

Dec 2001

Problem Children

Preamble – Taleban ethics in the nursery

Problem children or problem policies?

Sir Christopher Ball expressed doubts about fulltime daycare for babies in *The Times* of 25th April 1996: “*Under the age of 1, I am quite sure it is a mistake.*” Father of six, director of learning at the RSA and author of *Start Right* (half-days for three year olds), Sir Christopher was a man of experience, even of *gravitas*. His chief researcher was Kathy Sylva, now a grandmother and professor, who co-authored a popular textbook for nursery staff: *Child Development: A First Course*, as well as many papers and research articles on childcare.

Despite his expressed doubts about babies, Sir Christopher and his colleagues had earlier endorsed a law covering fulltime daycare and shortly afterwards helped set up the Jigsaw chain of nurseries where babies are accepted from 3 months, fulltime, part-time or any time by arrangement. *The Children Act 1989*, relating to nursery care, owes much to Tom Shea, now Chairman of Jigsaw, who advised on the conditions and requirements governing daycare for the Under-Eights, including babies from birth: Social Services would regulate daycare facilities and inspections; inspections (announced) would be required once a year unless conditions gave rise for concern. Unannounced inspections are a rare event due to security concerns

Since then, Social Services in at least 100 local authorities have been accused and/or convicted of neglect, abuse, maltreatment of young and old in their care, often due to overwork. Yearly inspections of nurseries were often missed – but babies did not complain if their care was ‘low quality’. Babies cannot talk. Regulation is now in the hands of Ofsted.

Following the Thatcherite goals of privatisation and *profitisation*, New Labour introduced *The National Childcare Strategy*. This apparently commendable aspiration would enable mothers, especially single mothers, to go out to work. It would also enable the Treasury to accumulate more in tax. Research for the *Strategy* again relied heavily on the work of Kathy Sylva. The basis for her confidence in childcare was the American **High Scope** project where toddlers were given special daycare up to 6 hours a day from 3 or 4 years old. Babies were not involved. None of the studies listed in her research dealt exclusively with babies separated from their mothers; all were foreign and carried warnings about generalising results across national boundaries. In 1994 Professor Andersson of Sweden condemned childcare for profit.

Years earlier, Sylva & Lunt’s textbook introduced the subject of *Child Development* with grave warnings about the dangers of having preconceived ideas or using “common sense”. It was necessary to be “scientific” and methodical before drawing conclusions. Childcare should be based entirely on impartial and unemotive evidence drawn from empirical research. So babies were consigned to ten hour days, 5 days a

week, all year, in group care, monitored by social services, as part of *The National Childcare Strategy* promoted by Daycare Trust, an official charity established to promote Childcare for All from 0-14, funded by DfEE, DTI, local authorities and business. Its chief officer was Collette Kelleher, a qualified social worker.

Having ditched common sense, “scientific” method and empirical research were also abandoned with ruthless indifference worthy of the Taleban in pursuit of the martyr’s heaven. If half a day in remedial daycare proved beneficial to some deprived 3-year olds in criminal ghettos, whole days in private nurseries **must** be even better for British babies, whether middle-class or criminal class. Without any proof of this, the childcare industry booms.

PROBLEMS WITH BOYS – Research Module No 1

Problems with Professors

In the words of sociologist Alice Miller: “**Children are considered less human than adults and so bear the consequences**”.¹ While British workers longed for a 35-hour week, little babies were condemned to 50 hours a week.² The abandonment of babies to the whims of nursery operators, social workers and a multitude of risks³ including separation anxiety, TB⁴, headlice⁵, diabetes, and not least paedophiles due to faults in the police checking system⁶, was warmly received by all the major children’s charities, paedophiles, and feminists everywhere. As for Sir Christopher Ball, while he agrees there is nothing to match a loving mother, he is certain Jigsaw nurseries are so good “mothers and babies can hardly tell the difference”.⁷

Recent research reveals babies to be far more discerning than Sir Chris would have us believe, despite his extensive paternal experience. Animals can identify people and places.⁸ Even sheep can identify different people and recognise their peers.⁹ Human babies are capable of much more than sheep¹⁰. Yet they are torn from their mothers like piglets wrenched from the sow and placed in battery conditions for profit.¹¹ If we treat our babies with such inhumane cruelty, why should we be surprised if they grow up to behave like animals? But this is mere “common sense”.

Baffling gaps in academic logic, the apparent absence of original thought or effort and the slavish echo of accepted ‘truths’, however improbable, cast doubt on British research over the past twenty or thirty years.

