

Chapter 1

Abuse and Neglect

What do you know about child abuse?

- What do you want to know?
 - Child Abuse and parents
 - Child Abuse and other people

Defining Child Abuse

What is your definition?

Definitions

Think about: child left alone?
child wandering around at 10 at night?

- Influenced by:
 - Severity
 - Type
 - Chronicity—duration and repeat
 - Age of onset
 - Frequency

Child Maltreatment

- Child abuse and child maltreatment
 - Any act or failure to act that endangers a child's physical or emotional health and development
 - Physical abuse
 - Sexual abuse
 - Emotional abuse
 - Neglect
 - Child exploitation

History: Ancient Times

- Infanticide
 - Spartans
 - Twelve Tables and deformed children
 - Plato and deformed children
 - Roman and Greek attitudes
 - Teachers and sexual abuse
 - Roman games
- Cultures such as China, Egypt and Israel that supported and encouraged strong family units appear to have had fewer incidents of harsh treatment of children.
- Why are strong family units important to abuse prevention?

Middle Ages to 19th Century

- Most children did not survive
- Health Standards
 - Wooden bottles
 - Wet nurses
- Brothers Grimm:
<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~spok/grimtmp/>
- 1700s: half of children born die before five

Middle Ages to 19th Century

- Rousseau (1762) in *Emile* stated that "Experience shows that children delicately raised are more likely to die....Accustom them therefore to the hardships they will have to face; train them to endure extremes of temperature, climate, and condition, hunger, thirst, and weariness" (p.66).

1800s

- French founding homes
 - Turnstile
- Almshouses in Great Britain
- Children's Aid Societies in United States
 - Charles Loring Brace
 - Orphan Trains
 - 150,000 children placed
- Native American children
 - Boarding School

Late 1800s and 1900s

- Mary Ellen Watson
- Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- White House Conferences on Children
- Henry C. Kempe in 1961
 - Battered Child Syndrome

Laws

- Laws traditionally to protect adults
- Early 1900s labor laws
- 1930s laws related to providing economically
- 1974 Child Abuse and Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA)
 - Provides funding
 - Database
 - Each state provides own definition

U.S. Legislation on Child Welfare and Maltreatment

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1836	The first state child labor law was passed by Massachusetts that required children working in factories to attend a minimum of three months of school during the year.
1916	The Keating-Owen Child Labor Act of 1916 became the first federal child labor law. It limited working hours of children and established penalties.
1921	The Sheppard-Towner Act provided funding for maternal-infant health to protect infants and established state-level Children's Bureaus.
1935	The Social Security Act established financial aid to dependent children and set up child welfare services.
1936	The Walsh-Healey Act required the government not to purchase goods made by underage children.
1938	The Fair Labor Standards Act outlawed full-time work for those under 16.
1946	The National School Lunch Act provided a meal program to serve children whose families were unable to provide adequate food.
1974, 1978, 1992, 2003	The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) was the first comprehensive law on abuse and neglect. It required states to identify and prevent abuse. It also set up the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect under the Department of Health and Human Services. It was amended in 1978, 1992, and 2003.
1978	The Indian Child Welfare Act was passed to regulate child welfare agencies and programs serving Native American children and families.
1980	The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act was passed to change the foster care and adoption system.
1981	The Social Security Act was amended to provide child protective services funding to states. This became the major source of states' social service funding.
1986	The Child Abuse Victims' Rights Act gave child victims of sexual exploitation a civil damage claim.
1988	The Abandoned Infants Assistance Act provided funding and programs for foster care and abandoned children.
1991	Congress passed the Victims of Child Abuse Act to improve the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.
1997	The Adoption and Safe Families Act became law, creating timelines for moving children into permanent situations and also providing adoption bonuses for states.
2000	The Children's Internet Protection Act required schools and public libraries to equip computers with anti-pornography filters.
2000	The Child Abuse Prevention and Enforcement Act of 2000 provided funding and requirements for states to receive funding for child abuse.
2003	The Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to End the Exploitation of Children Today (PROTECT) Act strengthened law enforcement's ability to stop violent crimes against children and codified the Amber Alert as a national method of tracking missing children.
2006	The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 established a National Registry of substantiated child abuse cases and protections for children from sexual exploitation.

