Traumatized parents and their young children: risks and opportunities

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PTSD and parenting

Less sensitive and responsive

(Greene et al., 2020; Schechter et al., 2010; Van Ee et al, 2013)

Higher levels of avoidance

(Brockman et al., 2016; Schechter et al., 2005, 2008)

More hostile and controlling

(Davies et al.,; Despars et al., 2011; Jensen et al., 2021)

Less satisfaction of parenthood and of child

(Davies et al., 2008; Franz et al, 2021; Khaylis et al., 2011; lauterbach et al., 2007; Samper et al., 2004; Sherman et al., 2016; Wamser-Nanney et al., 2021)

More behavioral problems with the children

(Bosquet Enlow et al., 2011; Lemster et al., 2010; Symes et al., 2016; van Ee et al, 2012

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Mother Child Interactions

Refugees play with their children

PTSD parent & attachment child

direct relation between trauma symptoms and attachment style from the child
(O'Toole, Dadds, burton, Rothwell, catts, 2018; Schwerdtfeger et al., 2007; From Ee, kleber, mooren, Out & Jongmans, 2016)

anxious attachment child → bigger risk to develop PTSD
(Zhou, zhen, wu, 2021)

PTSD child → bigger risk to develop fearful attachment
(Almqvist et al., 2003 ; hagan et already., 2017)

detached behavior plays an important role in unsafe / disorganized attachment
(Out, Bakermans-Kranenburg, van Ijzendoorn, 2009; From eE, kleber, mooren, Out & Jongmans, 2016)

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(Threatening) aggression

"Sometimes I hit him, and he begins to cry. He has pain then, but that can happen. I lost control; I too have pain".

"She is not the problem, It’s me. I have issues with noisy behaviour. I can it can't stand when she is busy or noisy, but that is how children are."

"Everything that she does she wants to do herself, it makes me tired. it confuses me, the makes me freak because it takes forever. it makes me aggressive. I don't want that to happen, but it happens automatically."

From Ee, E., Sleijpen, M., kleber, R. J., & Jongmans, M. J. (2013). Father involvement in a refugee sample, Relations between post traumatic stress and caregiving. family process, 52, 723-735.

“Russian snot nose” (Germany)
“Kids from the devil" (Rwanda)
"Children of shame” (Timor)
“Dust of Life ” (Vietnam)
“Children of Hate” (Bosnia)
“Monster babies” (Nicaragua)

group professionals

1. Subconscious and incompetent
2. Conscious and incompetent
3. Conscious and competent

ORIGINAL RESEARCH article
Front. Psychol., 14 September 2021 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.708288

To Do or Not to Do... Primary Health Care Professionals Experiences With Mothers With Children Born of Sexual Violence

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www.moms.nl

Informatie en hulp voor **moeders** met een kind uit seksueel geweld, **kinderen** geboren uit seksueel geweld en **hulpverleners**.

Over MomS

Ik ben op zoek naar informatie voor...

