

# ABUSE RESEARCH

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## Child Abuse

Hornor G.

### Problematic Sexualized Behavior in Children: Essentials for the Pediatric Forensic Nurse.

J Forensic Nurs. 2024;20(2):113-20. PMID: [38411532](#)

“Problematic sexual behavior (PSB) in children and adolescents...is defined as harmful or developmentally inappropriate behaviors involving sexual organs or regions of the body exhibited by children or adolescents...Adolescents engaging in PSB can be vulnerable to formal court adjudication as their behaviors may be considered a sexual offense. PSB can result in significant negative consequences for all children and adolescents involved as well as their families. This article will describe sexual behavior in children, normative and problematic, and explore implications for forensic nursing practice.”

**TABLE 1. Continuum of Sexual Behaviors in Children**

Normal	Inappropriate	Problematic	Abusive/violent
Developmentally consistent Socially acceptable No force or coercion	Single instance of concerning behavior Context for behavior is unacceptable Behavior may be socially accepted with peer group Generally no force or coercion	Pattern of concerning/problematic behaviors Unusual for developmental level Socially unaccepted behavior Force or coercion Unequal levels of power between children Compulsivity	Greater than 4-year age difference Coercion and force Intrusive Violent Sadism Instrumental violence, which is sexually arousing to perpetrator

Adapted from Branigan (2020).

Kawata NYS, Nishitani S, Yao A, et al.

### Brain structures and functional connectivity in neglected children with no other types of maltreatment.

Neuroimage. 2024;292:120589. PMID: [38575041](#)

This case-control brain MRI study identified changes in brain structure and function that distinguished neglected children with no other type of maltreatment (n = 23) from typically developing children (n = 140). Findings concluded that “exposure to neglect in childhood may lead to maladaptive brain development, particularly neural changes associated with depressive symptoms”.

McNamara CR, Even KM, Kalinowski A, et al.

### Multiorgan Dysfunction Syndrome in Abusive and Accidental Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury.

Neurocrit Care. 2024 Jun;40(3):1099-1108. PMID: [38062303](#)

Of 576 children under age 3 admitted to one pediatric intensive care unit with traumatic brain injury, significantly more children with abusive vs. accidental head injury experienced multiorgan dysfunction syndrome (dysfunction in two or more organ systems) at day 7 (17% vs. 3%). The most common organ failures were cardiovascular (66% abusive vs. 66% accidental), neurologic (33% vs. 16%) and respiratory (34% vs. 15%).

Bravo LG, Meza J, Schiff SJ, et al.

### Parental Legal System Involvement, Positive Childhood Experiences, and Suicide Risk.

Pediatrics. 2024 Jun 1;153(6):e2023062566. PMID: [38779781](#)

Of 10,532 11-12 years olds in a national study, 6.5% reported parental incarceration and 12.0% reported parental arrest. “Children whose parents had been incarcerated had a relative risk of suicidal ideation of 1.74. Children whose parents had been arrested had a relative risk of suicidal ideation of 1.89 and a relative risk of suicide attempt of 2.69. Parental incarceration/arrest were not associated with NSSI [non-suicidal self-injury]. Positive childhood experiences were associated with reduced relative risk of suicidal ideation and NSSI.”

## Adult Manifestations of Child Abuse

Hornor G.

### Child Sexual Abuse Victimization and Parenting.

J Pediatr Health Care. 2024;38(3):438-49. PMID: [38697699](#)

“The pediatric health care provider must understand that experiencing child sexual abuse can exacerbate the everyday challenges of parenting and help normalize these feelings for the parent as a meaningful adaption to trauma. Having this conversation will assist in reducing the stigma of seeking supportive resources and parental internalizing beliefs of being ‘bad parents’. This trauma-informed approach supports parents from a place of respect, acknowledging parental strengths and resilience while reducing feelings of shame and stigma.”

#### BOX 4. Discipline screening questions

##### Questions

###### Parent

- How do you discipline your child?
- How does your partner discipline your child?
- Does anyone ever spank your child with their hand?
  - Where on their body?
  - How often?
  - Has it ever left a mark?
- Does anyone ever hit your child with an object?
  - What object?
  - Where on their body?
  - How often?
  - Has it ever left a mark?
- Do you or anyone else ever use other physical methods of discipline?
  - Pinching/pulling hair/kicking
- Do you or anyone else ever use nonphysical methods of discipline?

###### Child

- What happens when you get in trouble?
- What does Mom do when you get in trouble?
- What does Dad do when you get in trouble?
- Does anyone ever hit/whoop/spank you?
  - What do they hit you with?
  - Where on your body do they hit you?
  - How often do you get hit?
  - Does it ever leave a mark on your body?

#### BOX 5. Child sexual abuse education and screening questions

##### Questions

- Explain to the child that everyone has private parts—parts of their body that no one should touch, kiss, tickle, hurt, or put anything in.
- What are your private parts?
  - Have the child verbally tell you or point to their private parts.
  - What should you do if anyone bothers or tries to bother your private parts?
  - Do you tell or keep it a secret?
  - Who could you tell if anyone bothered your private parts? (Make sure the child can name at least two adults. You could also tell your teacher, nurse/practitioner (doctor, nurse, etc.), or babysitter.
  - Has anyone ever touched, tickled, kissed, or hurt your private parts?
  - Who is allowed to help you with your private parts if you need help?