Theories and Child Maltreatment

- Behavioral and Learning theory
 - Skinner
- Bandura
 - **attention**, the ability to watch someone's behavior
 - **retention**, the ability to be able to remember and/or imagine what was seen, occurs.
 - **reproduce** the behavior by acting out what was seen and heard repeatedly.
 - **motivation** then encourages one to repeat
 - Behavior and imitation

Family Systems Theory

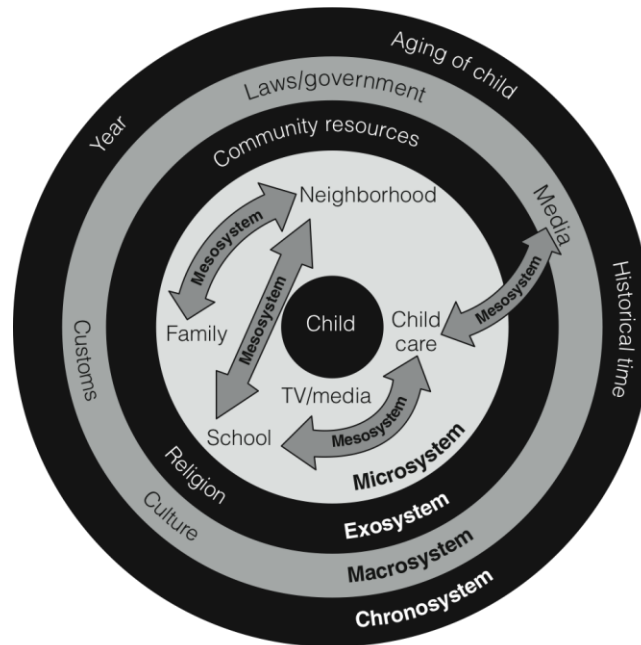
- Patterns and Rules
 - Overt and Hidden Rules
- Boundaries: open or closed
 - communication
 - openness to new people
 - programs or ideas
 - Enmeshed vs too open
- Roles
 - Caretaker, punisher, good child, bad child
- Equilibrium
 - Homeostasis-Families attempt to maintain

Bio-Ecological Systems Theory

- **Microsystem:** Those things that directly affect the child.
- **Macrosystem:** Those that influence the child indirectly by impacting teachers, parents, or others that directly affect the child, such as the parent's workplace, the community and its resources, or religion.
- **Exosystem:** Those things that influence society, and therefore the child and family generally, such as laws, government, media, culture
- **Chronosystem:** The impact of time, the child's growth, or the historical setting on the child
- **Mesosystem:** The term used to explain the relationships between people and things in the child's microsystem

FIGURE 1.2

Bio-Ecological Systems Theory



Biological/Medical Theories

- Genetic/Chemical factors
 - Macaque monkeys
 - Abused infants
 - Lower levels of neurotransmitters and hormones
 - Became abusive mothers
 - Had lower levels as adults
 - Rats and genetic predisposition
- Medical/Emotional Factors
 - PTSD
 - IBS, Depression
 - Does this guarantee abuse

