Early stress, poor life conditions and separation may constitute potential risk factors for the social-emotional development of internationally adopted children and the period of adolescence, which involves separations and new relationships, may be especially sensitive in this regard. This presentation will envisage the behavior problems of 30 adolescents, aged between 11 and 18 years old and adopted in Catalonia from other countries. The instrument used to assess the behavior problems is the Child Behavior Checklist (Achenbach, 1991). Also, the influence of the age of adoption in the behavior of these children will be analyzed. Adopted adolescents are over-represented in the psychiatric consultations and a better understanding of the mechanisms, which are involved in the adoptees well being may help preventive efforts.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neurenf.2012.05.170

Mo-S-169
Trauma and the complex resilience of adopted adolescents
A. Muntean ∗ , M.A. Tomita
Centre for Research in Child-Parent Interaction, West University in Timisoara/CICOP Timisoara, Romania
∗Corresponding author.

The trauma of abandonment by the biological parents in the beginning of his/her life has a painful echo along several stages of child development. Finding a new family is a condition for child survival. The resilience is circumstantial capacity to face the difficulties and to continue to thrive. This is based on the quality of child attachment. We explore the resilience of 56 children, aged 10–17 years, adopted by Romanian families at an early stage of their life (0–48 months). The evaluation is done, during 2009–2011, with different instruments functioning within attachment theory framework or congruent with this theory. The child’s resilience will be considered taking in account: the child behavior in distress; the attachment quality; the child’s behavior during parents’ arguments; the child’s trust towards friends; the results in a school; the quality and activities for leisure time. Unexpected factors for child resilience will be also emphasized and discussed.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neurenf.2012.05.171

Mo-S-170
A Longitudinal attachment study on adopted adolescents and their adoptive parents
B. Ongari ∗ , T. Mocatti , A. Decarli
Faculty of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento, Trento, Italy
∗Corresponding author.

Continuity of attachment representations in the transition to adolescence is still a crucial issue in attachment theory. This study longitudinally analysed attachment representations of 4 adopted boys (age at placement 11–30 months), respectively assessed at age 5–7 (T1) and 12–14 (T2). The internal working models (IWM) of their parents were also evaluated. The quality of teenagers’ relationship with peers has also been investigated. Attachment representations were assessed during childhood with the Attachment Story Completion Task (ASCT) and during adolescence with the Friends and Family Interview (FFI). Parents completed the Parent Development Interview (PDI) at T1 and T2. Our findings are only qualitative, as the low number of participants doesn’t allow any statistical analysis. We observed a move from a disorganized pattern of attachment to a more stable one in 3 boys out of 4. In general, at T2 adolescents showed better levels of coherence and reflectiveness in their narratives, particularly towards relationships with friends.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neurenf.2012.05.172

Mo-S-172
The behavioral adjustment of adopted adolescents: A multirisk approach
I. Roskam ∗ , M. Stievenart
Psychological Sciences Research Institute, University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
∗Corresponding author.

The presentation was designed to identify child, family and contextual risk factors associated to behavioural adjustment in adolescents. Data has been collected among 35 adopted adolescents strictly matched on age and gender with 35 non-adopted adolescents. Child factors that have been considered as relevant were IQ and gender; family factors that have been considered were attachment security and parenting; and contextual factors were appraised from the parents’ educational level and the adoption status. The hypothesis of a cumulative effect of these risk factors regardless of their content on adolescents’ behavioural adjustment, i.e. externalizing and internalizing behaviour and scholastic performance, was tested. The implications of the results for both theoretical and clinical purposes are discussed.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neurenf.2012.05.173

Mo-S-173
Attachment and adoption: A conclusion
B. Pichrouhumbert
Supea, Université de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

Around the world, large numbers of children are separated from their families. Local social policies regarding assistance to such children vary widely. The psychological and somatic implications of early deprivation have been largely described in the medical and psychological literature. In order to prevent long-term consequences of deprivation on children’s outcomes, there is a need of international evaluations regarding issues such as, for instance, national versus international adoption policies. Comparative data across countries are quite inexistent, mainly because most studies in this field used specific measures, in specific countries, which makes comparisons impossible. The present network provides an exceptional opportunity to evaluate and compare adolescents’ (adopted and controls) attachment quality as well as psychological outcomes in different countries, with different social policies. This project, based on validated psychological assessments, and on international comparisons, should provide important data regarding prevention and may provide guidelines to improve practices and rules regarding caregiving of children deprived of their families.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neurenf.2012.05.174

Mental health services for children of immigrants and ethnic minorities

Mo-S-176
School programme to promote children’s socioemotional competences and well being at school—immigrant children and multicultural issues in focus
P. Santalahti ∗ , M. Kampman ∗ , A. Liski ∗ , T. Solantaus ∗
∗ Child And Adolescent Mental Health, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Helsinki, Finland
ϕ The Town of Ylöjärvi, Ylöjärvi, Finland
ϕ Corresponding author.

Finland has been a relatively homogenous society, but since the 1990s immigration has increased. Today in Helsinki, the capital of Finland, the mother tongue of every tenth child is not Finnish or Swedish. This proportion is estimated to be nearly 25% in 2025. “Together at school” is a programme financed by the Ministry of Education and Culture and the National Institute for Health and Welfare to promote children’s socioemotional competences and well being at schools. Previous studies have shown that having positive experiences at school