

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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## Child Abuse

Gambon TB, Gewirtz O'Brien Jr, et. al.

### **Runaway Youth: Caring for the Nation's Largest Segment of Missing Children.**

Pediatrics. 2020 Feb;145(2). pii: e20193752. PMID: [31964756](#)

"The largest segment of missing children in the United States includes runaways, children who run away from home, and throwaways, children who are told to leave or stay away from home by a household adult...These unaccompanied youth have unique health needs, including high rates of trauma, mental illness, substance use, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections...and limited access to care. Several populations are at particular high risk for runaway episodes, including victims of abuse and neglect; LGBTQ youth; and youth in protective custody. Pediatricians and other health care professionals have a critical role to play in supporting runaway youth."

Tang R, Howe LD, Suderman M, et. al.

### **Adverse childhood experiences, DNA methylation age acceleration, and cortisol in UK children.**

Clin Epigenetics. 2020 Apr 7;12(1):55. PMID: [32264940](#)

For 974 UK children, exposure to four or more ACEs, or separately emotional abuse or physical abuse during age 0-14 years were each associated at age 17 with DNA increased cellular aging of approximately 1-3 years for girls, but not for boys.

Dunn EC, Soare TW, Zhu Y, et. al.

### **Sensitive Periods for the Effect of Childhood Adversity on DNA Methylation.**

Biol Psychiatry. 2019 May 15;85(10):838-849. PMID: [30905381](#)

Using data from a mother-child pair study when children were age 7, three theories of DNA methylation (changes to DNA in response to abuse - for example to the stress hormone or immune systems) were analyzed as predictors of methylation: timing of adversity, cumulative trauma, or more recent trauma having greater

impact. Results were best explained by developmental timing, especially abuse prior to age 3, rather than accumulation or recency of exposure.

Keeshin B, Forkey HC, Fouras G, et. al.

### **Children Exposed to Maltreatment: Assessment and the Role of Psychotropic Medication.**

Pediatrics. 2020 Feb;145(2). pii: e20193751. PMID: [31964760](#)

This clinical report from the AAP covers trauma-informed assessments and "critical diagnostic and systemic issues that affect the prescribing and discontinuing of psychiatric medications among children with a history of child maltreatment."

Shenoi RP, Nassif A, Camp EA, Pereira FA.

### **Previous Emergency Medical Services Use by Victims of Child Homicide.**

Pediatr Emerg Care. 2019 Sep;35(9):589-595. PMID: [28350719](#)

Comparing children in Houston, Texas 2005-2010 who died from child homicide vs. natural causes, "Child homicide victims use EMS more often and have a higher number of CPS investigations before their death than children who die from natural causes. However, the frequency and nature of EMS medical complaints are not helpful in identifying maltreatment."

Grey HR, Ford K, Bellis MA, Lowey H, Wood S.

### **Associations between childhood deaths and adverse childhood experiences.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2019 Apr;90:22-31. PMID: [30716652](#)

Of 489 cases of child deaths collected by child death overview panels, 20% were identified as having 4+ ACEs (retroactively assigned). Deaths of children with 4+ ACEs were 22.26 times more likely than those with 0 ACEs to be classified as 'avoidable and non-natural'.

McTavish JR, Kimber M, Devries K, et. al.

### **Children's and caregivers' perspectives about mandatory reporting of child maltreatment: a meta-synthesis of qualitative studies.**

BMJ Open. 2019 Apr 4;9(4):e025741. PMID: [30948587](#)

"Children and caregivers fear being reported... Research on strategies to mitigate potential harms linked to mandatory reporting is urgently needed, as is research that explores children's experiences with this process."

Barrera CA, Silvestro E, Calle-Toro JS, et. al.

### **Three-dimensional printed models of the rib cage in children with non-accidental injury as an effective visual-aid tool.**

Pediatr Radiol. 2019 Jun;49(7):965-970. PMID: [30877337](#)

“Three-dimensional printing of the rib cage from CT scans in children with suspected non-accidental injury successfully demonstrated acute and chronic rib fractures. Experts...consider using these in educating health care providers and in court.”



Fig. 1 A 7-week-old girl with multiple non-displaced acute (circles) and chronic (arrows) fractures. Comparison between the 3-D model (a), chest CT coronal reconstruction using maximum intensity projection (b) and a standard chest radiograph (c)

## Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Epel ES.

### **Can Childhood Adversity Affect Telomeres of the Next Generation? Possible Mechanisms, Implications, and Next-Generation Research.**

Am J Psychiatry. 2020 Jan 1;177(1):7-9. PMID: [31892296](#)

Editorial review of what is known about the effects of ACEs on telomeres (a measure of cellular aging), possible transmission to the next generation, and upcoming important research studies.

Pierce JB, Kershaw KN, Kiefe CI, et. al.

### **Association of Childhood Psychosocial Environment With 30-Year Cardiovascular Disease Incidence and Mortality in Middle Age.**

J Am Heart Assoc. 2020 May 5;9(9):e015326. PMID: [32342717](#)

Survival curves show that for 3646 US urban adults followed for 30 years, and even after controlling for cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors, increasing childhood adversity scores were associated with increased CVD and all-cause mortality later in life. Those with the most severe abuse were more than 50% more likely to experience an event such as heart attack or stroke.

