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*Intersectionality of Substance Use
Disorder, Addiction, Mental Health, and
ACES on Early Childhood Development.*

ABSTRACT

- *Intersectionality of Substance Use Disorder, Addiction, Mental Health, and ACEs on Early Childhood Development is the title and topic of this workshop. SUD and Addiction are intensified by untreated mental health diagnoses. To understand the factors that, play a role in Early Childhood Development it is important to increase knowledge base and awareness on SUD, Addiction and mental health diagnoses of the parent which impacts ACEs scores and subsequent childhood development.*

Intersectionality Theory

A framework that examines how various aspects of a person's identity ie. Race, Gender, & Class, combine to create unique experiences of discrimination, oppression and privilege.

Discuss the role Intersectionality theory has on SUD, Addiction and Mental health of a parent/family unit in early childhood development.

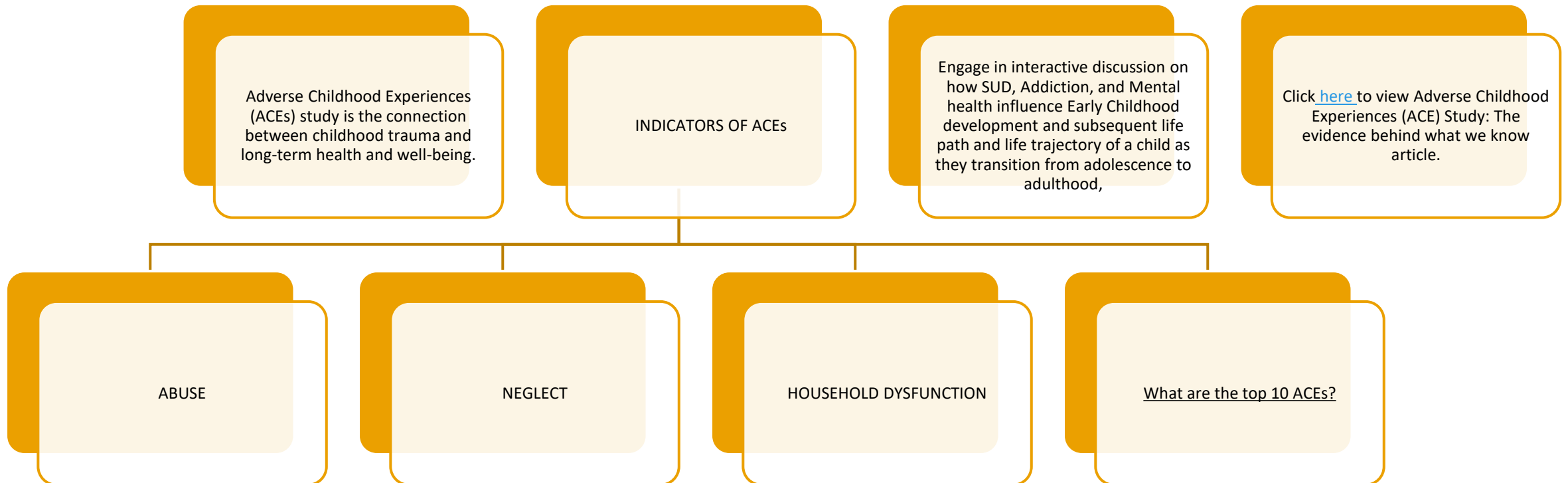
What are ACEs?



Factors of ACEs on Early Childhood Development Birth to Five:

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- How these factors (SUD. Addiction and Mental health diagnoses) play a role in and subsequently influence ACEs scores and Childhood development.
 - RISK FACTORS:
 - Parent experiencing Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
 - Parent experiencing Addiction
 - Incarceration of a parent
 - Chronic health conditions ie. cancer related to addiction, diabetes oftentimes related to unhealthy eating habits which may present with food addiction, liver failure related to alcohol addiction, kidney failure, congestive heart failure related to not wearing CPAP machine mask for sleep apnea oftentimes related to obesity oftentimes related to food addiction
 - Parent experiencing Mental health diagnose(s)
 - Lack of Access to Social Determinants of Health ie. Safe neighborhoods. Equitable education. Live able wages,
 - PROTECTIVE FACTORS:
 - SOLID OBJECT
 - RESILENCY

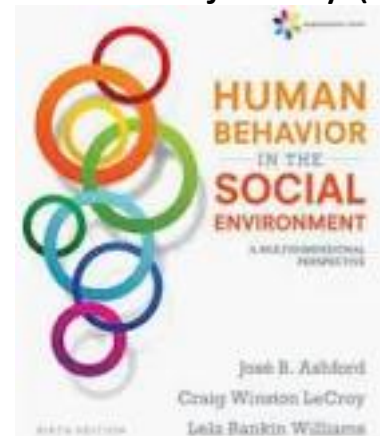
Interactive Discussion:



1.	Emotional abuse
2.	Physical abuse
3.	Sexual abuse
4.	Mother treated violently
5.	Substance abuse in the home
6.	Mental illness of a family member
7.	Parents divorced/separated
8.	Family member incarcerated
9.	Emotional neglect
10.	Physical neglect

The 10 Adverse Childhood Experiences

- Person-in-environment theory states that, environmental factors in a person's environment influences their actions, behaviors and decision-making and subsequent life path and life trajectory (Ashford et al.,)



CLIENT SCENARIOS



CLIENT A:

- Age: 5
- Grade: Kindergarten
- School: college preparatory
- Household size: 5
- Household demographics: Two-parent household, married with three children
- Mom is a Stay At Home (SAH) Mom
- Dad is a computer software engineer
- Household income: More than \$250,000
- Healthcare: private insurance
- Neighborhood: Suburbs, gated community
- Race/Ethnicity: Black/African-American
- On target to meet developmental goals and milestones
- Challenges & Barriers:
 - Both mom and dad have a Family History of SUD and Addiction
 - Both dad and mom have high-functioning Anxiety & Depression
 - Dad is a workaholic

Client B:

- Age: 5
- Grade: Pre-school
- School: Head start
- Household size: 10
- Household demographics: One parent household, Single mother with nine children
- Household income: Less than \$25,000
- Healthcare: AHCCS
- Neighborhood: Low-income housing
- Race/Ethnicity: White/Caucasian
- Not on target to meet developmental goals and milestones
- Challenges & Barriers:
 - Mom has a history of Domestic Violence (DV)
 - Mom is addicted to cocaine
 - Mom is diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder, Schizoaffective Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, and Generalized Anxiety Disorder.
 - Client has missed nearly everyday of pre-school for the past two years

Cultural considerations and disparities in lack of access to care:

- Native-American/Indigenous communities chemical makeup processes substances differently. Their liver does not break down substances the way that, other people's does (Appleton, 2025).
- Black/African American communities' Crack cocaine epidemic vs. White/Caucasian communities' Opiate epidemic (Shachar, C et al., 2019).
- Narrative Criminal Justice issue of Crack cocaine epidemic in Black/African-American communities vs. Public Health issue of Opiate epidemic in White/Caucasian communities (Shachar, C et al., 2019).

References:

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- Shachar, C., Wise, T., Katznelson, G., & Campbell, A. L. (2019). Criminal Justice or Public Health: A Comparison of the Representation of the Crack Cocaine and Opioid Epidemics in the Media. *Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law*, 45(2). <https://doi.org/10.1215/03616878-8004862>
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