INTERIM STUDY ON ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

DAVID E. BARD, PH.D.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION ENDOWED RESEARCH CHAIR

DIRECTOR, BIOMEDICAL & BEHAVIORAL METHODOLOGY CORE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

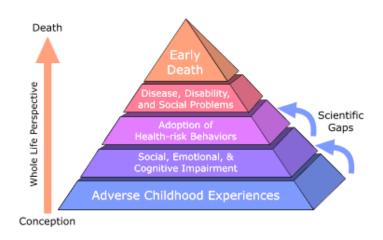
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

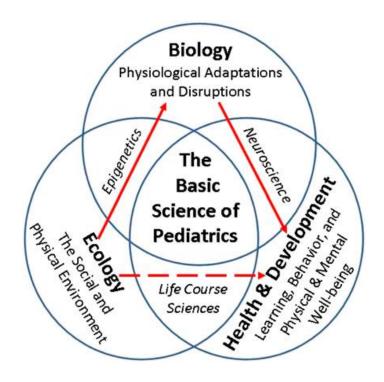
THREE TAKE-AWAY MESSAGES

- Effects of ACEs show up early as social-emotional and general developmental dysfunction- these are telling precursors of life-long illness and disease
- Positive parenting practices can be learned and appear to buffer ACE impacts
- We can't put all prevention eggs in one basket- must address child development and the totality of parent mental illness, substance abuse, and poverty

A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR PROMOTING HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT

 Early childhood adversity can lead to lifelong impairments in learning, behavior, and both physical and mental health





RISKY FAMILIES

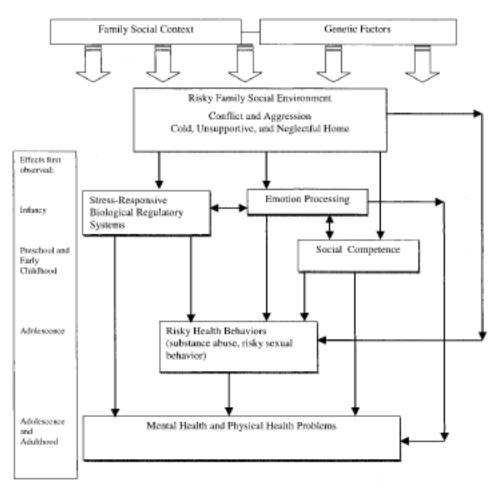


Figure 1. Risky families model. A time line on the left provides a rough idea of the point in development when an effect of the family environment is first observed. The social context of the family and genetic factors may directly and indirectly influence all of the variables in the model: the family environment, the sustaining factors, and health outcomes.

Repetti, Taylor & Seeman (2002). Psych Bull, 128, 330-366.

Three Levels of Stress Response

Positive

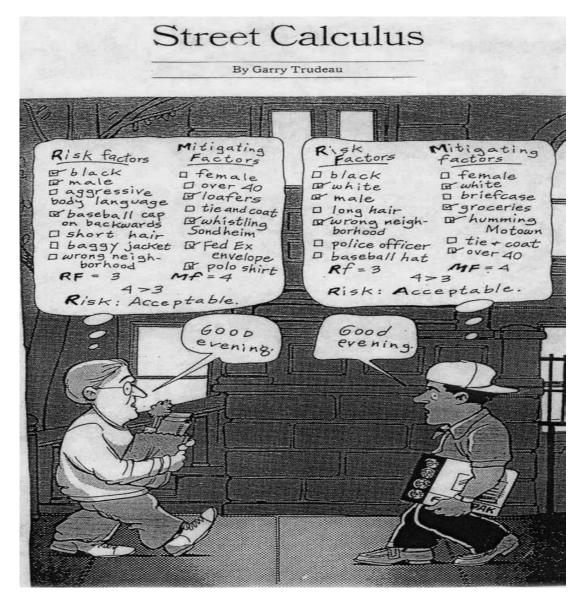
Brief increases in heart rate, mild elevations in stress hormone levels.

