

## **MEDICAL RESEARCH SUMMARY ON ABUSE FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENC COUNCIL JUNE 2010**

This summary includes selected research articles relating to abuse indexed by the National Library of Medicine April 2010. To obtain a copy of the abstracts, go to pubmed.gov, and place the Pubmed ID numbers (PMID) in the search box, separated by commas.

### **Child Abuse**

Duke NN, Pettingell SL, McMorris BJ, Borowsky IW.

#### **Adolescent violence perpetration: associations with multiple types of adverse childhood experiences.**

Pediatrics. 2010 Apr;125(4):e778-86. PMID: 20231180

In a 2007 survey of 136,549 Minnesota students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, 28.9% reported at least 1 adverse childhood experience, the most common being alcohol abuse by a household family member that caused problems. "Each type of adverse childhood experience was significantly associated with adolescent interpersonal violence perpetration (delinquency, bullying, physical fighting, dating violence, weapon-carrying on school property) and self-directed violence (self-mutilatory behavior, suicidal ideation, and suicide attempt). For each additional type of adverse event reported by youth, the risk of violence perpetration increased 35% to 144%."

Turner HA, Finkelhor D, Ormrod R.

#### **The effects of adolescent victimization on self-concept and depressive symptoms.**

Child Maltreat. 2010 Feb;15(1):76-90. PMID: 19926630

"Results suggest that sexual victimization experiences may have uniquely powerful effects on self-esteem that are not apparent for other types of victimization and stress."

Kolko DJ, Hurlburt MS, Zhang J, Barth RP, Leslie LK, Burns BJ.

#### **Posttraumatic stress symptoms in children and adolescents referred for child welfare investigation. A national sample of in-home and out-of-home care.**

Child Maltreat. 2010 Feb;15(1):48-63. PMID: 19564628

In a study of 1848 children and adolescents who were referred to child welfare for investigation of abuse or neglect, 11.7% showed clinically significant PTSD symptoms (in 10.7% who were maintained at home, and in 19.2% who were placed out of home.)

### **Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse**

Wilson DR.

#### **Health consequences of childhood sexual abuse.**

Perspect Psychiatr Care. 2010 Jan;46(1):56-64. PMID: 20051079

Summary of health consequences of childhood sexual abuse, including depression, obesity, autoimmune disorders, eating disorders and addictions.

Weijenborg PT, Gardien K, Toorenvliet BR, Merkus JW, ter Kuile MM.

#### **Acute abdominal pain in women at an emergency department: predictors of chronicity.**

Eur J Pain. 2010 Feb;14(2):183-8. PMID: 19419889

In a study of 115 women presenting with acute abdominal pain to the emergency department at a teaching hospital in the Netherlands, at 2.3 year follow up (58% return), 30% still suffered from abdominal pain. Of many variables analyzed, the only two that significantly and independently correlated with chronicity of pain were low education level and having experienced abuse before the age of 16.

Malmo C, Laidlaw TS.

#### **Symptoms of trauma and traumatic memory retrieval in adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.**

J Trauma Dissociation. 2010;11(1):22-43. PMID: 20063246

In two therapy groups for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, in one of which the survivors had memories, and in the other of which the survivors had no memories of the abuse, increased details emerged in both groups over time. The group with initial memories were more visually oriented, and those without initial memories were more kinesthetic (body sensation) oriented, and they "may not have had access to the visual information that would associate their symptoms to their abuse."

Russell D, Springer KW, Greenfield EA.

**Witnessing domestic abuse in childhood as an independent risk factor for depressive symptoms in young adulthood.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2010 Apr 19. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 20409587

In a retrospective survey of 1175 young adults aged 20-24 in Florida, frequently (>10 instances) having witnessed domestic abuse in childhood was a significant risk factor for depressive symptoms in young adulthood, independent of whether the child had experienced physical or sexual abuse themselves, or had had other adverse life experiences.

**Domestic Violence – Physical Health**

Moore AM, Frohwirth L, Miller E.

**Male reproductive control of women who have experienced intimate partner violence in the United States.**

Soc Sci Med. 2010 Jun;70(11):1737-44. PMID: 20359808

Through the Guttmacher Institute, in-depth interviews with women who had experienced IPV showed significant problems with reproductive control by their male partner, including pregnancy-promoting behaviors such as contraceptive sabotage, and then abuse and control during pregnancy to influence pregnancy outcome.

