

+ ADOPTION



EHDI * March 20, 2018

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Attachment and Trauma
in DHH Adopted Children



Nicholas Zill: “The Paradox of Adoption”

Re-analysis of large, longitudinal ECLS-K study

Figure 1: Problem Behavior of Children in Kindergarten and First Grade, by Family Type

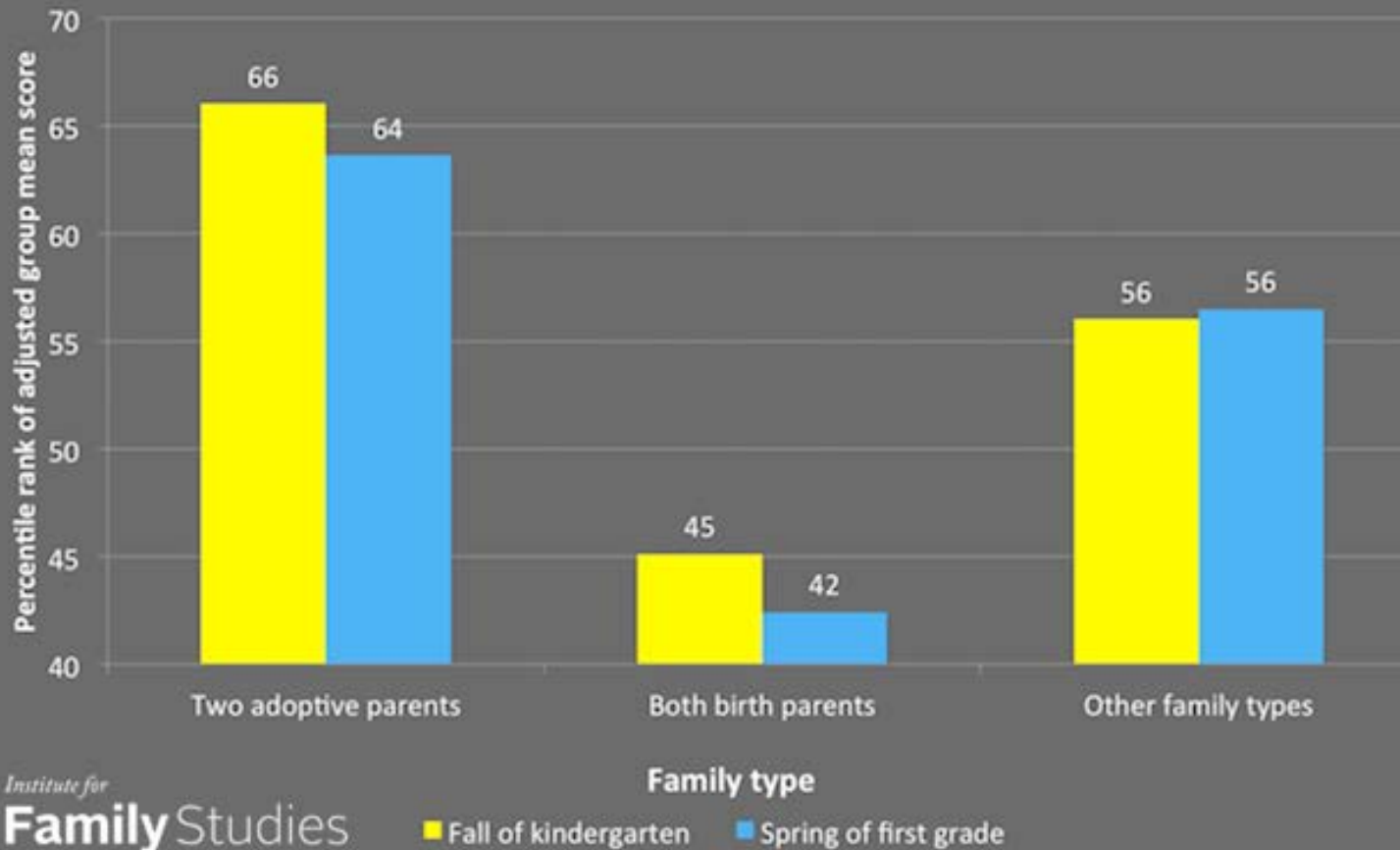


Figure 3: Early Reading Skills of Children in Kindergarten and First Grade, by Family Type

