

Drug Endangered Children

Melissa E. Riley, Ph.D.
Kalispel Tribe, Washington
April 12 & 13, 2017



- Pre-Test



Introduction

The topic of *drug endangered children* has held national attention since 2006. Law enforcement, medical providers, environmentalists, social workers, and many other helping professionals have combined their efforts to establish a local, state, and national task force. However, the problem of drug production and hazardous environments are still of concern. We know that Indian Country is not immune to the problems surrounding drug endangered children. However, we do have some special tools and knowledge that can give us an edge on our response to drug endangered children, families, and communities.

Toxic Lives

“An 8-month-old baby drowns in the bathtub while his father gets high smoking marijuana with friends. A baby girl is barricaded inside her playpen, ignored while her parents party with friends. A grade school boy wanders the early morning streets alone in his Halloween costume, not knowing how to get to his school party because his mother is at home, passed out on drugs... one of the biggest challenges of substance abuse and drug endangered children has been competing goals between law enforcement and child welfare advocates. While the goal for child welfare advocates may be family reunification, law enforcement’s primary focus has been arrests and seizures. “Why are we not looking for the kids?” (Jessepe, L., 2014)

Jessepe, L. (2014). Abuse and Neglect: The Toxic Lives of Drug Endangered Children. Indian Country Media Network. Retrieved from: <https://indiancountrymedianetwork.com/news/politics/abuse-and-neglect-the-toxic-lives-of-drug-endangered-children/>

Workshop Objectives

- Participants will review current definitions of drug endangered children.
- Participants will review the impact of substance abuse on children, families, and community.
- Participants will identify family roles and responsibilities in response to drug endangered children.
- Participants will review tribal culture and identity influences in responding to drug endangered children.
- Participants review coordinated community response approaches to drug endangered children.
- Participants will review components of identifying and responding to at-risk youth.

Topics

- Definition
- Substance abuse
- Family roles and responsibilities
- Tribal culture and identity
- Coordinated community response
- At-risk youth

Definitions



Drug Endangered Children (DEC)

- Pursuant to 21 USCS § 2011 (2) [Title 21. Food And Drugs; Chapter 25. Miscellaneous Anti-Drug Abuse Provisions; National Methamphetamine Information Clearinghouse Act Of 2006], the term drug endangered children means “children whose physical, mental, or emotional health are at risk because of the production, use, or other effects of methamphetamine production or use by another whose physical, mental, or emotional health are at risk because of the production, use, or other effects of methamphetamine production or use by another”.

Additional Definitions

- The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children defines drug endangered children as children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation, or distribution. They may also be children whose caretaker's substance misuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment.



Reflection



Substance Abuse



Substance Abuse Effects on Children

- Anxiety/Hyperarousal
- Ruminations
- Flashbacks
- Low Self-Esteem
- Regressive Behaviors
- Limited understanding of boundaries
- Self-destructive behaviors/self-harm
- Advanced and inappropriate knowledge

Brain Development

Effects of Trauma

- Understand that brain development is relationship-based
- Understand that brain develops in a use-dependent manner
- Importance of stress response
- All stress is not bad stress.
- Predictable vs. Unpredictable Stress.
- Prenatal trauma and trauma in earlier generations.

Characteristics of Addiction

- Progressive in nature
- Denial and concealment
- Chronic disease
- Lapses and relapses

Consequences of Substance Abuse

- Negative consequences
 - Loss of behavioral control
 - Psychophysical withdrawal
 - Role maladaptation
- Co-occurring Issues
 - Mental Illness
 - Physical health
 - Domestic violence
 - Other forms of trauma

Consequences of Substance Abuse (Cont.)

- Co-occurring Issues (Cont.)
 - Poverty
 - Crime
 - Homelessness

Impact of Substance Abuse on Childhood Development

- Emotional
- Academic
- Developmental
- Lack of supervision
- Parentification
- Stigma
- Delinquency
- Adolescent use

Reflection



Family Roles and Responsibility



Family Assessments

- Environment and social environment
- Parent/Guardian capability
- Family interactions
- Family safety
- Child well-being

Change: Important & Confident

- How important is it for you to change?
 - Measurement 0 to 10
 - Analysis
- How confident are that you can make changes?
 - Measurement 0 to 10
 - Analysis

Stages of Change

- Parent's stages
 - Precontemplation
 - Contemplation
 - Decision-making
 - Action
 - Maintenance
 - Relapse

Motivational Interviewing

- Express empathy
 - Show warmth and caring
 - Support client's self-esteem
- Develop discrepancy
 - Reasons for change or resistance
- Role with resistance
 - Predictors of poor outcomes
- Support self-efficacy
 - Support belief that change is possible

Why Does MI Work?

“People are usually better persuaded by the reasons which they have themselves discovered than by those which have come into the minds of others.”

- Blaise Pascal



Family-Centered Responses

- Family engagement
- Case decisions
- Collaboration
- Placement
- Permanence
- education

Video: “You Are Not Alone”

- Watch video

<https://vimeo.com/channels/tribalrxtraining/50102854>

- What is your action to the video?
- Are your schools and community providers trained to identify at-risk youth and how to work with their families?

