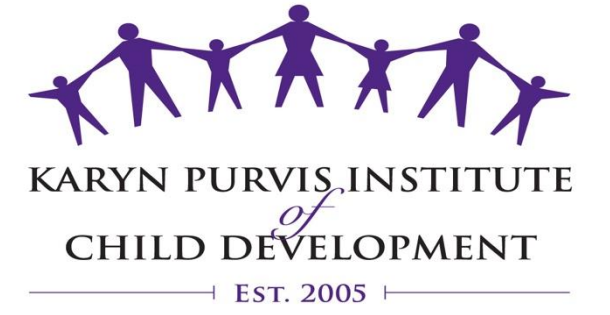




The Protective Impact of Parental Warmth and Support on Adverse Childhood Experiences and ADHD Risk

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Introduction

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have been empirically linked to a range of negative mental health outcomes, including increased risk of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).
- However, positive experiences with a parent or caregiver, including parental support and warmth, may buffer the relationship between ACEs and ADHD risk.
- **Objective:** Explore how a positive parent-child relationship with parental warmth and parental support may serve as a protective factor against ADHD risk following childhood trauma.

Hypotheses

- Higher reports of exposure to ACEs will be associated with increased ADHD risk.
- Individuals with positive relationships with their parents, but experienced ACEs will potentially not have as many ADHD symptoms.

Method

Participants

- Expected n = 100 undergraduate students

Procedures and Materials

- Participants will complete the following self-report measures: Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale, Child-Parent Relationship Scale, Early Life Events Scale, Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale, Childhood Trauma Questionnaire, and ACE Questionnaire

Results

**RESULTS TO BE ADDED &
POSTER TO BE PRINTED
BY STUDENT FOR SRS**

Discussion

- Supportive parental figures serve as a protective factor in the relationship between adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and ADHD symptoms.
- Individuals without a supportive and warm parent figure may be more vulnerable to ADHD symptoms following trauma.

Limitations/Future Research

- Cross-sectional design limits the ability to infer causality or directionality.
- Retrospective self-reports may be influenced by biases or current psychological state.
- Future research should consider employing mixed recruitment strategies, including offline and community-based methods, to reach more diverse populations.

References

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