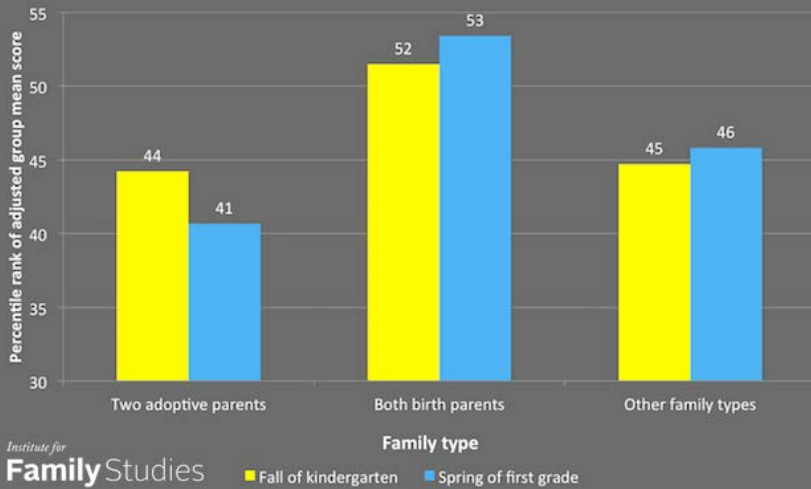
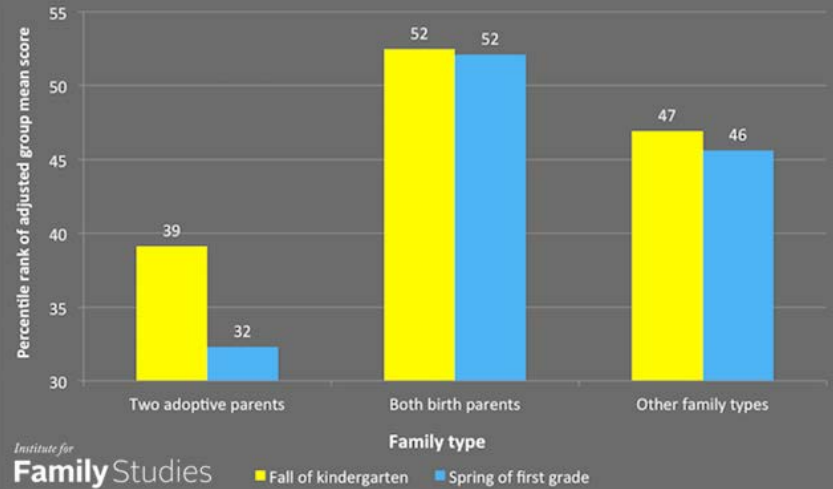
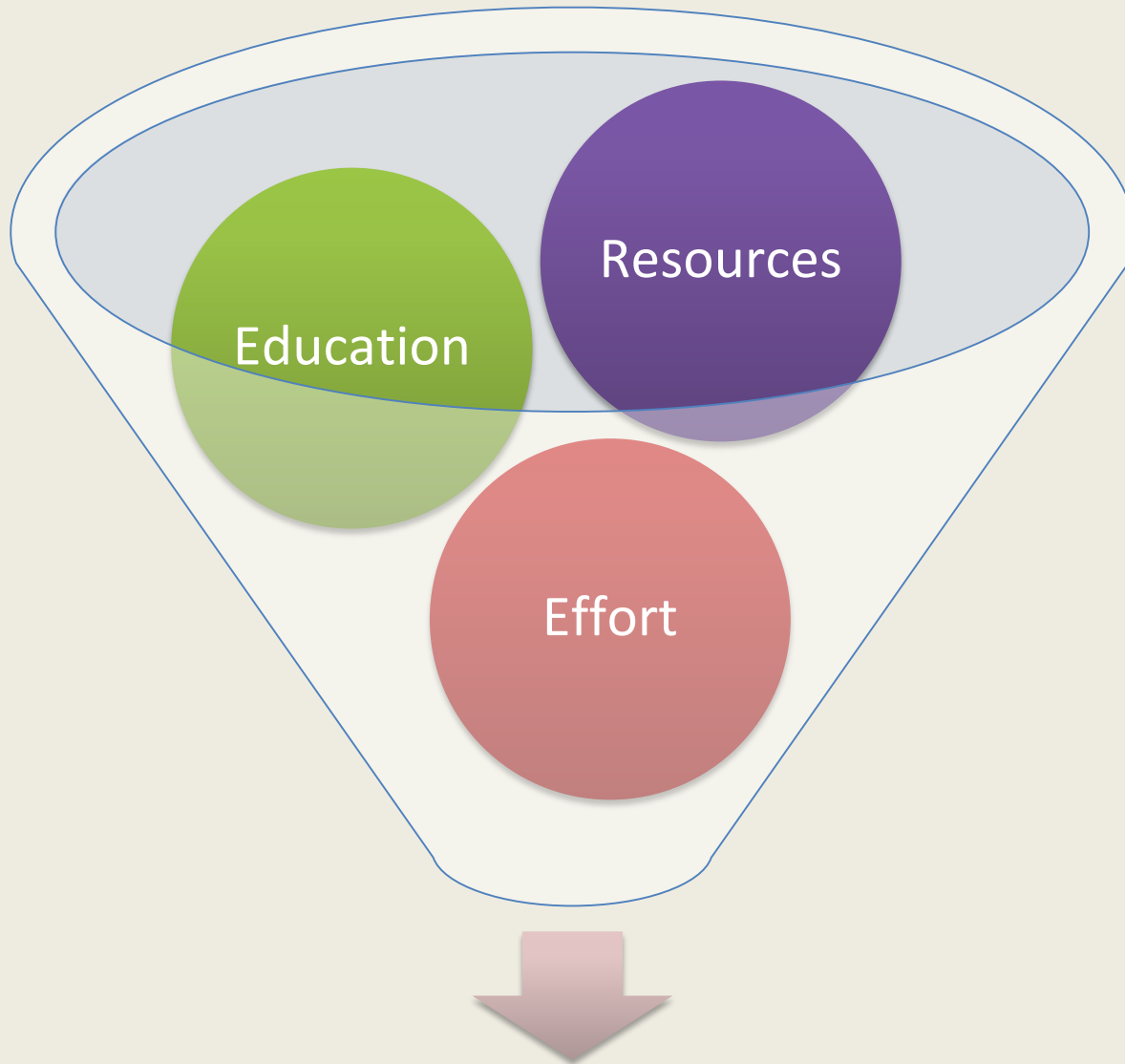


Figure 4: Early Math Skills of Children in Kindergarten and First Grade, by Family Type



Early Reading Skills

Early Math Skills



More Behavioral and Academic Problems?



