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Child's exposures to emotional neglect in drug users families

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Abstract

This study approaches a less common theme in specialized literature, the influence of the family, in which the parent is addicted to drugs. This study tries to capture this influence on child comportment in time, therefore the selection of subjects was made taking into account that they have reached the age of 18.. The results obtained showed that subjects showing aggressive behavior correspond to their low tolerance to frustration, while those who have a low level of aggression; it corresponds to a high level of tolerance to frustration.

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1. Child exposure to emotional neglect

1.1. Child abuse

That "beating is ripped from heaven", we have all heard, either in his own family, as a way of managing their own educations, or from others, they consider that when your child is wrong will understand the concept of right or wrong, fair or unfair, but with the help of a physical correction, more elaborate or simple. What I never understood is why does heaven, described as a place of peace and harmony, with a painful, humiliating discipline.

At the moment we are witnessing all the pursuit of some companies hard against child abuse, domestic violence and the ill-treatment of children. Law No. 272/2004 on the protection and promotion of children's rights, to regulate the issues related to ensuring the physical and psychological security of the child, both within the family and in

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institutions of protection. A whole legal mechanism has been put in place to detect, prevent, punish and remedy any form of abuse against children. However, quite often we see cases of children suffering from serious abuses, sometimes tragic consequences. The company turns out to be resistant to change and hardly educated.

There is a mandatory school where learning to be parents, therefore, each parent is self-taught with regard to education of the child or the manner in which we treat the child depends to a large extent on how I was brought up in ourselves.

The abuse includes all forms of physical or mental violence perpetrated against the child, any behavior involving the use of force and superiority to wounds: insulated, beating, humiliation, sexual assault, verbal sexual behaviors committed in the presence of the child, intimidation, hitting, degrading practices, subjection to physical work inadequate physical abilities, age and exposure to danger, scaring the home, threats, neglect, forcing the committing of acts like theft, begging, prostitution and the like. (Fishbein, 1970)

Any form of abuse perpetrated against the child causing a trauma which is reflected in its intimate behavior, social, school, peers, in relation to the conduct of the game image about itself and the world.

1.2. The psychological evaluation

The psychological evaluation of the child abused/neglected between specialists working in child protection is known difficulties of psychological evaluation of the child where there is suspicion of abuse or neglect (Athanasios, 1989). Distortion of data may occur due either to the evaluator and subjectivism or subject to his relatives and evaluated, which can alter information intentionally or unintentionally.

Possible false statements in cases of mental disorders, interfamilial conflict (child or parent), pursuing advantages of vengeance, or children's suggestibility, the weight of distinguishing between real and imaginary in the case of small children, memory limits, or what defense mechanisms involved are all obstacles that must be overcome in order to achieve a correct assessment.

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Psychological evaluation of the child must include an interview with parents, assessment of the level of cognitive and personality development, measurement scales of different symptoms (anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder), the assessment of the child's developing relationships with parents.

In the interview with parents are obtained data on the child and his family. Are noted information on the particulars of the child, school and professional training, data on family structure, psychomotor development, pathological antecedents or family history of abuse or other trauma, the reason for the examination.

The child's psychic test focuses mainly on the symptoms and behaviors that may occur at the child abuse/neglect: somatic complaints, depression, loss of self-esteem, feelings of guilt, suicidal thoughts or behavior, aggressive, Dissociative Symptoms, periods of amnesia, inadvertently, State of hysterical bouts, installment. Anxiety symptoms: generalized anxiety disorder, phobias, insomnia, nightmares, it will be noted in frustration and sexual behavior so that it will have inadequate sexual knowledge age, exaggerated sexual concern, manifested by frequent masturbation, an exaggerated sexual curiosity, imitating sexual intercourse, sexual assault others or avoiding sexual stimulus through phobias or inhibitions.

