**Reactive Attachment Disorder, Developmental Trauma Possible Signs and Symptoms in Children (These disorders 1 DTD which is NOT in the DSM yet, are on the Spectrum. Not all children with these diagnoses will have all symptoms) Children who have experienced trauma, abuse, neglect, from in utero though 3 years old are susceptible to these disorders. Trauma, Abuse and Neglect cause a child’s brain to not develop properly. Talk therapy alone will not help fix the connections in the brain. Neurofeedback/Biofeedback can, along with a trusted adult and eventually Attachment therapy, there is hope. We offer this checklist for Families to use for their child’s team, their school, their “Go Folder”.**

\_\_\_ Superficially charming/engaging, with strangers or those who they feel they can manipulate

\_\_\_ Indiscriminately affectionate, often to strangers; sometimes to parent’s but not on parent’s terms

\_\_\_ Problems making eye contact, except when angry or lying

\_\_\_ Severe need to control everything and everyone; worsens as the child ages

\_\_\_ Hypervigilant

\_\_\_ Anxious, ambivalent

\_\_\_ Hyperactive, yet lazy in performing tasks

\_\_\_ Argumentative, often over silly or insignificant things

\_\_\_ Oppositional Defiance (especially towards primary caregiver) (AKA Nurturing Enemy)

\_\_\_ Frequent tantrums, or “raging”, often over trivial issues

\_\_\_ Demanding or clingy, often at inappropriate times

\_\_\_ Trouble understanding cause and effect

\_\_\_ Poor impulse control, risk taker

\_\_\_ Lacks morals, values

\_\_\_ Little or no empathy; often without a developed conscience

\_\_\_ Cruel to animals

\_\_\_ Lying for no apparent reason

\_\_\_ False allegations of abuse/neglect (physical, sexual, starving, excessive punishments)

\_\_\_ Destructive to property or self

\_\_\_ Poor Hygiene (refusal to wash, shower, bathe, brush teeth)

\_\_\_Refusal to use toilet, will defecate or urinate on themselves or in inappropriate places in the home

\_\_\_ Constant chatter and/or nonsensical questions

\_\_\_ Abnormal speech patterns; uninterested in improving communication skills

\_\_\_ Developmental, learning, and/or emotional delays

\_\_\_ Fascination with fire, blood and gore, weapons, evil; will typically make the “bad” choice

\_\_\_ Food issues; hoarding or refusal to eat. Binge and purge/anorexic for control

\_\_\_ Concerned with details, but ignoring main issues

\_\_\_ Few or no long-term friends; tends to be a loner

\_\_\_ Attitude of entitlement or self-importance (Narcissistic)

\_\_\_ Sneaks or steals, even if he could have had them by asking

\_\_\_ Triangulate adults (pitting one against the other)

\_\_\_ Darkness behind the eyes / pupil enlargement when raging

\_\_\_ Gaslighting (manipulation causing other people to doubt themselves)

\_\_\_ Deceiving / lying persona; for the sport, the win or victory

\_\_\_ Trauma (toxic) bonding with others

\_\_\_ Lacks altruism, concern for others, and ability to understand its meaning

\_\_\_ Blames everyone else or their choices

\_\_\_ Threatens Suicide to get their way

\_\_\_ Suicidal or Homicidal Ideation

\_\_\_ Oversexualized Behaviors

\_\_\_ May be physically or sexually abusive to siblings

\*Children with untreated Reactive Attachment Disorder, Developmental Trauma Disorder may become adults diagnosed with sociopathic, narcissistic, antisocial, or borderline disorders, at risk of abusing their own children.

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**We can be found on all Social Media and offer Support Groups, Education, and Advocacy**