Trauma
and Neglect

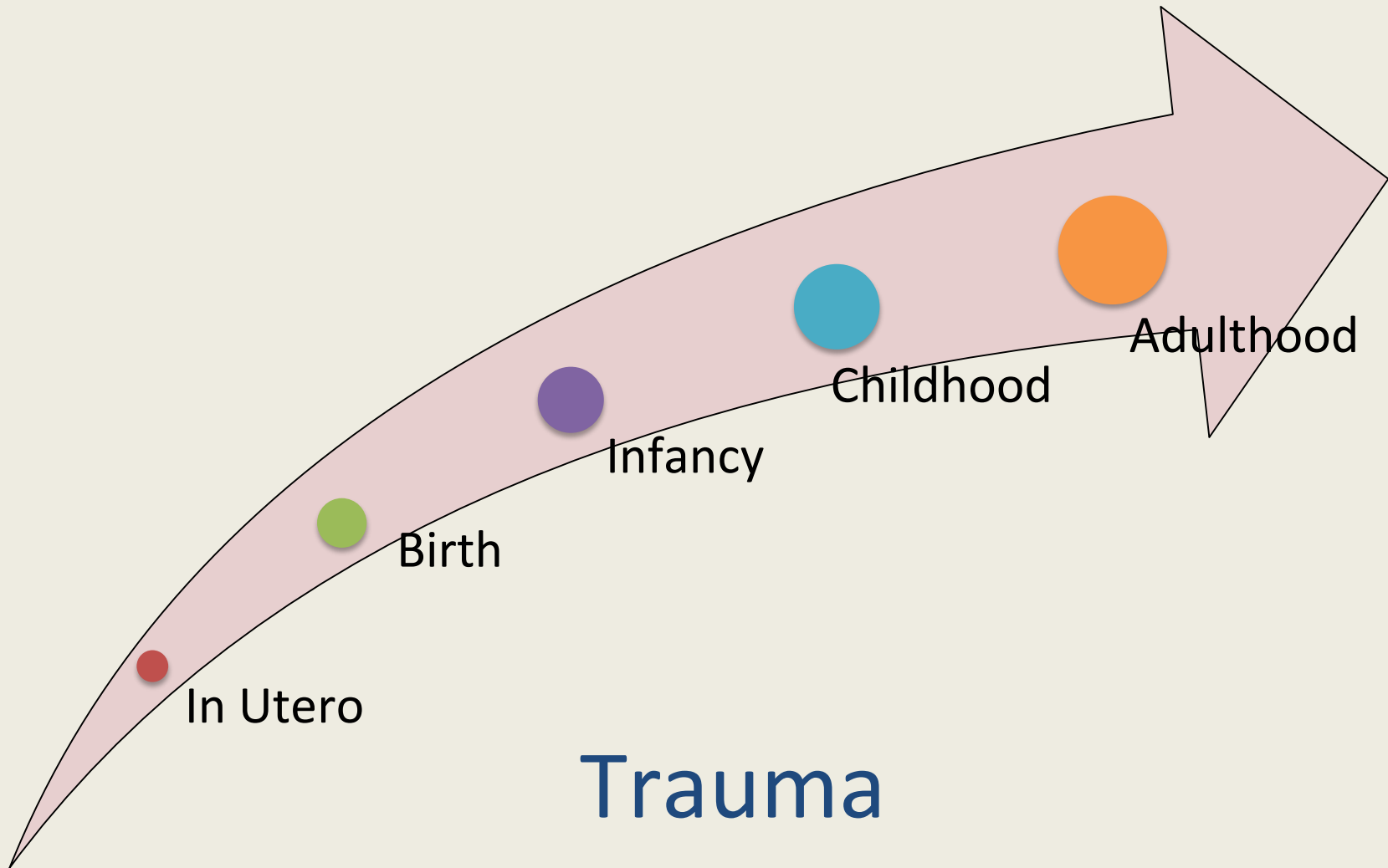


Attachment



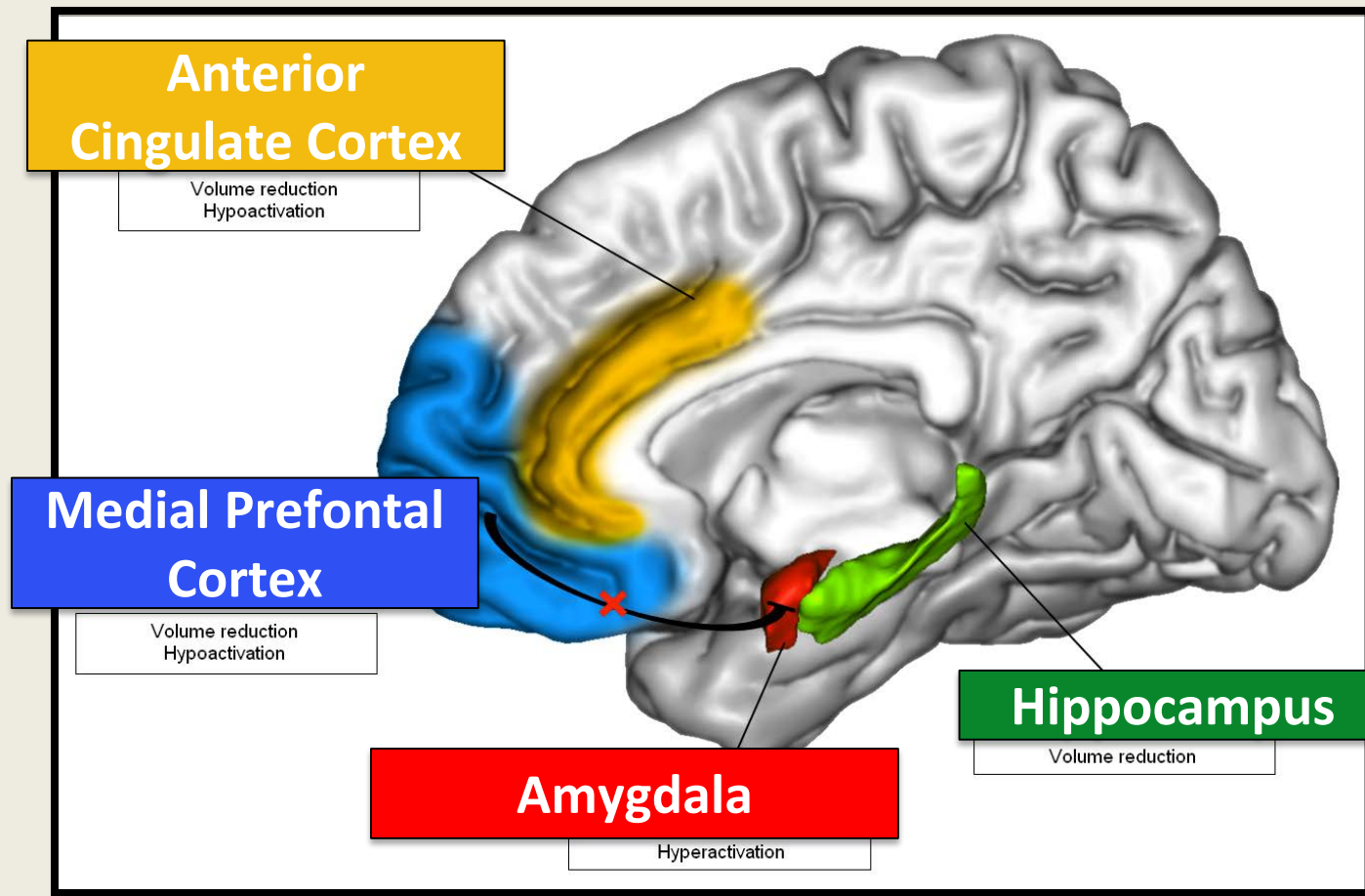
Trauma:

Experience of distressing event(s) which overwhelms an individual's ability to cope



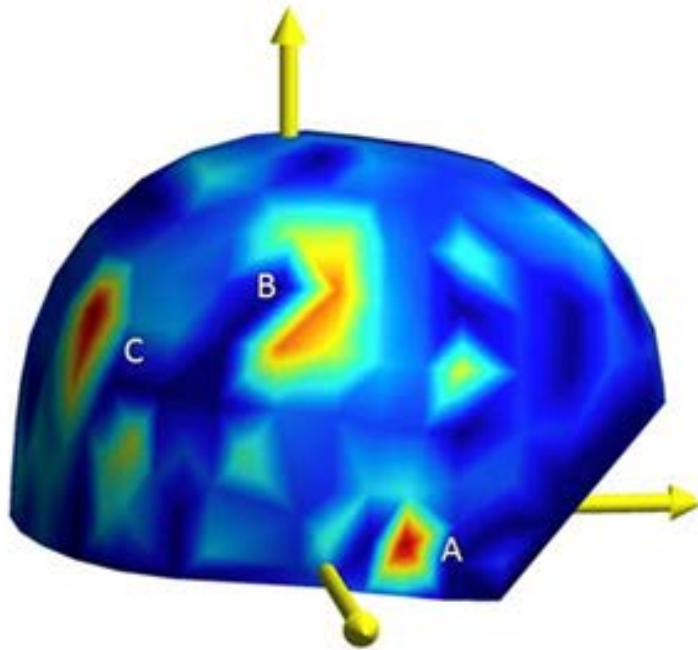
Trauma Developmentally



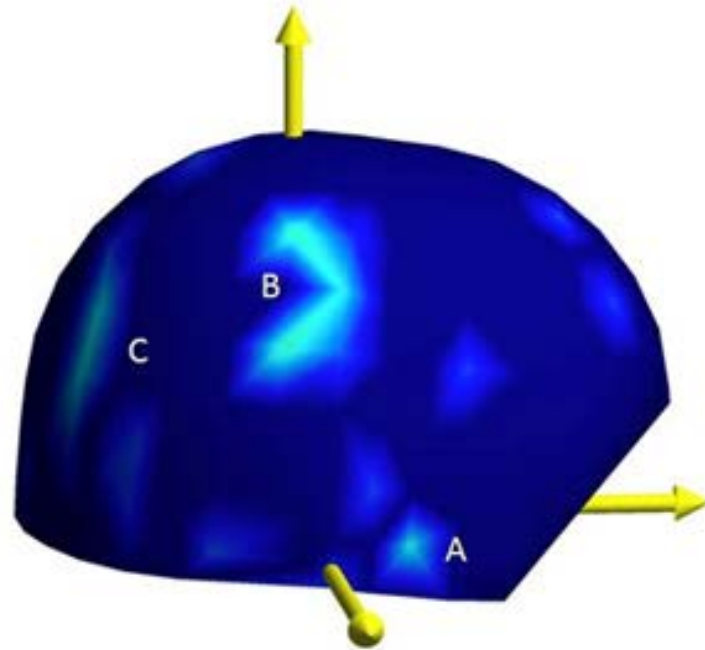


Trauma's Impact on the Brain

Active PTSD



Normal Control

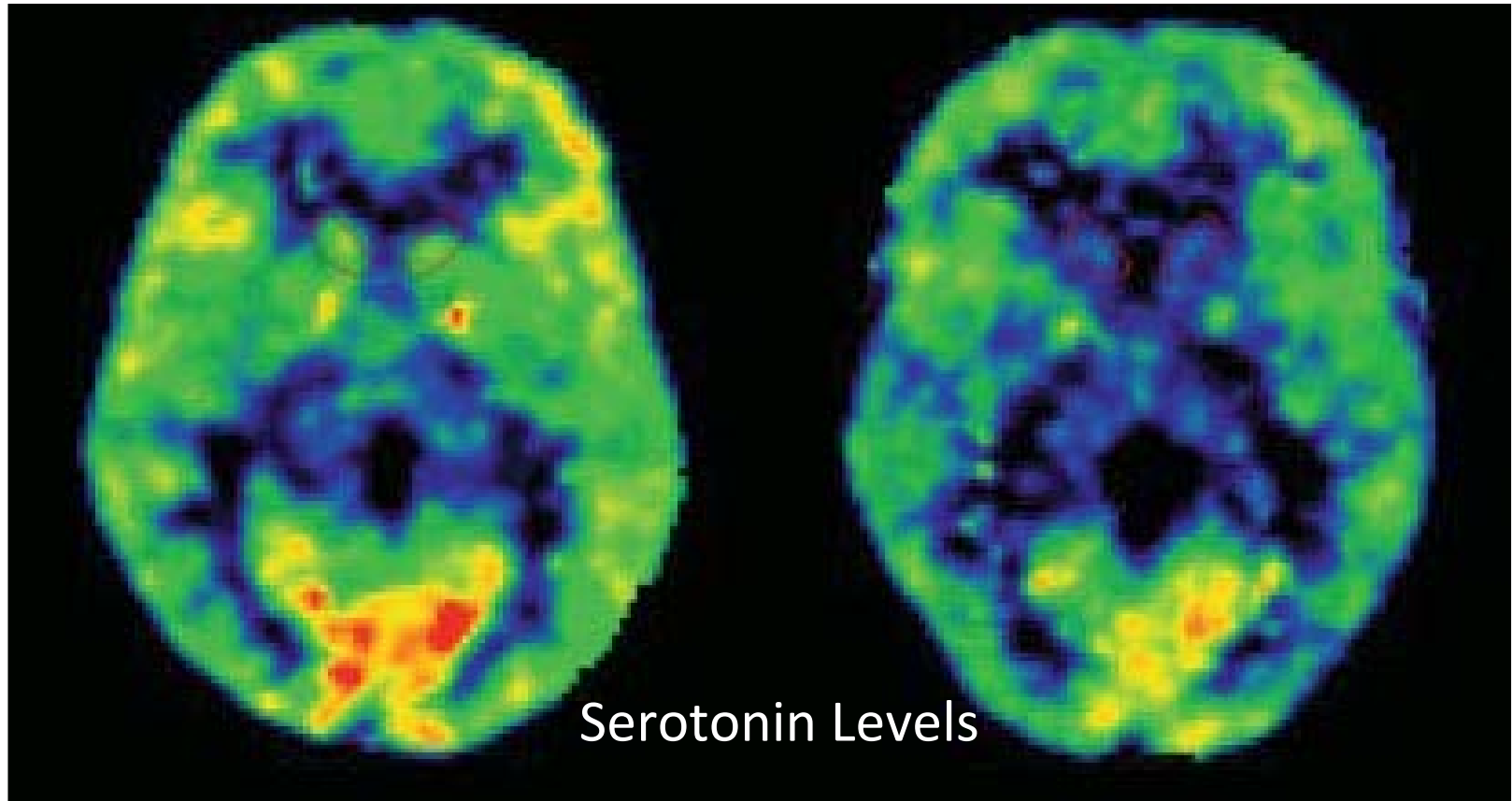


Engdahl and Georgopolous – University of Minnesota

Magnetoencephalography (MEG)