Psychologists may assess children while making some tests drawing, the drawing is one of the main methods of psychological evaluation of children, even if they have not yet learned to write, yet is expressed through symbols. (De Castilla, 2004)

Drawings are expressions of emotional States, relations with people around him, he suffered trauma, but also has the capacity to cope with the problems.

Tree stands for the child; through this project, the child is giving us hints of its development (see Fig.1). The tree has three important elements: the root, trunk and branches, Crown. In many cases, the form is frail, superficial, vague, casual with a weakness to me, his difficulties adapting, reserve, insecurity, instability, anxiety, and disbelief in itself. Tree size is seldom balanced it with oversized times (extroversive, vanity, the need to dominate, lack of concern for interpersonal relations), or undersized (mental immaturity, introversion, inferiority complexes).

Very thick, sharp root with many ramifications, may signify the aggressiveness of the child, which may manifest itself, or which is likely to be inhibited.

In general drawings are small, which shows anxiety, shyness, depression, withdrawal. Other drawings are larger, exaggerated (impulsivity, low frustration tolerance).

In many of the comic figures appear identifying children with tendency people much younger or much older, which shows the need for stronger parental-type condition, especially affective deficiencies due to the breast.

The trunk is almost always present, often with nesting hollows or branches cut, denotes trauma, emotional shocks. A torso drawn obstinately, scribbled down may be a hint of a trauma, abuse and aggression directed toward oneself or someone else.

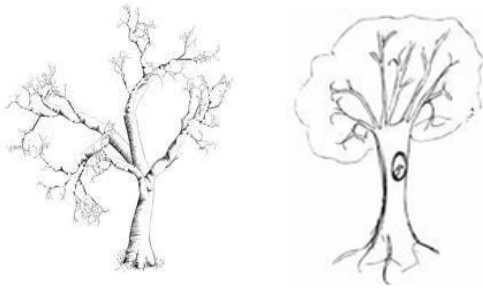


Fig. 1. A few icons in the tree test



Fig. 2. A child drawing

Crown is made up of branches arranged in some cases nonconformist, superficiality, lack of ability to complete, in other provinces (shyness, apprehension, anonymity). Sometimes the branches are heavily branched, (aggression, closure itself).

The leaves are absent in many cases reduced vitality, depressive tendencies, apathy). Fruits and flowers are rarely present. Sometimes the choice of fruits and leaves appear (isolation, hostility, detachment, abandonment, depression).

Test Application person reveals the following:

In many designs! Lack of autonomy of subjects associated with emotional dependency.

The constellation family of child achievement through family design is considered as one of the best of projective tests. The dimensions of the characters, their position in the family space graph, distant between family members and between them and the child being investigated are important elements of diagnosis. Egocentrism can be played through graphic dimensions exaggerated, underlines and further details. Also, the accuracy of graphics characters or traits diminishes absence or imprecision of others can be easily interpreted and descriptive as significance.

Because families do not offer security and affection, children abused/neglected sometimes appear isolated from the family group, and sometimes refuse or omit to draw. The distance to a family member or relative to family group expressed hostility or defense. (Enăchescu, 2005)

Telling the family problems of children who have experienced traumatic experiences is carried out by the omission of family members, through the separation of one or more members of the rest of the family, sometimes through interposed an obstacle between the subject and the character in question, which indicates an effect of rejection toward that person.

Technique of completing sentences Children are asked to complete a number of incomplete sentences, how sentences are reveals desires, his feelings and needs. These techniques can facilitate the expression and Association experience generation traumatic. Later on the interview answers the child can gather important information that could not be obtained during the General examination.

Apperception test for children CAT helps in understanding the relationships between the child, the characters and trend is most important of his life. The test allows the detection and thorough research as regards:

Organization's personality disorganization; Oedipal Conflicts relating to problematical; Maturation/affective and attitudinal immaturity; Ratio of instances of personality; Defense Mechanisms used in the case of an imbalance existing between them; Possible points of external fixation of the child;

Neurotic Traits: anxiety; depression; aggressively; immaturity; obsession tendencies; personality disorders; psychotic trends and indication of addiction; regressively; sexual problems.