FLAWED RESEARCH

A popular nursery textbook urges trainees to reject common sense because it did not cure warts.¹² Authorities on childcare reject the work of Dr John Bowlby for equally muddled reasons.¹³ Because Bowlby advised on residential care, it is argued, he could have known little about daycare: therefore his warnings about separating babies from their mothers must be as useless as commonsense in curing warts. The

abandonment of common sense and sensitive scholarship in favour of political correctness and academic twaddle¹⁴ opened the floodgates to the rapacious insensitivity of feminists, perverts and profiteers who all stood to gain from this base betrayal of innocence.[App.3] Public policy in recent years has been guided by shallow self-interest and wishful thinking. There is a widely held perception that nurturing is not important enough to occupy parents and can safely be left to others.¹⁵ As a result we now find children out of control even at three.¹⁶ If criminals and terrorists are formed in the cradle,¹⁷ the Eleventh of September was only a beginning.

Strangely, Professor Sir Michael Rutter and his colleague¹⁸ accept Bowlby's findings that: "**Very young children are truly stressed by separation experiences, but they readily cope with brief separations during the day when these occur in the context of relationship continuity and good-quality caregiving.**"¹⁹ but then wag a finger: "The lesson is...to be guided by empirical findings and to be very cautious regarding the acceptance of untested theoretical assumptions." Where have we heard that before? (see Preamble) Curiously there is no reference to Bowlby's warning about "**frequent and prolonged separations**". Having dismissed Bowlby by making one wrong assumption, that he knew only about residential care, his lifetime's work and wisdom were cast aside by an even more catastrophic assumption that he didn't know what he was talking about, especially on the subject of Attachment and Loss.²⁰

The risks identified from **frequent and prolonged** separations were thrown out along with the baby and the bath water. Whether intended or not, it appears that "**brief separations**" have come to mean "all day", provided the care is of 'good quality and continuity' (surely the most often repeated – and ignored - phrase in childcare). Common sense might suggest that ten hours a day are not "brief", even to an adult.

"**The child is father to the man**" - character is formed in the cradle²¹. Like a computer, it is "rubbish in, rubbish out". Babies are sponges absorbing everything around them²². If mother is absent most of his waking hours, baby knows²³. He may be confused and unhappy²⁴. Her guilt at leaving him makes her indulgent, allowing behaviour she would not tolerate otherwise. She bribes him, tries to buy his love²⁵. The relationship becomes unbalanced and unfulfilling for them both.²⁶ Babies are capable of jealousy almost from birth.²⁷ If we fill the developing mind with negative emotions, rejection, anger, jealousy, we store up a vast hornet's nest for the future.²⁸

"Every citizen's son, the child of a chaste mother, was from the beginning reared, not in the chamber of a purchased nurse, but in that mother's bosom and embrace, and it was her special glory to study her home and devote herself to her children." (Tacitus: Complete Works ed Hadas RHModern Library 1942 p757).

The glory that was Rome reflected the "special" glory of the devoted mother of its children, according to Tacitus. The nurturing role of motherhood was accorded a high place in the annals of ancient history, leaving the conquest of foreign nations in the hands of men. Role models and heroes were abundant within a disciplined framework that encompassed militarism and strict codes of honour capable of leaving a legacy of civilisation to the western world that lasted over two millennia. The

decline of Rome was accompanied by the neglect of its children, left ***“in the chamber of a purchased nurse”***.

An early experiment

The Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II 1194-1250 was curious to know what language babies will speak if nobody speaks to them; he hired foster mothers and wetnurses to care for them silently – all died for they ***“could not live without petting and joyful faces and loving words....or swaddling songs”*** [S A Szurek (SFCA, USA) *Modern Perspectives in International Child Psychiatry (Vol 3 of 5 of Modern Perspectives in Psychiatry)* ed. Howells, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh 1969]

This may be the first recorded example of a deliberate experiment for the purpose of research. Nowadays animals are often used instead.²⁹ The present practice of placing babies in fulltime group care may be considered an unintentional experiment due to the lack of certainty about the effects. It may be no less cruel. As will be shown, research on childcare was available for anyone who cared enough to look for it. Doubts about the thoroughness and validity of recent British research impel examination of earlier work, especially in the light of Howells' conclusion to Chapter V above: ***“less well-adjusted individuals enter childcare”***.

It may be no coincidence that German research was sufficiently thorough to persuade the government that three years' parental leave was worth having, however high the price. Daycare for babies is still considered “for families in need” in former West Germany while in former East Germany daycare was ***“to educate the socialist personality”***³⁰ a goal shared with the Israeli *kibbutzim*³¹. From the age of three years, all German children are entitled to *kindergarten*.³² Even Sweden does not grant three years' parental leave despite parental pleas.³³ Sweden has been revered for its superior childcare, considered the best in the world. If Swedish care is so wonderful, we might ask, why do parents plead for the right to do the job themselves? Significantly, childcare for profit was banned in Sweden before 1991.³⁴

Group care for babies was associated with poverty and neglect in Victorian Britain:

“There children dwell who know no parents' care”.³⁵ Orphans were left in group care, usually squalid. Decades later ***“The poor little ones locked up all day”***³⁶ enabled women to work in the Lincolnshire Fens of 1873, often addicted to opium from infancy. (Spalding was the centre of the local drug trade³⁷). A witches' brew of opium, treacle and sassifras pacified babies left with a village minder while mothers worked most of the year in marshy fields to supplement subsistence wages. A visitor might discover ***“half a dozen babies, some snoring, some squinting, all pallid and eye-sunken, lying about the room”*** in need of medical attention after hefty doses of *“Mr Godfrey's Cordial”*, or a local equivalent.³⁸

Eighteenth century London babies of the rich³⁹ shared with Thomas Coram Hospital foundlings banishment to country wetnurses until their return at four years old⁴⁰. This was the accepted tradition of the day. No investigation of effects has yet materialised. The care was presumably *‘up close and personal’* on a one-to-one basis, albeit shared with the natural child of the nursing mother. Fears of babies being

exchanged by accident or intent were understandable. Presumably the individual care received by each baby for the first four years provided continuity of attachment and some socialising with other children in the foster-family. The effect of breaking secure attachments at four may be relevant to British history, having accompanied the Industrial Revolution and Empire.

The Origin of Manners

“About this time it became easy to work on his feelings and make him do whatever was wanted.... As this child was educated solely by working on his good feelings, he soon became as truthful, open and tender as anyone could desire”[Darwin, Charles: 1877 in *Mind* (Quarterly) pp 285-294 A *Biographical Sketch of an Infant*]

One of the world’s greatest scientists, Darwin made very methodical and detailed observations of his son. The baby’s attachment to his mother and to his nurse was sensitively described. Apparently biddable from a very early age, surrounded by a loving family in a typical Victorian professional household, Darwin’s children enjoyed the attentions of both parents and domestic staff. Darwin was an attentive and observant father who took his responsibilities seriously.⁴¹ The importance of fathers has been much overlooked in the general debate about maternal deprivation. This deficiency was noted by Dr John Howells.⁴²

Personal observations in Jamaica, West Indies, in the Sixties indicate the crucial role of fathers and traditional families in constraining the exuberance of youth and providing discipline with love. [App 5] The balance of two parents of opposite sex in a stable relationship remains the best format for infant and juvenile adjustment.⁴³ Unfortunately Jamaica now shares with South Africa a reputation for having **“the world’s most dangerous streets”**.⁴⁴ Regular flights from Jamaica to England are thought to contain drug ‘mules’ illegally importing cocaine worth at least £10,000 a week to dealers and £4,000 to single mothers who risk their lives by concealing drugs about their bodies.⁴⁵ Britain now has more singletons than traditional families.⁴⁶ The implications for future stability are grave indeed. HM Treasury is not helpful.⁴⁷

CHILDCARE IN THE HOME

However, there was no need to look overseas for the effects of parental deprivation. For centuries the British employed nannies in the homes of the upper-class. No quality of care could have been higher: every material want was satisfied, households were replete with servants within a hierarchy of needs undreamt of by Maslow.⁴⁸ The tradition generally worked well for the administration of Empire, yet success eluded even the richest and most influential families if children were left too long in the care of hired help, however well qualified. Babies and children often suffered emotional deprivation, spurring the work of Sigmund Freud and others.

Material comforts and societal mores combined with the best education money could buy to ameliorate the ill effects of parental neglect through good schooling, although some found boarding school very harsh.⁴⁹ Bullying was a familiar part of boarding school life but is now a major problem in the state sector, even in nursery schools.⁵⁰ Children who are different in any way from their peers attract attention.⁵¹ Whether disabled, cleverer, more sensitive or weaker, a child is likely to be subjected to the taunts and attacks of others [App.4] Is it mere coincidence that bullying stems from the same insecurities formerly experienced by the rich, cared for “*in the chamber of a purchased nurse*”? Emotional deprivation and insecurity fuel the need to control.⁵²

Bullying often accompanies gang behaviour. Peer bonding was noted in studies of wartime orphans⁵³. Britain’s public schools were notorious for peer-bonding known as “the old school tie”, only recently superseded by more democratic conventions.⁵⁴

No half-baked theories from Mrs Beeton

“A mother’s responsibilities are the greatest that a woman can have, for with her rests not only the care of her children, for their daily needs of food, clothing and the like, but what is even more important, their moral training. No matter what good nurses and attendants she may be able to engage for her little ones, what pleasures, changes of air, model nurseries, toys and books she may afford for their benefit, she should still devote, at any rate, some part of her time to them; should be with them often, should know their individual childish tastes and faults, and strive by her influence, precepts and example to make them what she hopes they may be in the future.