Xu Z, Mao F, Huang Y, Xiao Y, Cao F.

#### Associations between parenting burnout and maternal adverse childhood experiences among postnatal women.

Psychol Health Med. 2024;29(5):988-97. PMID: [38761379](#)

Of 583 postnatal Chinese mothers, ACEs were associated with a higher risk of parental burnout. The ACEs of physical abuse and emotional neglect in childhood were particularly correlated with more serious parental burnout.

Zhang X, Xiao Y, Mao F, Xu Z, Cao F.

#### Role of Maternal Adverse Childhood Experiences on Infant Neglect: A Multi-Perspective Approach.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241248437. PMID: [38715367](#)

Of 550 Chinese new mothers and infants, infants born to mothers with ACEs experienced higher levels of neglect compared to those born to mothers without ACEs, and infants born to mothers with three or more subtypes of ACEs experienced the greatest levels of neglect, with maternal childhood physical neglect emerging as a particularly influential factor.

Shidlo N, Lazarov A, Benyamini Y.

#### Stressful life events and the occurrence of skin cancer.

Psycho-oncology. 2024;33(5):e6343. PMID: [38697780](#)

Of 268 adults seen in a dermatology clinic, "Adverse childhood experiences were associated with melanoma occurrence, with the melanoma group

reporting significantly more such experiences compared to the control group (mean ACEs 2.83 vs. 1.50)...The findings suggest that there may be intricate connections between stress, life events, adaptation to change, and skin cancer, which future research may further unravel."

Lovett SM, Orta OR, Boynton-Jarrett R, et al.

#### Childhood adversity and time-to-pregnancy in a preconception cohort.

Am J Epidemiol. 2024 May 23;kwae085. PMID: [38794905](#)

For 6,318 female participants aged 21-45 years in an online pregnancy study, fecundability ratios (FR = assessing ability to get pregnant, and wanting the number to be greater than 1), were 0.91 for ACE scores 1-3 and 0.84 for 4+ ACEs. In addition, those with 4+ ACEs with high childhood social support had a FR of 0.86 (slightly better), but FR of 0.78 if childhood social support was low.

Joss D, Teicher MH, Lazar SW.

#### Beneficial effects of mindfulness-based intervention on hippocampal volumes and episodic memory for childhood adversity survivors.

J Affect Disord Rep. 2024;16. PMID: [38737193](#)

For 39 adult ACE survivors randomized to an 8 week mindfulness-based intervention (MBI) vs. stress management education, brain scans showed increased volume of certain areas of the brain as well as as improved memory task in the MBI group, "which sheds light on the potential neural underpinnings of mindfulness meditation for reducing stress reactivity among ACE survivors."

Tiilikainen E, Aartsen M, Kraav SL.

#### Early-life circumstances and late life loneliness trajectories among Finnish older adults.

BMC geriatrics. 2024;24(1):459. PMID: [38789957](#)

For 1552 Finnish older adults, "The results identified three distinct loneliness trajectories: low, moderate, and severe, including 36%, 50% and 14%, respectively, of the study population...trajectories were stable during the seven years of follow-up. Being afraid of a family member, having a cold childhood, and death of a father or mother in childhood or youth significantly increased the odds of having a severe loneliness trajectory as compared to low loneliness trajectory...The results highlight the need to recognize the role of diverse life-course adversities in loneliness research and interventions. The study also underscores the importance of identifying individuals who are at risk of long-term and severe loneliness and providing them with appropriate support."

# Adolescents

Guo F, Chen X, Howland S, et al.

## **Perceived Stress From Childhood to Adulthood and Cardiometabolic End Points in Young Adulthood: An 18-Year Prospective Study.**

J Am Heart Assoc. 2024 Feb 6;13(3):e030741. PMID: [38230530](#)

For 276 participants (55.8% women) from a southern California long-term study, higher perceived stress in childhood and especially adolescence was associated with increased artery intima thickness (blood vessel stiffness), elevated blood pressure, increased overall heart risk factors, and 5.57 times increased odds of obesity in young adulthood. Authors highlight the importance of stress management in early adolescence as a health protective behavior.

Osborne MC, Reidy DE, Temple JR, DeMello A, Lu Y.

## **Examining the Relation Between Early Violence Exposure and Firearm-Related Experiences in Emerging Adulthood.**

Psychol Rep. 2024;332941241254313. PMID: [38738909](#)

“We analyzed data from a 10-year longitudinal study of 1042 youth in the Southern United States. Experiencing childhood physical abuse was associated with both firearm-threatening victimization and perpetration in emerging adulthood. Additionally, exposure to neighborhood and interparental violence were linked to threatening others with firearms and carrying firearms, respectively...Findings highlight the importance of cross-cutting violence prevention efforts to prevent high-risk firearm-related behaviors among emerging adults.”