Thiel de Bocanegra H, Rostovtseva DP, Khera S, Godhwani N.

**Birth control sabotage and forced sex: experiences reported by women in domestic violence shelters.**

Violence Against Women. 2010 May;16(5):601-12. PMID: 20388933

In another report showing a high rate of birth control sabotage against women experiencing IPV, women also showed resourcefulness in using methods without telling their partners. These methods included “hidden contraception” such as IUDs, injections, post-coital contraception, or using strategies such as getting birth control pills from China with the partner not being able to read the label, etc.

Nzimbala MJ, Bruyninx L, Pans A, Martin P, Herman F.

**Chronic anal fissure: common aetiopathogenesis, with special attention to sexual abuse.**

Acta Chir Belg. 2009 Nov-Dec;109(6):720-6. PMID: 20184055

In a report from Belgium of 80 patients with chronic anal fissures (crack or tear in the skin of the anal canal), 20% were due to sexual abuse. 40% of these abused patients had never disclosed this before, and this situation was a possible risk factor for recurrence after medical or surgical treatment.

**Domestic Violence – Mental Health**

Scott-Tilley D, Tilton A, Sandel M.

**Biologic correlates to the development of post-traumatic stress disorder in female victims of intimate partner violence: implications for practice.**

Perspect Psychiatr Care. 2010 Jan;46(1):26-36. PMID: 20051076

Article discusses the sometimes vague and nonspecific symptoms that can be the presentation of PTSD in a patient experiencing IPV, as well as reviewing the emotional and physical consequences of this very common, complex and serious condition.

Nuttbrock L, Hwahng S, Bockting W, Rosenblum A, Mason M, Macri M, Becker J.

**Psychiatric impact of gender-related abuse across the life course of male-to-female transgender persons.**

J Sex Res. 2010 Jan;47(1):12-23. PubMed PMID: 19568976

“Gender-related abuse is a major mental health problem among MTF transgender persons, particularly during adolescence.”

**Cultural Issues**

Lesser J, Oscós-Sánchez MA, Davis C.

**Latino adolescent mothers and fathers in South Texas managing violence.**

Issues Ment Health Nurs. 2010 Feb;31(2):96-102. PMID: 20070223

Interviews with Latino adolescent mothers and fathers describe the societal and personal violence they have experienced, and how becoming parents offered an opportunity to change.

**Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse**

Cooper C, Selwood A, Blanchard M, Walker Z, Blizard R, Livingston G.

**The determinants of family carers' abusive behaviour to people with dementia: results of the CARD study.**

J Affect Disord. 2010 Feb;121(1-2):136-42. PMID: 19446884

In a study of 220 British family/friend dementia caregivers, abusive behaviors were more likely if the caregiver was anxious or depressed, or experienced more abusive behavior from the care recipient.

Dong X, Beck T, Simon MA.

**The associations of gender, depression and elder mistreatment in a community-dwelling Chinese population: the modifying effect of social support.**

Arch Gerontol Geriatr. 2010 Mar-Apr;50(2):202-8. PMID: 19398133

In a study of over 400 male and female elderly Chinese patients presenting to an urban medical center, after controlling for social support, depression in the women was significantly associated with elder mistreatment.

**Perpetrators**

Taft CT, Weatherill RP, Woodward HE, Pinto LA, Watkins LE, Miller MW, Dekel R.

**Intimate partner and general aggression perpetration among combat veterans presenting to a posttraumatic stress disorder clinic.**

Am J Orthopsychiatry. 2009 Oct;79(4):461-8. PMID: 20099937

In a study of 236 male combat veterans seeking services in a PTSD clinic, and who were in an intimate relationship, approximately 33% reported perpetrating physical and 91% psychological aggression against their partner. PTSD symptoms as well as depression were associated with aggression.

Holt TJ, Blevins KR, Burkert N.

**Considering the pedophile subculture online.**

Sex Abuse. 2010 Mar;22(1):3-24. PubMed PMID: 20133959

This article explores the internet as a source “to develop a subculture of pedophiles” and its role in “fostering attitudes and justifications for relationships with children.”

Daversa MT.

**Early environmental predictors of the affective and interpersonal constructs of psychopathy.**

Int J Offender Ther Comp Criminol. 2010 Feb;54(1):6-21. PMID: 19109443

This review article discusses the effects of severity, duration, and developmental timing of early life adverse experiences, and how the associated brain changes that result may contribute to psychopathology.