“A mother’s influence is greater than any other with children, it is easier for her than anyone else to train them aright if she be a good and loving one, and the little ones will rather obey her commands than those of nurse or governess, no matter how kind these may be to those under their charge. Some women of fashion, living constantly in society, deny that they have time to give their little ones, their visits to schoolroom or nursery are like those of the angels, few and far between. They have everything beautifully appointed in the children’s quarters, and first-rate nurses and governesses, and they cannot take time from gaiety and pleasure – spared, however, by the highest lady in the land for that purpose – to devote to what they think can be obtained from hired service. It is a mistake: no nurse can do what a mother can, and the race of good old nurses is fast dying out. We do not often see in modern nurseries, with all their new furniture and convenience, those who have nursed a former generation of the family, who care for the children as their own, and who have few theories, but much practical knowledge of how to treat, both in sickness and health, the little ones in their care”Chapter LXXI *Management of Nursery etc: Mrs Beeton’s Book of Household Management* Ward Lock 1861/89

The reference to Queen Victoria, “*the highest lady in the land*”, is both touching and illuminating, as is the assertion that motherhood conveys the “*greatest responsibilities*”. Neither Victoria nor her successors could claim total success, however. Although only in her twenties, the pragmatic Mrs Beeton possessed great wisdom if little knowledge of the world outside her own privileged existence. An

entirely different picture of Victorian life exists in the novels of Charles Dickens and contemporary descriptions of poverty and the notorious workhouse as in Dockray.

The development of feeding bottles saw the decline of the wetnurse; babies could be fed by anyone. Unlike today, the Victorian mother was surrounded by family and helpers. Nurses and nursemaids abounded. Infant mortality was high but so was fecundity.⁵⁵ New babies arrived almost every year in some homes and mothers were often exhausted. Siblings often took care of the younger ones and many babies were poorly parented.⁵⁶ Recent research finds children benefit from the less divided attention of parents with only two or three children.⁵⁷ For two centuries the tradition of hiring live-in help worked well enough to become even more popular in a third.⁵⁸

Strangely, no empirical research appears to exist on the effects of household childcare. However, there are a great many biographical and anecdotal accounts of children whose lives were blighted by parental neglect despite the best quality care, among them Winston Churchill, the ultimate role model. Churchill was a devoted son and husband. His upbringing was typical of British upper-class traditions: a nanny in the earliest years and public school as a boarder in adolescence. Churchill idealised his mother who rarely spent time with her son despite or because of his premature birth two months early.⁵⁹ The necessary separation of mother and child, intensified by high levels of anxiety about premature babies, is known to cause difficulties in bonding.⁶⁰ Anxiety is in itself a risk factor in any relationship.⁶¹

“A certain amount of aggressive, antisocial behaviour could have been expected”.⁶² As a boy Churchill inflicted a deep knife wound across the palm of another boy who (proudly) bore the scar for life.⁶³ Troublesome and angry in youth, the adult man idealised his wife, Clementine Hozier.⁶⁴ All his life Churchill suffered acute mental agony, especially in times of stress, calling his deep depressions ‘Black Dog’. It is thought his mother’s distance from her son gave rise to despair based on perceived rejection.⁶⁵ Although fondly regarded, the prime carer who took the place of his mother did not supplant her in the mind of the child; to the infant Winston she was known by the seemingly impersonal “Womany” or “Woo”.⁶⁶

The mother’s help for infants was often called simply “Nurse”⁶⁷. Thus, a clear distinction existed between the role of Mother and that of hired carer; children did not confuse them. A sense of rejection seemed intrinsic to the relationship where a child spent more waking time with the carer, however much loved, than with Mother, causing **“a powerful sense of loss and anger”**⁶⁸. Insensitive mothers affect babies in many ways;⁶⁹ active maternal aggression towards the child has been observed to intensify negative emotions, often pathologically. App6

The work of Anna Freud and Dorothy Burlingham at their wartime Hampstead Nursery⁷⁰ revealed similar attitudes and distinctions in the minds of small children cared for by substitute mothers; none of them confused the role of the hired carers with that of their own mothers, for whom they pined. Mothers pined equally for their babies and would try to find jobs nearby, if not at the nursery itself where possible. Today’s working mothers also miss their babies, many finding separation extremely painful and often tearful.⁷¹ Less sensitive mothers grow even less sensitive the longer they are separated from their children,⁷² confirming Robertson’s early observations of maternal cooling towards anxious children.⁷³

Many children of wealthy celebrity parents complain of feeling unloved and having great difficulties in their personal lives, among them the son of actress Joan Collins. Sacha Newley, 36, “says he’s accepted that most people live their lives in misery” and expresses some bitterness over his mother’s self-interest: “her eternal youth is down to a refusal to worry too much about the effects of her actions on other people” [Times Magazine October 2001] Sacha’s depression seems to be deep-rooted and all-pervading; in mournful mood, he imagines “most people live their lives in misery”. Like Eeyore in *Winnie-the-Pooh*, he seems resigned to a life of dejection and gloom, imagining everyone else to be equally miserable, a typical victim of emotional neglect, further compounded by divorce, a known risk-factor.⁷⁴

