# WELCOME!

Is Spanking Child Abuse? An In-depth Study on the topic & Intervention Jill M. Raichel, M.A., M.P.A.

# What is child abuse?

"The Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010, defines child abuse and neglect as, at minimum:

- "Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation"; or
- "An act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm."

### Alabama Definition

"'Abuse' means harm or threatened harm to the health or welfare of a child through:

- Nonaccidental physical injury
- Sexual abuse or attempted sexual abuse
- Sexual exploitation or attempted sexual exploitation"

'Neglect'

'Emotional Abuse'

### California Definition

"A child may be considered dependent when:

• The child has suffered, or there is a substantial risk that the child will suffer, serious physical harm inflicted non-accidentally upon the child by the child's parent or guardian. For the purposes of this subdivision, a court may find there is a substantial risk of serious future injury based on the manner in which a less serious injury was inflicted, a history of repeated inflictions of injuries on the child or the child's siblings, or a combination of these and other actions by the parent or guardian that indicate the child is at risk of serious physical harm.

### California Definition, cont.

• The child is younger than age 5 and has suffered severe physical abuse by a parent or by any person known by the parent, if

the parent knew or reasonably should have known that the person was physically abusing the child.

- The child's parent or guardian caused the death of another child through abuse or neglect.
- The child has been subjected to an act or acts of cruelty by the parent or guardian or a member of his or her household, or the

parent or guardian has failed to adequately protect the child from an act or acts of cruelty when the parent or guardian knew

or reasonably should have known that the child was in danger of being subjected to an act or acts of cruelty."

# California, cont.

- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse/Exploitation
- Emotional Abuse
- Abandonment



# Oregon Definition of Abuse

- An assault on a child and physical injury to a child that has been caused by other than accidental means, including injury that appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury
- Threatened harm to a child that means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare
- Buying or selling a person under age 18
- Permitting a person under age 18 to enter or remain in or upon premises where meth. is being manufactured
- Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance that subjects a child to a substantial risk of harm to his or her health or safety

# Oregon, cont.

- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse/Exploitation
- Emotional Abuse



# **Group Activity**

In each group, look at your case study and decide if this is abuse, why or why not?

You will have ten minutes to complete.

Please take group notes, as we will share your case and decision.

# Physical Abuse

- Hitting/Punching/Beating
- Burning
- Biting
- Kicking
- Shaking

Any infliction of physical pain to a child



# Medical Neglect

- Not providing medical care including well child care; immunizations; dental care; and/or mental health
- Munchausen's by Proxy

# **General Neglect**

Most child welfare cases involves general neglect

\*Lack of/No Supervision

\*No food or proper shelter, though homelessness does not constitute child neglect



# Sexual Abuse/Exploitation

- Selling child for sex
- Having sex with child
- Sexual movies/photos of a child
- Sharing Pornographic material with child



# **Emotional Abuse**

- Present or in home when Domestic Violence occurs
- Belittling, bullying, and verbal abuse
- Lack of emotional support



# Shaken Baby Syndrome

Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS), a form of abusive head trauma (AHT) and inflicted traumatic brain injury (ITBI), is a preventable and severe form of physical child abuse. (CDC, 2012)



# Shaken Baby Stats

- SBS is a leading cause of child abuse deaths in the United States.
- Babies (newborn to 4 months) are at greatest risk of injury from shaking.
- Inconsolable crying is a primary trigger for shaking a baby.

At least one of every four babies who are violently shaken dies from this form of child maltreatment. (CDC, 2012)

# Is Spanking Abuse?

- No, if done with hand
- No, if no marks left
- No, if child is spanked on behind

Is spanking an effective form of discipline?

# When spanking becomes abuse

- Items used for spanking including belt, switch, or any other object.
- Marks on left on child
- Child is spanked other than on behind

Lastly, is spanking an effective form of discipline? What does it actually teach the child?

# Group activity #2

- Let's break into our groups again and look at some more case studies.
- Like we did in Activity One, you will need to review you case and decide the course of action you would take with the family.

# Is this neglect?

The Smith family live in an upper class neighborhood. Both parents work full-time and are engaged in many social activities. The children rarely see the parents. The children have everything they want, not just need, but the parent's attention. Is this neglect?