Li L, Pinto Pereira SM, Power C.

### **Childhood maltreatment and biomarkers for cardiometabolic disease in mid-adulthood in a prospective British birth cohort.**

BMJ Open. 2019 Mar 23;9(3):e024079. PMID: [30904846](#)

Of 9000 British adults aged 45 years, “Childhood maltreatments, particularly neglect and physical abuse, were associated with greater adiposity [body areas of fat] and poorer lipid and HbA1c [blood sugar] profiles decades later in adulthood.”

Badley EM, Shields M, O'Donnell S, Hovdestad WE, Tonmyr L.

### **Childhood Maltreatment as a Risk Factor for Arthritis.**

Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2019 Oct;71(10):1366-1371.

PMID: [30328298](#)

From a large Canadian survey, 17.5% reported medically diagnosed arthritis. After controlling for sociodemographic variables, severe and/or frequent childhood physical abuse and childhood exposure to IPV were each associated with an increased risk of arthritis in a dose/response relationship.

Hindin P, Btoush R, Carmody DP.

### **History of Childhood Abuse and Risk for Cervical Cancer Among Women in Low-Income Areas.**

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2019 Jan;28(1):23-29. PMID: [30265615](#)

Of 410 low-income women in New Jersey, history of childhood abuse was associated with 96% higher odds of being at risk of cervical cancer. Factors involved in this association included failure to receive a Pap test, higher levels of smoking, perceived stress, and risky sexual behavior.

Riedl D, Lampe A, Exenberger S, Nolte T, Trawöger I, Beck T.

### **Prevalence of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and associated physical and mental health problems amongst hospital patients: Results from a cross-sectional study.**

Gen Hosp Psychiatry. 2020 May-Jun;64:80-86. PMID: [32304934](#)

Of 2392 Austrian adults seen at one hospital as inpatients or outpatients, 36.1% reported at least one ACE, and 6.3% 4 or more. “Most frequent forms of ACE were emotional abuse (18.3%), peer abuse (14.2%), and neglect (12.3%). ACEs were significantly associated with increased odds ratios for various physical diseases, mental health problems and domestic violence.”

Schückher F, Sellin T, Engström I, Berglund K.

### **History of childhood abuse is associated with less positive treatment outcomes in socially stable women with alcohol use disorder.**

BMC Womens Health. 2019 Dec 12;19(1):159. PMID: [31830964](#)

Of 75 Swedish socially stable women enrolled in a alcohol use disorder program, 50.7% reported a history of childhood abuse. At 12 month treatment follow-up, abstinence was reported by 55.6% in the non-abused group, vs. 13.3% in the abused group.

Lippard ETC, Nemeroff CB.

**The Devastating Clinical Consequences of Child Abuse and Neglect: Increased Disease Vulnerability and Poor Treatment Response in Mood Disorders.**

Am J Psychiatry. 2020 Jan 1;177(1):20-36. PMID: [31537091](#)

“A large body of evidence has demonstrated that exposure to childhood maltreatment at any stage of development...is associated with a marked increase in risk for psychiatric and medical disorders...and increased risk for first mood episode, episode recurrence, greater comorbidities, and increased risk for suicidal ideation and attempts.” Authors discuss several candidate genes and environmental factors, and modifiable mechanisms to improve both treatment and prevention.

Angelakis I, Gillespie EL, Panagioti M.

**Childhood maltreatment and adult suicidality: a comprehensive systematic review with meta-analysis.**

Psychol Med. 2019 May;49(7):1057-1078. PMID: [30608046](#)

From a comprehensive research review, childhood sexual abuse, physical abuse and emotional abuse were each associated with a 2 to 3 fold increased risk for suicidal ideation and suicide attempts, with complex childhood abuse associated with a 5.18 times increased risk for attempts. “The main outstanding challenge is to better understand the mechanisms which underpin the development of suicidality in people exposed to childhood maltreatment because current evidence is scarce.”

Maier A, Gieling C, Heinen-Ludwig L, et. al.

**Association of Childhood Maltreatment With Interpersonal Distance and Social Touch Preferences in Adulthood.**

Am J Psychiatry. 2020 Jan 1;177(1):37-46. PMID: [31416339](#)

Of 92 medication-free adults with low, medium and high levels of childhood maltreatment, “higher childhood maltreatment levels are associated with hypersensitivity characterized by a preference for larger interpersonal distance and discomfort of fast touch”, manifested in a clinical setting and in brain scans. “These results may shed light on why individuals with severe childhood maltreatment exhibit an increased susceptibility to interpersonal dysfunctions and psychiatric disorders in adulthood.”

Mondelli V, Dazzan P.

**Childhood trauma and psychosis: Moving the field forward.**

Schizophr Res. 2019 Mar;205:1-3. PMID: [30765250](#)

In an introduction to this special journal issue on childhood trauma and psychosis, “early adverse experiences play a significant role not only in increasing the risk of developing psychosis, but also in its course and outcome...there may be a dose-

response relationship between number and severity of adverse events and risk, severity, and chronicity of psychotic disorders.”

## Adolescents

Schrag RV, Wood L, Busch-Armendariz N.