Zogg CK, Runquist EB 3rd, Amick M, et al.

## **Experiences of Interpersonal Violence in Sport and Perceived Coaching Style Among College Athletes.**

JAMA Netw Open. 2024 Jan 2;7(1):e2350248. PMID: [38227316](#)

From an NCAA survey with a 21.2% response rate, mean age 19.3 years and 55.9% male, 9.8% reported experiencing at least 1 type of interpersonal violence (IV) during their college sports career, of whom 6.5% experienced IV within the past 6 weeks. Female gender identity (odds ratio [OR] 2.12), non-heterosexual sexual orientation (OR 1.56), increasing age beyond 18 years (OR 1.13), and participation in select sports (e.g., volleyball: OR 2.77; ice hockey: OR 2.86) were independently associated with IV. When exposed to IV, college athletes reported experiencing consistently worse psychosocial outcomes, including increased burnout

and an expressed desire to consider quitting their sport. Having a more supportive coach was associated with a 7.4 absolute percentage point decrease in athletes' probability of reporting experiencing IV. In contrast, having a more abusive coach was associated with up to a 15.4 absolute percentage point increase in athletes' probability of reporting experiencing IV.

Jankovic C, Higgins DJ, Willis ML.

## **The well-being of young adults: The implications of multi-type child maltreatment and the mediating role of betrayal trauma.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;153:106840. PMID: [38733835](#)

From a survey of 486 Australian and international young adults, “the extent of child maltreatment experienced, one's sense of betrayal, and the relationship of the child/adolescent to the perpetrator can influence well-being experienced during young adulthood. These findings highlight the therapeutic benefit of clinicians supporting young adults who have endured child maltreatment to process betrayal trauma.”

Ceballos NA, Watt TT.

## **The Influence of Adverse Childhood Experiences on Malevolent Creativity in Young Adulthood.**

Behav Sci (Basel). 2023 Nov 22;13(12):961. PMID: [38131817](#)

From a survey of 524 college students, ACEs increased the likelihood of malevolent creativity in young adulthood, but empathy and social support decreased this association. “The specific antisocial behavior of malevolent creativity [is] the application of original ideas to purposely harm others, often to gain an unfair advantage through manipulation, threat, or harm.”

# Domestic Violence – Effects on Children

Fogarty A, Brown S, Gartland D, et al.

## **Patterns of intimate partner violence exposure across the first 10 years of life and children's emotional-behavioural outcomes at 10 years.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;153:106814. PMID: [38701670](#)

Of 1507 first time Australian mothers, “Exposure to early, increasing, or persistent IPV was associated with increased odds of children experiencing emotional-behavioural difficulties at age 10 (odds ratio 2.15-2.97). Children exposed to a persistent pattern of IPV experienced over 6 times the odds of conduct problems (OR = 6.15).”

Rogers MM, Ashworth C.

### **Child-to-Parent Violence and Abuse: A Scoping Review.**

Trauma Violence Abuse. 2024;15248380241246033. PMID: [38682797](#)

From a research review of child-to-parent violence and abuse (CPVA), “The main findings were: (a) the field of CPVA is rapidly growing, doubling in the last decade but with a predominance of quantitative studies; (b) there is no agreed universal definition; (c) children and young people with disabilities; who identify as trans or nonbinary gender, or who are adopted or fostered, are almost completely absent from the existing research; (d) there is very limited research focusing on protective factors.”

Saar-Heiman Y, Damma J, Lalayants M, Gupta A.

### **Parent Peer Advocacy, Mentoring, and Support in Child Protection: A Scoping Review of Programs and Services.**

Psychosoc Interv. 2024;33(2):73-88. PMID: [38711419](#)

“Parent peer advocacy, mentoring, and support programs, delivered by parents with lived child protection (CP) experience to parents receiving CP intervention, are increasingly recognized internationally as practices that promote positive outcomes.” This 25-year review concluded: “Substantial variation in program settings, target populations, aims, advocate roles, and underlying theoretical frameworks were identified...existing empirical evidence on impact and outcomes also varied, though positive impacts and outcomes were evident across most settings.”

Wallace ME, Stoecker C, Sauter S, Vilda D.

### **States' Abortion Laws Associated With Intimate Partner Violence-Related Homicide Of Women And Girls In The US, 2014-20.**

Health Aff (Millwood). 2024;43(5):682-90. PMID: [38709960](#)

“Women who are pregnant or recently gave birth are significantly more likely to be killed by an intimate partner than nonpregnant, non-postpartum women of reproductive age, implicating the risk of fatal violence conferred by pregnancy itself...examine the association between state laws that restrict access to abortion and trends in intimate partner violence-related homicide among women and girls ages 10-44 during the period 2014-20...enforcement of each additional Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers (TRAP) law was associated with a 3.4 percent increase in the rate of intimate partner violence-related homicide in this population...Assessment of policies that restrict access to abortion should consider their potential harm to reproductive-age women through the risk for violent death.”

## Domestic Violence – Physical Health

Chéa M, Bourguignon C, Bouvier S, et al.