Normal Control

PTSD

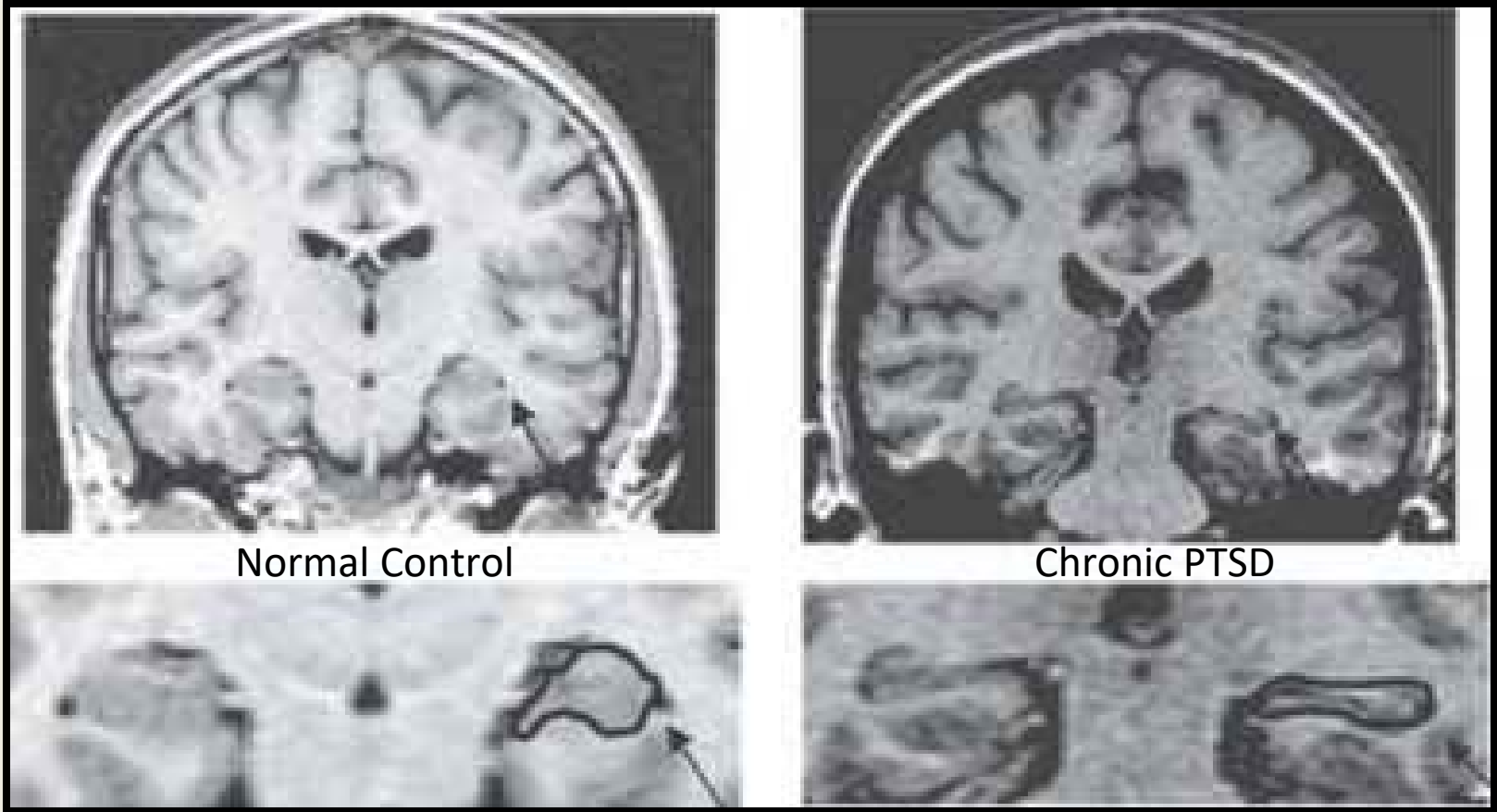


Alexander Neumeister, MD – Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Serotonin

- Regulation of **Mood, Appetite** and **Sleep**
- Also involved in **Learning** and **Memory**