The children of the well-to-do may have the highest quality childcare money can buy, perhaps a Norland-trained nanny, the best.⁷⁵ The household nursery is their world, and, emulating Christopher Robin,⁷⁶ walks in the park and imaginative play stimulate the infant mind and prepare it for positions of authority in adulthood. The balance between attachment to a somewhat idealised, distant, mother, and the sense of loss of that attachment, is fine indeed. But Nanny can never replace Mother. The true professional acknowledges this fact.⁷⁷ Anna Freud and Dorothy Burlingham 1942/44 found “how impossible it is in a nursery setting to provide the child with a substitute figure who can mother him as well as his own mother can”.⁷⁸

Nor can au pairs replace qualified nannies. Untrained girls are often exploited by greedy parents who expect far too much for far too little. Underpaid and overworked, many au pairs leave in search of better jobs; it is the children who suffer from variable care and changing attachments.⁷⁹ The head of a wealthy suburban London primary school shuddered as he described the disruptive effects on his pupils.⁸⁰ Significantly, a Norwegian study showed children at 10 years “**rated by teachers to show higher levels of problems when there had been a higher degree of maternal employment....in the first four years**”. Parental involvement is crucial in early childhood; research is needed on time factors.⁸¹

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

“The thirteen weeks of a term might just as well be thirteen years” – Graham Greene: *A Sort of Life* in Bowlby: *Attachment and Loss Vol 2: Separation – Anxiety and Anger*

One day in the life of an adult may be compared to one hour in the life of a baby. The most intensive development takes place in the first year.⁸² Two or three hours may seem an eternity. Schaffer’s “**microscopic examination**” of a baby’s awareness of time and reactions to change are long overdue.⁸³ Conflicting, intense emotions may inhibit baby’s ability to learn.⁸⁴ In later years the conflict may internalise into depressive illness or externalise into aggression.⁸⁵ Boys tend to externalise conflict, wreaking vengeance on the world around them long after the original cause has been forgotten.⁸⁶ **“Attachment insecurity is associated with a wide range of psychiatric disorders”**⁸⁷

Group care

Like 11th September 2001, World War Two marked a watershed, changing the world forever. The war was particularly significant for the history of female liberation and family relationships. Men went to war while women kept factories running and worked on the land in food production. Children were evacuated from cities. Research on the effects of all these changes has barely scratched the surface; least of all children being raised in what were effectively single parent families. The absence of fathers led to an urban crime wave. **Firm emergency measures to deal with lax discipline and high delinquency were taken by government with special schemes to occupy youth and keep them out of trouble.**⁸⁸ These included strict surveillance for truants, out of school clubs and emergency schools **“to restore children to the wholesome discipline of school life.”** Despite the enormous difficulties of rationing and other wartime deprivations, the lack of home discipline due to absent fathers, the “poor shape” of the children who were **“an unmitigated nuisance for a time”**, there was **“little lasting deterioration in conduct, behaviour and cleanliness”** and these thin products of wartime Britain were transformed into creatures of **“magnificent courage”** of whom London could **“well be proud”**. We should take note of this.

Anxious to restore traditional family life after 1945, the government persuaded women to return to hearth and home, leaving jobs for the returning men. In 1951 Dr John Bowlby produced a report for the World Health Organization extolling the virtues of motherhood and the dangers of maternal deprivation.

Meanwhile, overseas, a new world order began as the re-created nation of Israel was establishing the ***kibbutzim***. This was a true, untried, experiment in child development.

Although the *kibbutzim* involved residential childcare, children saw their parents in their waking hours at the beginning and end of each day, much as western children might see their parents briefly twice a day. It should be remembered that parents were relieved of many irksome duties and could also enjoy undisturbed sleep!

Two decades later, studies were published about the children of the Israeli *kibbutzim*.⁸⁹ *Kibbutz* infants often saw more of their parents than those outside in the normal working world.⁹⁰ Mothers and babies spent much time together until weaning at about eight months; after that time, housemothers took over, allowing parents leisure time with their children before and after work.⁹¹

Unfortunately the results of such care produced extremities of peer pressure among the children and many other behavioural problems including aggression, apathy, bullying, suspicion of change, resentment of criticism, a distinct lack of natural creativity with a parallel dislike of seeming different from one's peers, having a deep regard for conformity. Homosexuality appeared to be absent but individual relationships were guarded and difficult. While military zeal increased, social integration and personal relationships in the wider community were lacking. Many graduates of the system seemed unsmiling and unhappy.

Not only the children suffered but parents also. Mothers grew jealous of the carers and often expressed regret for “*the loss of the full depths of mothering experience*”,⁹² making their relationships with their children a minefield of twisted emotions and vengeful tendencies. Guilt and frustration were common in parents who felt betrayed by the system. Children felt rejected.

The Times of 15th June 2001 reported modern Israeli schoolchildren were to receive lessons on politeness to “*revolutionise a country not known for its manners*”, 12 year olds to learn “*how to argue without resorting to abuse or violence*” and “*how to love*”. The ‘*new Jew*’ capable of defending the Promised Land never learned to say please or thank you; Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks remarked there was no word for ‘*civility*’ or ‘*tact*’ in Hebrew.

