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Traumatic Childbirth Experience and Postnatal Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

B. Peixoto[1]*, M. Cruz[2] and V. Ustares[1]

[1]Psychiatry, Hospital do Divino Espirito Santo and [2]Psychiatry, Hospital do Divino Espírito Santo, Ponta Delgada, Portugal
*Corresponding author.
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Introduction: Although childbirth represents a positive experience for most mothers and fathers, it can also be potentially traumatic when it endangers the life of the mother or the baby. In more severe cases, it can even develop into Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) postpartum. Studies indicate birth-related PTSD impacts around 17% of postpartum parents. This condition includes intrusive symptoms, hyperactivation, avoidance behaviors, and negative changes in mood and cognition, significantly impacting the mother-baby bond and the family's well-being.
Objectives: The authors pretend to raise awareness of postpartum PTSD.
Methods: The authors did a non-systematic review of the current literature.
Results: The etiology of postpartum PTSD is multifactorial and results from the combination of pre-birth risk factors (depression during pregnancy, fear of childbirth, medical complications during pregnancy, history of trauma or sexual abuse, history of mental disorders), factors during childbirth (subjectively experienced negative childbirth, obstetric complications, and severe maternal morbidity), and postpartum factors (postpartum depression, maternal complications after childbirth, or maladaptive coping mechanisms). The risk factors related to childbirth appear to be independent of neonatal complications, with the latter constituting an additional stressor factor. Psychological trauma during childbirth and postpartum PTSD, despite having a significant impact on families, are often not recognized in maternity services, hindering timely intervention. Currently, there are no recommended treatments to prevent or mitigate postpartum PTSD. However, there is some evidence of the benefits of prenatal and postnatal interventions, such as early identification of risk factors for postpartum PTSD and postnatal counseling.
Conclusions: The studies suggests that women should be assessed for negative traumatic birth experiences and PTSD, to allow targeted observation for psychopathologies and therapeutic interventions. Further research is needed with larger sample sizes, validated and reliable clinical interviews to assess PTSD.

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The Effects of War and Trauma on Attitudes Toward Restorative Justice for Sexual Offenses

I. Peleg Koriat[1]* and D. Weimann Saks[2]

[1]Criminology and [2]Communication, Max Stern Yezreel Valley College, Yezreel Valley, Israel
*Corresponding author.
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Introduction: On October 7, 2023, a Hamas terror attack targeted both Jewish and Arab Israelis. The unprecedented scale of the event resulted in over 1,400 deaths and numerous kidnappings, leading to the ongoing Hamas-Israel war. The attacks also exposed a wide range of sexual violence, which was broadcasted or witnessed by family members (Association of Rape Crisis Centers in Israel, 2024; UN SRSG-SVC, 2024). This event has exacerbated collective trauma and anxiety, influencing various societal issues, including public attitudes toward justice, particularly sexual offenses (Feingold et al., 2024).
Objectives: This study aims to explore how exposure to a war characterized by violent crimes affects public support for restorative justice (RJ) processes, particularly in sexual offenses, and whether the collective trauma has led to a decline in the belief that sexual offenders can be rehabilitated.
Methods: The research surveyed 339 Israeli participants at two points: before the war and during its early weeks. The study employed quantitative analyses to measure attitudes toward offender rehabilitation and support for RJ. A paired t-test was conducted to assess changes over time, and correlation analyses examined the relationship between the perceived malleability of offenders and support for RJ.
Results: The findings revealed a significant decline during the war in the belief that sexual offenders can be rehabilitated ($t(51) = 2.67$, $p < .01$). This belief was correlated to reduced support for RJ (rp = .45, $p < .001$). The exposure to sexual violence during the war, combined with widespread testimonies highlighting its brutality, likely contributed to a shift in public attitudes. The attacks served to instill terror and dehumanize the victims, reinforcing the public's resistance to perceived "lenient" justice alternatives such as RJ.
Conclusions: In addition to the well-known effects of trauma, the study highlights the profound influence of collective trauma on public attitudes toward justice, particularly in sexual offenses. Exposure to extreme violence, during a war characterized by violent crimes creates significant barriers to the acceptance of RJ. While RJ can potentially provide healing avenues for survivors of sexual offenses (Klar-Chalamish & Peleg-Koriat, 2021) the widespread trauma and public anxiety pose significant barriers to its acceptance.

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Evaluating breastfeeding among active Tunisian mothers

A. Hrairi[1], N. Rmadi[1]*, O. Ben Ayed[2], A. Kchaou[1], F. Dhouib[1], E. Belkhir[3], M. Hajjaji[1] and K. Jmal Hammami[1]

[1]Occupational medicine department, Hedi chaker university hospital, University of Sfax; [2]Family medicine department, university of Sfax, Sfax and [3]Lactabelle Society, Tunis, Tunisia
*Corresponding author.
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Introduction: Breastfeeding is an important determinant of both mother and child healths regarding its physical and psychological benefits. Working mothers usually consider the work as a barrier to breastfeeding, thus this population needs a particular attention to enhance their breastfeeeding rate.
Objectives: Determining the prevalence of breastfeeding among active women in Tunisia and evaluating their perceptions and their practices towards this process.
Methods: We have conducted a descriptive and cross sectional study. Data were collected during one week through an online questionnaire designed by Google Forms and distributed via Social

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