floor? Are you living with anyone? If so, who are you living with and what is your relationship to them? Do you move often? Have you ever run away from home? What are your living conditions like? Are there locks on the doors and windows where you stay? Are you afraid to leave?
Relationships	Are you dating anyone? If so, how old are they? Where do they go to school? Does the person you are dating go by other names? Are you allowed to talk to people outside your home or job? Does someone supervise, control, or monitor your actions?
Money and work	Do you have a job? Are you paid for your work? What are some things you bought for yourself over the past month? Do you owe anyone money? Are you in charge of your own money? Has anyone lied to you about the type of work you would be doing at your job? Are/were you able to walk away when you wanted?
School	What is your school attendance like? How are you doing in school? I noticed you were sleepy/asleep in class yesterday. Were you up late?
Identification documentation	What are names you used prior to the one you are using now? Who has your identification papers? Has anyone threatened you with deportation if you tried to leave your job?

LGBTQ Concerns

Hughes PM, Ostrout TL, Pèrez Jolles M, Thomas KC.
Adverse Childhood Experiences Across Birth Generation and LGBTQ+ Identity, 2019.

Am J Public Health. 2022 Apr;112(4):662-670. PMID: [35319940](#)

The odds of experiencing 4+ ACEs were higher for Generation X (odds ratio 1.67), millennials (OR 2.12), and Generation Z (2.12) than for baby boomers. "This disparity was amplified by LGBTQ+ identity." (Graph shows weighted percentage of those with 4+ ACEs.)



Sullivan A, Kane A, Valentic G, Rensel M.
Recommendations to Address the Unique Clinical and Psychological Needs of Transgender Persons Living With Multiple Sclerosis.

Int J MS Care. 2022 Jan-Feb;24(1):35-40. PMID: [35261570](#)

"People living with multiple sclerosis (MS) face challenges coping with chronic illnesses, and transgender (TGD) persons living with MS may experience additional unique challenges and barriers to care...The importance of providing an inclusive environment, comprehensive care, mental health screening, domestic violence screening, and case coordination are highlighted with the goal of providing best practice recommendations." (These principles can be applied to all chronic illnesses.)

Friedman Burley J, Du Mont J, Reid A, Macdonald S.
Promoting Awareness to Counter Damaging Attitudes, Beliefs, and Reactions Related to Sexual Assault Against Trans People: A Social Media Campaign.

Health Promot Pract. 2022 Mar 18:15248399221074981. PMID: [35301901](#)

Description of an awareness campaign with 7 posters on twitter to promote advocacy toward addressing barriers to services for trans sexual assault survivors.

Race/Cultural Concerns

Thomeer MB, Moody MD, Yahirun J.
Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mental Health and Mental Health Care During The COVID-19 Pandemic.

J Racial Ethn Health Disparities. 2022 Mar 22:1-16. PMID: [35318615](#)

"During the pandemic, the overall mental health of the US population declined...higher rates of COVID-19 infections and deaths experienced by communities of color along with greater exposure to pandemic-related stressors (e.g., unemployment, food insecurity)...From 2 large national surveys, "mental health of Black, Hispanic, and Asian respondents worsened relative to White respondents during the pandemic, with significant increases in depression and anxiety...and Black, Hispanic, and Asian respondents demonstrate higher levels of unmet mental health care needs during the pandemic than White respondents."

Korinek K, Ahmmad Z.
The Racial Configuration of Parent Couples and Premature Birth: an Analysis of the Utah Population Database.

J Racial Ethn Health Disparities. 2022 Apr;9(2):655-669. PMID: [33754295](#)

From an analysis of 25 years of Utah births 1989-2015, "The odds of preterm birth are significantly greater among all four racialized groups in the analyses (African Americans, Asians, Native Americans, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders) as compared to White women. Furthermore, we find that mothers in mixed-race parent couples with either a white or a black father experience a greater risk of preterm birth than mothers parenting with a father of the same race."

Bernard DL, Smith Q, Lanier P.
Racial discrimination and other adverse childhood experiences as risk factors for internalizing mental health concerns among Black youth.

J Trauma Stress. 2022 Apr;35(2):473-483. PMID: [34800051](#)

From a subsample of Black children mean age 9.8 years from the National Survey of Children's health, and after controlling for other ACEs and sociodemographic variables, racial discrimination was significantly associated with youth diagnoses of depression (adjusted odds ratio 1.35) and anxiety (AOR 1.39). "The findings demonstrate that racial discrimination is comparably associated with youth internalizing problems relative to ACEs conventionally examined within the childhood trauma literature."

