

# Genes, Parental Psychiatric Symptoms and Child Emotional Problems

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## Nurture versus Nature; There and Back Again

1. Hostility of mother and father during pregnancy and after child birth contributes to the development of child emotional and behavioural problems. *(this thesis)*
2. Common variation in the FKBP5 gene is associated with a decrease in total cortisol secretion during the day and an increased risk of clinically relevant depressive symptoms. *(this thesis)*
3. In preschool children, common variation in the FTO gene causes increased food responsiveness, but at the same time reduces the risk of ADHD symptoms. *(this thesis)*
4. During pregnancy, common variation in the GR gene moderates the relation between maternal psychiatric symptoms and child emotional problems suggesting an individual genetic vulnerability to intrauterine environmental risks. *(this thesis)*
5. Genetic variation in the 5-HTTLPR moderates the impact of the non-optimal early life environment on the likelihood of emotional problems later in life. *(this thesis)*
6. Psychiatric epidemiology offers opportunities to explore questions about who gets ill and why, and to suggest methods for improving the mental health of society. *(Lee N. Robins, 1978)*
7. If we allow our psychiatric epidemiological research to be guided only by our current biological knowledge, we will never learn more about what we do not know.
8. The most outstanding gain from genome-wide association studies in psychiatric genetics so far is the increase in transparency and the collaboration between researchers.
9. As genes do not commit to the boundaries of consensus based classification systems, the discovery of genes in psychiatry may benefit from a more empirically derived clustering of symptoms and phenotypes.
10. Missing heritability is a consequence of overestimated heritability.
11. Against all odds, it is the unpredictability that brings color to my life.