### **Intimate partner violence as a risk factor for venous thromboembolism in women on combined oral contraceptives: An international matched case-control study.**

Eur J Intern Med. 2024 Apr;122:47-53. PMID: [38135584](#)

For 109 women on combined oral contraceptives (COC) with a first episode of venous thromboembolism (VTE = significant blood clot in a vein, caused by activation of the blood clotting process, triggered by many factors including possibly a minor injury), compared to a control group, and after adjusting for variables, the odds of experiencing IPV was 3.720 times more frequent in the VTE group than the control group. “A first VTE in women taking COCs is associated with IPV. This association can have strong human consequences but also raises significant medical issues, for instance on the haemorrhagic risk of anticoagulant treatments in abused women.” (A treatment for VTE is medication to dissolve the clot and thin the blood, which may lead to excessive bleeding with a subsequent injury.)

Cailleau V, Afonso L, Cherprenet C, et al.

### **Is intimate partner sexual violence a singular violence?**

Encephale. 2024 May 7:S0013-7006(24)00070-8. PMID: [38719660](#)

“Compared to victims of other types of sexual violence, women sexually abused by an intimate partner experience more severe mental health outcomes such as depression, anxiety, anger, self-blame, increased feelings of shame, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse to cope or suicide attempt. Intimate partner sexual violence is also associated with humiliation and betrayal of trust, greater physical violence, greater risk of sexually transmitted infections, re-victimization, higher risk of serious injury or homicide. Beyond the legal definition of sexual rape, intimate partner sexual violence encompasses a wide range of subtle and complex behaviors such as coercive tactics, blackmail, implicit threat or reproductive control.”

## Domestic Violence – Mental Health

Sheeran N, Jenkins A, Humphreys T, Ter Horst S, Higgins M.  
**Investigating the Impact of Reproductive Coercion and IPV on Psychological and Sexual Wellbeing.**

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241253026. PMID: [38752449](#)

“With community samples of participants in Australia, we conducted two studies to explore the impact of RCA [reproductive coercion and abuse] and IPV. Study 1 (n = 368) found that experiencing IPV and RCA both significantly and uniquely contributed to poorer mental health outcomes...predicted symptoms of depression, anxiety, stress, PTSD, and reduced satisfaction with life. Study 2 (n = 329) found that...IPV predicted decreased sexual satisfaction and increased sexual anxiety, depression, and fear of sexual encounters.”

## Elder/Dependent Adult Abuse

Nieuwenhuijs B, Gorus E, Portzky G, De Witte N.  
**Risk and protective factors of a wish to die and suicidal ideation in community-dwelling, older, Flemish adults: results of the Belgian ageing studies.**

Aging Ment Health. 2024;1-8. PMID: [38708865](#)

From an aging study of 3050 Flemish elders, “Prevalence rates of 4.8% for WTD [wish to die] and 8.2% for LSIB [lifetime suicidal ideation and behavior] are found. LSIB is the biggest predictor of a current WTD, followed by three domains: elder abuse, depression and subjective cognitive complaints. Elder abuse was a significant risk factor for both WTD and LSIB. Limited effects of protective factors were found.”

Walsh CA, Dukart A, Roger K, Goodridge D.  
**Disclosure and Reporting of Abuse Against Older Adults: Perspectives of Older Adults with Abuse Histories and Service Providers in Alberta, Canada.**

J Gerontol Soc Work. 2024;67(4):444-73. PMID: [38590169](#)

Interviews with older adults with lived experience of abuse and service providers working directly with this population in Alberta, Canada revealed barriers to disclosure and reporting of abuse, facilitators to disclosure and reporting, and key tensions between service providers' and older adults' perceptions of the disclosure and reporting process. “Based on these findings, we offer recommendations to increase awareness, promote disclosure, and improve services for older adults experiencing abuse.”

Starke M, Larsson A, Punzi E.

**People with intellectual disability and their risk of exposure to violence: Identification and prevention - a literature review.**

Journal of intellectual disabilities. 2024;17446295241252472. PMID: [38714505](#)

“The research revealed that children, youths and adults labelled with intellectual disabilities are more exposed to violence than others and that the target group lack knowledge about risks of violence and what it means to be exposed to violence. It was also found that professionals who work with people with intellectual disabilities may lack knowledge about violence, and those who work with violence lack knowledge about intellectual disabilities.” Authors suggest a need for collaborative teams containing these two groups of professionals.

## Sexual Assault

Moylan CA, Nason JA, Ma W, et al.

**Drinking, Diversity, and Discrimination: Campus-Level Factors that Influence Students' Risk of Experiencing Sexual Assault.**

J Interpers Violence. 2024;39(13-14):2857-80. PMID: [38243808](#)

As part of a large national college campus survey, “Although some campus characteristics, such as enrollment size, had small significant effects on students' odds of experiencing sexual assault, we found larger significant effects from aggregated campus-level rates of binge drinking, campus diversity (particularly regarding sexual orientation and gender), and discrimination. These findings suggest that comprehensive campus sexual violence prevention would benefit from strategies that promote safe and inclusive campuses, especially for students with marginalized sexual and gender identities.”