**Pathways From Intimate Partner Violence to Academic Disengagement Among Women University Students.**

Violence Vict. 2020 Apr 1;35(2):227-245. PMID: [32273379](#)

A survey of 6,818 female university students “found a significant indirect path between physical and psychological IPV and academic disengagement via depression symptoms...Enhancing screening and education, providing effective mental health counseling, and increasing advocacy will help institutions better address IPV.

Mars B, Heron J, Klonsky ED, et. al.

**What distinguishes adolescents with suicidal thoughts from those who have attempted suicide? A population-based birth cohort study.**

J Child Psychol Psychiatry. 2019 Jan;60(1):91-99. PMID: [29492978](#)

Of 4,772 British 16 year olds, the lifetime prevalence of suicidal ideation was 9.6% and attempts 6.8%. Those who attempted suicide were more likely than those with only ideation to report exposure to self-harm in others (family or friends), to have a psychiatric disorder, female gender, higher impulsivity, higher intensity seeking, a greater number of life events, body dissatisfaction, hopelessness, smoking, and illicit drug use (excluding cannabis).

Rodenhizer KAE, Edwards KM.

**The Impacts of Sexual Media Exposure on Adolescent and Emerging Adults' Dating and Sexual Violence Attitudes and Behaviors: A Critical Review of the Literature.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Oct;20(4):439-452. PMID: [29333966](#)

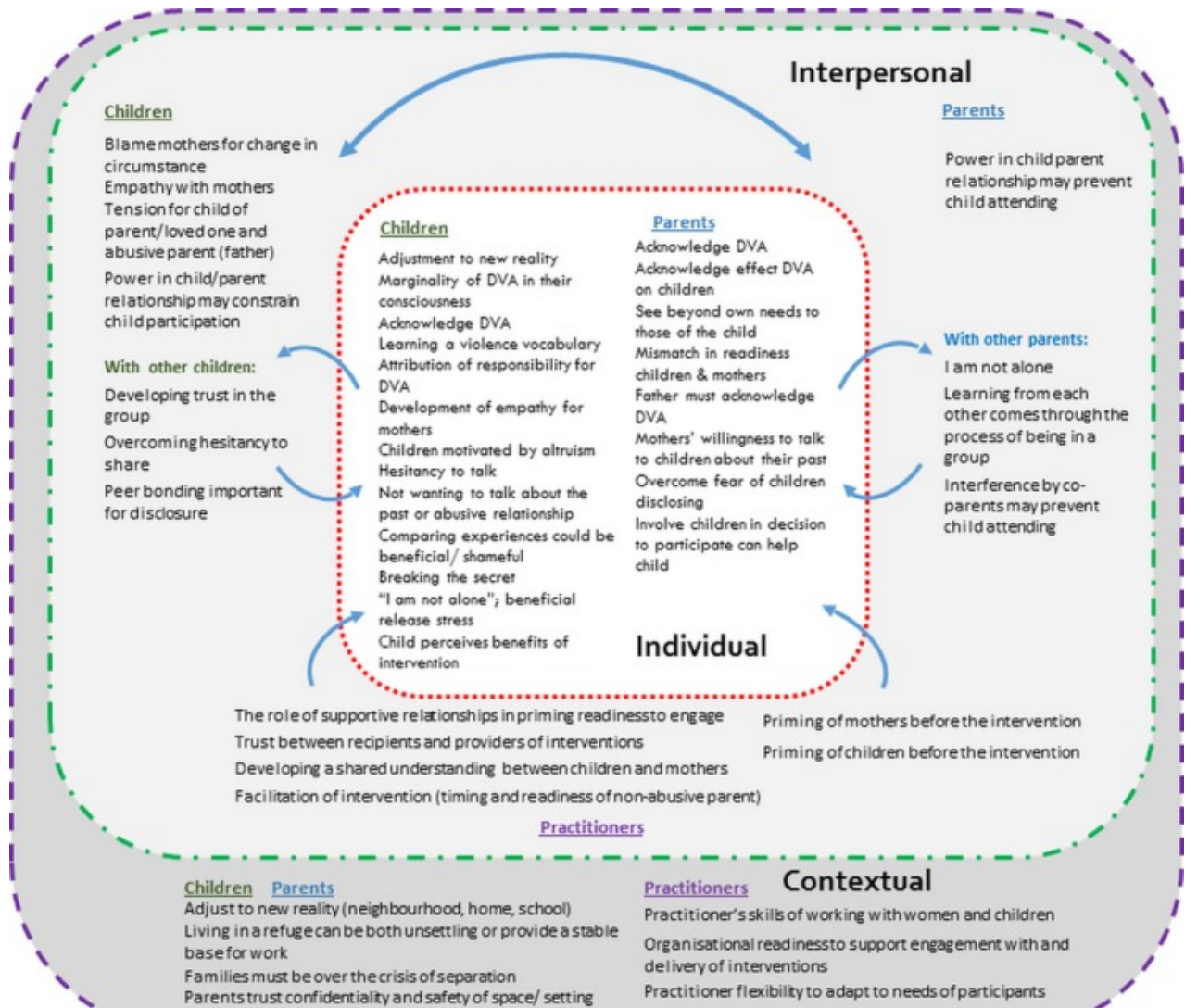
From a research review, sexually explicit media and sexually violent media exposure are positively related to domestic violence (DV) and sexual violence (SV) myths and more accepting attitudes toward DV and SV, actual and anticipated victimization, perpetration, and bystander nonintervention. Men's attitudes and behaviors relating to DV and SV are more strongly impacted than women's.

# Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Howarth E, Moore TH, Stanley N, et. al.

**Towards an ecological understanding of readiness to engage with interventions for children exposed to domestic violence and abuse: Systematic review and qualitative synthesis of perspectives of children, parents and practitioners.**

Health Soc Care Community. 2019 Mar;27(2):271-292. PMID: [29989258](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29989258/)



# Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Dorland JM, Fowler LR, Morain SR.

**From Cervical Cap to Mobile App: Examining the Potential Reproductive Health Impacts of New Technologies.**

Health Promot Pract. 2019 Sep;20(5):642-647. PMID:

[31315457](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31315457/)

“The current landscape of online contraceptive services...may reduce geographic and logistical

barriers for rural and low-income populations. However, their impact on access for adolescents is likely to be minimal, as more than half the services do not prescribe to minors. Furthermore, increasing use of telemedicine may reduce rates of screening for public health concerns, including interpartner violence, sexually transmitted infections, and cervical cancer.”

# Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Makaroun LK, Brignone E, Rosland AM, Dichter ME.  
**Association of Health Conditions and Health Service Utilization With Intimate Partner Violence Identified via Routine Screening Among Middle-Aged and Older Women.**  
JAMA Netw Open. 2020 Apr 1;3(4):e203138. PMID: [32315066](#)

Of 4481 women aged 45 and older, 8.6% of women 45-59 and 5.1% of women aged 60 and above screened positive for past year IPV, which was associated variously by age group with anxiety, depression, PTSD, suicidal ideation, and substance use disorder; and increased mental health, primary care, and emergency department visits.

Shamblaw AL, Cardy RE, Prost E, Harkness KL.  
**Abuse as a risk factor for prenatal depressive symptoms: a meta-analysis.**  
Arch Womens Ment Health. 2019 Apr;22(2):199-213. PMID: [30196369](#)

From a research review, any abuse had a significant positive relationship with prenatal depressive symptoms, with effect sizes in the moderate range for any abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse, holding across a variety of demographic and study design characteristics.

# Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Botngård A, Eide AH, Mosqueda L, Malmedal W.  
**Elder abuse in Norwegian nursing homes: a cross-sectional exploratory study.**  
BMC Health Serv Res. 2020 Jan 3;20(1):9. PMID: [31900138](#)

From surveys sent out to nursing staff of 100 randomly chosen Norwegian nursing homes, with a 60.1% return, “76% had observed one or more incidents of elder abuse during the past year, and 60.3% reported they had perpetrated one or more incidents of abuse in the same period. Psychological abuse and neglect were most commonly reported. Male staff reported more acts of physical abuse, while female staff reported more acts of neglect.”

Mercier É, Nadeau A, Brousseau AA, et. al.  
**Elder Abuse in the Out-of-Hospital and Emergency Department Settings: A Scoping Review.**

Ann Emerg Med. 2020 Feb;75(2):181-191. PMID: [31959308](#)  
From a research review, “The prevalence of elder abuse reported during the ED visit was lower than reported in the community. The most commonly detected type of elder abuse was neglect, and then physical abuse. The following factors were more common in identified cases of elder abuse: female sex, cognitive impairment, functional disability, frailty, social isolation, and lower socioeconomic status...Health care professionals reported being poorly trained and acknowledged numerous barriers when caring for potential victims.

Truong C, Burnes D, Alaggia R, Elman A, Rosen T.  
**Disclosure among victims of elder abuse in healthcare settings: a missing piece toward detection.**  
J Elder Abuse Negl. 2019 Mar-May;31(2):181-190. PMID: [30880608](#)

“Elder abuse remains a largely hidden problem in our society and only a small minority of victims are connected to formal support/protective services. Healthcare settings have been identified as a critical milieu to uncover cases of elder abuse; however, under-detection in these settings is a major issue...this article highlights the disclosure process, as well as disclosure barriers, facilitators, and competencies.”

Shao J, Zhang Q, Ren Y, Li X, Lin T.  
**Why are older adults victims of fraud? Current knowledge and prospects regarding older adults' vulnerability to fraud.**  
J Elder Abuse Negl. 2019 Mar;31(3):225-243. PMID: [31159679](#)

“Factors shown to influence fraud victimization among older adults include cognitive decline, emotional regulation and motivational changes, their overly trusting nature, psychological vulnerability, social isolation, risk-taking, and a lack of knowledge and information regarding fraud prevention.”

Conrad KJ, Liu PJ, Iris M.  
**Examining the Role of Substance Abuse in Elder Mistreatment: Results From Mistreatment Investigations.**  
J Interpers Violence. 2019 Jan;34(2):366-391. PMID: [27044491](#)

Of 948 alleged victims of elder abuse, 4.4% exhibited signs of substance use problems, which was associated with neglect. Among the 323 alleged perpetrators, 26.9% were reported to have substance use problems, which was associated with financial exploitation, physical, and emotional abuse of the elder. Alleged perpetrators with substance use problems tended to commit multiple forms of abuse, were male, and not caregivers.