Hippocampal Volume



Normal Control

Chronic PTSD

Apfel et al. 2011 – UCSF and San Francisco VA

Trauma's Impact on Function



Learning and Attention Problems

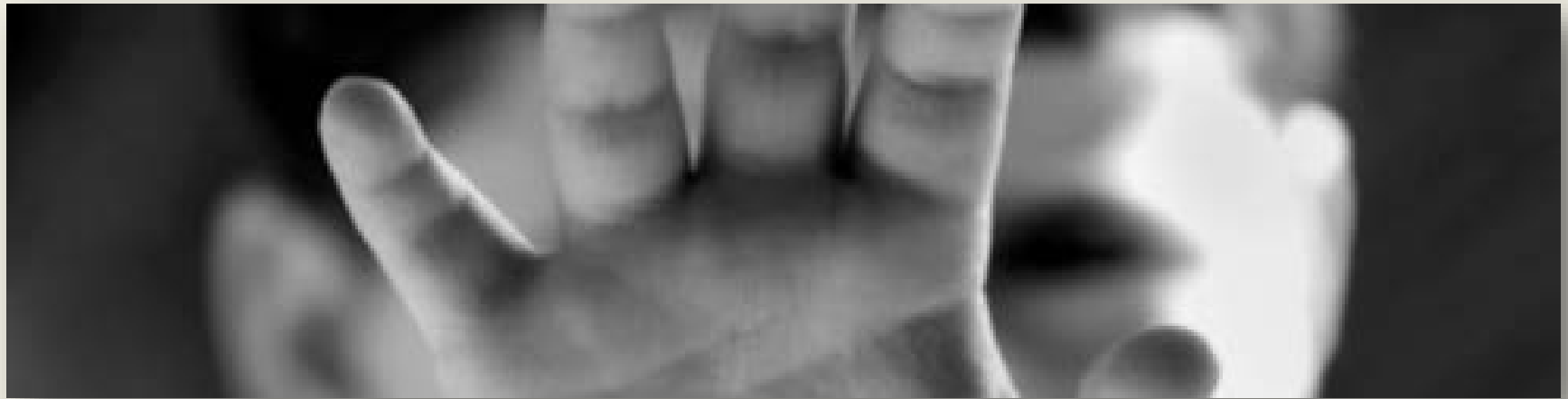
Impaired Impulse Control

Sensory Issues

Attachment and Relational Difficulties

Emotional Dysregulation

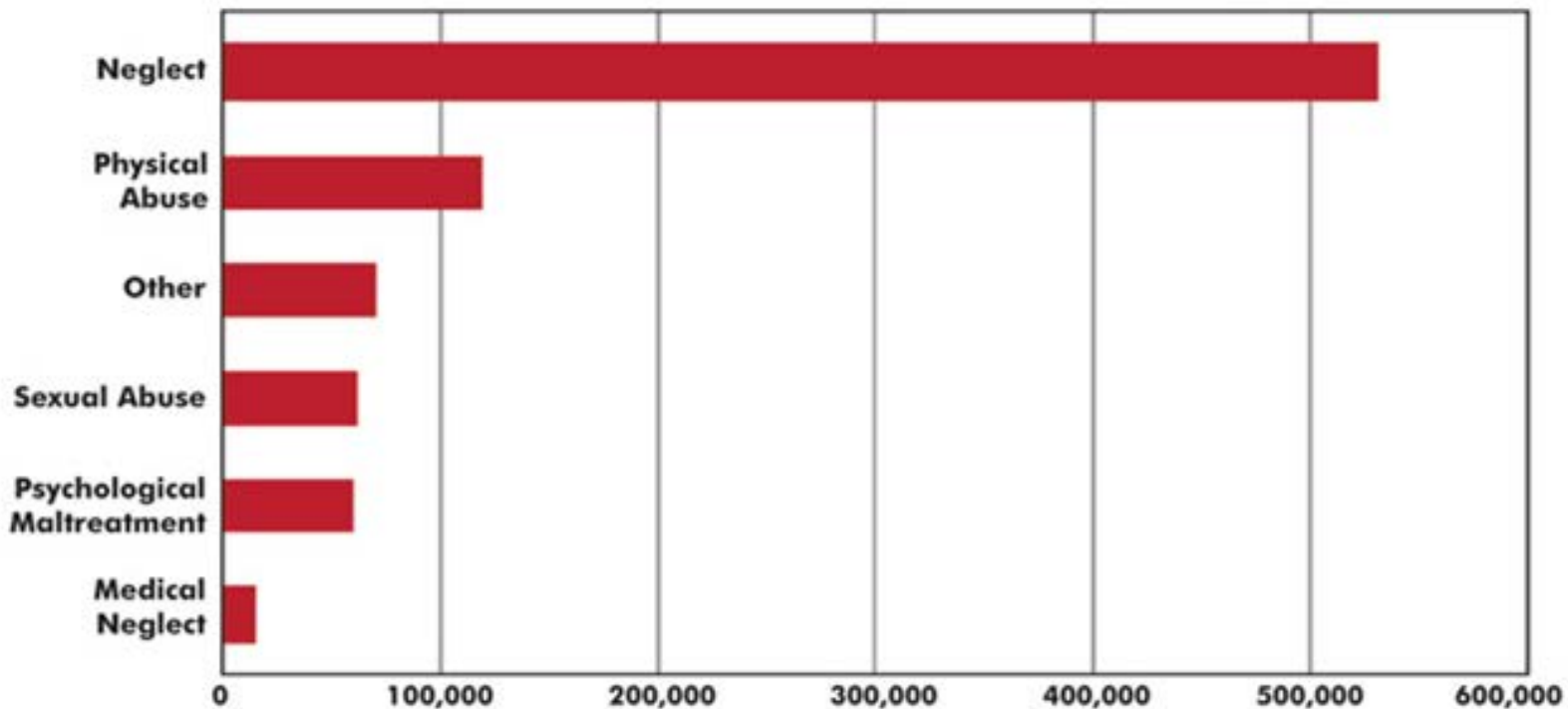
Aggression/Self-Destructive Behaviors



Neglect:

Failure to adequately provide for the needs of a child.

