

The Impact of Multiple Adversities

University of Edinburgh, October 2013. Keeping Youth Away from Crime

Julie Taylor [PhD; RN; MSc; BSc (Hons); RNT]

Professor of Child Protection

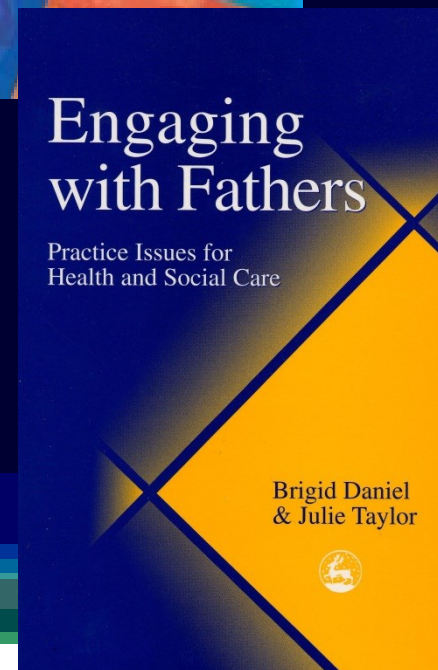
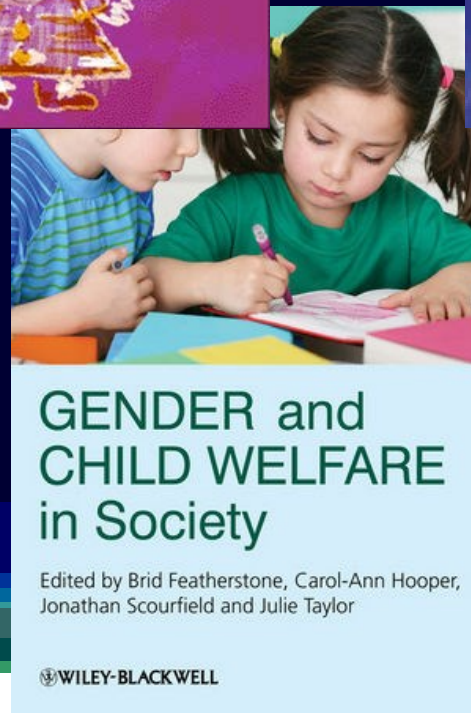
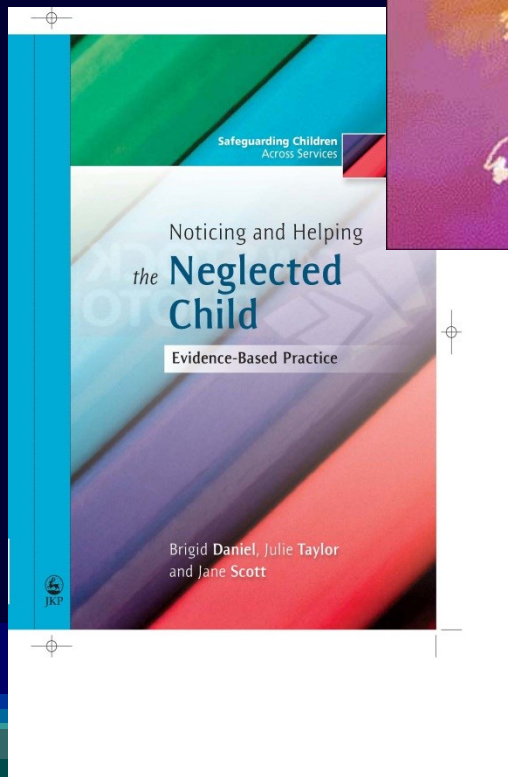
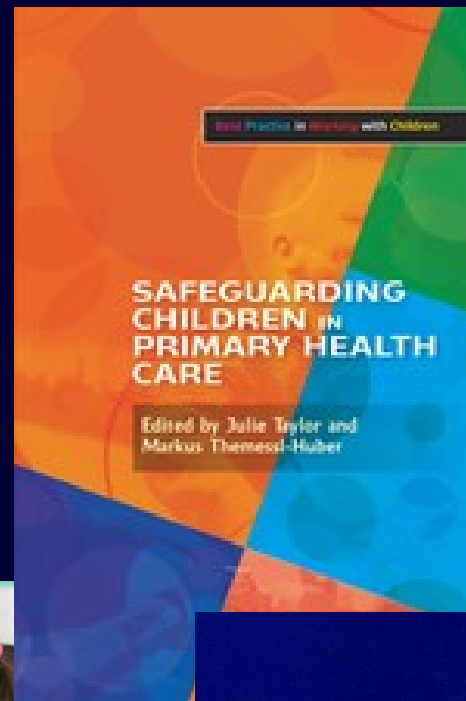
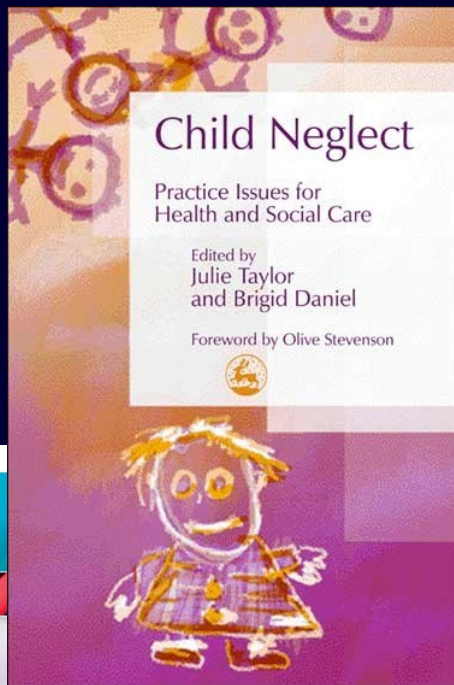
University of Edinburgh/NSPCC Child Protection Research Centre





