



Children's Risk, Well-Being and Protection in Diverse Multicultural Societies: A Context-Informed Perspective

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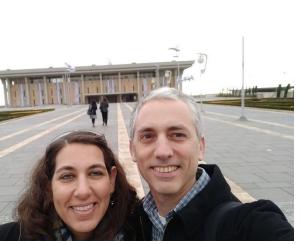
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Greenhouse of Context-Informed Research and Training for Children in Need

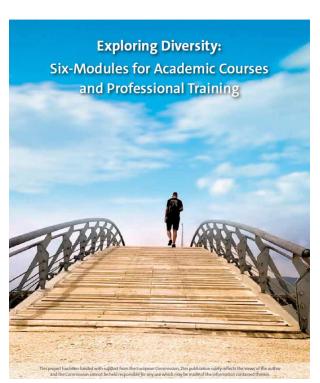
NEVET - Greenhouse of Context-Informed Research and Training



Leading studies which affect policy and practice



NEVET's training team





The multicultural kindergarten at the Hebrew University





Greenhouse of Context-Informed Research and Training for Children in Need

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Child Maltreatment:
Contemporary Issues in Research and Policy 10

Dorit Roer-Strier Yochay Nadan *Editors*

Context-Informed Perspectives of Child Risk and Protection in Israel



"Risk" Discourse

Child Neglect

> Child Maltreatment

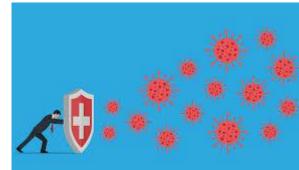
Child Abuse

Child Risk

Child Well Being

Children At-Risk

Child Protection







Methodology

- Qualitative, Constructivist Grounded Theory (Charmaz, 2014)
- Semi-structured interviews, photo-voice and drawing with children.
- Triangulation: parents, children and social workers
- Thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006; Corbin & Straus, 2015)





Community	Participants			Publications
	Parents	Children (ages)	Professionals	
Bedouin in the Unrecognized villages in the Naqab	50	30 (3–5)	15	Marey-Sarwan & Meir, 2020; Marey-Sarwan & Roer-Strier, 2017; Marey-Sarwan, 2019; Ponizovsky-Bergelson et al., 2020
Eritrean Refugees in Israel	19	21 (3–6)	12	Birger, 2020; Birger, Birger, Nadan & Ajzenstadt, 2020; Ponizovsky-Bergelson et al., 2020
Ethiopian Jews	50	30 (3–6)	30	Engdau-Vanda, 2020; Engdau-Vanda et al., 2020; Gatenio-Kalush et al., 2020; Nadan et al., 2018; Wahle et al., 2017
French Jewish immigrants	15	-	_	Bloomberg & Serdtse, 2020
Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union	40	29 (3–6)	16	Ponizovsky-Bergelson et al., 2020; Ulitsa et al., 2020
Impoverished Neighborhoods	30	_	15	Yona, 2020; Yona & Nadan, under review
Palestinians in East Jerusalem		15 (4–6)	25	Kovner, 2020; Kovner & Shalhoub-Kevorkian, 2018; Ponizovsky-Bergelson et al., 2020
Ultra-Orthodox	45	30 (3–6) 30 (10–16)	40	Bartl et al., 2020; Gemara & Nadan, 2020; Keesing et al., 2020; Nadan & Ganz, 2018; Nadan et al., 2019; Ponizovsky-Bergelson et al., 2020
<u>Total</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>153</u>	

Risk and Protection as "Universal" Categories



Most research can make sense of, and originate from, WEIRD societies:

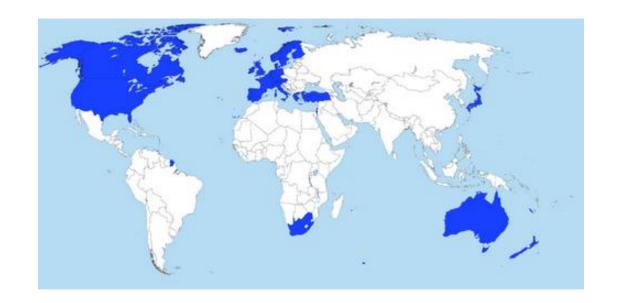
Western

Educated

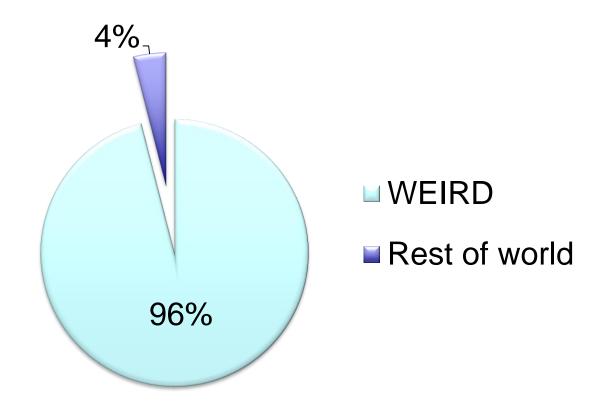
Industrialized

Rich

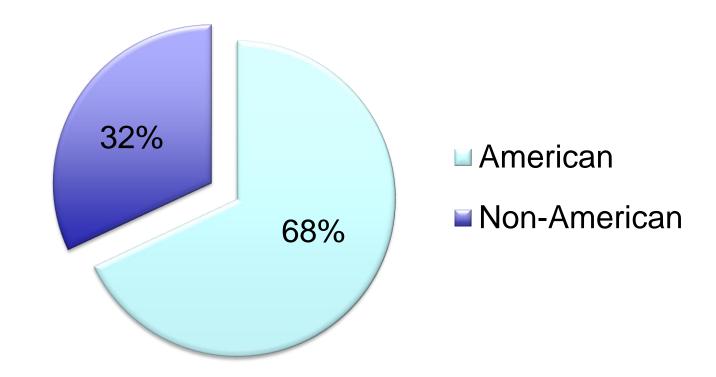
Democratic



• 96% of psychology participants are from Western, industrialized countries.

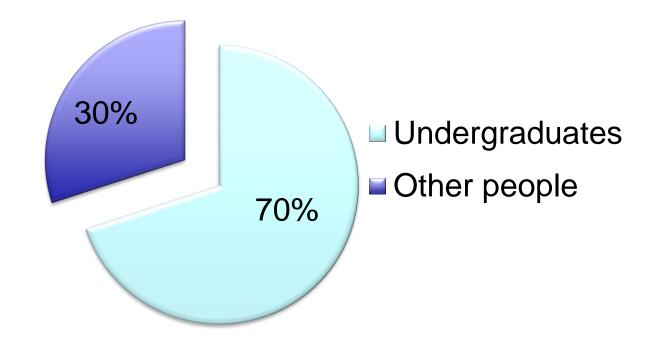


• 68% of psychology participants are Americans

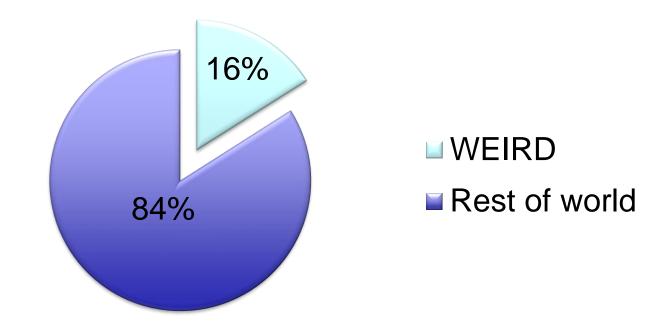




70% of participants are psychology undergraduates

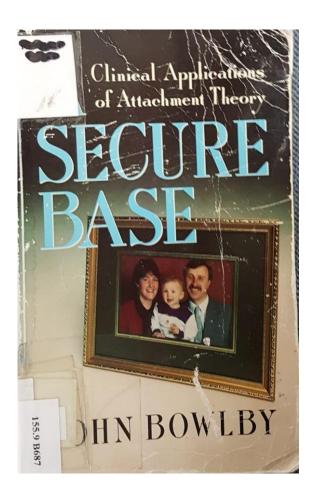


 But WEIRD countries only make up approximately 16% of world's population



Risk and Protection as "Universal" Categories









Different Faces Attachment

Cultural Variations on a Universal Human Need

HILTRUD OTTO and HEIDI KELLER



Universality claim of attachment theory: Children's socioemotional development across cultures

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Edited by Douglas L. Medin, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, and approved July 25, 2018 (received for review November 21, 2017)

The first part of this paper reviews the basic tenets of attachment theory with respect to differences in cultural socialization strategies.

