

Child & Family Centred Care Attachment & Separation



Session 3

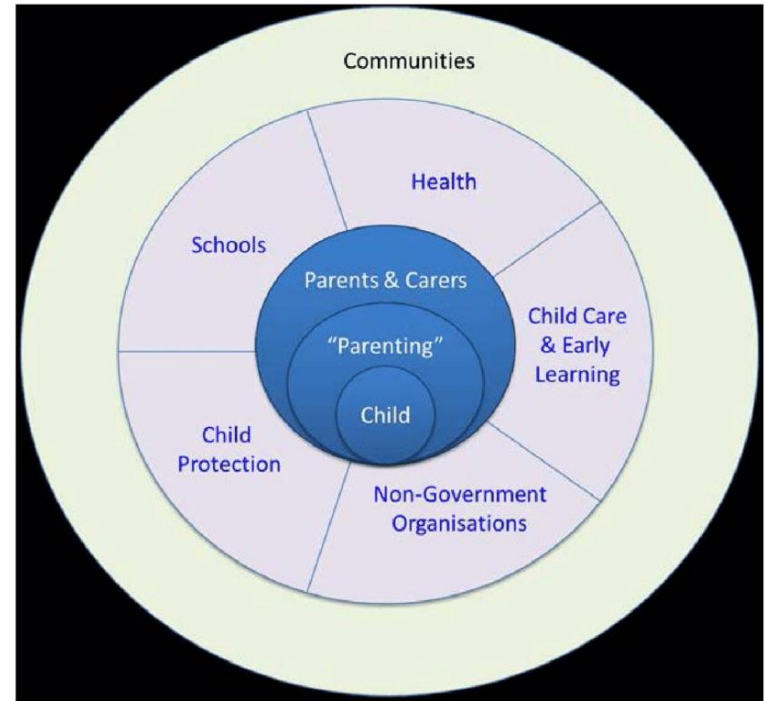
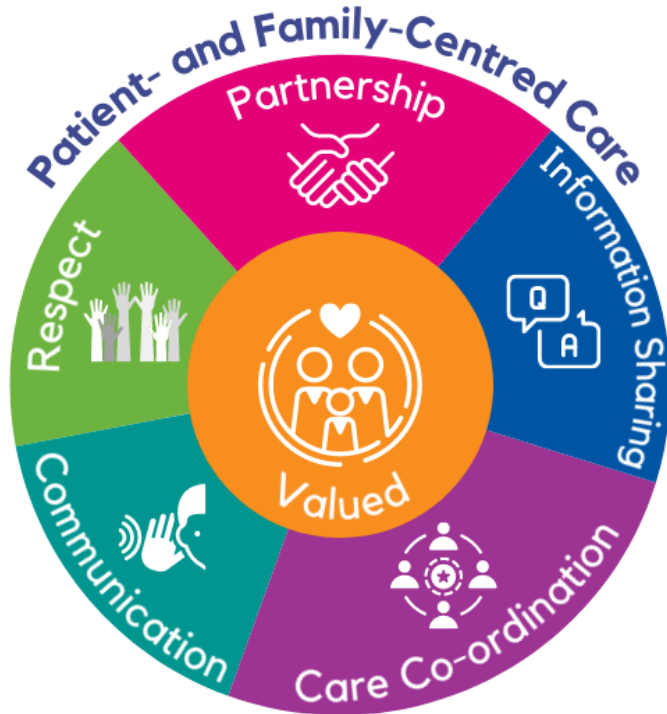
What is Child and Family Centred Care to you?

Child and family-centered care

- is an approach to the planning, delivery, and evaluation of health care that is grounded in mutually beneficial partnerships among health care professionals, patients, and families.

Child and family-centred care

- What do we do day to day to achieve this?



Why is child and family centred care important in our work?



Meeting Needs of the Child

- Child and Family Centred Care is implemented to best meet the needs of the child, socially, emotionally, developmentally.
- Looking after the child in isolation from the family would cause harm.
- In order to understand impact of such separation we need to understand the importance of attachment.

What is Attachment?