Marcantonio TL, Haikalis M, Misquith C, Leone RM.

**Alcohol's Effects on the Bystander Decision-Making Model: A Systematic Literature Review.**

J Sex Res. 2024;61(5):783-98. PMID: [38010804](#)

From a research review, “Alcohol use appeared to impede earlier steps of the bystander decision-making model...Bystander intervention programs may want to move beyond the narrative of alcohol as a risk factor for sexual assault and discuss how alcohol impairs a bystanders' ability to recognize risk.”

Lederer AM, Liddell JL, Johnson KM, Sheffield S.  
**'A profound effect on how I see myself and the world around me': what students found meaningful about taking an academic course intended to reduce campus sexual violence.**

Health Educ Res. 2024;39(3):197-211. PMID: [38244588](#)  
"Sexual violence is common on US college campuses and can result in negative health and academic outcomes. Credit-bearing courses are a possible innovative intervention...Our institution, located in the Southern United States, developed a semester-long class as a curricular intervention after our institutional climate survey results showed high rates of sexual violence among undergraduate students. Students enrolled in the course wrote a final reflection paper on what they found meaningful about the class...gaining new knowledge, questioning prior assumptions, experiencing personal transformation and feeling empowered to act. Results indicated that students had a powerful class experience and that this kind of educational intervention has the potential to positively impact enrolled students."

Mercier O, Parpia R, Presseau J, Muldoon KA, Sampsel K.  
**Telemedicine and virtual healthcare for survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence: A qualitative study.**  
Womens Health (Lond). 2024;20:17455057241252958.  
PMID: [38783826](#)

From interviews with 10 Canadian women regarding using telemedicine for follow-up care to sexual or physical assault, "Three themes emerged as drivers of telemedicine use: increased comfort, increased convenience, and less time required for the appointment. Three thematic barriers to telemedicine use included lack of privacy from others, lack of safety from their assailant, and pressure to balance competing tasks during the appointment...telemedicine for sexual assault and intimate partner violence follow-up care is feasible, acceptable, and can improve patient satisfaction with follow-up care. Ensuring safety and privacy are key considerations when offering telemedicine as an appropriate option for survivors."

## Human Trafficking

Meshelemiah JCA, Dellor E, Karandikar S, et al.  
**Adverse Childhood Experiences, Women Who Are Sex Trafficked, and Social Service Utilization: Implications for Social Work.**  
Soc Work. 2024 Jun 21;69(3):265-275. PMID: [38745387](#)

"Fifty women who were sex trafficked were surveyed...The ACEs score for respondents ranged from 2 to 10 with an average score of 7.4. Emotional and sexual abuse tied at 88 percent as the most frequently cited ACE. Considering the well-established link between ACEs and poor health outcomes, these findings point to the need for innovative and targeted social service provisions to women who were formerly sex trafficked that take into consideration the high level of ACEs of the women."

## LGBTQ Concerns

Laliga-Mollá M, San Martín-Martínez C, Coll-Planas G, et al.  
**Intimate partner violence in lesbian couples: A systematic review on the barriers to seeking help.**

J Lesbian Stud. 2024;1-19. PMID: [38685591](#)  
From a research review on seeking help for IPV in lesbian couples, "The results of this research show that psycho-social and legal barriers exist, which, within a...heterosexist society - do not occur in isolation, but are inter-related, making it difficult for lesbian women victims of intimate partner violence to seek help or access support services. This review finds limitations in the literature reviewed and makes recommendations for future research."

Bowling J, Wright S, Benson JK, et al.  
**Disclosing and Reporting of Consent Violations Among Kink Practitioners in the United States.**  
Violence Against Women. 2024 May;30(6-7):1453-1476.  
PMID: [36541018](#)

"Kink practitioners (N = 2,888) completed a survey focused on consent violations, reporting, and recommendations, with 25.56% of them reporting consent violations in the kink context. The type of consent violation (sexual assault or kink-related behaviors), disclosure, and reporting significantly differed based on gender, sexual orientation, and injury status, but not age. Additionally, recommended steps included avoidance of police and others in positions of power." Per Wikipedia, "kinkiness is the use of non-conventional sexual practices, concepts or fantasies."

## Race/Cultural Concerns

Kiefer L, Daniel D, Polineni S, Dhamoon M.

**Racial disparities in access to, and outcomes of, acute ischaemic stroke treatments in the USA.**

Stroke Vasc Neurol. 2024 May 21;svn-2023-003051. PMID: [38777349](#)

In a review of Medicare data for 805,181 acute stroke admissions (12.4% black, 87.6% white), Black patients were less likely to receive standard stroke treatment, to survive 30 days, to be discharged, and to have an outpatient follow up visit within 30 days.

Pittell H, Calip GS, Pierre A, Ryals CA, Guadamuz JS.