Jelsma E, Chen S, Varner F.

Working Harder than Others to Prove Yourself: High-Effort Coping as a Buffer between Teacher-Perpetrated Racial Discrimination and Mental Health among Black American Adolescents.

J Youth Adolesc. 2022 Apr;51(4):694-707. PMID: [35094198](#)

Of 630 Black adolescents surveyed in 8th and 11th grades, “Experiencing racial discrimination from teachers in eighth grade was positively related with depressive symptoms, anger, and suicidal ideation in 11th grade. High-effort coping (feeling like one must work harder than others to succeed due to anticipated discrimination) buffered against teacher discrimination for suicidal ideation.”

Thomas-Hawkins C, Zha P, Flynn L, Ando S.

Effects of Race, Workplace Racism, and COVID Worry on the Emotional Well-Being of Hospital-Based Nurses: A Dual Pandemic.

Behav Med. 2022 Mar 23;1-14. PMID: [35318891](#)

From a survey of 788 New Jersey RNs, “Compared to White nurses, nonwhite nurses reported higher emotional distress, more negative racial climates, more racial microaggressions, and higher levels of Covid worry. Nurses’ worry about getting sick from Covid and multiple racial microaggression experiences had the largest effects on the likelihood of high emotional distress.

Police and Court Systems

Test Rowse J, Mullane S, Basset R, Tully J.

Technology-facilitated sexual assault in children and adolescents; is there a cause for concern? Fourteen years of experience at a metropolitan forensic paediatric medical service.

J Paediatr Child Health. 2022 Mar;58(3):409-414. PMID: [34477277](#)

From a medical record review of Australian children and adolescents who received a forensic examination for sexual assault, “Of 515 sexual assault cases between 2014 and 2020, 70 (14%) victims reported connecting with the offender on a technological platform, compared to 4% of cases between 2007 and 2013. In 2019 and 2020, TFSA [technology-facilitated sexual assault] comprised almost one-fifth of caseload. Of the 70 TFSA cases, the majority occurred at the first face-to-face meeting following a variable period of online communication. Approximately one-third of TFSA's occurred at the offender's residence, and another third in a public place (park, public toilets).”

Perpetrators

Steel CMS, Newman E, O'Rourke S, Quayle E.

Public Perceptions of Child Pornography and Child Pornography Consumers.

Arch Sex Behav. 2022 Feb;51(2):1173-1185. PMID: [34993717](#)

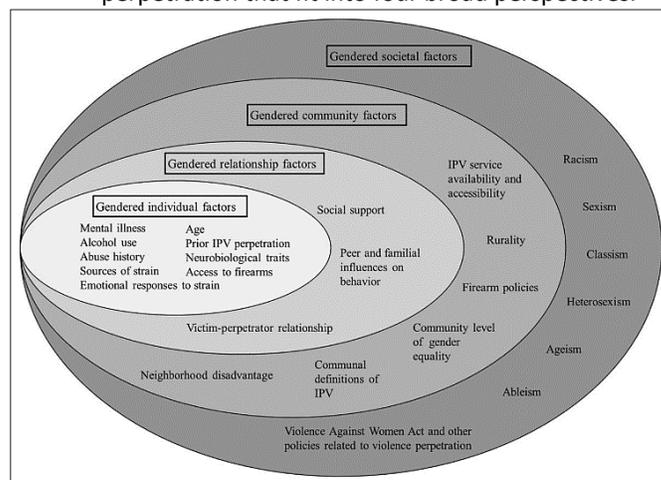
From a US internet-based sample of 564 adults mean age 47 years and 51% female, the public viewed these offenses as more severe than most other crimes, there was an overestimation of risks related to recidivism and contact offending, there was support for most of the current sentencing guidelines including sex offender registration, and limited support for treatment over incarceration.”

Graham LM, Macy RJ, Rizo CF, Martin SL.

Explanatory Theories of Intimate Partner Homicide Perpetration: A Systematic Review.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Apr;23(2):408-427. PMID: [32909896](#)

“This review identified an array of theories used to explain IPH [intimate partner homicide] perpetration that fit into four broad perspectives.”



