

Psychosocial Profiles of a Clinical Sample of Children With Sexual Behaviors Problems and Their Mother: The Role of a Maternal History of Child Sexual Abuse

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The development and maintenance of sexual behavior problems (SBP) in children are explained by the accumulation and interaction of different areas of risk factors, which include - or are influenced by - parents' functioning (Boisvert et al., 2016). Some similarities can be observed between parental risk factors of SBP and the long-term consequences of child sexual abuse. The purpose of this study is to compare mother-child dyads of SBP children attending to clinical treatment in a Child Advocacy Center, according to whether the mother has herself been a victim of child sexual abuse. The sample included 59 dyads of children aged 5-13 years old assessed with SBP by a clinician, and their biological mother (n=33 sexually abused mothers). The two groups of mothers are compared on their past family abuse experiences, their mental health history, their current psychological distress, their parenting behaviors, and their current family functioning. Children are compared on their sexual behaviors and their adaptation. Multivariate analyzes will identify children's and mothers' psychosocial characteristics that are associated with the sexually abused mothers group. These results will highlight the specific clinical needs for the assessment and treatment for SBP children's families whose mothers experienced child sexual abuse.

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