Moeders

met een kind geboren uit seksueel geweld

Kinderen

die geboren zijn uit seksueel geweld, of dit vermoeden

Professionals

die werken met (aanstaande) moeders

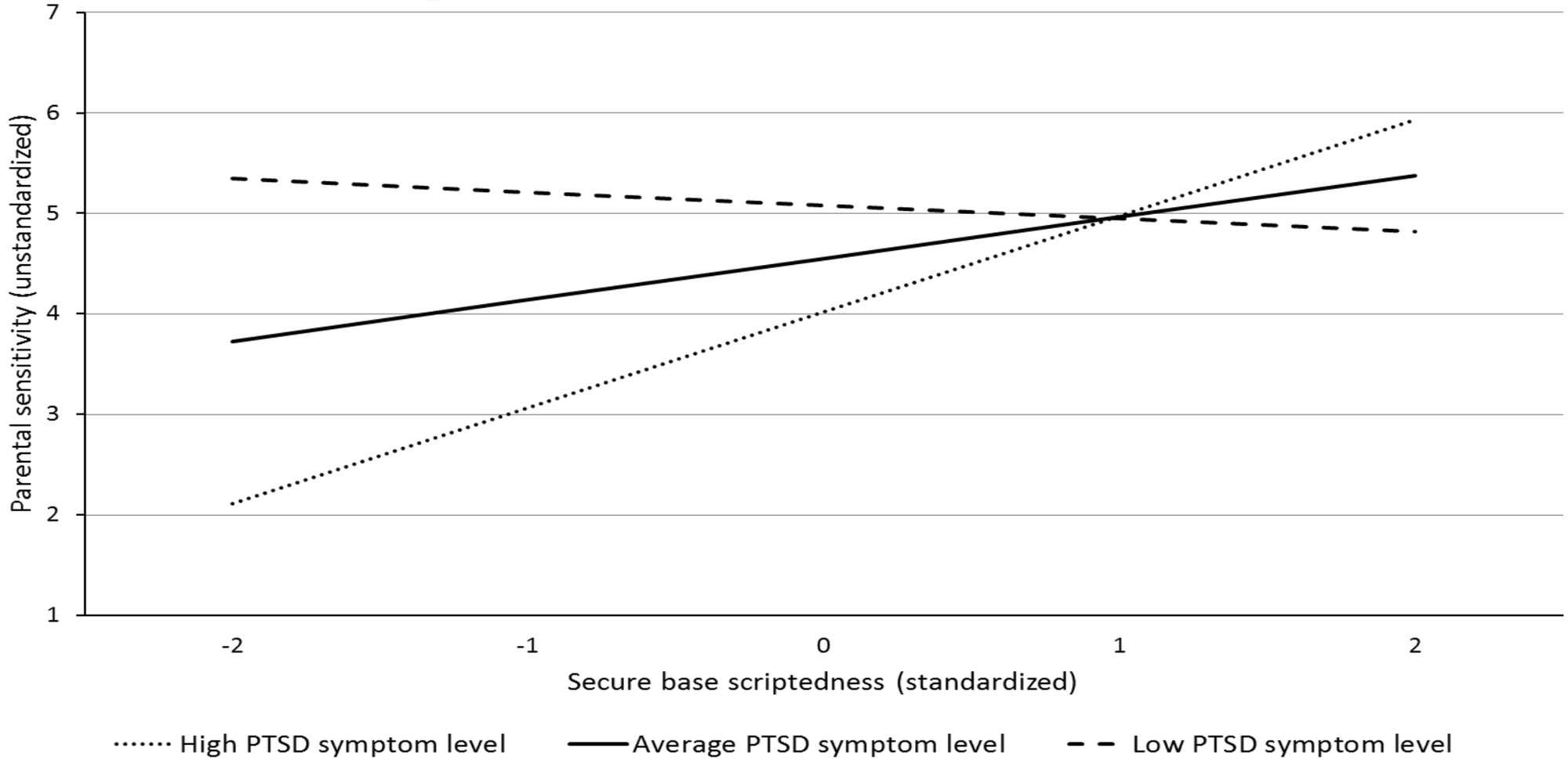
Resilience

Traumatic stress is a normal reaction on major experiences of which most people recover.

“How a family confronts crises and challenges and reorganizes and reinvests in life will influence the adaptive abilities of all of its members and their relationship.”

walsh, 2003

attachment representations, PTSD and sensitivity



From Ee, E., young man, mr. J., From der At., † Kleber, R. J. (2016). attachment representation and sensitivity: the moderating role or trauma and PTSD in a refugee sample. family process, 56, 781-792.

social support

Lack of social support is one of the main predictors of the development and maintenance of PTSD complaints

Implications

watch, wait and wonder
parent as (one of) the main source(s) of resilience

adequate therapy for PTSD symptoms
Promote a safe attachment (parent & child)
Be alert for dissociation
'Unique' triggers within interaction
Don’t avoid, discuss

Create a network
Don’t underestimate the influence of the neighbor or yourself!

Dank voor uw aandacht

Thanks for your attention

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