CDI (Child Depression Inventory) depression scale for children-is a self-evaluation questionnaire which may be applied to children and adolescents between 7 and 17 years, the period covered is the last 2 weeks. Includes 27 sets of 3 utterances, each set being counted from 0 to 2 points, the final score being possible between 0-54 points. Values less than 9 points suggest the absence of depression more than 9 points, the score being fine for clinical depression.

Observed parameters of the CDI are: Mood Disorder; Difficulties in interpersonal relationships; Feelings of inefficiency; Lack of pleasures; Vegetative Disorders.

Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children-TSCC is a self-administered what measuring post-traumatic stress and associated symptomatology. It is intended to be used for the evaluation of children who went through traumatic experiences, including physical abuse, or sexual intercourse, major losses, according to the acts of violence carried out others or natural disasters.

Due to the short period in which a child may retain his attention, particularly in the case of those who have suffered emotional abuse, TSCC relative low contains a number of questions. The different scales of TSCC evaluates a wide range of psychological effects, the full version of TSCC-site consists of 54 items that result in 2 check scales (Under-evaluation and assessment of symptoms); 6 clinical scales (anxiety, depression, anger, stress, traumatic dissociation with scales and sexual pursuits with two subscale); 8 questions critics. Alternative version TSCC has 44 items and is identical to the full version, with 2 exceptions: do not contain questions relating to sexual side (so it has the scale of sexual pursuits and its subscale) contains seven questions and criticisms.

1.3. Patterns of children traumatized

The vengeful Child is one who does not pass anything with the sight, is aggressive, claiming, does not tolerate frustration, punish others for the slightest mistake, and wants to rule and permanent disruption of the group. Not looking and does not forgive. He identifies with the dominator, due to inability to deal with the situation of violence and compensating for inferiority within the game. The group, the game is executioner must occur after its rules, quickly identifying children-victim that persecutes. They generally choose roles, superior, dominating even violent (head of the pirates, Captain of the vessel, the severe teacher, father, President), which often gives them a note abusive, aggressive, relentless.

Mature child is one who has learned to cope with difficult situations, behaves like a small adult, and is protective of others, he comforts, helps (Zlate, 2000). The surrounding offers what feels the need to receive him within the family. It is possible that this child could be part of a family with a precarious material situation, to work to help their family, be super charged (takes care of younger siblings, of a sick parent, whom he took office). One parent may be an alcoholic, violent, and the child takes the father's responsibility-victim, empathized with it and manages to do.

Child depressed is child who refuses to participate in the game and not get involved if it is forced to participate, is rigid, locked, prefer solitude, the withdrawal does not relate to each other, little, befriends and do not show interest in others, not enjoy, and don't stir. This kid has resigned, unable to cope with the violence prompted isolation, withdrawal, loss of interest.

1.4. The family, alcohol and drugs

Family, arguably one of the main agents in the process of socialization, given that the family environment is one in which its members acquire beliefs, attitudes and social values, as well as it's also internalizes the rules, values and customs of the society in which they live.

We agree that the relationships and interpersonal interfamilial plays an essential role in the proper functioning of the family balance, both socially and financially. Nothing is more important for a child to feel safe and if your own family not protecting it, the child will feel alienated and seek protection and love elsewhere. Against this backdrop appear deviant behaviors, and the child begins to lie, to steal, to smoke, consume alcohol or drugs.

How we carry and communicate with children, they establish rules and consistency with which we respect, time spent together are essential!

Parents contribute greatly to the process of socialization of children:

- Offers love and protection since the first months of life, the primary responsibilities focus on meeting the needs of children, providing love and protection;
- Are models with which the child identifies;
- I'm active agents of socialization, turn and offer parents punished to correct and modify the behavior of the offspring.

