

Neglect

Background Notes

Child neglect is one of the most complex types of child abuse for the child welfare worker to assess. Neglect affects the child socially, emotionally, physically and developmentally and requires intense involvement by social service agencies to improve. Frequently children experience severe levels of neglect before the child welfare system is able to intervene and sometimes the intervention is so late the child suffers life long consequences.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Review a case that is primarily based on neglect. Read [Division 15](#) policy online and identify the types of neglect and specific areas where the parent is neglecting the child. What has the worker/agency done that to improve the care of the child? Talk with the worker about their view of neglect and what causes a neglect referral to be assessed. How effective is the agency's work with neglectful families?
- Go to Dr. Bruce Perry's [Child Trauma Academy](#) online training and complete the free course Bonding and Attachment in Maltreated Children.

Resources:

Division 15:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_15.pdf

Child Welfare Trauma Academy:

http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/bonding_attachment/index.html

Discoveries

- *Consider the case previously reviewed and the material you just learned from the Child Trauma Academy. What indicators do you remember from the case you reviewed that could be signs of attachment disturbance?*
- *What did you learn about working with families with neglect?*