

ATTACHMENT AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Infants in Foster Care are at Particular Risk for Attachment Disorder and Lifelong Damage

“Humans, by nature, are designed to grow, learn, work, and play in groups. By the time a child is 10, he or she has created and maintained dozens of key relationships parents, siblings, friends, teachers, and more. Throughout life, these relationships satisfy our primary needs... The loss of a loved one is an earthquake that fractures and devastates our emotional landscape... For most children, loss and fear go hand in hand. They do not know what will happen to them. And fear intensifies and complicates the other emotions associated with loss. The fearful child cannot concentrate in school; will misinterpret comments; and will sometimes regress to immature behavior (a young child may start to bed-wet) or self-destructive coping behavior (a preadolescent may drink or experiment with drugs).”

Perry, Children and Loss, ChildTrauma Academy.

(An overview of the reference from Google Books) [as of January 17, 2012].