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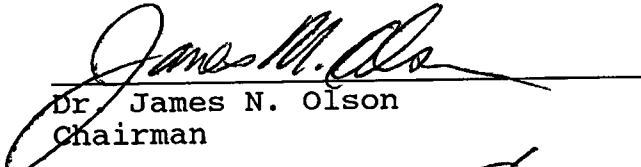
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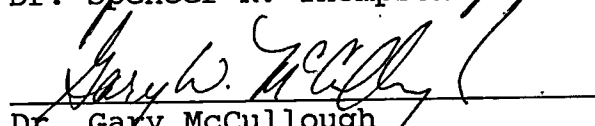
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THE OCCURRENCE OF ALEXITHYMIA IN CHILDREN AND
ADOLESCENTS WITH POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

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THE OCCURRENCE OF ALEXITHYMIA IN CHILDREN AND
· ADOLESCENTS WITH POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

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THESIS

Presented to the Graduate faculty of Psychology

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Abstract

Previous studies of the relationship between alexithymia and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have utilized samples of combat veterans with PTSD. However, children and adolescents who have experienced trauma and are diagnosed with PTSD exhibit similar or identical symptomology. The current study examined alexithymia in a sample of children and adolescents diagnosed with PTSD. It was hypothesized that the sample, when compared to non-PTSD and control samples, would reveal a significantly greater severity of alexithymia and PTSD. Although overall results were not consistent with previous research, trends of group means supported a relationship between alexithymia and PTSD.