Tolerable

Serious, temporary stress responses, buffered by supportive relationships.

Toxic

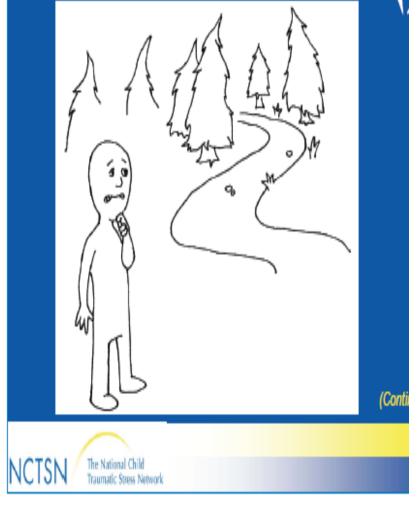
Prolonged activation of stress response systems in the absence of protective relationships.

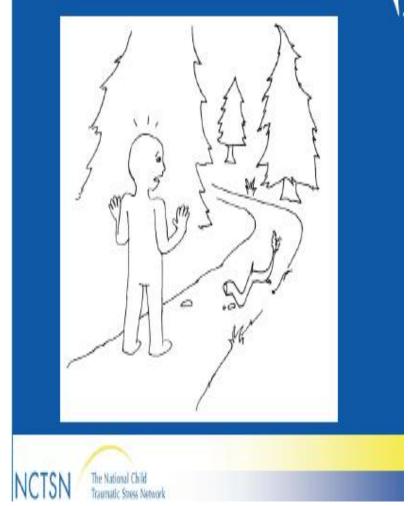


Risk as analysis and risk as feelings: Some thoughts about affect, reason, risk, and rationality. *Risk Analysis*, 24, 2004. Slovic, Finucane, Peters, & MacGregor

RECOGNIZETHE IMPACT TRAUMA HAS HAD ON THE CHILD WE LEARN BY EXPERIENCE

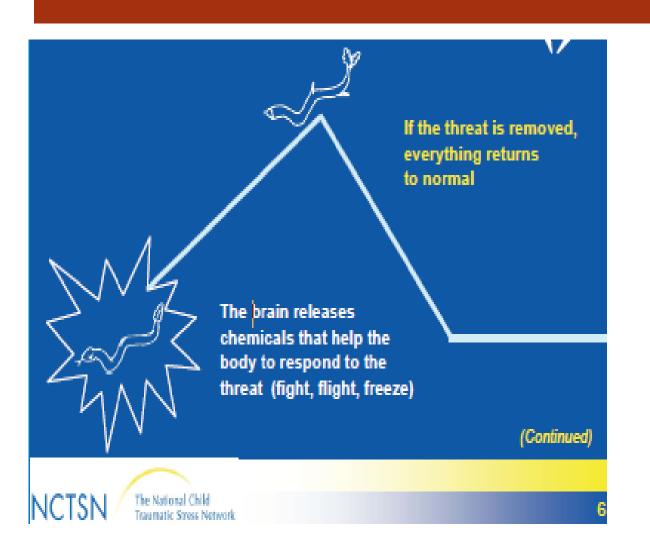








RECOGNIZETHE IMPACT TRAUMA HAS HAD ON THE CHILD YOUR INTERNAL ALARM SYSTEM





TRAUMA DERAILS DEVELOPMENT

- Exposure to trauma causes the brain to develop in a way that will help the child survive in a dangerous world:
 - On constant alert for danger
 - Quick to react to threats (fight, flight, freeze)
- The stress hormones produced during trauma also interfere with the development of higher brain functions.
 - Physical Health
 - Social and Emotional Functioning
 - Relational
 - Cognition and Language