# Imminent Danger & Protection

- Assess for imminent danger
- How can we keep the child in the home?
- What services can be provided?



# Placement Options

- Remain in home with parent/s
- Place with non-custodial parent
- Place with relative
- Place with 'kin' or family friend
- Place in foster care



# Services for the Family

- Counseling
- Parent training (in home & groups)
- Substance Abuse Services
- Anger Management
- Specialized treatment depending on the type of abuse

# Services for the family, cont.

- Housekeeping training
- Child Care
- Financial support, food stamps, housing, and/or medical insurance (Medicaid)
- Trauma Informed Care

### Trauma Informed Care

What is Trauma Informed Care?

\*Safety

\*Trustworthiness & Transparency

\*Peer Support

\*Collaboration & Mutuality

\*Empowerment

\*Diversified services

# Trauma Informed Approach

- Potential paths for recovery
- Recognize signs & symptoms of trauma
- Integrate signs & symptoms of trauma into policies, procedures & Practice
- Resist re-traumatization (SAMSHA, 2015)

# Trauma Specific Interventions

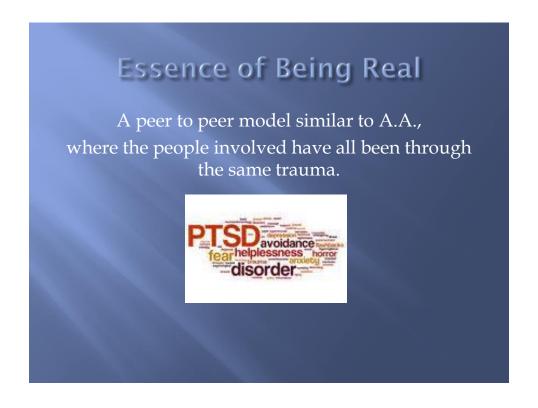
Trauma-specific intervention programs generally recognize the following:

- The survivor's need to be respected, informed, connected, and hopeful regarding their own recovery
- The interrelation between trauma and symptoms of trauma such as substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, and anxiety
- The need to work in a collaborative way with survivors, family and friends of the survivor, and other human services agencies in a manner that will empower survivors and consumers (SAMSHA, 2015)

### Known Trauma Interventions

- Addiction and Trauma Recovery Integration Model (ATRIUM)
- Essence of Being Real
- Risking Connection®
- Sanctuary Model®
- Seeking Safety
- Trauma, Addiction, Mental Health, and Recovery (TAMAR)
- Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide for Education and Therapy (TARGET)
- Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM and M-TREM)





# Risky Connection

Risking Connection emphasizes empowerment and collaboration, using the trauma to connect the person to the symptoms.



# Sanctuary Model

The goal of the Sanctuary Model is to help children who have experienced the damaging effects of interpersonal violence, abuse, and trauma. The model is intended for use by residential treatment settings for children, public schools, domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters, group homes, outpatient and community-based settings, juvenile justice programs, substance abuse programs, parenting support programs, acute care settings, and other programs aimed at assisting children. (SAMSHA, 2015)

# Seeking Safety

Key Principles Include:

- -Safety
- -Integrated Treatment
- -Counteract loss of ideas associated with trauma
- -Four content areas of clinical processes

# TAMAR Education Project

- □ T=Trauma
- A=Addiction
- M=Mental Health
- A=And
- R=Recovery



### **TARGET**

- T=Trauma
- A=Affect
- R=Regulation
- G=Guide for
- E=Education and
- T=Therapy



### TREM & M-Trem

- Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model (TREM and M-TREM)
- The Trauma Recovery and Empowerment Model is intended for trauma survivors, particularly those with exposure to physical or sexual violence. This model is gender-specific: TREM for women and M-TREM for men. This model has been implemented in mental health, substance abuse, co-occurring disorders, and criminal justice settings. (SAMSHA, 2015)





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### **Group Activity One:**

### **Directions:**

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team A Case Study:**

Marybeth is a seven year old who attends a local elementary school a block from her house. She is released from school at 2:30 p.m., she walks home the one block and usually arrives home at 3:00 P.M. Her mom works until 2:30 and it takes her about 20 minutes to drive home from work. This means that Marybeth must wait for her mother to arrive home at least ten minutes each day.