Pallin R, Wright MA, Tomsich EA, et. al.

Prior Drug-Related Criminal Charges and Risk for IPV Perpetration Among Authorized Purchasers of Handguns.

J Interpers Violence. 2022 Mar 25;8862605221078811. PMID: [35333106](#)

For “all legal purchasers of handguns in California in 2001 between the ages of 21 and 49 (n = 79,678), 156 of whom had pre-purchase drug charges and post-purchase IPV charges...Over the study period (2001-2013), in comparison to handgun purchasers who had no charges, risk for future IPV arrest was increased for purchasers whose prior charges were drug-related (adjusted hazard ratio = 3.4) and who had both prior drug- and non-drug related charges (aHR = 4.9).

Providers

Shenk CE, Keeshin B, Bensman HE, Olson AE, Allen B.

Behavioral and pharmacological interventions for the prevention and treatment of psychiatric disorders with children exposed to maltreatment.

Pharmacol Biochem Behav. 2021 Dec;211:173298. PMID: [34774585](#)

“The current review describes the most effective, well-researched, and widely-used behavioral and pharmacological interventions for preventing and treating a range of psychiatric disorders common in children exposed to maltreatment. Detailed descriptions of each intervention, including their target population, indicated age range, hypothesized mechanisms of action, and effectiveness demonstrated through randomized controlled trials research, are presented. Current limitations of these interventions are noted.”

Spence EE, Prabhakar P, Grace J, et. al.

Development and implementation of tablet-based screening for interpersonal violence in primary care settings.

Health Care Women Int. 2022 Mar 2:1-7. PMID: [35235498](#)

“Technology Enhanced Screening and Supportive Assistance (TESSA) is program that includes a patient-facing mobile web app designed to identify primary care patients with a history of interpersonal violence (IPV).” Of 1495 participants screened, 29% reported experiences with IPV and 24% sexual assault; and 31% indicated they wished to accept the assistance. “We conclude that a tablet-based self-screening tool in primary care clinics is a viable way to identify and offer services to people who have experienced interpersonal violence.”

Brignone L, Gomez AM.

Access to domestic violence advocacy by race, ethnicity and gender: The impact of a digital warm handoff from the emergency department.

PLoS One. 2022 Mar 18;17(3):e0264814. PMID: [35302999](#)

This study assesses the impact of Domestic Violence Report and Referral (DVRR), a digital compliance system with integrated direct-to-advocacy referrals sent with patient consent. Direct-to-advocacy ED referrals facilitated by eHealth technology improve access to advocacy care for all survivors; marginalized racial and ethnic groups have the highest rates of advocacy connection.

Grimani A, Gavine A, Moncur W.

An Evidence Synthesis of Covert Online Strategies Regarding Intimate Partner Violence.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Apr;23(2):581-593. PMID: [32930073](#)

“The same technology that provides individuals with easy access to information and supportive services related to IPV, such as digital devices, tools, and services, also enables perpetrators to monitor or harass their partners...[this analysis] has particular relevance to practitioners who support survivors in increasing awareness of the role of digital technologies in IPV, to law enforcement agencies in identifying new forms of evidence of abuse, and in enabling designers of online/social media applications to take the needs and vulnerabilities of IPV survivors into account.”

Osei A, Paz CG, Stuparich M, et. al.

Screening for Toxic Stress Response and Buffering Factors: A Case-Based, Trauma-Informed Approach to Health Equity.

MedEdPORTAL. 2022 Mar 4;18:11224. PMID: [35321319](#)

Description of an “e-learning module that demonstrated the impact of ACEs by introducing students to screening for toxic stress response and buffering factors on health, their role as health equity determinants, and the use of brief in-clinic resilience-fostering tools in patient care.” [Slides, facilitator guide and handouts](#)

Raas MI, Schneeberger AR, Karunaharamoorthy A, et. al.

Violence and Abuse in Competitive Sports.

Praxis (Bern 1994). 2022;110(4):e205-e212. PMID: [35291864](#)

“Violence and abuse in competitive sports, such as physical and emotional abuse, physical and emotional neglect and sexual abuse, affect children, adolescents and adults alike and lead to severe physical, psychological and social consequences...The present position paper includes recommendations for the protection of mental health in competitive sports and for coping with mental stress and psychological disorders.”