**Racialized economic segregation and inequities in treatment initiation and survival among patients with metastatic breast cancer.**

Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2024 Jul;206(2):411-423. PMID: [38702585](#)

Of 27,459 patients with metastatic breast cancer (mBC = cancer that has spread to other areas of the body), compared with patients from the most privileged areas, those from the least privileged areas were disproportionately Black (36.9% vs. 2.6%) or Latinx (13.2% vs. 2.6%) and increasingly diagnosed with de novo mBC (de novo = first found when cancer had spread already, vs. being found initially just in the breast 33.6% vs. 28.9%). Those from the least privileged areas had longer median time-to-treatment than those from the most privileged areas (38 vs 31 days) and shorter median overall survival (29.7 vs 39.2 months). “Racialized economic segregation is a social determinant of health associated with treatment and survival inequities in mBC. Public investments directly addressing racialized economic segregation and other forms of structural racism are needed to reduce inequities in cancer care and outcomes.”

Matoba N, Kim C, Branche T, Collins JW, Jr.

**Social Determinants of Premature Birth.**

Clin Perinatol. 2024;51(2):331-43. PMID: [38705644](#)

“Here, we highlight the social determinants of preterm birth, with special attention to the social experiences among African American women, which are likely attributed to structural racism and discrimination throughout life”, including maternal nativity, allostatic load and life course, education, adult residential environment, early-life residential environment, police presence, parental incarceration, redlining, racism, fathers, job strain, and term infant mortality.

Brownlow BN, Cheavens JS, Vasey MW, Thayer JF, Hill LK.

**Culturally compelled coping and depressive symptoms in Black Americans: Examining the role of psychophysiological regulatory capacity.**

Emotion. 2024 Jun;24(4):1003-1015. PMID: [38060018](#)

Authors present preliminary evidence that culturally compelled coping styles, such as emotional and behavioral restraint and vigilance, often used by Black Americans, may be associated with increased depressive symptoms.

Dieujuste N, Mekawi Y, Doom JR.

**Examination of race-based traumatic stress symptom networks in Black adults in the United States: A network analysis.**

J Trauma Stress. 2024 Jun;37(3):397-409. PMID: [38054549](#)

In a network analysis study of 1,037 US Black adults mean age 45.12 years regarding “race-based traumatic stress (RBTS)”, seven clusters of symptoms including depression, intrusion, anger, hypervigilance, physical symptoms, (low) self-esteem, and avoidance were evaluated. “Depression and physical symptoms clusters were the most central nodes in the cluster network. Feelings of meaninglessness, experiencing mental images of the event, and physical trembling were the most central items within the item-level network. These findings offer insights and implications for assessing and treating symptoms of RBTS in Black adults in the United States who are exposed to race-based traumatic events.”

## Perpetrators

Hegarty K.

**A focus on perpetrators of intimate partner violence in mental health settings is urgently needed.**

BJPsych open. 2024;10(3):e115. PMID: [38770917](#)

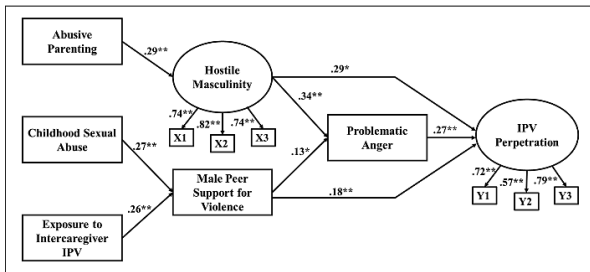
“A national study in the UK has shown that perpetration of intimate partner violence is common for men and women attending mental health settings. People who perpetrated intimate partner violence were more likely to have experienced intimate partner violence, particularly for women. Perpetrators who were men were more likely to also perpetrate non-partner violence against family, friends or strangers. Mental health clinicians require training in identification, risk assessment and response, including referrals to behavioural programmes. More research is required to inform such responses; however, the need to address this common hidden problem in mental health settings is urgent.”

Sutton TE.

**Hostile Masculinity, Male Peer Support for Violence, and Problematic Anger: Linking Childhood Abuse to Men's Partner Violence Perpetration.**

Violence Against Women. 2024;10778012241252013. PMID: [38710508](#)

From an online survey of 1575 college students, with an 82.7% return, "hostile masculinity, male peer support, and problematic anger are important mechanisms linking early abuse victimization to men's perpetration of IPV in young adulthood. Future studies should explore the impact of other adverse childhood experiences and additional manifestations and correlates of masculinity."



**Figure 1.** Structural equation model of men's childhood abuse victimization, components of masculinity, and intimate partner violence perpetration. Note. X1 = hypermasculinity; X2 = hostile sexism; X3 = rape myth acceptance; Y1 = psychological IPV; Y2 = physical IPV; Y3 = controlling IPV. WLSMV estimator used. Alcohol use included as a covariate. \*\*p < .01, \*p < .05, †p < .10.

J Interpers Violence. 2024;8862605241254136. PMID: [38771023](#)

"Although U.S.-based mandatory and preferred arrest laws and policies were created to promote domestic violence survivors' safety, at times they have contributed to the wrongful arrest of women defending themselves against their abusive partners...less considered are domestic violence survivors' descriptions of the events that unfold after police officers respond to a domestic violence incident and before they make an arrest. This is an important area of inquiry as these events may highlight how the circumstances leading to wrongful arrest decisions are more complex than the laws and policies alone...Broad system-focused implications are discussed."