In Nearly four decades earlier in *The Guardian* of 3rd July 1963 the eminent child development specialist, Dr John Bowlby had expressed the view that he thought the *kibbutz* system a mistake. But even Dr Bowlby could not have imagined the full extent of the suffering endured by Israeli children in the cause of equality:

Perfect kibbutz lifestyle hid rape and child abuse.⁹³ A suit had been filed against the Kibbutz Movement by a 31 year old academic claiming he was an unwilling guinea pig with thousands of other children in a “grotesque socialist human experiment.....to create a new human being while injecting new, imaginary content into basic concepts such as parents, home, money, work, land” leaving him incapable of love and of being a capable father. Until the 1980s many children had had only an intercom as a babysitter and some shuddered at the sight of one, others being ‘permanently psychologically scarred’ through abuse by carers. Ritual abuse was described from 1949 to 1953 by a survivor of the Holocaust with 71 complaints of rape of women and girls from 3 to 30 not reported to police. One in three women claimed to have been sexually abused and many more to have been trafficked. A cover-up was said to be due to the ‘religious cult’ attitude in *kibbutzim*.

BOWLBY

In recent years John Bowlby has become one of the most scorned figures in childcare circles. *Daycare Trust* quotes a modern source suggesting Bowlby’s work concealed important factors: “*Bowlby’s attachment theory has since come under question when it was revealed that the original research evidence had been based on residential care rather than daycare where attachment relationships are quite different. Exclusive maternal care is a recent phenomenon....*”⁹⁴

Born in 1907, educated at Dartmouth Royal Naval College and Trinity College, Cambridge, John Bowlby qualified in medicine at University College Hospital before specialising in psychiatry and psychoanalysis. His wartime experiences in selecting officers for the British Army provided a springboard for his subsequent career at the Tavistock Clinic and Medical Research Council. In 1950 he was a mental health consultant to the World Health Organisation. His death in 1990 inspired phrases such

as “a towering figure”, “a truly great teacher”. In his lifetime Bowlby was revered for his superior wisdom and acute powers of observation. His studies of Infant Attachment became regarded as definitive, if not immutable, in postwar childcare.

Bowlby wrote many books about Attachment and its loss. There was never any secret about Bowlby’s terms of reference. Few day nurseries existed before 1990.⁹⁵ Residential institutions were more common where babies were separated from their mothers due to illness, confinement or death. It became clear to Bowlby how very much the maternal bond mattered in the early development of children; breaking it often proved disastrous for the individuals concerned.

However, it is clear from his writings that Bowlby often observed babies who were not institutionalised: the first relationship was the “*foundation stone of personality*”:⁹⁶ in the first 12 months strong attachment developed between mother (or mother-figure) and child, establishing a “*dynamic equilibrium*”; “*maternal loving behaviour*” expressed in “*joy in the other’s presence*” ; baby’s first smile elicits “*an electrifying response*” and makes mother even more responsive, even when tired and irritable; when feeding or tending, his smile is her reward, her response a long-term benefit to her baby.⁹⁷ Baby “*loves to watch a changing scene*” even at 4 months.⁹⁸

Significantly, differences were noted in “*habitual quantity of interaction ..expressed as a percentage of waking time that he is interacting with her*”, while the “*greatest significance*” lay in a mother’s sensitivity and timing of interventions, crucial to a baby’s success in initiating social interactions with her. Bowlby warned: “**When the conditions are met only in part, there is some measure of friction and discontent**” along with insecurity; “**grave deficiencies**” occurred, possibly even autism.⁹⁹ Neither breastfeeding nor holding the baby for feeds guaranteed success without that maternal sensitivity to the baby’s rhythms and need for successful interaction. Again, he warned: “**any change in the pattern as a whole requires a change in the behavioural organisation of both**”.¹⁰⁰

Emotional security necessary for baby to explore

The “**encouraging, supportive mother..gives a sense of worth, a belief in the helpfulness of others and a favourable model for future relationships**”,¹⁰¹ and not least, competence for safe exploration. Bowlby recorded that several studies showed secure children at 21 months “**more competent socially, more effective in play and more curious, and also more sympathetic to other children’s distress**”. He quotes an influential predecessor, Piaget, to emphasise the importance of exploration and inquiry to human development: “*as distinct and important....as feeding and mating*”. This has serious implications for the future of a nation like Britain whose wealth is fuelled by the creativity and inventive genius of its citizens. “**Unhappy children do not explore....**”¹⁰²

Negative experiences may lead to “*defective control, lowered resilience, vulnerability*” affecting adult reactions to events. Bowlby was convinced that the earliest experiences affected adult development. Some more extreme cases would be classified as “*pathological*”. [App 7] Criminologists confirm the ill-effects of broken relationships in early development.¹⁰³

The myth of Bowlby's 'exclusive maternal care'

The reference to *exclusive maternal care* quoted by *Daycare Trust* after Rutter & O'Connor¹⁰⁴ is used by childcare proponents as further condemnation of Bowlby's emphasis on the importance of maternal care. However, there is nothing in his work to suggest that he insisted on exclusive maternal care. He often refers to **brief separations**, to other carers, deputies, even 'prime carer' as a replacement for mother. In fact it would have been eccentric for someone of Bowlby's social class to have employed no help for his wife in caring for their own children. Such domestic help has long been a feature of middle-class life in Britain and therefore taken for granted. Babies and their relationships to everyone were the stuff of every day life.