## LGBTQ Concerns

Westwood S.

### Abuse and older lesbian, gay bisexual, and trans (LGBT) people: a commentary and research agenda.

J Elder Abuse Negl. 2019 Mar-May;31(2):97-114. PMID: [30451093](#)

Author “considers LGBT elder abuse in terms of polyvictimisation, intersectionality and the abuse of power”, and “identifies knowledge gaps, proposes a research agenda, and explains why such an agenda matters.”

Walls NE, Atteberry-Ash B, Kattari SK, et. Ia.

### Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, Mental Health, and Bullying as Predictors of Partner Violence in a Representative Sample of Youth.

J Adolesc Health. 2019 Jan;64(1):86-92. PMID: [30392863](#)

From a survey of Colorado teens, “LGB, questioning and transgender high school students are at elevated risk of partner violence, with the highest risk among those who are both LGB and transgender. Adolescents who report PV are also more likely to be struggling with bullying, depression, and suicidality.”

## Cultural Concerns

Sawrikar P.

### Child protection, domestic violence, and ethnic minorities: Narrative results from a mixed methods study in Australia.

PLoS One. 2019 Dec 4;14(12):e0226031. PMID: [31800634](#)

From a research review, case files, and interviews with Australian ethnic minority families and CPS caseworkers, three issues emerged relating to the intersection of child protection and domestic violence: (i) being in the child protection system tarnishes family name, which is greatly valued, leading to a preference for child maltreatment and family violence to remain private, and for compliance with Apprehended Violence Orders (AVOs) and service uptake/engagement to be low, (ii) family cohesion is also highly valued, so family violence victims may sacrifice their own personal safety to protect the family unity and cultural safety of their children, and (iii) family violence interacts with cultural factors for ethnic minorities but does not occur in all families; attributing it to race or culture would be racism.

Kokaliari ED, Roy AW, Taylor J.

### African American perspectives on racial disparities in child removals.

Child Abuse Negl. 2019 Apr;90:139-148. PMID: [30780009](#)

“African American children are overrepresented in foster care at twice to three times the rate of white children.” From focus groups of African American parents either involved with child welfare services or foster parents, six themes were identified: profound lack of trust, overwhelming trauma, severe and persistent poverty, health and mental health issues, socio-economic conditions, and sense of social isolation.

### Elkins J, Miller KM, Briggs HE, Kim I, Mowbray O, Orellana ER. Associations between Adverse Childhood Experiences, Major Depressive Episode and Chronic Physical Health in Adolescents: Moderation of Race/Ethnicity.

Soc Work Public Health. 2019;34(5):444-456. PMID: [31117927](#)

“Results underscore the importance of examining associations between ACE and adolescent well-being by race/ethnicity. The need for trauma-informed and culturally responsive services for adolescents is discussed.”

Table 2. Descriptive and bivariate associations of ACE and Race/Ethnicity (N = 10,123).

	Overall N = 10,123 % (M)	White Non-Hispanic n = 5,634 % (M)	African American n = 1,953 % (M)	Hispanic n = 1,914 % (M)	Others n = 622 % (M)	\$\$/f)
Parental death	3.32	2.66	5.61	3.85	3.45	35.24**
Parental divorce	27.01	26.25	32.02	26.95	22.15	27.41
Other parental loss	2.37	1.91	4.26	2.74	1.59	31.74**
Parental mental illness	28.08	28.37	24.42	30.73	27.54	15.52*
Parental substance abuse	17.58	18.08	12.86	21.87	12.94	50.64**
Parental criminality	12.31	9.78	17.29	19.05	11.07	136.68**
Domestic violence	19.66	17.06	26.88	24.97	16.71	107.70**
Physical abuse	12.45	11.73	13.47	15.27	10.81	16.51*
Sexual abuse	5.45	5.41	6.06	5.17	4.86	1.68
Emotional abuse	50.80	49.43	55.45	52.49	49.98	19.97*
Neglect	25.41	22.97	28.56	29.75	35.46	70.20**
Government assistance	16.72	11.70	31.39	24.11	21.38	380.54**
All ACE	(2.20)	(2.04)	(2.54)	(2.54)	(2.15)	(22.40)**

\*p < .05, \*\*p < .01

## Sexual Assault

Polite FG, Acholonu RG, Harrison N.

### A Multispecialty Perspective on Physician Responsibility to Sexual Assault Survivors.

Obstet Gynecol. 2019 Jul;134(1):58-62. PMID: [31188321](#)

Physicians in different specialties propose the adoption of a “social responsibility” trauma-informed care approach to sexual assault survivors, which includes prevention, trust, reassurance, and resource allocation.

Stoner JE, Cramer RJ.

### Sexual Violence Victimization Among College Females: A Systematic Review of Rates, Barriers, and Facilitators of Health Service Utilization on Campus.

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2019 Oct;20(4):520-533. PMID: [29333989](#)

From a research review of college females and sexual violence, "Although prevalence rates of sexual victimization were high, rates of service utilization were lower...Identified barriers included feelings of shame, guilt and embarrassment, not wanting friends and family to find out, and thinking the victimization was not serious enough to report. Identified facilitators included acknowledging the sexual violence victimization as a crime, receiving encouragement from friends and family to utilize health services, and receiving a positive response during the initial informal disclosure."