NSPCC 
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH / NSPCC
**child protection
research centre**



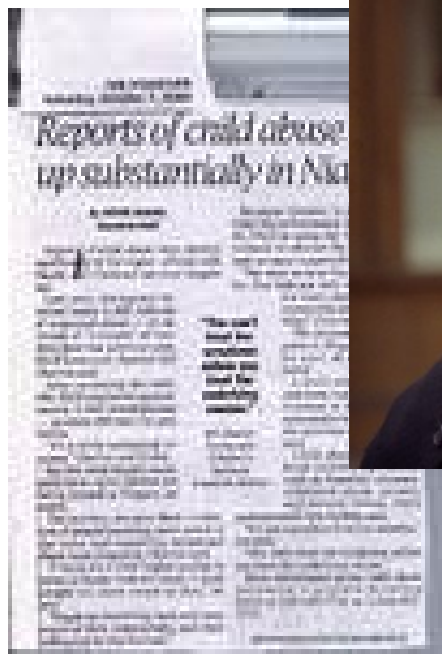




World Health Organization

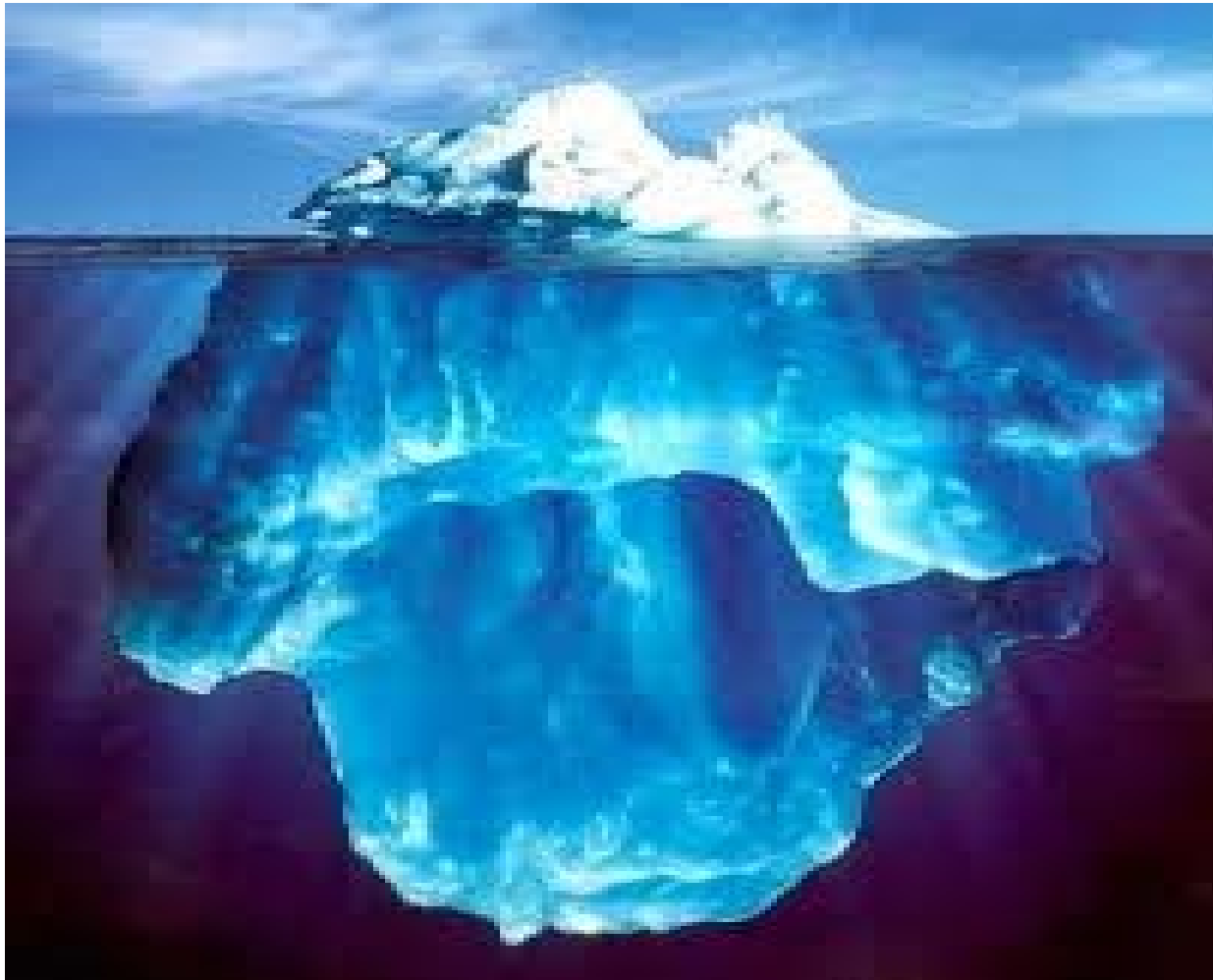
- **Child abuse or maltreatment constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment or commercial or other exploitation, resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power (Butchart 2006)**