Psychodynamic Theory

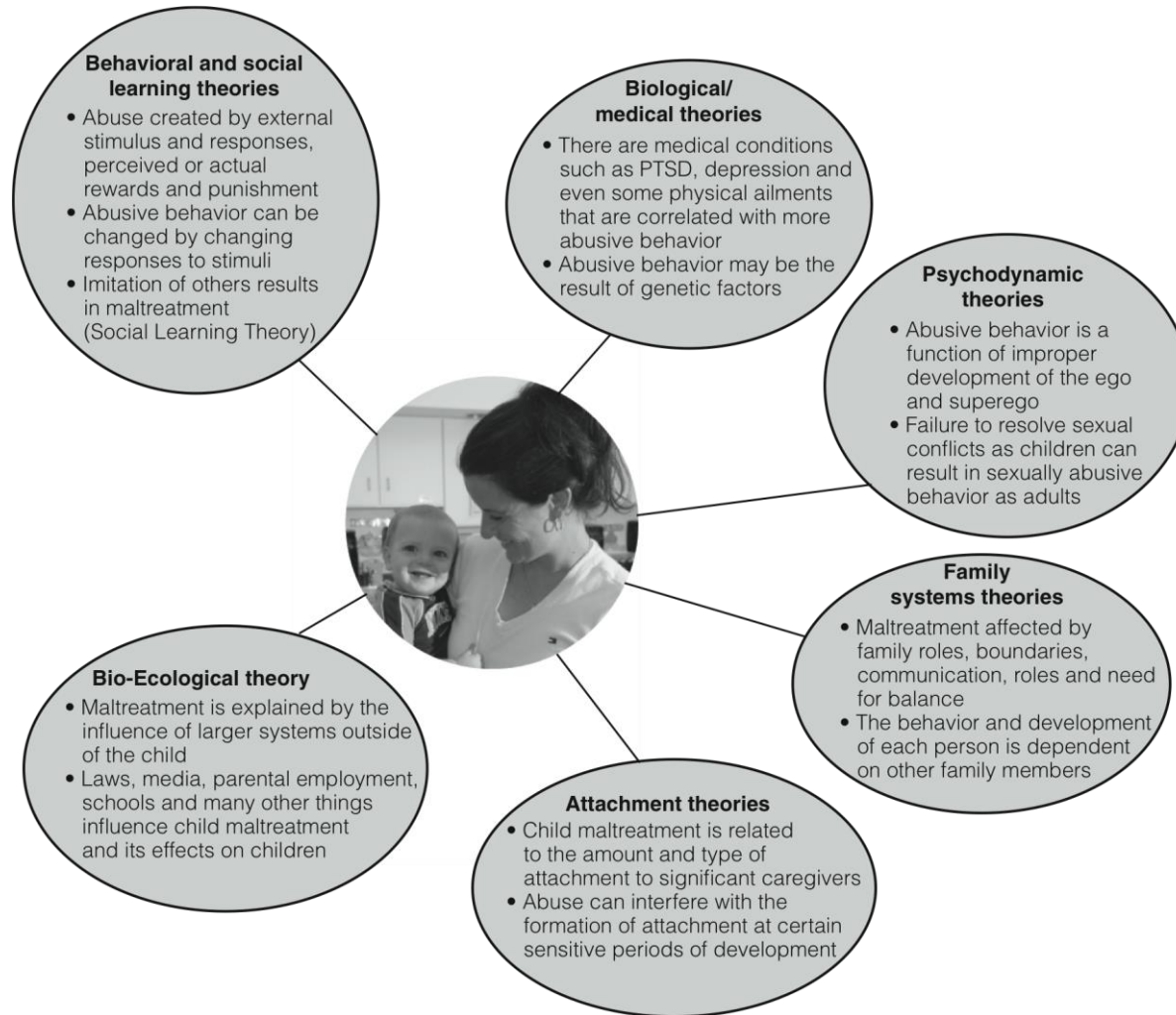
- **Sigmund Freud**
- **Id:** the internal, instinctual drives such as hunger and sex
- **Superego:** conscience.
- **Ego** is the central force that balances the id and superego and integrates these into the personality.
- When a child is abused or neglected the ego may not function properly
- Child could develop personality aberrations that can lead to abuse and neglect as adult
- Primarily used to explain sexual abuse behaviors

Attachment Theory

- Mary Ainsworth and John Bowlby
- Konrad Lorenz and imprinting behaviors
- Secure attachment
- Insecure-avoidant attachment behavior

FIGURE 1.3

Contributions of Theories to Understanding Child Maltreatment



How might theories explain these behaviors?

- A parent does not allow their children to go to school or to be with others, they exert total control over the child
- One child in the family is the scapegoat and all family members support this
- A parent does not hold his baby, leaves them in their bed and spends little time with them
- A person was abused as a child and abuses children
- A parent who is depressed neglects their child
- A person has sexual feelings toward a child

Parenting Practices in the past

- Leave it to Beaver
- Cosby
- How are they different from now?
- What behaviors do we allow now that might seem abuse then
- What behaviors then seems abusive now?