Like Darwin, Bowlby observed mothers and babies in great depth, probably in his own home and among friends as well as professionally. His studies made him acutely aware of the dangers in long separations and he warned against them. He noted that the **occasional** withdrawal of mother, **neither frequent nor prolonged**, was soon replaced with caring behaviour. In normal conditions mother and baby each **"manifests intense pleasure in the other's company and especially in the other's expressions of affection.....for babies to love mothers and mothers to love babies is taken for granted as intrinsic to human nature"**¹⁰⁵ Very clearly Bowlby is describing normal relationships existing in normal households of his day.

Writers like Jane Shilling of *The Times* 03.12.01 indicate the relative abnormality of conditions today: *"There is the loss of social and economic freedom, the inevitable changes in one's relationship with one's partner, the immediate exhaustion and physical trauma of the birth, the longer-term physical changes to one's body, the sleep deprivation, isolation and sheer hard labour of baby care."* Without a household of servants and family, child-rearing can be very lonely. Depression is common in mothers with three or more small children at home.¹⁰⁶ It is not surprising if women want 'the best of all worlds' - jobs and children. For some, it is a tremendous relief simply to talk to another person at an adult level.¹⁰⁷ This is especially true of women in difficult relationships or those without relatives nearby.¹⁰⁸ However much loved, small children are very wearing. It is ironic that the post-modern nuclear family depends heavily on **"exclusive maternal care"**. The burden is too great for most.

Bowlby saw the worst aspects of rejection in residential care but in the *WHO 1951 Report on Mental Health* were found **'permanent deleterious effects of day-nurseries and creches'**. These have been disregarded by later researchers because of the assumption that Bowlby's studies of residential care had been generalized to cover daycare.¹⁰⁹ They could not have read his work thoroughly: *Attachment and Loss: Vol 2: Separation – Anxiety and Anger*

P259-263 Effects of daily substitute care

Moore 1969a on effects at 6 yrs; mostly unstable care for fulltime working.

If begun at 3 yrs, better; 15 in unstable care before 2, became "conspicuously insecure and anxious" by 6, clinging, fearful; other 15 in "stable, daily

substitute care". Parents of children in unstable care tended to be unstable and treated children insensitively.

A few were under 2 years but at 6 or 7 were seeking extra attention from mother; and some mothers failed to establish close relationships with their children. After 3 years, stable daily care showed no evident problems at 6; had enjoyed nursery school or group care in family setting, up to 6 hours a day.

P261 "The more stable and predictable the regime the more secure a child's attachment tends to be; the more discontinuous and unpredictable the regime, the more anxious the attachment"

Some become detached rather than anxious, in despair; often "aggressive and disobedient...and quick to retaliate", especially boys; girls cling more.

A confusing mixture of opposite types of behaviour, anxious attachment and aggressive detachment, or mixed; relates to adult personality disorders "Anxiety is commoner as a neurotic symptom in women than in men;..delinquency in men"

At 11 and 12, same patterns show up as in first 5 years

Fulltime care in third year controversial and caution needed.

Maccoby & Feldman on 20 kibbutzim 1972

P70 kibbutz children had similar reactions of anxiety at 2 yrs when mothers left room for 3 minutes, play decreased by quarter in presence of strangers; or 1/2 alone; crying worse from 5% with mother to 30% with stranger, to 53% alone

P71 anger expressed at each age when mother absent: 19% at 2 years, 31% at 2 1/2, 14% at 3; anxious searching at 2-2 1/2; agitated movement alone, or frozen or both alternately; babies distressed in 3 minutes

Marvin 1972 2yr old boys as upset as Ainsworth's 1 year olds; 4 yr old girls "much more upset by being left alone", an 'unexpected' result (NICHD 1997)

Lee & Marvin found sex differences 'not easy to interpret'.

P83 : "experimental separations lasting longer than minutes are inadmissible in the case of human young"

P261 OK for very small groups a few mornings a week

P262 Blehar 1974 mid-class toddlers at 26 months in private day nurseries 8-12 hours per day

Tested against home-reared with "clear differences"

During mother's absence (Ainsworth Strange Situation) all explored less than when mother was present but noticeably less in older daycare children who cried more than home-cared "who hardly cried at all" and more than younger ones. On mother's return, daycare children avoided her more, especially 1 yr olds with insensitive mothers. Daycare children also avoided stranger more "such a finding is utterly at variance with the commonly expressed hope that daycare will make a child more adaptable and independent"

Moore 1971 found home-reared over-sensitive and timid kept at home till 5 years. Better to play with peers from 3 years in safety than stay with a "controlling and possessive mother".