Lev-Wiesel R, Goldner L, Daphna-Tekoah S.

Introduction to the Special Issue: The Use of Creative Art Therapies in the Prevention, Screening, and Treatment of Child Sexual Abuse.

J Child Sex Abus. 2022 Jan;31(1):3-8. PMID: [35081876](#)

“The significant gap between the prevalence of child sexual abuse and disclosure underscores the need for new, innovative, and creative screening tools to identify victims to end the abuse and provide these victims with appropriate treatment. This article presents the cumulative efforts of a series of innovative studies dealing with sexually abused survivors and offenders that concentrates on preventing, assessing, screening, and treating Child Sexual Abuse (CSA).”

Lev-Wiesel R, Ramot O, Niv H, et. al.

Physical Versus Sexual Abuse as Reflected in Adolescents' Self-Figure Drawings: A Preliminary Study.

J Child Sex Abus. 2022 Jan;31(1):33-50. PMID: [33416014](#)

For 96 adolescents asked to draw themselves, significant differences were found for those who had experienced sexual abuse, physical abuse, or no abuse, especially features of the nose, hair, and lower body.

Laird L, Mulvihill N.

Assessing the Extent to Which Art Therapy Can Be Used with Victims of Childhood Sexual Abuse: A Thematic Analysis of Published Studies.

J Child Sex Abus. 2022 Jan;31(1):105-126. PMID: [34126870](#)

"This review considers the value of Art Therapy (AT) in recognizing individual needs and experiences and supporting victims to manage the lasting impact of abuse...AT particularly benefits rapport building between victim and therapist/investigator, and alleviates some psychological consequences of sexual abuse - particularly anxiety, post-traumatic stress, and dissociation...AT may also provide a communicative form, building a narrative where verbal communication is hindered."

Prevention

Crowley DM, Connell CM, Noll J, Green L, Scott T, Giray C.

Legislating to Prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences: Growth and Opportunities for Evidence-Based Policymaking and Prevention.

Prev Sci. 2022 Feb;23(2):181-191. PMID: [34599473](#)

Authors conducted a comprehensive analysis of all state bills introduced over the past two decades to investigate the use and impact of ACE research, all related congressional office communications, and voting records "to understand the relationship between legislative members' public discussion of ACEs and their voting behavior on these bills. We find that legislators' public discourse is significantly related to ACE-related policymaking above and beyond political affiliation or demographic characteristics. Furthermore, key legislative language related to domestic violence, evidence-based practice, and prevention were significant predictors of whether an ACE-related bill becomes law-above and beyond the political party in power. These analyses highlight the ways in which ACE-related research has informed state policy. Based upon this work, we offer recommendations for researchers and policymakers."

Quail KR, Ward CL.

Nonviolent Discipline Options for Caregivers and Teachers: A Systematic Overview of the Evidence.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Apr;23(2):620-638. PMID: [33111651](#)

"One reason for the persistence of corporal punishment may be the lack of awareness of positive disciplinary alternatives...A wide range of evidence-supported interventions exist, many of which have been found effective with severely challenging behavior...the use of these tools should be promoted not only for the prevention of violence but also for optimum child development."

Vederhus JK, Haugland SH, Timko C.

A mediational analysis of adverse experiences in childhood and quality of life in adulthood.

Int J Methods Psychiatr Res. 2022 Mar;31(1):e1904. PMID: [34989047](#)

From a Norwegian representative survey of 28,047 adults asking about 3 specific ACEs: parents' problematic alcohol use (PPAU), parental separation/divorce, and lack of support from a trusted adult, "Of the examined ACEs, lack of support from a trusted adult had the strongest negative impact on adult QoL [quality of life]...The association between the ACEs and QoL was explained through the mediators of mental distress and social isolation...Adult support to vulnerable children could potentially ameliorate adult consequences of ACEs. In addition, adults reporting difficulties due to childhood adversities may benefit from therapeutic interventions that address both psychological distress and isolation."

Clements-Nolle KD, Lensch T, Drake CS, Pearson JL.

Adverse childhood experiences and past 30-day cannabis use among middle and high school students: The protective influence of families and schools.

