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Chronic Schizophrenia: A child's perspective and impact on the key senses

Statement of the Problem: Children who have grown up around parents with severe Mental Health conditions such as Schizophrenia are at serious risk of long-term emotional pathology, sensory overload and sensory lockdown. Impact on the key senses include cognition and processing, deregulation of body temperature, temporary loss of speech and expression, memory, eyesight and hearing. The purpose of this talk is to elicit and create awareness on the impact and experiences of Children of Schizophrenic parents, the aetiology and Mental Health which manifests through to adulthood. Researchers have reported adult Schizophrenia has various risk factors such as stress for children. There are long-term effects throughout life. The mental health needs of children and adolescents are neglected. Action is imperative to reduce mental health problems in future generations and allow the full development of vulnerable children to prosper and reach their full potential. **Conclusion and Significance:** Children with parents who suffer with Schizophrenia are vulnerable to poor Mental Health, trauma and can have a negative impact on development and the key senses. Recommendations are provided on how to identify the psychological symptoms of Children's Mental Health and methods for early intervention to unlock the traumas and reduce sensory impact.

Recent publications:

1. Garmezy, N (1987) Stress, competence, and development: Continuities in the study of schizophrenic adults, children vulnerable to psychopathology, and the search for stress-resistant children. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 57(2), 159-174.
2. Grunbaum L, Gammeltoft M, (1993) Young children of schizophrenic mothers: Difficulties of intervention. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 63 (1):16-27.
3. Kazdin A, (1993) Adolescent mental health: Prevention and treatment programs. *American Psychologist* 48 (2): 127-141.
4. Kieling C, Baker H, Belfer M (2011) Child and adolescent mental health worldwide: evidence and action. *The Lancet* 378: 1515-1525.
5. Webster J (1992) Split in Two: Experiences of the Children of Schizophrenic Mothers. *The British Journal of Social Work*, 22 (2): 309-329.

Biography

Kully Bath Clinical Director and certified Practitioner of Acupuncture Haven is passionate about creating awareness of adolescent Mental Health and the importance of early intervention. Kully has extensive knowledge on Chronic Schizophrenia and has worked with many different consultants and nurses to identify the physiological and neurological impact of this condition. This is further underpinned with her own journey and experiences of the collateral damage on children caused by serious Mental Health conditions such as Schizophrenia. She has worked extensively with the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall, UK, to raise funds for a local charity that provides support for teenage Mental Health. Kully recently released a video covering a wide range of conditions and is committed to providing the best standard of treatments for clients. The aforementioned video can be viewed in full by searching Acupuncture Haven on YouTube.

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