**Police and Court System**

Zeoli AM, Webster DW.

**Effects of domestic violence policies, alcohol taxes and police staffing levels on intimate partner homicide in large US cities.**

Inj Prev. 2010 Apr;16(2):90-5. PMID: 20363814

In a study of 46 of the largest US cities 1979-2003, reducing access to firearms for DVRO defendants, increasing police staffing levels, and allowing the warrantless arrest of DVRO violators were associated with reduction in city-level risk of intimate partner homicide.

Mitchell KJ, Finkelhor D, Wolak J.

**Conceptualizing juvenile prostitution as child maltreatment: findings from the National Juvenile Prostitution Study.**

Child Maltreat. 2010 Feb;15(1):18-36. PMID: 19926628

In a national study on juvenile prostitution, three main types were categorized: (a) third-party exploiters, (b) solo prostitution, and (c) conventional child sexual abuse (CSA) with payment. These categories influenced police orientation toward the juvenile as to the juvenile being looked up as a victim or as a delinquent.

Goodmark L.

**Mothers, domestic violence, and child protection: an American legal perspective.**

Violence Against Women. 2010 May;16(5):524-9; discussion 537-42. PMID: 20388927

“Defining exposure to domestic violence as abusive or neglectful also colors the ways in which child protection workers view mothers who experience violence. The combination of legal structure and myths about domestic violence and about women who experience domestic violence combine to create a mindset among child protection professionals that sets mothers in opposition to their children.”

Cattaneo LB, Goodman LA.

**Through the lens of therapeutic jurisprudence: the relationship between empowerment in the court system and well-being for intimate partner violence victims.**

J Interpers Violence. 2010 Mar;25(3):481-502. PMID: 19429713

Of 142 court involved female IPV victims, more empowering experiences in court predicted less depression and better quality of life, in addition to stronger intention to use the court system in the future if needed.

“Implications include the need for research on what aspects of victim experience in the court are empowering and evaluations of innovations that can increase the likelihood they will occur.”

**Providers**

Matkins PP, Jordan KS.

**Pediatric sexual abuse: emergency department evaluation and management.**

Adv Emerg Nurs J. 2009 Apr-Jun;31(2):140-52. PMID: 20118864

Review of presentation and management of pediatric sexual abuse in the ED.

Asnes AG, Leventhal JM.

**Managing child abuse: general principles.**

Pediatr Rev. 2010 Feb;31(2):47-55. PMID: 20124274

Practical “how to” review article on how to assess and manage possible child abuse/neglect.

Mandel D.

**Child welfare and domestic violence: tackling the themes and thorny questions that stand in the way of collaboration and improvement of child welfare practice.**

Violence Against Women. 2010 May;16(5):530-6; discussion 537-42. PMID: 20388928

Author comments on prior article from advocates describing difficulties with the child welfare system, and addresses means for a collaborative model between advocates, mothers and CPS.

Bracken MI, Messing JT, Campbell JC, La Flair LN, Kub J.

**Intimate partner violence and abuse among female nurses and nursing personnel: prevalence and risk factors.**

Issues Ment Health Nurs. 2010 Feb;31(2):137-48. PMID: 20070228

A survey of 1981 mid-atlantic metropolitan nursing personnel (52% response rate) revealed: childhood physical abuse 25.2%, childhood sexual abuse 29.4%, child witness to IPV 10.6%, adult physical IPV 19.1%, adult sexual IPV 7.6%, adult emotional IPV 22.9%.

**Other of Interest**

Deblinger E, Thakkar-Kolar RR, Berry EJ, Schroeder CM.

**Caregivers' efforts to educate their children about child sexual abuse. A replication study.**

Child Maltreat. 2010 Feb;15(1):91-100. PMID: 19720965

In a study of caregivers of third graders in 3 New Jersey elementary schools, parents continued to disproportionately focus on strangers as potential offenders of child sexual abuse, and to provide limited information on the nature of and secrecy associated with sexual abuse.

Little B, Terrance C.

**Perceptions of domestic violence in lesbian relationships: stereotypes and gender role expectations.**

J Homosex. 2010 Mar;57(3):429-40. PMID: 20391003

287 undergrad psychology students, almost all heterosexual, when presented with various scenarios of IPV in the context of lesbian partnership, the plausibility of the victim's claim, and blame assigned to the perpetrator and victim, varied as a function of the physical appearance of the couple.