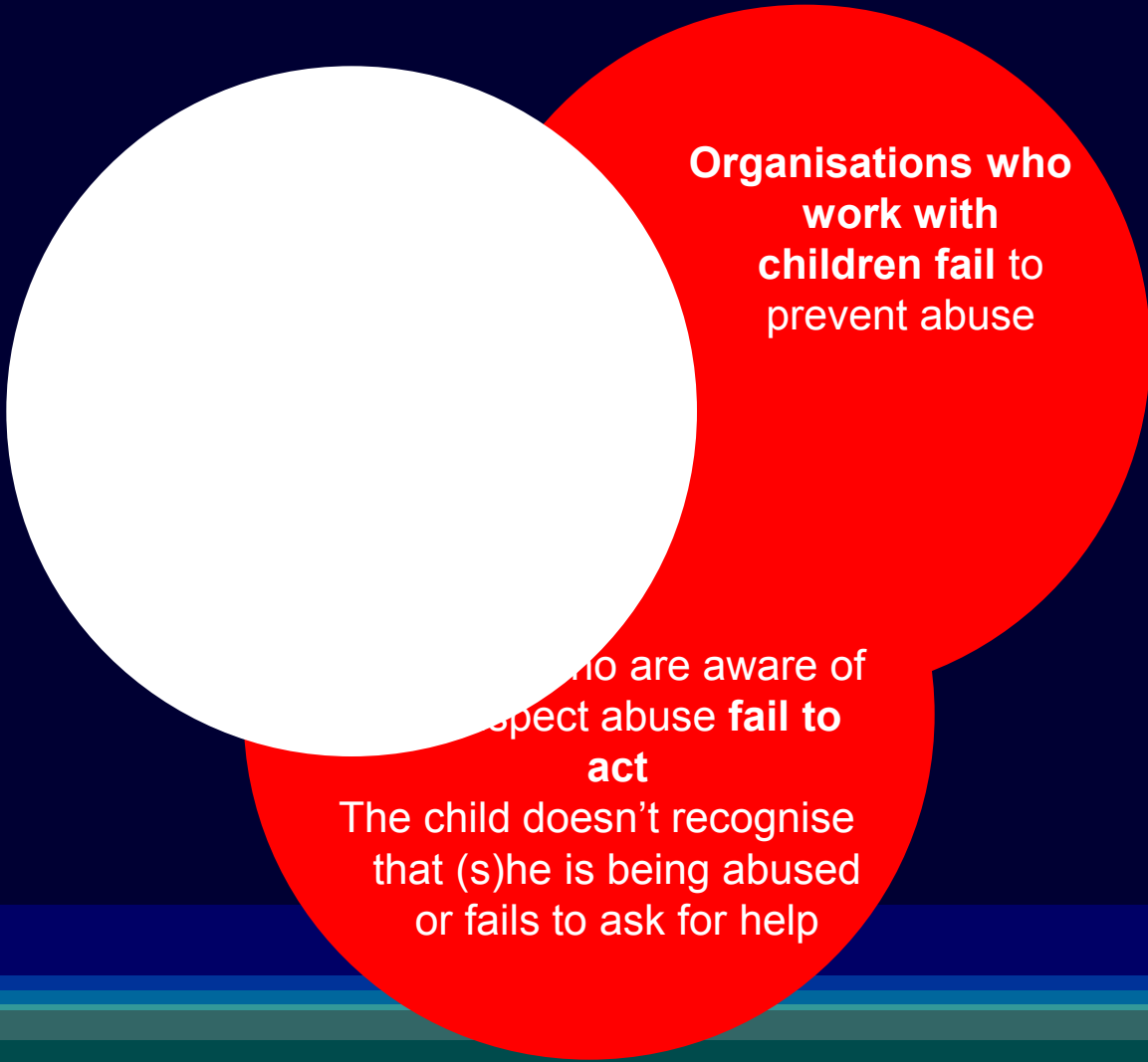


Hall, 82, rape and Cheshire at

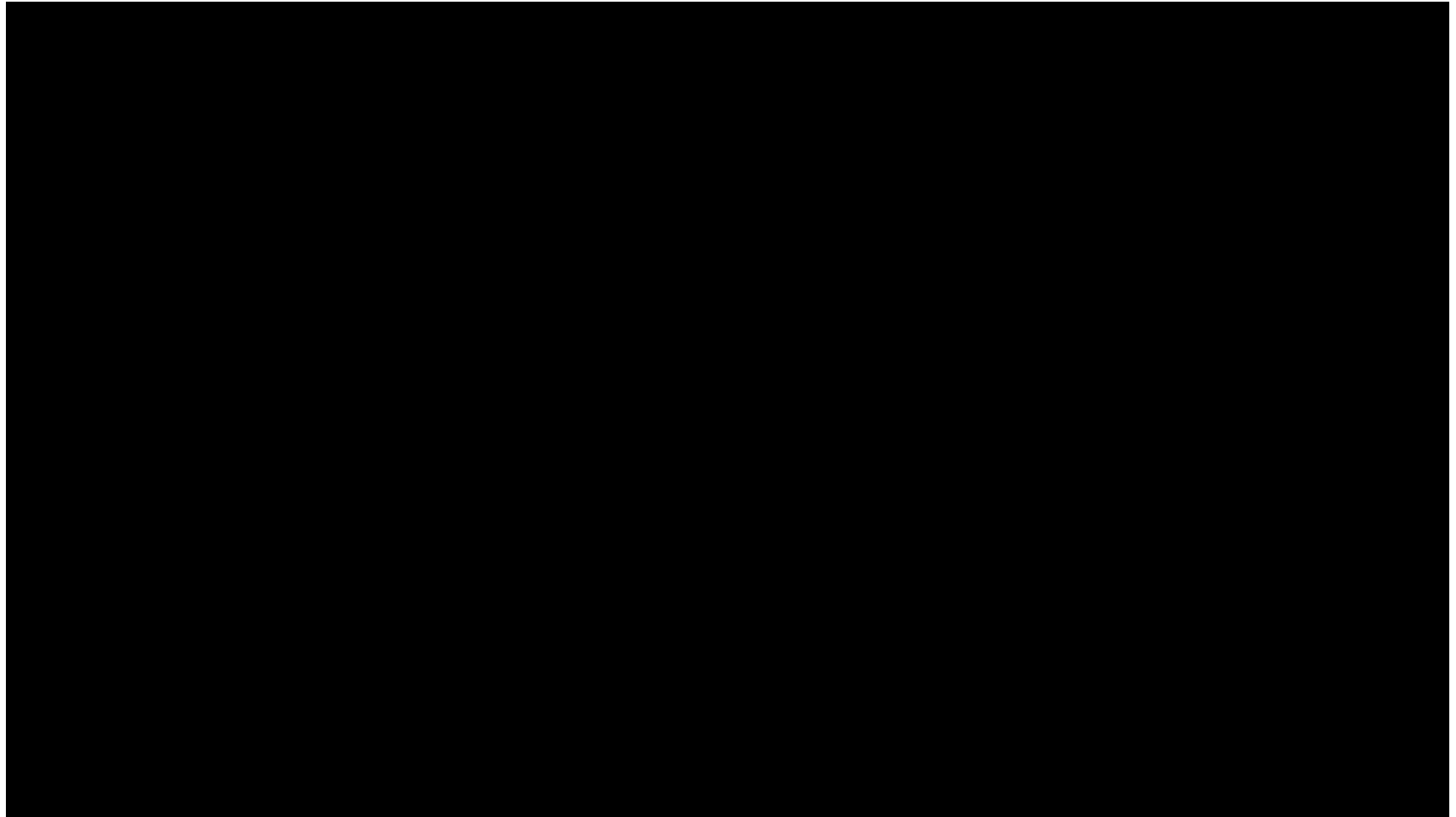
Child Protection Research



The reasons why cruelty to children exists are varied and complex but in all cases of abuse three factors are almost always present



The Scale of the Problem



World Perspectives on abuse (ISPCAN)

- Countries that do not yet have an official count: Belarus, Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Switzerland
- Child death reviews only in Ireland, Russia, UK

Shetland Islands



Outer Hebrides



UK 'Big 5'



UNICEF 2010 – Lebanon Report

- Child labour
- Politicization of children and young people
- Cluster munitions

Multiple Adversities

- Abuse and neglect often co-exist alongside a range of family problems and adversities
- Frequently compounded by issues such as poverty, house moves and eviction
- Cumulative harm
- A 'wicked problem'
- Reconceptualisation?

Bunting and Toner (2012); Devaney and Spratt (2009)



Risk Factors

- Domestic abuse
- Parental mental ill health
- Substance misuse

} *'Toxic Trio'*

Multiples matter (Spratt 2011)

Teenage parents

Disability

Parental history of abuse

POVERTY FACTORS



The ACE Study (Adverse Childhood Experiences)

- Adverse Childhood Experiences and their relationship to Adult Health and Well-Being
- Child abuse and neglect
- Growing up with domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, crime
- 18,000 participants
- 10 years

The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study: www.cestudy.org



Some findings so far...

- Increased risk of lung cancer
- More auto immune disease
- Increased prescription drug use
- Increased COAD
- Poorer health related QoL



The long-term health consequences of child physical abuse, emotional abuse and neglect: Systematic review and meta-analysis (Norman et al 2012 PLOS Med)

- Sexually transmitted infections and risky sexual behaviour
- Chronic disease
- Lifestyle risk factors and other physical health outcomes
- Depressive disorders
- Anxiety disorders
- Eating disorders
- Childhood conduct disorders
- Suicidal ideation/attempts
- Drug use