It is known that there are aspects of family life that increase the risk of problems consumption of tobacco, alcohol or drugs. Poor communication between parents and children, lack of supervision of children, family conflicts and, last but not least family-friendly attitudes and behaviors of drug abuse are risk factors for the onset of drug use.

There are, however, and protective factors, such as: the existence of positive emotional ties between parents and children, the involvement of parents in the lives of children, the supervision and monitoring of children's behavior, which reduce the risks of unhealthy appearance.

Alcohol and drugs can easily break the balance of family, and the impact of abusive consumption of alcohol and drugs on the family can be located in the following key areas:

- Physical and Mental-Health c somatic serious consequences such as liver disease, digestive, cardiac, respiratory and infectious and psychiatric problems such as depression, panic attacks and anxiety.
- Social life-the family stigma and the label of "one's own shame", its members are confronted with a series of problems such as: alienation from extended family and friends, decreased energy and interest for social life and the feeling that they are often marginalized and harassment.
- physical Status and professional integration-are seriously affected by the high costs of consumption of alcohol and drugs, the cost of debt for their submitted, the cost of the treatments and the fact that the "stigma" of consumer drugs legal or illegal create real instability at work, in many it was noticed that the parents ' alcoholism, opiate consumption and similar to cocaine, alcohol consumption increases risk and the drugs to young people aged between 12 and 16 years, suggesting the existence of family risk factors.

All studies highlight the fact that the numerous problems associated with alcohol consumption and drug use generates various forms of domestic violence.

The violence poses a real social problem, and the ways of solving the problems caused by interest factors controlling violence and law enforcement-police, justice, administration, the makers of society-educative family, school, Church, the institutions involved in the field as well as public opinion.

All of these factors, including public opinion must find concrete ways to eliminate violence in the family environment by reducing family risk factors as: weak links between family members, rules of discipline inconsistencies or excessively severe, frequent conflicts between family members, the social stigma of consumers of alcohol and drugs, and by strengthening protective factors such as family: family rules, existing models of positive behavior, supervision and follow-up of children's behavior, emotional positive links existing between family members.

Violence can hurt physically and psychologically unhealed wounds can reopen, and weak human person to the point that it affected the rest of his life.

The reactions that support an act of violence can be very different, and the consequences on the psyche of the worst may affect the victim's efficiency both at emotionally, personally and socially. Existence

Positive emotional and rational connections between members have an especially important role in the formation of the personality of young family members.

The relationships between family members can turn into a source of positive adaptation, or, on the contrary, in a potential source of stress, which increases the likelihood of consuming alcohol and drugs or develop rebellious behavior problems and aggressive. An education excessively severe the child may develop the feeling that he is not loved, can lead to installation of complex of inferiority, isolation and submission can lead to behaviors of teen's stiffness and aggressiveness.

The typology of such personalities can often be associated with the consumption of alcohol and drugs, young seeking emotional balance and outside the family, most often in the consumption of substances harmful to organism's psychophysical effects or son-and a group of friends where violent, alcohol and drugs are fully felt.

An excessively tolerant education can induce child the idea that everything it needs, that everything is allowed. In addition, such education increased satisfaction leads to immediate desires, without taking into account their consequences. This unusual young man to obey rules imposed by others will be more vulnerable to the temptation of drugs because he was rarely said "no" and thus turning one's own actions.

2. Aims and methodological

2.1. Objectives of research:

I tried to highlight the following objectives:

- Assessing the level of aggressiveness of the child from the family with a drug addicted parent.
- Surprise factors of personality of the child.
- Identify the characteristics of a family environment with a drug addicted parent.
- Revealing a concordance between the level of aggressiveness, personality factors and environmental characteristics of the origin of the child.

2.2. Research Hypotheses

Research Hypotheses are following:

For the choice of subjects, I presented at the Pitesti County Hospital, the psychiatric ward where with the help of Dr. Gh. Irimia, head of the clinic, we obtained the necessary information to get in touch with patients presenting syndrome also had children.