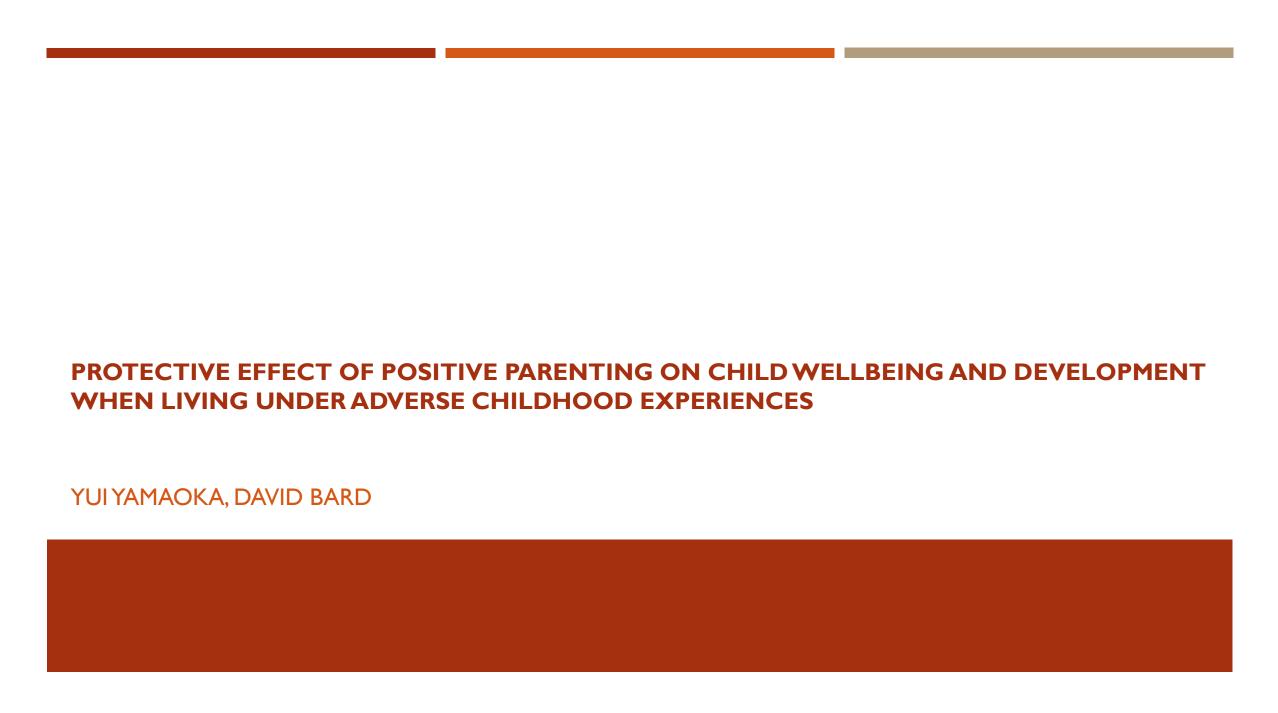
THE ACE IMPACT IN OKLAHOMA

- In a recent national study, Oklahoma children were among those at greatest risk for ACEs (Sacks et al., 2014)
 - At least 10% of Oklahoma children experience 4+ ACEs
 - Oklahoma was the only state that fell in the highest prevalence quartile for eight of the most commonly assessed ACEs.
- Perhaps not coincidentally, Oklahoma ranks among the worst in the nation on health conditions associated with high levels of ACEs
 - Once again, the 2017 Commonwealth Fund ranks Oklahoma's state health system among the very worst (49th) in the nation (http://www.commonwealthfund.org/interactives/2017/mar/state-scorecard/)

OKLAHOMA ACES - CHILDREN NOW

Oklahoma parents were surveyed about child's ACEs (2011-12)

- 30% Economic Hardship (ranked 45th)
- 30% Divorce (ranked 50th)
- 17% Parent abused alcohol or drugs (49th)
- I 1% Witnessed domestic violence (50th)
- 12% Had a parent with a mental illness (43rd)
- 10% Had a parent incarcerated (48th)
- 13% Was a victim of or witnessed neighborhood violence (49th)
- 17% Already experienced 3 or more ACEs (49th)
- Highest rates (with Montana and W. Virginia) of children with \geq 4