Victim

Chemically Dependent

Outside:

Hostility
Manipulation
Aggression/self pity
Blaming
Charming
Rigid values

Inside:

Shame
Guilt
Fear
Pain
Hurt

Family Hero

Caretaker of Family

Outside:

Good kid
High achiever
Follows rules
Seeks approval
Very responsible

Inside:

Guilt
Hurt
Inadequacy

Mascot

Family Clown

Outside:

Immature
Fragile
Cute
Hyperactive
Distracting

Inside:

Fear
Anxiety
Insecurity

Chief Enabler

Closest Emotionally to Victim

Protector of Family

Outside:

Self-righteous
Super-responsible
Sarcastic
Passive
Physically sick
Martyr

Inside:

Anger
Hurt
Guilt
Low self-esteem

Scapegoat

Problem Child

Outside:

Hostile
Defiant
Rule-breaker
In trouble

Inside:

Rejection
Hurt
Guilt
Jealousy
Anger

Lost Child

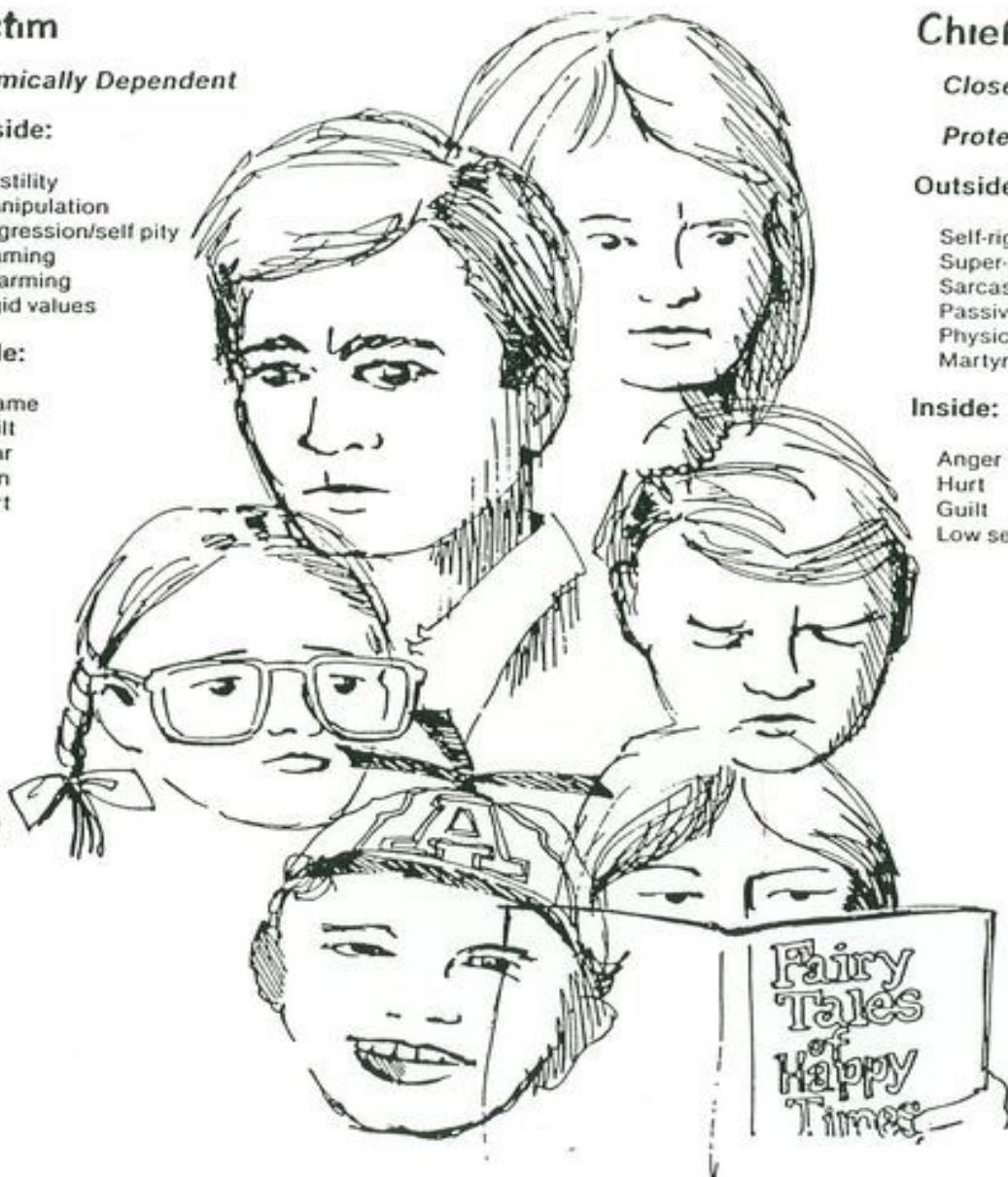
Forgotten Child

Outside:

Shy, quiet
Fantasy life
Solitary
Mediocre
Attaches to things, not people

Inside:

Rejection
Hurt
Anxiety



Family Work Principles

- Trust
- Shared values
- Common goals
- Common language
- Respect
- Commitment
- Shared decision-making
- Accountability

Reflection



Tribal Culture and Identity



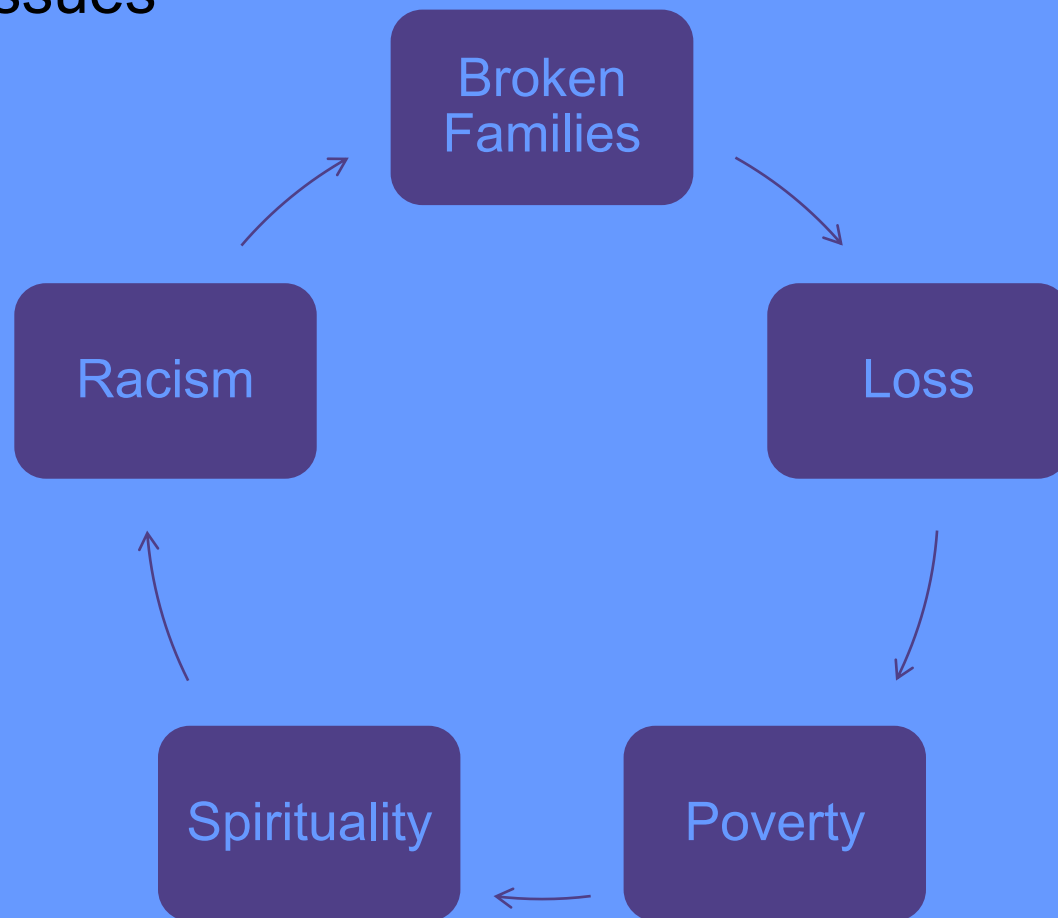
Culture

Culture is best defined as the beliefs, customs, arts, etc., of a particular society, group, place, or time. : a particular society that has its own beliefs, ways of life, art, etc. : a way of thinking, behaving, or working that exists in a place

Culture. (n.d.). Retrieved March 31, 2017, from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/culture>

Cultural Identity

- Cycle of Substance Abuse, “Acting Out”, and Behavioral Health Issues



Cultural Deprivation

- Being deprived of cultural tools and knowledge; or being limited to using cultural tools and knowledge to advocate for one's self.

Reflection



Coordinated Community Response



Collaboration

- Task force
- Multidisciplinary teams
- Decision makers
- Funding availability
- Cross-training
- Staff location
- Memorandums of understanding (MOUs)

Promoting Collaboration

- Information sharing
- Professional development
- Cross-training
- Confidentiality
 - Case information
 - Screening information
 - Treatment
 - Case plan
 - Diagnosis and treatment

Reflection



At-Risk Youth



Community Agencies & Responders

- Influences
 - Community Agencies
 - Schools
 - Community
 - Peers
 - Social media

| Risk Factors | Domain | Protective Factors |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Early Aggressive Behaviors | Individual | Self-Control |
| Lack of Parental Supervision | Family | Parental Monitoring |
| Substance Abuse | Peer | Academic Progress |
| Drug Availability | School | Anti-Drug Use Policies |
| Poverty | Community | Tribal Community/Family Attachments |

Developmental Periods

- Preconception/Prenatal and Infancy
- Early Childhood
- Middle School
- Adolescents
- Young Adulthood

Reflection



Questions



Reflection



Post-Test Evaluation

Unified Solutions Training Resources

- To access this Power Point and other resources from today's training please visit: <http://www.unified-solutions.org/unified-solutions-training-resources/>