Subject's number depended on the number of registered patients in psychiatric hospital and of their agreement and their children to collaborate, to be the subjects of such research.

I also kept in mind that the subjects to be 18 years of age, this being necessary because of methods of research used (Freiburg personality inventory).

2.3. Technique and presentation of the tests used

- Freiburg personality inventory; The Test Shaft; Interview

For the particularities of family, in which a parent is addicted to drugs, in this case, father I used semi directive interview.

Guide interview contains a list of questions, as formulated and in the same order for all individuals who have been interviewed and is presented in this paper.

When during the interview have appeared and other interesting themes other than the defaults, I decided to explore in depth.

The questions have been structured on the basis of four sizes, each containing two particular themes that represent variables; Therefore, to investigate the characteristics of the family environment in which the child, I stability the following dimensions, variables

Instructions for Freiburg personality questionnaire were featured on the front page, translating them subjects its attention is not bad on the thoughts and do not omit any response.

As regards technique of application of the Test Tree mention that there were optimal for the application, as well as the necessary materials for drawing: paper, pencil and eraser.

To analyze correctly position the graphic design, along with the usual training we've added the following indication: "you can use the entire sheet."

Familiar subject with working instructions: working time, 20-30 minutes, writing the name on the reverse side of the sheet. I have presented challenges, test and its application: to draw a fruit tree, specifying that it is not a tree, and specifying the subject matter as I tested your skills on it.

For the interpretation of facilitate me used a spreadsheet model, structured protocol for each topic on the:

Clues drawing, defined in four sequences:

- Image assessment! Overview;
- Projection process Scheme;
- Significance tree components;
- Features of the design;

The taxonomy of interpretation; Subject's name and surname;

The style sheet protocol is an effective deterrent and operational means of individual parameters of the design equation of the tree, since every point of the drawing is encoded as:

- Sequence Number (I, II, III, IV);
- Letters that show the appreciation index of the design;
- Lower case letters of the alphabet for the tax parameters interpretation;

These indices I've ticked on the protocol sheet.

All participants testing were assured of the confidentiality of the results, stating that are useful for the license.

Duration tests were one week, and their processing took place over two weeks.

On the basis of tests carried out was possible psychological profile of each topic.

3. Presentation of case studies

CASE I. The R.M. has 22 years of age and is a student at two colleges, one of them in year 3, and the other in year 1. Both parents have stable employment and income above average. Has good relationships with his mother and considers overly protective, but there are things that you can discuss with her for fear that it cannot be understood and not upset it. She feels neglected and treated with indifference by his father, with whom he has a reduced communication, discussions are generally elusive, fleeting and more formal. When it errs, it is not punished by his parents, but is arguing and is praised when he has a successful. Spend a little time with the parents, most of the time spending it with friends.

About the relationship between bad parents say it's bad because there are frequent quarrels between them, on account of excessive alcohol consumption on the father's mother reproached his lack of interest and common concern toward child and home. Under the influence of alcohol, the father is verbally aggressive not physically. It has a good school, but for lack of time, the parents do not keep in touch with the school, instead his mother asks her about her school, development trusts in her school's capabilities, but it sometimes criticizes the lack of ambition.

Positive influence does not find the parents, especially the father, but he hopes not to be destructive, dissatisfaction towards the family being linked to lack of communication, lack of a family environment based on understanding, respecting and fulfilling the role of its individual members.

The subject presents an increased sensitivity, restlessness, poor general condition, anxiety, and dissatisfaction, reduced concentration, almost permanent, has no capacity to complete, has feelings of guilt.

CASE II Subject B.I. has 19 years old and is a student in the first year. Has an older sister who is the subject of this, aged 22 years. Socio-economic situation of the family is good, being the same as in the previous case. Has a good relationship with the mother, being treated with caution by it and by his father is treated most often with indifference. When it errs, it is scolded by parents, and when doing the right thing is praised. Spend a lot of time with her parents, and when doing the right thing is praised. Spend a little time with her parents, and when encountering problems prefer to seek the help of a good friend or to help his sister, has a good school, and the parents' relationship with the school is reduced to a minimum.