- A long enduring emotional tie to a specific person
- Evolutionary / innate drive



Attachment Theory

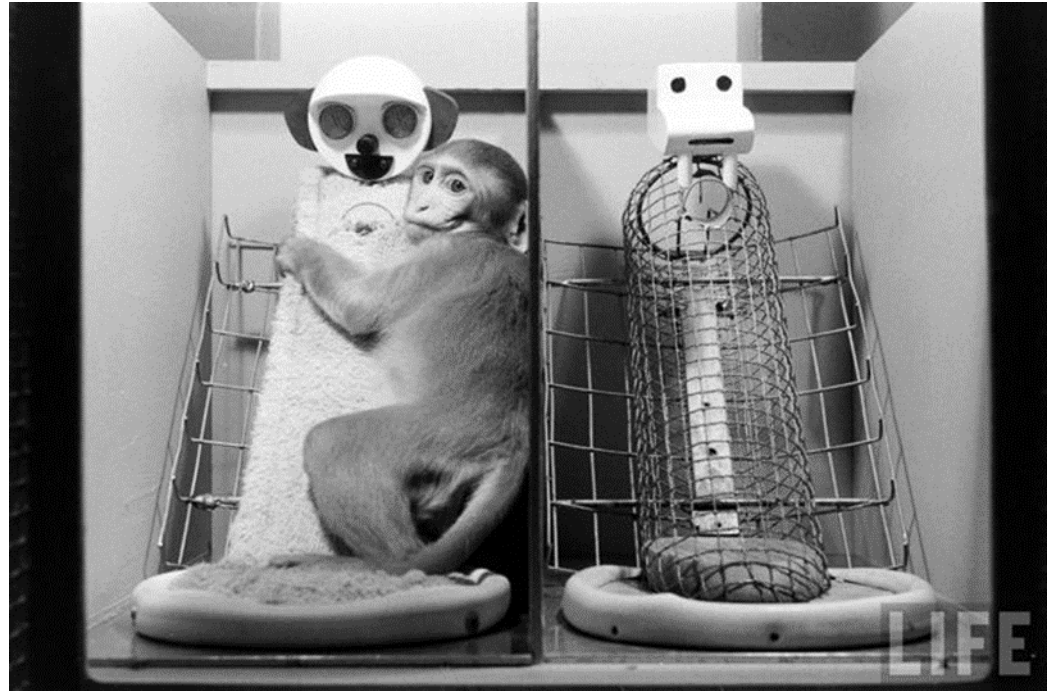
Attachment theory is a **psychological, evolutionary, and ethological theory concerning relationships between humans.**

A young child needs to develop a relationship with at least one primary caregiver for social and emotional development to occur normally.

Harlow's Monkeys



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrNBEhzjg8I>

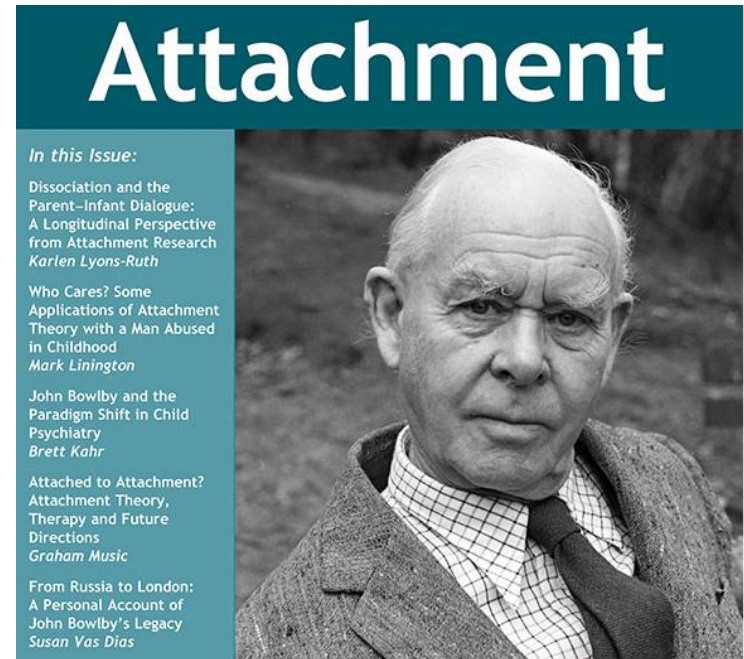


The wire mother experiment Harlow 1958

Bowlby - Innate Behaviours

Infants seek attachments from birth to ensure protection. How?