METHODS

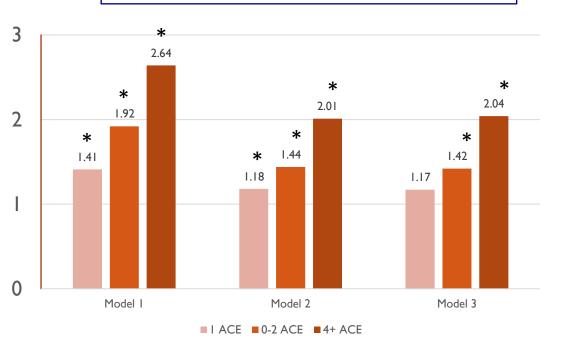
- Data: National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) 2011/12
- Cross-sectional survey by telephone
- Children aged 0-5 years old (n=29,997, 31.4% of the total NSCH sample)
- Two Outcomes Examined
 - Social Emotional Skills (e.g., bounces back quickly from adversity, affectionate and tender with caregiver)
 - Developmental Delay Risks (e.g., developing language, motor skills, cognitive ability)

TAKE-AWAY #1: ACES APPEAR TO IMPACT EARLY DEVELOPMENT

EFFECT OF **THE NUMBERS OF ACES** ON SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SKILLS AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

Social-emotional deficits

Developmental delay risk



Model I:ACEs

Model 2: ACEs + covariates (age, race, parental education)

Model 3:ACEs + covariates + parenting practices

* (p<0.05)