Child Maltreatment in the United States *Oct. 1, 2010–Sept. 30, 2011*



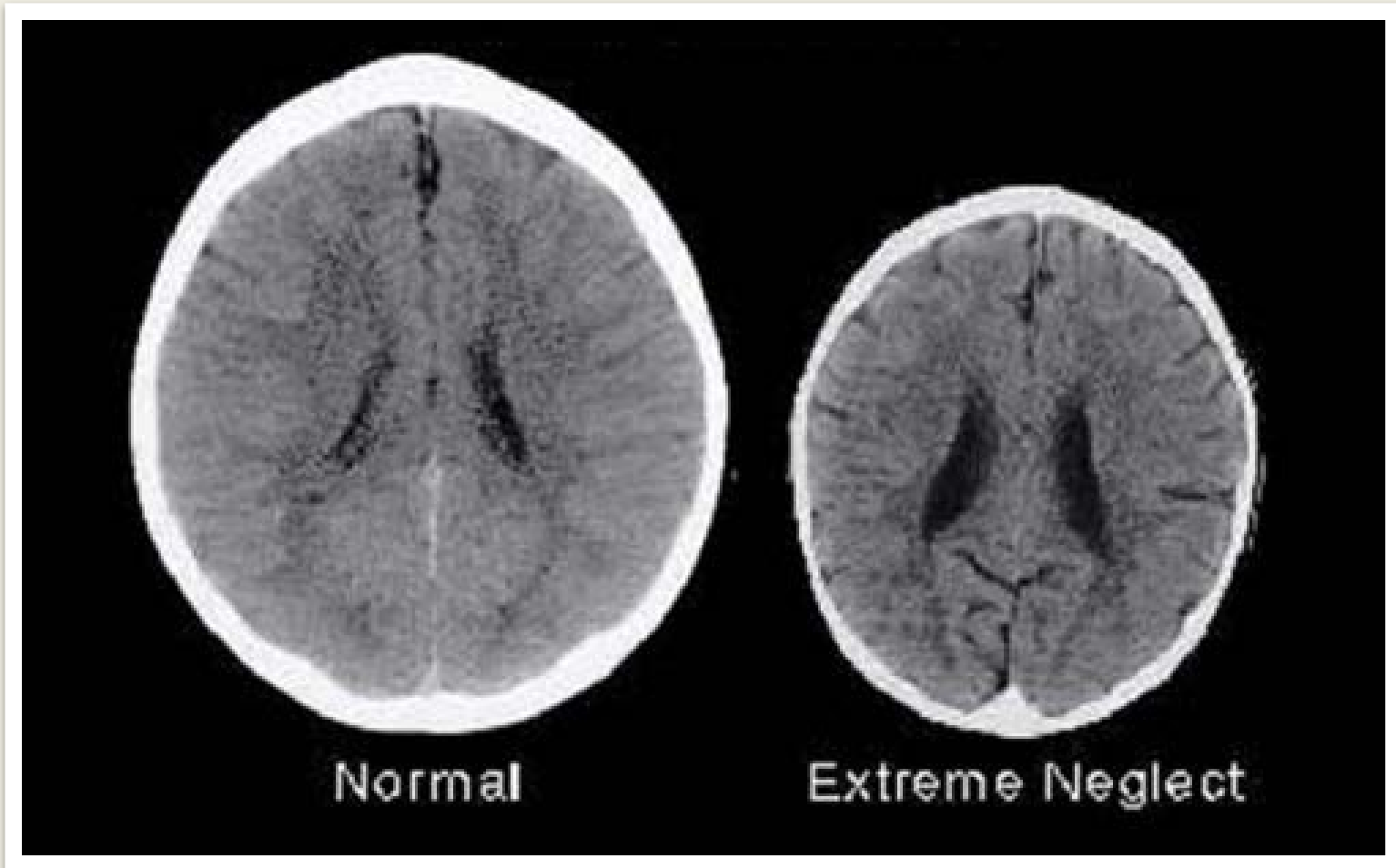
Reflects total number of victims (defined as a child for whom the state determined at least one report of maltreatment was found to be substantiated or indicated) as reported by 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. "Other" includes abandonment, threats of harm, and drug addiction. Source: USDHHS, 2012