Barker LC, Stewart DE, Vigod SN.

### Intimate Partner Sexual Violence: An Often Overlooked Problem.

J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2019 Mar;28(3):363-374. PMID: [30335574](#)

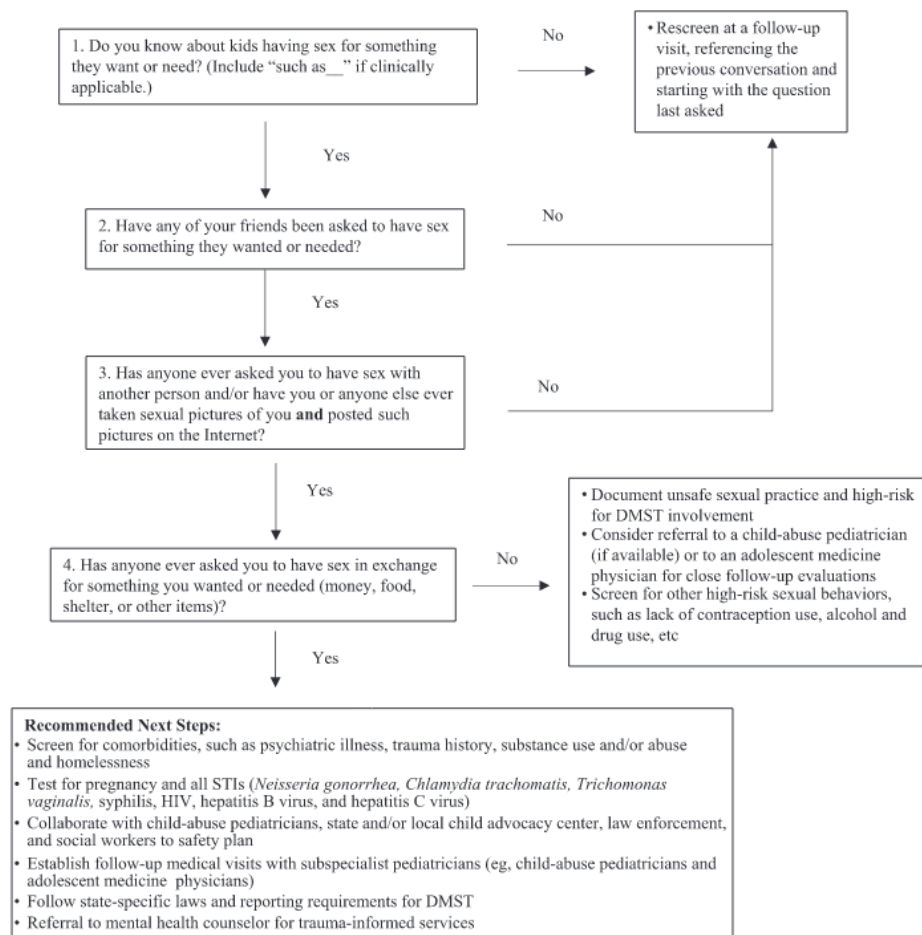
From a research review, "Compared with other forms of interpersonal violence, exposure to IPSV was associated with greater risk for posttraumatic stress disorder and depressive symptoms, problematic substance use, suicidality, pain and other somatic symptoms, adverse sexual health problems, specific physical injuries including strangulation, and death by homicide. Children with an exposed parent were at higher risk for internalizing symptoms such as depression, anxiety, and somatization."

## Human Trafficking

Goldberg AP, Moore JL, Barron CE.

### Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: Guidance for Communicating With Patients.

Hosp Pediatr. 2019 Apr;9(4):308-310. PMID: [30877140](#)



Flow diagram guide for conversation about DMST.

Chambers R, Ravi A, Paulus S.

### Human Trafficking: How Family Physicians Can Recognize and Assist Victims.

Am Fam Physician. 2019 Aug 15;100(4):202-204. PMID: [31414774](#)

#### Resources for Physician Training on Human Trafficking

Resource	Website
<b>Medical Safe Haven implementation</b>	
Dignity Health Human Trafficking Medical Safe Haven	<a href="https://www.dignityhealth.org/msh">https://www.dignityhealth.org/msh</a>
<b>Physician education</b>	
National Human Trafficking Hotline	<a href="https://humantraffickinghotline.org/">https://humantraffickinghotline.org/</a>
Office on Trafficking in Persons SOAR to Health and Wellness Training	<a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/training/soar-to-health-and-wellness-training">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/training/soar-to-health-and-wellness-training</a>
Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans	<a href="https://www.doc-path.org/">https://www.doc-path.org/</a>
<b>Protocols for private practices, residency clinics, and hospital systems</b>	
Dignity Health Human Trafficking Response Program Shared Learnings Manual	<a href="https://dignityhlth.org/2SZvve1">https://dignityhlth.org/2SZvve1</a>
HEAL Trafficking Protocol Toolkit	<a href="https://bit.ly/2MiBo36">https://bit.ly/2MiBo36</a>

## Perpetrators

Logan JE, Ertl A, Bossarte R.