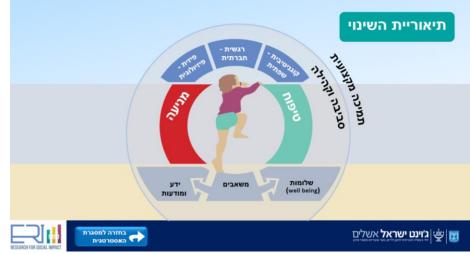
In the first part of this paper, the basic tenets of attachment theory are reviewed with regard to cross-cultural variation. In the

PNAS

The Bedouin Community

"The First Thousand Days" in the Bedouin Society

Program Objectives:



- Parent-Child Bond Help parents learn and develop the tools needed to provide the best care and strengthen their bonds with their children
- Daycare Settings Significantly increase the number of young children in high quality daycare settings adapted to the unique cultural realities of Bedouin society
- Community & Environment Develop a supportive community and a safe physical environment
- **Professionals** Train early childhood professionals from within the community to create lasting change
- **Developmental Disabilities and Delays** Expanding diagnoses of disabilities and developmental issues and improving quality of care for these most hidden and at-risk Bedouin children

https://jewishfed.org/sites/default/files/JDC%20First%20Thousand%20Days%20one%20pager.pdf

"The First Thousand Days" in the Bedouin Society

Parent-Child Bond:

Optimal interaction between parent and child takes place when the caring adult is sensitive to sensations, actions and abilities of the child, shows positive emotions toward the child and allows the child to learn from his or her experience through different parenting strategies: mediation, attention focus, verbalize meaning of experience and capacity development of abstraction.

The First Thousand Days in the Bedouin Society

Training Focus:

- Parental development
- The birth of a mother
- Basic concepts: interaction, mentalization and attachment.
- Models of child development
- Child-parent relationship development
- Parent-infant interaction, attachment, empathy and moral development
- Verbal and non-verbal communication

Sibling Supervision in the Ultra-Orthodox Community

The Ultra-Orthodox Community

Our reality is one of older siblings. There are a lot of siblings, and the older siblings take care of the younger siblings. It's clear that this exists, and it works, without a doubt. This reality – that my four year old son is downstairs [in the street, outside the apartment building] with his 11 or 10 year old sister and their eight year old sister, etc. – means a few more pairs of eyes watching the children (an Ultra-Orthodox social worker).

Nadan, Y., Roer-Strier. D., Gemara, N., Engdau-Vanda, S., & Tener, D. (2018). In the eyes of the beholder: Parental and professional value mismatch in child risk and protection in two communities in Israel. *International Journal of Psychology, 53*(S2), 23–33.

The Ultra-Orthodox Community

"When there are extremely large families, girls — big sisters — [become] an object as opposed to a subject. That is to say, they have a role. I don't know how much personality there is behind the role. Many times, it is as if the personality is erased in the role. That is, the role of the big sister, and not her personality. She goes and takes, goes and brings home... It is not a role of 'I like this and I'll do it, my sister likes something else' At least that's how it appears." [A non-orthodox social worker]

Professionals from majority group

Parents from minority groups

The Ethiopian Community

The community perceives risk as coming from wider systems outside the family:

- The police
- The welfare system
- The education system
- The neighborhood
- Society at large

The Location of Risk

Communities'
view of the
location of
risk

Macro Systems: Attitudes, Bias Exo System: Social Services Micro **Environments:** Neighborhood, **Daycare Family**

Child

Professionals'
view of the
location of
risk

Religion and Spirituality



'Here I drew G-d as he protects kids from bad people and wild animals' (Ultra-Orthodox boy, aged four)



Nadan, Y., Gemara, N., Keesing, R., Bamberger, E., Roer-Strier, D., & Korbin, J. (2019). 'Spiritual Risk': A parental perception of risk for children in the Ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. *The British Journal of Social Work*, 49(5), 1198-1215.

God



"I would say that I've only heard 'child at risk' with regard to the orthodox community. It generally refers to a child who is at risk of going away from his orthodox roots...and often that comes with many other things that we would not approve of, like drugs and hanging out with the wrong crowd."

(father of five)

Nadan, Y., Gemara, N., Keesing, R., Bamberger, E., Roer-Strier, D., & Korbin, J. (2019). 'Spiritual Risk': A parental perception of risk for children in the Ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. *The British Journal of Social Work*, 49(5), 1198-1215.

Context-informed perspective

- Dialogue between the universal and the particular
- Adopting a stance of a learner
- Collaborative approach
- Exploring the unique intersectionality and social locations
- Developing critical reflexivity
- The never-ending story





Research and Training for Children in Need

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