Frequency of Neglect



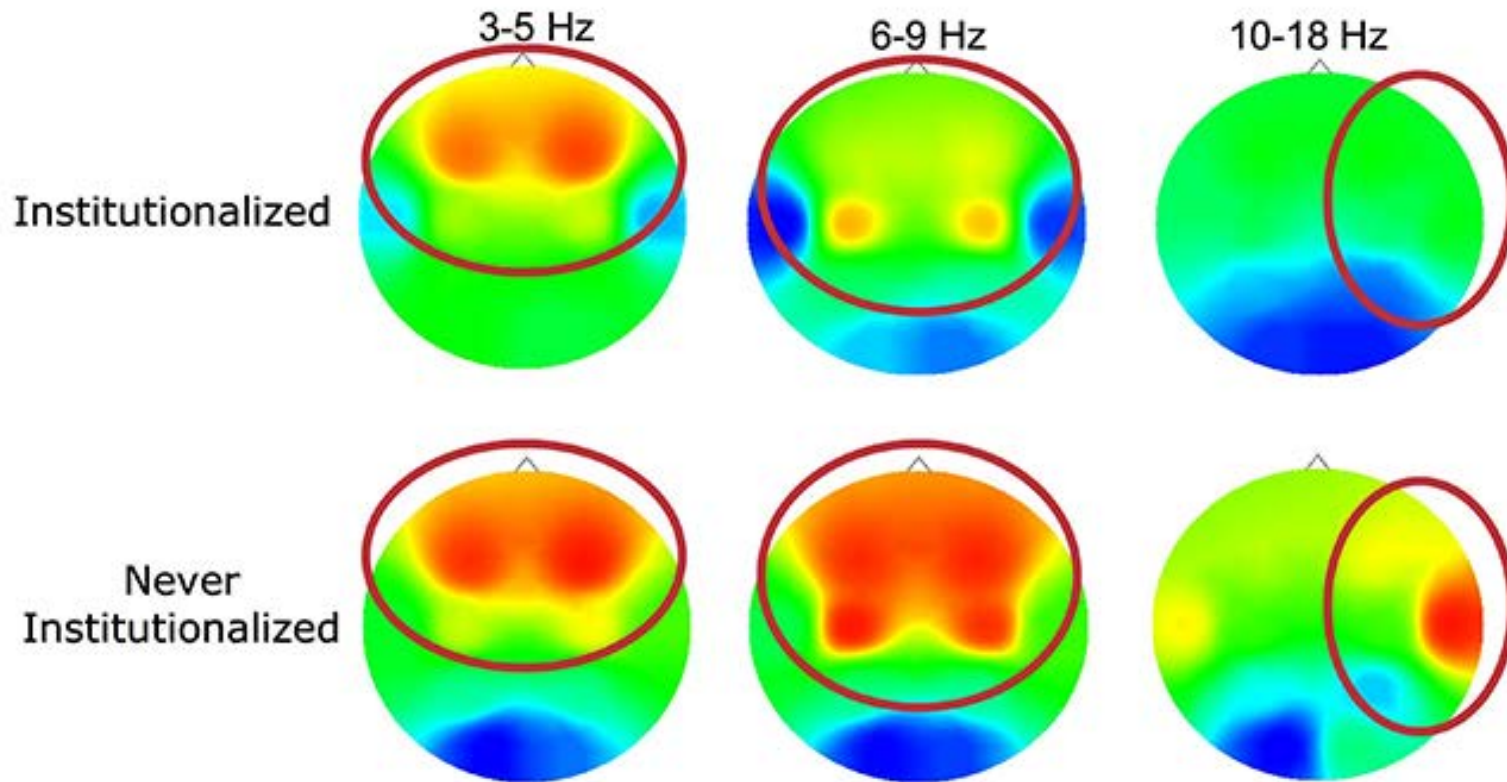
The Still Face Experiment

Brain Structure



Bruce Perry MD, PhD – Feinberg School of Medicine

Extreme Neglect Diminishes Brain Power



Brain Activity

Attachment



“an affectional tie that one person or animal forms between himself and another specific one – a tie that binds them together in space and endures over time.”

-Mary Ainsworth

Attachment and Its Legacy



- Early attachments lay the groundwork for later development
- The legacy of early attachment is reflected in children's relationships with others, self-regulation, emotional openness.
- Children form Internal Working Models of their attachment relationships

Internal Working Models – Jeremy Holmes

Securely Attached

- Responsive, loving and reliable caregiver
- Self is worthy of love and attention

Insecurely Attached

- The world is dangerous
- Treat others with great caution
- Self is ineffective and unworthy of love
- These assumptions are stable, enduring and difficult to modify



How Deafness Impacts Healing

Healing comes through
learning to Trust



Trust comes through
Connection



Connection comes
through Communication

Unique Challenges

- Teaching language in the context of disordered attachment
- Stress levels (confusion, frustration)
- Isolation



Developing Partnerships

- Awareness/Recognition of unique experiences
- Willingness to listen
- Taking initiative for connection



Support



Events

Adoption
focused

Deaf
focused

Support
groups





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