TAKE-AWAY #2:
PARENTING CAN COUNTER THE IMPACT OF EARLY ACES

POSITIVE PARENTING PRACTICES

Six parenting practices









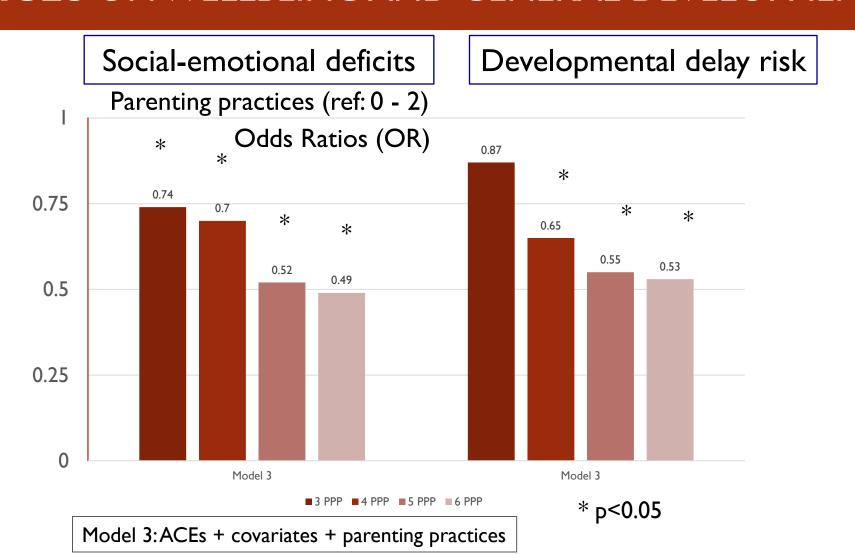


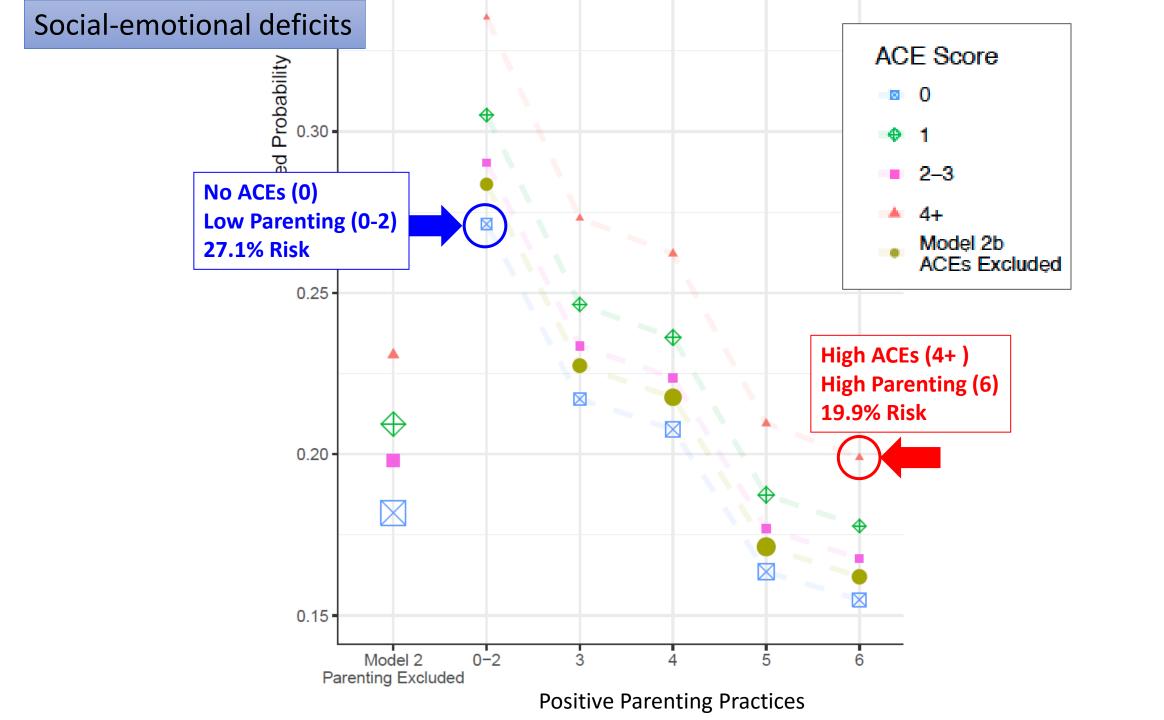


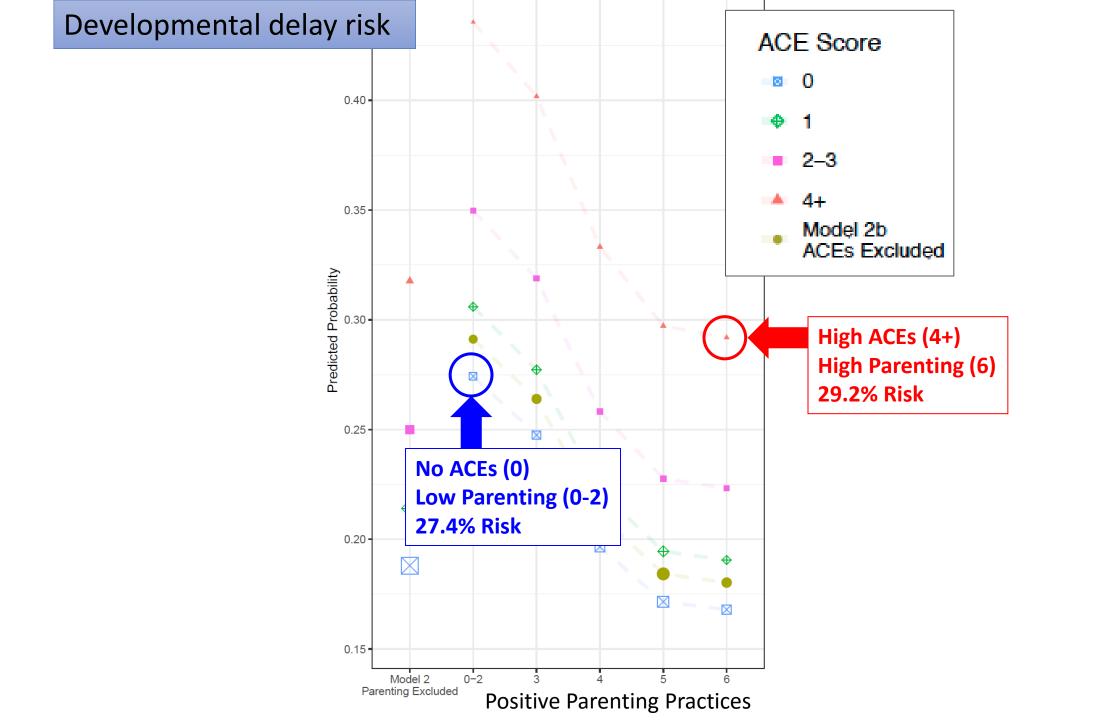
(4+ days / week)