Sucking
Cuddling
Looking
Smiling
Crying



Bowlby (1969)

Four Stages of Attachment - Bowlby

1. Pre-attachment
2. Attachment in the making
3. Clear cut attachment
4. Goal corrected partnership

0-2 months – Pre-attachment

0-2 months



Babies prefer people to objects (faces to balls)
Smile and cry to maintain attention

John Bowlby

Phase two Attachment in the making

- 2-7 months



- [Talking Baby at 3 Months Old - Bing video](#)
- Turn taking, shared attention
- Baby talk conversation

John Bowlby

Phase three Clear cut Attachment

- 7 months – 2 years
- Distinguishes between care givers
- Shows specific “love” for a specific person



John Bowlby

Phase four **Goal corrected partnership**

- 2 + years



- Behaviours become intentional (cry to summon caregiver)
- Children develop an increasingly complex understanding of others feelings and expectations

John Bowlby

Separation Anxiety

Three stages

- Protest
 - Despair
 - Detachment
- John Bowlby(1959)

Mary Ainsworth



- [Mary Ainsworth's Strange Situation: Attachment and the Growth of Love - Bing video](#)

Maternal Deprivation/Privation

- Disruption or Interference with functioning of relationship not simply with separation
- Multiple attachments

Michael Rutter (1981)

Real-life example

Romanian Children cared for in orphanages (1980's)

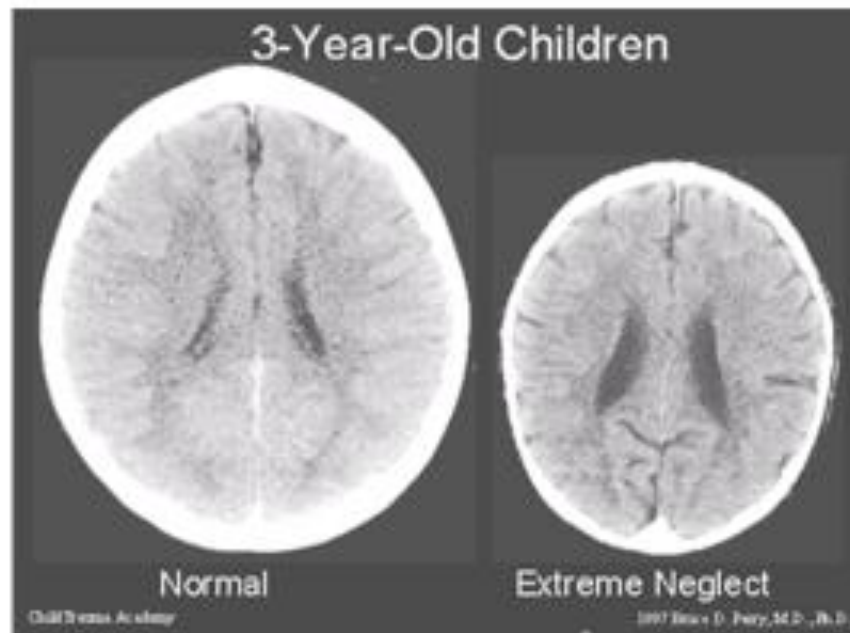
- ↓ Cognitive Development
- ↓ Brain size
- Poor Mental Health



Stress, hormones and brain development



Oxytocin –
fertiliser for the
brain



Cortisol –
prunes baring
growth.



Children in Hospital 1950's



Children in Caleb Diplock Ward at Guy's Hospital, 1950s.

The tile illustrations on the wall now hang in the South Wing corridor at St Thomas'

Children in Hospital – The Effects of Separation

- [A Two Year Old goes to Hospital \(Robertson Films\) - Bing video](#)
 - James & Joyce Robertson (1950's)
- Protest
- Detachment
- Despair

Young children in brief separation (Foster care)

James & Joyce Robertson(1971)

The Robertsons believed that no matter how good the substitute mother, separation of the child from the mother remains a hazard for a young child due to the discontinuity of the mother-child relationship

Attachment Theory

- [The Attachment Theory: How Childhood Affects Life - Bing video](#)

Attachment

- What impact does this have for care of the Child in Hospital?
- Which children are most vulnerable?

My Lifetime Experience

- 1968 – in-patient tonsillectomy (age 5)
- 1974 – in-patient children’s ward (age 11)
- 1974 – in-patient adult ward (age 11)
- 1991 – “Welfare of Children & Young People in Hospital” -ward sister children’s ward (RSCN’s)
- 1993 – “Children First” (set up Children’s Home Care Team)

Policies Implemented

- Parents facilitated to stay with child 24/7
- Child/Family Centred Care
- Minimise length of stay
- Provision of Home Care
- Appropriately trained staff
- Importance of Play



Summary

- Forming a Relationship/Attachment to a key carer is a key part of development especially in early life
- Separation from the key carers, particularly in early childhood can be damaging to child development with short term and long term consequences
- Attachment experiences in childhood have an effect on relationships and may influence mental health and wellbeing in later life

What does your place of work do to improve experiences of children in your care?

What else could be done?

- Discuss in groups: Flip Chart (5mins)
- Feedback: 15mins