### Correlates of Intimate Partner Homicide among Male Suicide Decedents with Known Intimate Partner Problems.

Suicide Life Threat Behav. 2019 Dec;49(6):1693-1706. PMID: [31187883](#)

Using national data of adult males with known intimate partner (IP) problems who committed suicide, 5.0% killed their partner prior to their own death. "IP homicide-suicide perpetration was positively correlated with suicide by firearm and precipitating civil legal problems but negatively correlated with mental health/substance abuse treatment. An estimated 33.7% of IP homicide-suicides occurred during a breakup."

Reid S, Katan A, Ellithy A, Della Stua R, Denisov EV.

### The Perfect Storm: Mapping the Life Course Trajectories of Serial Killers.

Int J Offender Ther Comp Criminol. 2019 Jul;63(9):1621-1662. PMID: [30924386](#)

"Using life span developmental psychology as a guiding framework, this study traces the developmental mechanisms that come together to shape the psychopathology that drives the motivations of sexual serial killers."

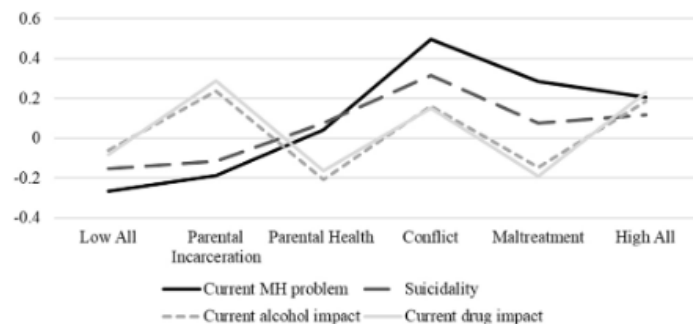
## Police and Court Systems

Logan-Greene P, Kim BKE, Nurius PS.

### Adversity profiles among court-involved youth: Translating system data into trauma-responsive programming.

Child Abuse Negl. 2020 Jun;104:104465. PMID: [32278929](#)

Using data from 5,378 medium-to-high-risk youth on probation, authors identified 6 "groups" based on graphs of extent of various ACEs for each group. Below graph shows extent of mental health, suicidality, alcohol and drug use for each group. Awareness of these adversity profiles can assist judicial and other services with youth support needs.



Elizondo P, McNeil DE, Binder R.

### A Review of Statutes and the Role of the Forensic Psychiatrist in Cyberstalking Involving Youth.

J Am Acad Psychiatry Law. 2019 Jun;47(2):198-207. PMID: [30914437](#)

"This article focuses on the current legal landscape governing cyberstalking behavior involving adolescents, the roles a forensic psychiatrist may assume in this context, and the opportunity to bring a developmental perspective to these cases."



Nitschke FT, McKimmie BM, Vanman EJ.

**A meta-analysis of the emotional victim effect for female adult rape complainants: Does complainant distress influence credibility?**

Psychol Bull. 2019 Oct;145(10):953-979. PMID: [31282696](#)

“Rape cases have a disproportionately high attrition rate and low conviction rate compared with other criminal offenses. Evaluations of a rape complainant's credibility often determine whether a case progresses through the criminal justice system. Even though emotional demeanor is not related to witness honesty or accuracy, distressed rape complainants are perceived to be more credible than complainants who present with controlled affect.”

Reckdenwald A, King DJ, Pritchard A.

**Prosecutorial Response to Nonfatal Strangulation in Domestic Violence Cases.**

Violence Vict. 2020 Apr 1;35(2):160-175. PMID: [32273375](#)

“The current exploratory study examines filing, charging, and adjudication decisions of nonfatal strangulation cases over a 3-year period based on evidence documentation in law enforcement reports to explore how these cases are handled by the criminal justice system in Brevard County, Florida. Results support previous research showing the importance of training police officers and other personnel, as insufficient evidence may be one possible factor limiting the prosecutors' ability to successfully prosecute domestic violence strangulation offenders.”

## Providers

Briggs L, Fronck P.

**Incorporating Demoralization into Social Work Practice.**

Soc Work. 2019 Apr 1;64(2):157-164. PMID: [30715546](#)

“Demoralization occurs when life becomes so overwhelming that daily functioning is affected and people lose all hope, agency, and the capacity to overcome their circumstances. Although a demoralized state is not recognized as a mental illness...it is often confused with psychiatric disorders and its presence can lead to clinical conditions and suicide. This article discusses demoralization and its place in social work practice, identification and measurement, and appropriate psychosocial interventions.”

Van Deirse TB, Wilson AB, Macy RJ, Cuddeback GS.

**Intimate Partner Violence and Women with Severe Mental Illnesses: Needs and Challenges from the Perspectives of Behavioral Health and Domestic Violence Service Providers.**

J Behav Health Serv Res. 2019 Apr;46(2):283-293. PMID: [29790039](#)

“Women with severe mental illnesses who experience intimate partner violence face additional challenges that exacerbate behavioral health and domestic violence issues and put these women at greater risk for continued victimization. DV and behavioral health agency staff experience individual-, provider-, and system-level barriers to serving this high-risk, high-need population.”

Maunder RG, Hunter JJ, Tannenbaum DW, Le TL, Lay C.