(≦2 hour / day)

RESULT 4. EFFECT OF **THE NUMBERS OF PARENTING PRACTICES** ON WELLBEING AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

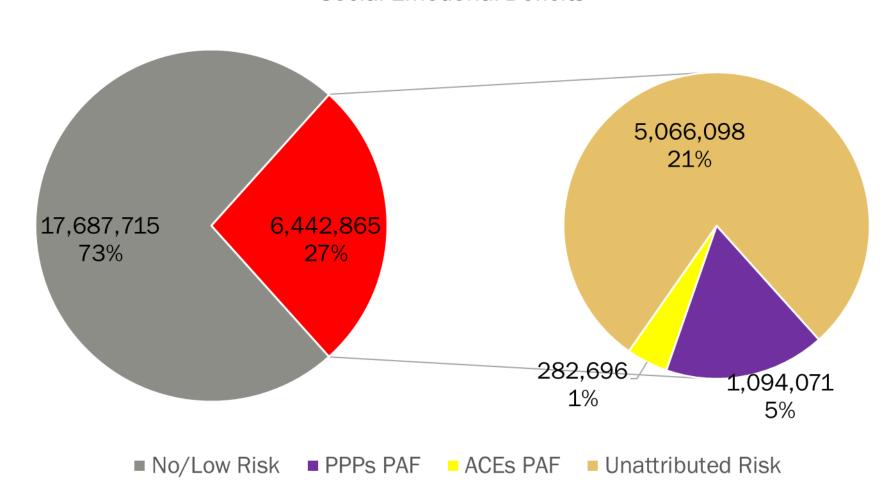






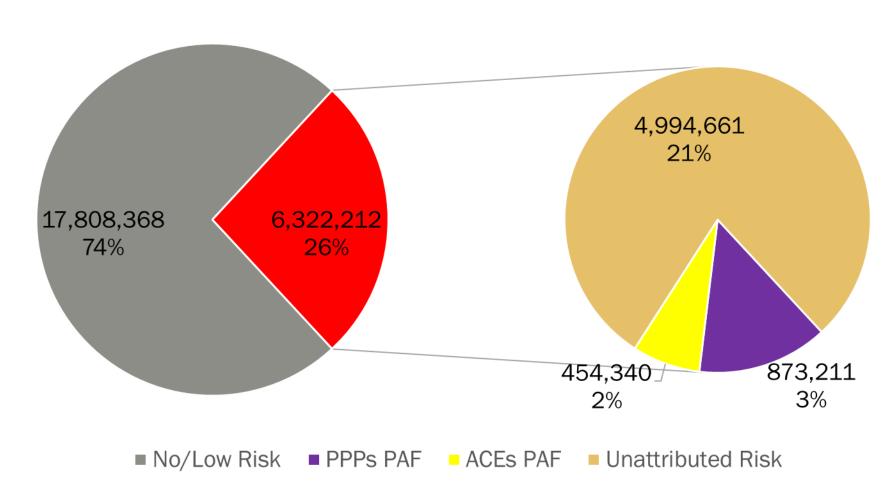
Population Attributable Fraction (PAF), estimated reduction in prevalence and population frequencies.