**3) Her Disclosures**

- It is often her first interaction with police.
- She often discloses her use of self-defense and/or resistive force.
- She often does not disclose how she has been harmed to protect herself and/or her children after the police leave.
- She may wait to disclose until a time she believes to be safer.

**4) His Gaslighting**

- He involves police to strategically punish her.
- He has prior experience navigating a police response.
- He does not disclose his abuse and/or coercive control to responding officers.
- He calls attention to her actions to overshadow his abuse.
- He calls attention to any evidence or perceived evidence of being harmed without taking responsibility for harming her.

# Police and Court Systems

Drevin G, Gaulier JM, Hakim F, et al.

**Synthetic cathinones in drug-facilitated sexual assault: A case report involving the novel generation substituted cathinone N-ethylpentedrone and a review of the literature.**

Forensic Sci Int. 2024;359:112030. PMID: [38657324](#)  
Authors delineate 5 new synthetic derivatives of MDMA (Ecstasy, Molly) that have been used in drug-facilitated sexual assault.

Flanagan L, Murphy C, Savage P, Breathnach M, Ryan J.  
**The importance of male underwear in cases of alleged sexual assault.**

J Forensic Sci. 2024 Jul;69(4):1481-1489. PMID: [38703136](#)  
"Three real-life cases are discussed, in which male underwear were examined for multiple body fluids/DNA, and the findings obtained proved evidentially significant."

Young Larance L.

**Arrest Web Entanglement: Female Domestic Violence Survivors' Experiences with Police Intervention and Coercively Controlling Male Partners.**

# Providers



Palmer BE, Barnes RD, Freese RL, Kim MH, Robiner WN.  
**Physician homicide: Reports in the National Violent Death Reporting System (2003-2018).**

Compr Psychiatry. 2024;133:152503. PMID: [38788614](#)

“Data were provided by 7-41 states as participating states increased over time. Fifty-six homicides were reported, most were male (73.2%) and white (76.8%). Most (67.9%) identified assailants reportedly knew decedents: 23.2% were perpetrated by partners/ex-partners; 10.7% by patients/patients' family members. Deaths were mainly due to gunshot wounds (44.6%), stabbing (16.1%), and blunt force trauma (16.1%). More (58.9%) homicides occurred at victims' homes than work (16.1%)...Physician homicides are relatively rare and occur at lower rates than in the general population. Physicians were more frequently killed by partners or ex-partners than by patients. Most homicides occurred away from the workplace.”

Karakachian A, Colbert A, Zoucha R, Goldman GS.  
**"Did I do the right thing?" Nurses' experiences of caring for victims of child maltreatment: A qualitative study.**

J Pediatr Nurs. 2024;76:45-51. PMID: [38359544](#)

Interviews with 21 nurses who had cared for children who experienced maltreatment revealed 6 themes: (1) helplessly watching children relive the traumatizing events, (2) lack of knowledge and training on caring for children who experienced maltreatment, (3) adversarial relationship and resentment towards parents, (4) conflicting emotions and feelings, (5) long-lasting effects of trauma, and (6) feelings of isolation and loneliness...Implementing simulation training on nurses' knowledge and confidence in caring for children who experienced maltreatment is of paramount of importance.”

Schwab-Reese L, Short C, Jacobs L, Fingerman M.  
**Rapport Building in Written Crisis Services: Qualitative Content Analysis.**

J Med Internet Res. 2024;26:e42049. PMID: [38748472](#)

“This study aims to categorize crisis counselors' efforts to build rapport in written conversations by using deidentified conversation transcripts from the text and chat arms of the National Child Abuse Hotline. Using these categories, we identify the common characteristics of successful conversations...Active listening skills, including asking questions, paraphrasing, reflecting feelings, and interpreting situations, were commonly used by counselors. Validation, unconditional positive regard, and evaluation-based language, such as praise and apologies, were also often used. Compared with less successful conversations,

successful conversations tended to include fewer statements that attend to the emotional dynamics...Generally, crisis counselors in positive conversations tended to be more specific and tailor their comments to the situation.”

Charton L, Gatier F, Delacour C, Lépine C.

**From statistics to stories: understanding the complex landscape of missed medical appointments.**

BJGP Open. 2024 May 2:BJGPO.2024.0007. PMID: [38697664](#)

This study looked at factors related to missed appointments during a 15-day period at an urban health center in France. “Among 53 missed appointments (4.9% of all scheduled), 22 patients were interviewed. SHC [state health coverage] beneficiaries (68% of the sample) cited socio-economic instability, including precarious work hours, social isolation, and multiple commitments, as reasons for non-attendance. For non-SHC beneficiaries, forgetfulness was the main cause. Remarkably, 36% disclosed a history of domestic violence. Retrospective analysis by physicians deemed over a quarter of these missed appointments as significant.”

## Prevention

Sege R, Swedo EA, Burstein D, et al.