**Physicians' knowledge and practices regarding screening adult patients for adverse childhood experiences: a survey.**

BMC Health Serv Res. 2020 Apr 15;20(1):314. PMID: [32293444](#)

From a survey of Canadian family physicians, psychiatrists, and specialists, responses to ACEs screening were: family physicians - "when indicated"(66.3%), psychiatrists - "routinely" (91.3%), and other specialists - "never or not usually" (77.1%). Screening was not related to knowledge of prevalence of ACEs, or of the link between ACEs and mental health, but was significantly associated with knowing that ACEs are associated with physical health...The most prevalent perceived barriers to screening were lack of mental health resources (59.0%), lack of time (59.0%), concern about causing distress (49.7%) and lack of confidence (43.7%).”

Copado IA, Distelberg B.

**Use of the Whole Child Assessment to identify children at risk of poor outcomes.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2020 Jun;104:104489. PMID: [32289566](#)

“We found strong relationships between Child-ACEs reported on the Whole Child Assessment and odds of poor child health and psychosocial outcomes in pediatric patients age 5-11 years old, which supports the validity of using the Whole Child Assessment at well-child visits...Compared to lower risk patients (0-1 reported ACE exposure), patients with 2 or more reported exposures were statistically significantly more likely to experience sadness, anger, sleep problems, bullying, school problems, and enuresis [bed-wetting].”

Thomson P, Jaque SV.

**History of childhood adversity and coping strategies: Positive flow and creative experiences.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2019 Apr;90:185-192. PMID: [30802732](#)

In this community and university sample of adults (n = 577), 40.4% had no ACEs, 43.4% had 1-3 ACEs, and 16.3% had ≥4 ACEs. There were no group differences for task-oriented and avoidant-oriented coping, however those with 4+ ACEs “endorsed more intense creative experiences compared to the no-ACE and 1-3 ACE groups”. The 4+ group also had heightened anxiety, internalized shame, dissociative processing, and emotion-oriented coping.

## Prevention

Blaisdell KN, Imhof AM, Fisher PA.

**Early adversity, child neglect, and stress neurobiology: From observations of impact to empirical evaluations of mechanisms.**

Int J Dev Neurosci. 2019 Nov;78:139-146. PMID: [31254597](#)

After a review of the effects of early life disruptions in care on biobehavioral development, including the effects on the HPA axis (stress hormones including cortisol), authors note that “a number of evidence-based interventions for infant, toddler, and preschool-aged foster children have been shown to produce more typical patterns of cortisol production, in combination with improved behavioral, socioemotional, and foster care placement outcomes.”

Forster M, Grigsby TJ, Gower AL, Mehus CJ, McMorris BJ.

**The Role of Social Support in the Association between Childhood Adversity and Adolescent Self-injury and Suicide: Findings from a Statewide Sample of High School Students.**

J Youth Adolesc. 2020 Jun;49(6):1195-1208. PMID: [32297174](#)

From a single statewide survey of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>-graders looking at adversities, supports, suicidality and non-suicidal self-injury, “Peer and teacher social support can promote positive outcomes even for youth living in stressful family conditions, and that the protective effects of social support increase as the number of sources of support expands.”

Brent DA.

**Master Clinician Review: Saving Holden Caulfield: Suicide Prevention in Children and Adolescents.**

J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2019 Jan;58(1):25-35. PMID: [30577936](#)

Author discusses the utility and cost-effectiveness of four approaches to prevention of adolescent suicidal behavior: prevention, improving access to

care, changing the way care is delivered, and restriction of access to lethal agents.

## Researchers

Ullman SE, O'Callaghan E, Lorenz K.

**Women's Experiences of Impairment and Incapacitation During Alcohol/Drug-Related Sexual Assaults: Toward a Survivor-Informed Approach to Measurement.**

Arch Sex Behav. 2019 Oct;48(7):2105-2116. PMID: [31327108](#)

Authors delineate the research and clinical need for a more detailed, standardized definition of someone who is unimpaired, impaired, or incapacitated in the context of substance-facilitated sexual assault.

## Other of Interest

Adhia A, Gelaye B, Friedman LE, et. al.

**Workplace interventions for intimate partner violence.**

J Workplace Behav Health. 2019 May 30;34(3). PMID: [32322182](#)

In this research review, “Interventions focused on recognizing signs of abuse, responding to victims, and providing referrals to community-based resources...None of the interventions addressed perpetrators of IPV...It is important for future interventions to focus on primary and secondary prevention of IPV and address perpetration, and for investigators to use rigorous study designs and measure whether effects are sustained.”

Joyce A, Green C, Kearney S, Leung L, Ollis D.

**Alignment and political will: upscaling an Australian respectful relationships program.**

Health Promot Int. 2019 Oct 1;34(5):892-901. PMID: [29850904](#)

“Many small scale efficacious programs and interventions need to be 'scaled-up' in order to reach a larger population. Although...interventions deemed suitable for upscaling need to have demonstrated effectiveness, be able to be implemented cost-effectively and be accepted by intended recipients, these factors alone are insufficient...Upscaling research often identifies political will as a key factor in explaining whether programs are supported and up-scaled...political will is not a stand-alone factor as depicted by upscaling models, but rather is the end point of a complex process that involves many elements including the establishment of networks and aligned programs that can capitalize when opportunities arise.”