Social-Emotional Deficits



Population Attributable Fraction (PAF), estimated reduction in prevalence and population frequencies.





Summary of findings

- ACEs negatively affected social-emotional skills and general development among young children
- Positive parenting practices have protective effects on young children after controlling the effects of ACEs.
- Risks associated with an absence of positive parenting were often greater than those of 4+ ACEs, even among no/low adversity families.
- Universal adoption of all positive parenting practices is estimated to reduce prevalence of SE deficits and developmental delay risks by 4.5% and 3.6%.
- Elimination of all ACEs is estimated to reduce prevalence of SE deficits and developmental delay risks by 1.2% and 1.9%.

FIGURE 2 Making the Connection: Social Determinants, Personal Behaviors, and Health Outcomes



Child Neglect: An Oklahoma Epidemic

what is

CHILD NEGLECT?

Child Neglect is failure to provide for a child's basic needs, such as:



- Food
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Medical care
- Education
- Proper supervision

Child Neglect is an epidemic that disproportionately affects families facing poverty-related adversities.

These adversities include continual financial hardships, neighborhood

violence, absence of a parent, untreated mental and physical health concerns, etc.

RATES OF CHILD NEGLECT IN OKLAHOMA ARE HIGH

In SFY16 and SFY15, 81-82% of confirmed child maltreatment cases were from **neglect**.

Oklahoma is ranked among the

HIGHEST in our nation for...

...prevalence rates for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs*)

AND

...children placed in foster care nationally.

*ACEs include abuse, neglect, and household dysfunction.

WHY IS CHILD NEGLECT SUCH A BIG PROBLEM IN OKLAHOMA?

In Oklahoma...

more children die from neglect

The majority of these deaths are to children < 2 years.

Stress and lack of knowledge are stronger predictors of neglect than love for a child. The most common perpetrators of neglect are biological parents.

Some parents simply do not understand the full range of their child's needs, and some are unable to meet their needs due to lack of resources and other stressors.

Stressed families find it difficult to...

- Keep the lights & heat on
- Buy clothing, food, and diapers
- Find quality child care (forcing parents to leave child alone)
- Access transportation
- Protect children from exposure to illicit/dangerous activities
- Secure proper healthcare
- Access transportation



Home Visiting programs educate parents!









parentPRO:

Children First | Start Right/Parents As Teachers | SafeCare

TAKE-AWAY #3:
PREVENTION EFFORTS NEED TO ADDRESS SERVICES FOR
POVERTY, MENTAL ILLNESS, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE



Child Abuse & Neglect



Research article

Parenting and proximity to social services: Lessons from Los Angeles County in the community context of child neglect*



Kathryn Maguire-Jack^{a,*}, Sacha Klein^b

- ^a College of Social Work, The Ohio State University, 325B Stillman Hall, 1947 College Road, Columbus, OH 43210, USA
- ^b School of Social Work, Michigan State University, 254 Baker Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA

ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 2 January 2015 Received in revised form 21 April 2015 Accepted 27 April 2015 Available online 27 May 2015

Keywords: Child neglect Neighborhoods Mental health services Prevention Social services Substance abuse services

ABSTRACT

Using a sample of 438 parents in Los Angeles County, CA, this study examines the role of proximity to social services in child neglect. In an extension of social disorganization theory, it seeks to understand the potential sources of support in neighborhoods for families. It uses ordinary least squares regression to examine driving distance from parents' residences to four types of services (child care, domestic violence, mental health/substance abuse, and poverty). The results show an association between proximity to mental health and substance abuse services and parents' self-reported neglectful behaviors. Additionally, higher levels of socioeconomic disadvantage (poverty, unemployment, and low education), having older children, respondents being male, and respondents being older parents are associated with higher levels of child neglect, while being white is associated with lower levels. Overall, the findings suggest a potentially protective role of geographic access to mental health and substance abuse services in child maltreatment. Additional research on the pathways through which proximity to services influences child neglect is needed.

© 2015 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.