Coventry Safeguarding
Children Board

Serious Case Review

Re Daniel Pelka

Born 15th July 2007

Died 3rd March 2012

Overview Report

Independent Serious Case Review Panel Chair – Dr Neil Fraser

Independent Overview Report Author – Ron Lock

September 2013 – Final Publication Copy

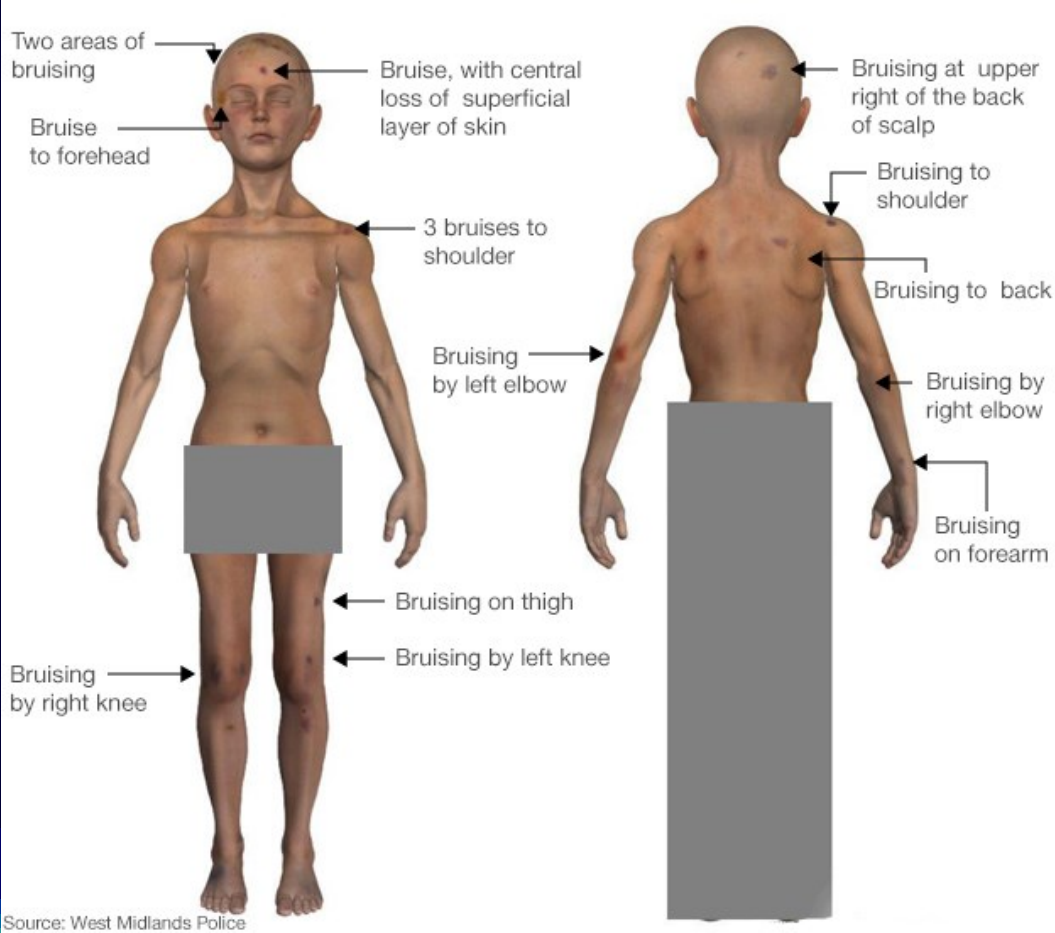


Pelka SCR - summary

- 26 police incidents for DA.
 - Intoxicated.
 - Three different men
 - Safe and well checks ‘children none the wiser’
- School – ‘obsession’ with food
- Facial injuries at school
- Missed health appointments
- Sister
- Language difficulties



Daniel Pelka – age 4





Hamzah
Khan

Keanu
Williams



Kristy Bamu

More typically however...

- *Kylie*
- Father beats mother
- Jail visits
- Strange men...unwanted touching
- Bullied at school
- Drugs, drink, expelled 16
- Prostitution
- Unwanted pregnancies, terminations, STDs
- Suicide age 19
- *Steven*
- Severely neglected
- Age 2-12 17 placements
- Increasingly disruptive
- Harmful sexual behaviour
- 13> residential school
- 16 young offenders institute
- 18 rapes an 8 year old girl
- Prison
- Sex offenders register on release
- Repeat behaviours...