Addict Behav. 2022 Feb 14;130:107280. PMID: [35279622](#)

From a national survey of middle and high school students, there was a graded relationship between ACEs and past 30-day cannabis use (CU) for all students that was particularly strong among middle school students: 1 ACE (Adjusted Prevalence Ratio = 2.37), 2 ACEs (APR = 2.89), 3 ACEs (APR = 5.30), 4 + ACEs (APR = 7.86). Both family communication and school connectedness demonstrated a direct, independent protective relationship with past 30-day CU.

Mennicke AM, Bush HM, Brancato CJ, Coker AL.
Bystander Program to Reduce Sexual Violence by Witnessing Parental Intimate Partner Violence Status.
Am J Prev Med. 2022 Mar 9;S0749-3797(22)00067-8. PMID: [35279345](#)

For this bystander intervention program delivered at 26 Kentucky high schools, “among students who witnessed parental IPV, the intervention was associated with significant reductions in sexual assault and harassment perpetration, and sexual assault and harassment victimization. For students who did not witness parental IPV, the intervention was only associated with reductions in sexual harassment and stalking victimization.”

Researchers

Berman IS, McLaughlin KA, Tottenham N, et. al.
Measuring early life adversity: A dimensional approach.
Dev Psychopathol. 2022 Mar 22;1-13. PMID: [35314009](#)

“We review existing approaches to measuring two dimensions of adversity: threat and deprivation. We recommend specific measures for measuring these constructs...Developing new measurement tools...is an important goal for future research.”

Lee RD, D'Angelo DV, Dieke A, Burley K.
Recent Incarceration Exposure Among Parents of Live-Born Infants and Maternal and Child Health.
Public Health Rep. 2022 Mar 18;333549221081808. PMID: [35301904](#)

From a large multi-state study, the prevalence of incarceration exposure for a woman or her husband /partner shortly before or during pregnancy was 3.7%. Women with incarceration exposure had increased odds of hypertension, depressive symptoms, and infant admission to the ICU. “A parent's incarceration exposure is an adverse childhood experience with the potential to disrupt important developmental periods and have negative impacts on health outcomes of children.”

Richmond J, Boynton MH, Ozawa S, et. al.
Development and Validation of the Trust in My Doctor, Trust in Doctors in General, and Trust in the Health Care Team Scales.

Soc Sci Med. 2022 Apr;298:114827. PMID: [35255277](#)
Authors describe validation of three scales relating to trust in health care. “Each scale was strongly correlated with existing trust measures and perceived racism in health care and was significantly associated with delayed health care seeking and receipt of a routine health exam.”

Brown M, Worrell C, Pariante CM.
Inflammation and early life stress: An updated review of childhood trauma and inflammatory markers in adulthood.
Pharmacol Biochem Behav. 2021 Dec;211:173291. PMID: [34695507](#)

This research review on inflammation as a consequence of childhood trauma showed multiple discrepancies arising from type of trauma, type of inflammatory marker, and additional variables. Researchers suggest more thorough reporting on sex differences, and also opening up this research to different types of maltreatment instead of being restricted to those typically measured.

Other of Interest

Chandler CE, Austin AE, Shanahan ME.
Association of Housing Stress With Child Maltreatment.
Trauma Violence Abuse. 2022 Apr;23(2):639-659. PMID: [32677550](#)

From a research review that included nine distinct measures of housing stress including homelessness or eviction, homeless or emergency shelter stays, foreclosure filing, housing instability, inadequate housing, physical housing risk, living doubled-up, housing unaffordability, and composite housing stress indicators, “housing stress is associated with an increased likelihood of caregiver or child self-reported maltreatment, child protective services (CPS) reports, investigated and substantiated CPS reports, out-of-home placements, and maltreatment death.”

Slakoff DC.
The Mediated Portrayal of Intimate Partner Violence in True Crime Podcasts: Strangulation, Isolation, Threats of Violence, and Coercive Control.
Violence Against Women. 2022 May;28(6-7):1659-1683. PMID: [34139925](#)

“In this directed qualitative content analysis of four season-long true crime podcasts, the researcher examined how different types of intimate partner violence (IPV) were portrayed. Across the podcasts, controlling behaviors, emotional abuse, and coercive control were commonly depicted. Physical violence was not the most common form of abuse depicted, but it was presented in sensationalistic ways—with a pointed focus on strangulation and bruising. Overall, the podcasts provided a much more realistic portrayal of IPV at the individual level than traditional news sources, yet did not go far enough in describing the societal conditions that permit abuse.”