Considers that the positive influence of the mother upon him, and the negative of the father. Though it is unhappy with the relationship between his parents and frequent quarrels between these is pleased that he has so far enjoyed support from them. Subject has a balanced mood, is sociable and lively and has a tolerant attitude in the relationship, based on trust. However it closed itself, restrained.

B.I. presents inattention, is tolerant to frustration and a low level of aggressiveness.

CASE III Subject G.S. has 18 and is student. He has an older brother aged 20 years and he is the subject of this studio. Socio-economic situation of the family is poor, their income is below average, because the father is unemployed, being fired because of excessive consumption of drugs. Both parents have graduated from vocational school. Has a good relationship with her mother, feeling closer to it and a very poor communication with the father. He spends very little time with her parents, and when a problem prefers to resort to the help of friends, with them having the majority of the time.

The relationship between the parents is very bad because of the frequent bickering, every evening, caused by excessive consumption of drugs of the father, but it is not physically aggressive.

There is a lack of oversight by the fathers who is not used to keep in touch with the school and did not know his friends.

The subject G.S presents high twitter, high level of irritability, reactions to unruly tongues, aggressive acts and affective reactions, reduced tolerance to frustration; it is aggressive and friendly interpersonal realities. Is undecided, lacking the capacity for concentration, completion, having scattered interests.

Has difficulty adjusting due to which is in conflict with itself and with others. .

CASE IV. The AP has 20 years, has no college education, and has satisfied military service. Has a younger sister, Ga 18 . Socio-economic situation, as we have seen from the previous case is precarious, familiar climate is characterized by blood pressure conditions and a lack of interest on the subject.

Has a poor relationship with both parents. It is hard to appreciate his parents ' influence upon him, but displeasure daily quarrels between the parents, and the fact that both parents are unemployed, due to excessive drug consumption being very difficult to keep a job.

Subject suffered an injury trying to disguise, following the interpretation of the results of the tests carried out according to a discharge of feelings

It is problematic to complicity, ignores the essence of dispersed attention and engages in a situation than if it knows and understands.

Has active behaviors, is an entrepreneur, and replicates the prompt. Is the master, with a very low level of aggression and is quiet and tolerant to frustration.

4. Conclusions

The obtained results showed that subjects who show aggressive behavior corresponds to their low tolerance to frustration, while those who have a low level of aggression, it corresponds to a high level of tolerance to frustration. This confirms the second hypothesis, according to which low frustration tolerance determines the child's aggressive behavior.

In subjects living in family environments as described above, but which includes excessive severity of the parent, which creates a climate anxious by using violence, low levels of aggression. This research refutes existing hypothesis that aggression is a learned response through the model.

Educational influence by the example in this situation is minimal, perhaps because the example is most suitable means of education in early childhood, of a certain age model selection, making selective, carefully, according to ethical- intellectual structure of the person.

This hypothesis is refuted Example and American writer and psychologist Rich Harris argues that the purpose of a child is to be as a parent, that parents exert a minimal influence Dewar personality and character while children have a group of friend's huge influence.

This can be supported by common personality factor subjects emerged from the application of tests , namely sociability , and the responses obtained through interview , and spend most of their free time with friends and you ask them preference when difficulties , problems .

In the present study have confirmed the results of research conducted on children of drug addicted patients, showing that social and cultural backgrounds equivalent children had a higher degree of anxiety, could observe mule and attention disorders greater difficulty in developing a solution or strategy in the face of specific problems.

Therefore, we cannot generalize by saying that the family in which the father is addicted to drugs leads to the development of child aggressive behavior, this depends on the tolerance to frustration and social environment to which the child while but accommodates the conclusion that such environmental risk in the development of this behavior.

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