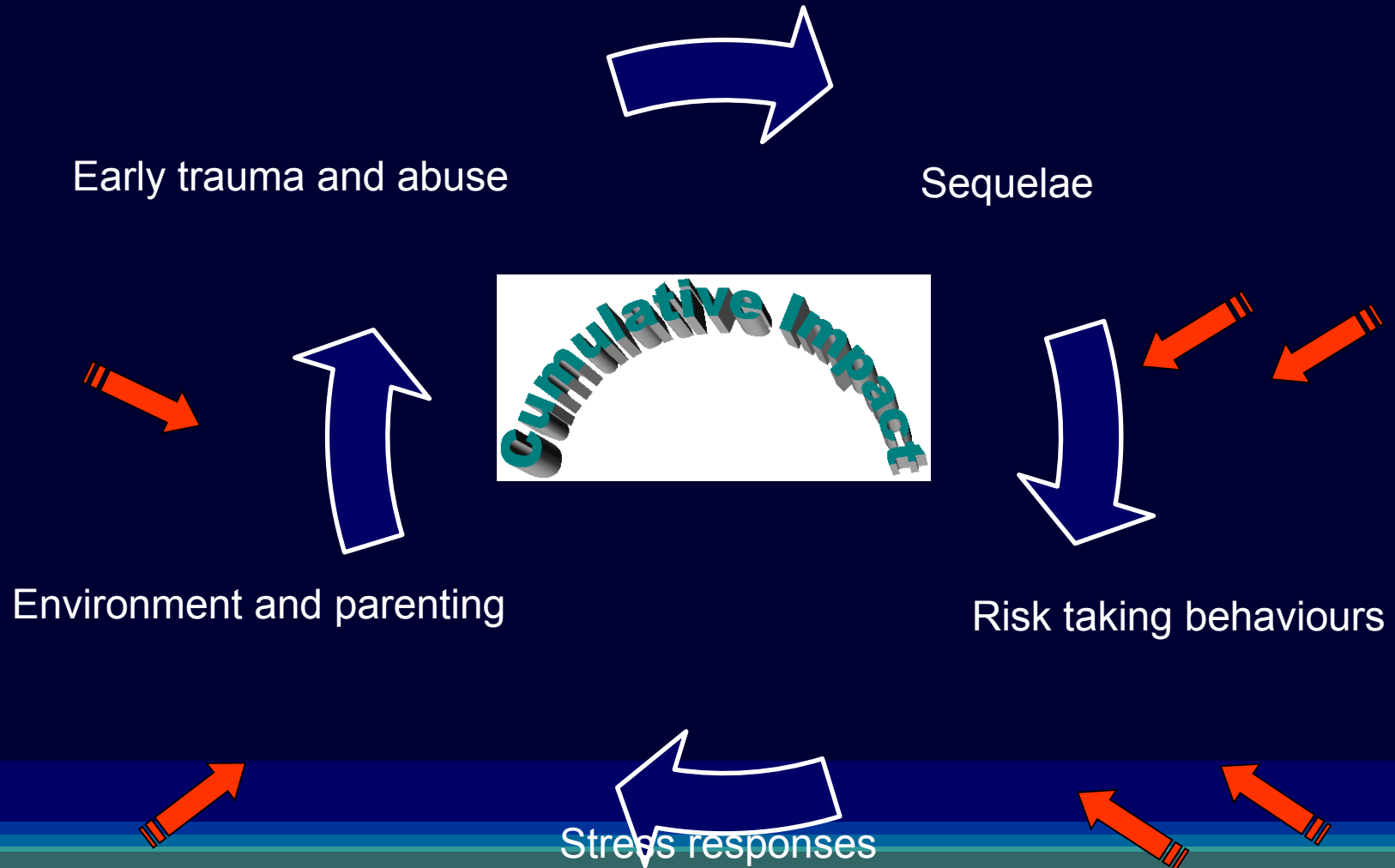


Most typically, variations on a theme...

- Seeking love indiscriminately
- Violent and abusive relationships
- Psychotherapy
- Mental health problems
- PTSD
- Physical health problems
- Attachment problems
- Prescriptions
- Substances
 - Or few problems at all...



Intergenerational Cycles of Violence and Abuse





Thank you for listening...



Worried about a child? Don't wait until you're certain. NSPCC Adult advice and helpline

**0808
800
5000**



Julie.Taylor@ed.ac.uk



@bulawayojulie



www.childprotection.ed.ac.uk