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team B Case Study:**

Danielle, age 11, Nick age 9 and Dustin age 5 live in a one bedroom home with their mother. The mother sleeps in the living room on a sofa bed, the children have their own beds in the bedroom they share. They have one dresser that the three of them share with a few outfits and each has two pairs of shoes. The mom provides the best she can for them, but there are times there is little to no food in the home. In addition, the mother will prostitute herself to bring in extra money as the food stamps and welfare run out around the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the month.

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team C Case Study:**

Sonia, age 12, Matt age 14, and John age 15 live in a nice four bedroom home with both of their parents. The parents are upper middle class and seen as great community members being involved in the children's school and outside activities in many capacities. Several of the neighbors are familiar with this family and noticed that there were quite a few people coming and going from the home. In addition, there has been a an 'awful' smell coming from the garage. The neighbors have talked to the parents about this and they stated they were not sure what the issue was, but would address it. There have also been a few cars in the neighborhood that appear to be watching this house.

A few weeks later, there was a large police presence with the father being arrested. The father was arrested for manufacturing methamphetamine in the garage and distributing it.

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team D Case Study:**

Jane has just delivered birth to a healthy baby boy. Jane and Sam are the parents to baby boy Hitler. The parents are the offspring of two large drug families that are well known to the police. The father has a twenty year criminal history for many crimes (starting at age 13) and impregnated Jane just before he was arrested this last time. He was released a month ago and is now living with Jane. While in prison Sam headed up the Aryan prison gang. He has a target on his back because he has done things that other gangs that they want to retaliate by killing him. Jane also was recently released from jail, she had been in for credit card fraud and drug possession. She, too, has a long criminal history that dates back to age 15. The police report that the mating of these two has resulted in one large drug syndication for the state.

Jane has reported that she is living in a home that is known for drug manufacturing and distribution. It is under constant surveillance by DEA and the family members in that home have a long criminal history. You go out to this home to learn she does not live there, they do not know where she is at nor where the baby is living. The police know this family well, so they help you locate family members who are not forthcoming with information. After a few hours you find the baby, a family member reports that she found it at a local grocery store. She was not sure where the parents were, she hasn't seen them in "a while."

### **Group Activity Two:**

#### **Directions:**

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team A Case Study:**

A family of four (three children Devon age 3, Sabrina age 7 and Sam age 12) live in a two bedroom apartment with their single father. The children appear to be well cared for, they have adequate food, shelter and clothing. They attend school and are doing well, with passing grades and good attendance.

Dad works full-time 40 plus hours a week, he leaves the house at 7 a.m., an hour before the older two children go to school and he comes home around 4:30 p.m., an hour after the two children return home from school. Devon is in day care the entire time, while Sam cares for Sabrina while Dad is at work.

Sam has been caught with 'pornographic material' at school this week.

#### **Discuss:**

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team B Case Study:**

Mickey age 9, Samantha age 8, Zak age 7, Beverly age 5, and Jonathan age 3 all live with their mother in a two bedroom apartment. Mom has an 18 year old boyfriend who is a registered sex offender who lives in the same home as the five children.

#### **Discuss:**

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team C Case Study:**

Marybeth age 2 years, Todd age 4 years old and Gwen age 6 years old live in a home with their mother in a small apartment. The home is clean, there is adequate food and the children have many toys and clothes. Mom works at an all-night convenience store which is located under the apartment. Mom cannot afford to pay for childcare, but since she works downstairs she feels this works out well. Mom has a baby monitor with her at all times. She also makes sure the children are bathe, fed and put to bed before she goes downstairs to work starting at 11 p.m.

#### **Discuss:**

Discuss in your group the case and then respond to the question at the end of the case study. We will come back together as a large group to discuss the case and what you decided.

### **Team D Case Study:**

Tanya is a 16 year old girl who has been caught in the bathroom at school having sex with a 13 year old boy. This is not the first time that this has occurred; it is actually the fourth time in the past three years with different boys. Each time the parents have been called into the school for a meeting and the parents have stated they would deal with this situation. At this point the principal feels that there is nothing else but to expel her from the school.

#### **Discuss:**