**Prevalence of Positive Childhood Experiences Among Adults - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Four States, 2015-2021.**

MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2024;73(17):399-404. PMID: [38696345](#)

“This population-based study presents PCE prevalence among U.S. adults in four states [Kansas, Montana, South Carolina and Wisconsin]. Approximately one half of adults (53.1%) reported six to seven PCEs; 12.2% reported two or fewer...The prevalence of individual PCEs varied from 59.5% (enjoyed participating in community traditions) to 90.5% (adult in respondents' household made them feel safe), and differed significantly by race and ethnicity, age, and sexual orientation. Fewer non-Hispanic Black or African American (49.2%), non-Hispanic Alaska Native or American Indian (37.7%), and Hispanic or Latino respondents (38.9%) reported 6-7 PCEs than did non-Hispanic White respondents (55.2%). Gay or lesbian, and bisexual respondents were less likely than were straight respondents to report 6-7 PCEs (38.1% and 27.4% versus 54.7%, respectively). A PCE score of 6-7 was more frequent among persons with higher income and education.”

Terada S, Isumi A, Yamaoka Y, Fujiwara T.

**Years of education mediate the association between adverse childhood experiences and unintended pregnancy.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;153:106817. PMID: [38718477](#)

Of 7652 postpartum Japanese women, those with 4+ ACEs were 2.4 times more likely to have had a mistimed pregnancy (MP), and 5.0 times more likely to have had an unwanted pregnancy (UWP). ACEs of household dysfunction was more associated with MP, and ACEs of deprivation with UWP. Increased education decreased these associations.

Niolon PH, Estefan LF, DeGue S, Le VD, Tracy AJ, Ray C, et al.

**High School Follow-Up of the Dating Matters® RCT: Effects on Teen Dating Violence and Relationship Behaviors.**

Prev Sci. 2024;25(4):603-15. PMID: [38459353](#)

“Dating Matters includes programs for sixth to eighth grade youth and their parents, training for school staff, a youth communications program, and policy and data activities implemented in the community...Self-report survey data were collected from students in 46 middle schools that were randomly assigned...Students completed two surveys (fall and spring) in each middle school grade and a single survey in the spring of each high school grade...Dating Matters students reported 19% reduced risk for TDV [teen dating violence] perpetration, 24% reduced risk for TDV victimization, 7% reduced risk for use of negative conflict strategies, and 3% more use of positive relationship skills.”

## Researchers

Flannery DJ, Noriega I, Pittman S, et al.

**Violence Exposure and Trauma Screener for Youth (VETSY).**

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;153:106843. PMID: [38754309](#)

Authors developed a brief screener for violence exposure, violent behaviors, and trauma symptoms in youth 8-18 years (VETSY). After surveying 20,532 at-risk youth, “Sixty-seven percent of youth reported at least one type of violence exposure within the last year, 55 % reported perpetrating at least one type of violent behavior, and 68 % of youth reported at least one trauma symptom...Additional analyses showed the screener structure was the same across sex, race and age groups. The use of the brief screener to quickly and reliably assess violence exposure, violent behaviors, and trauma symptoms among youth provides an opportunity for mental health providers to detect and refer at-risk youth for additional assessment and treatment.” [Full article with screener.](#)

Johnson KL, Mavis SC, Huber CM, et al.

**Validity evidence for a novel multiple-choice question bank in the field of child abuse pediatrics.**

Child Abuse Negl. 2024;153:106827. PMID: [38718476](#)

“This multiple-choice question bank is the first question bank with a robust validity investigation for use by child abuse pediatrics trainees.”

## Other of Interest

Ferrara P, Cammisa I, Zona M, et al.

**The Global Issue of Violence Toward Children in the Context of War.**

J Pediatr. 2024;269:114007. PMID: [38458606](#)

“Beyond addressing immediate medical concerns, pediatricians must assume an expanded responsibility, acknowledging the complex interplay of physical and psychological challenges that children in conflict zones endure. It is essential to foster an environment that not only heals physical wounds but also addresses the intricate emotional and mental scars that often persist long after the cessation of hostilities...Collaborating with mental health professionals, educators, and community leaders, pediatricians can facilitate a holistic approach to nurturing the mental resilience of children who have experienced the ravages of war.”

Haas SA, Ramirez D.

**Early-Life Exposure to War and Later-Life Physical Functional Health.**

J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci. 2024;79(6). PMID: [38466645](#)

From a European aging survey of elders exposed to WW II, “Exposure to war increases the risk of objective (grip strength, chair rise, and peak expiratory flow) and self-reported (mobility limitations and activities of daily living) measures of functional health. Effects are especially pronounced for those born during the war and for those with more prolonged exposures...Our results suggest early-life exposure to war has a lasting impact on physical functional health...indicative of altered initial development of physical capacity in early life.” (On a personal note, in the 1980s as a new ob/gyn I assisted an older surgeon on a hysterectomy, and the sutures kept tearing through the tissues, which were like butter. I asked if the patient had had radiation, and he answered no, she had been a child in Holland during WW II, and he had found that patients who had lived in deprived circumstances during WW II had altered tissue decades later, he guessed from childhood malnutrition.)