P406 mother-child interaction in first year had good effects on desire to explore, concentrate and cooperate developing self-reliance in 2nd year and "a high degree of trust in his mother and enjoyment in her company"

P407 the more trustworthy the more secure the base, the more taken for granted, and its importance overlooked and forgotten

Immediately before the above section on daycare, Bowlby writes (p54):

"psychologists have (unintentionally) amassed evidence that to start nursery school much before the third birthday is for most children an undesirably stressful experience. The records, indeed, make it apparent that ignorance of the natural history of attachment behaviour, coupled with a misguided enthusiasm that small children should quickly become independent and 'mature' has resulted in practices that expose children, and their parents, to a great deal of unnecessary anxiety and distress".

Many of Bowlby's successors use his research selectively for their own purposes. Experts agree about the necessity for a warm, loving and continuous relationship with the prime carer, usually mother. Professor Schaffer quotes Mary Ainsworth at length (see App 5): **Love brings with it sensitivity. Insensitivity breeds insecurity**¹¹⁰ even refers to the need for a "**much more microscopic examination**" of the effects of a changing caregiver but paradoxically concludes that anyone can nurture at any time, as if the baby has suddenly morphed into a sack of potatoes. There is no discussion of how long – or brief - a **brief separation** might be, and even less reference, if any, to "**frequent and prolonged**". This is a very significant omission, especially if "*experimental separations lasting longer than minutes are inadmissible in the case of human young*".¹¹¹

It is almost beyond belief that babies were condemned to "**frequent and prolonged separations**" in variable group care by default.

Other studies

Diseases of poverty prevented many children attending primary school in the Twenties. The **McMillan nurseries** were a new venture to prevent disease and

counter tuberculosis in Britain. Great believers in sunshine, fresh air and exercise, the McMillan sisters set up several nurseries on a successful pattern at Deptford where 260 deprived toddlers enjoyed excellent fulltime nursery care at a cost of £12 a year each. The scheme was terminated by government at the end of the war.¹¹²

In the 1940s the **Hampstead nursery** studies of Melanie Klein, Anna Freud & Dorothy Burlingham observed babies of single or widowed mothers during World War II. Associated with other child specialists, they produced much research of high quality. The bond between mother and child was especially recorded; babies made a definite distinction between mothers and mother-substitutes. The pain of separation was also significant in both mothers and babies.¹¹³ The wisdom of separating single mothers from babies on a fulltime basis is questionable.¹¹⁴

The institutionalized environment of a day nursery cannot be compared with a nursery at home; by definition, a day nursery is an institution. Moreover it is an institution dependent upon the **frequent and prolonged** absence of mothers who could not afford the fees otherwise, most day nurseries today being operated for profit. Research shows private day nurseries are inferior.¹¹⁵ Quality of care is very debatable in view of the legal requirement for only one annual inspection,¹¹⁶ even with minor additions under the *Care Standards Act 2000*. Low pay and poor conditions guarantee frequent changes of staff, a known risk factor for attachment.¹¹⁷

Preferring to ignore Bowlby's warnings on the dangers of separation, British childcare experts looked elsewhere for reassurance that babies could benefit from group care. America leads the field with experimental welfare schemes for the poor.

Publicly-funded American projects with group care like the **Perry Preschool/High Scope** were treatments to alleviate the ill-effects of poverty, namely, crime. Deprived three and four year olds were given closely monitored daycare six hours a day. Mothers, mostly single parents, were visited at home and encouraged to attend daycentres. As a result the criminality of their children was reduced by 50% by the age of 27 with fewer under-14 pregnancies and more college entries at a saving of \$7 for every \$1 invested in the scheme. Significantly: *"females treated....had significantly higher rates of high school graduation."* General cognitive and educational skills remained poor, however.¹¹⁸ **Babies were not part of this study.**

The **Abecedarian** project,¹¹⁹ at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA, treated deprived babies from 3 months to school age, 8 hours a day, 50 weeks a year. This allowed mothers to stay in education and/or work. Early results showed improved cognitive skills although *"African American males are especially vulnerable to poor school performance"*. However, at 21 years there was no reduction in criminality.¹²⁰ High quality of care did not improve moral values. ***Failure to replicate the Perry Preschool's reduction in crime and delinquency was disappointing, especially in light of the stronger intellectual and academic benefits found in the Abecedarian study.***¹²¹

A **Swedish** study¹²² is often quoted by *Daycare Trust*: *"Children who entered publicly funded daycare before the age of one performed better...."* Professor Andersson confirmed that only one-third of the study were babies under one year old. This very

small study of about 120 was therefore not conclusive for babies. The study concluded that the home background was more important than the care received.¹²³

There can be no comparison between experimental research providing intensive remedial treatment for deprived inner city children and ill-regulated private daycare of variable quality. Yet publicly-funded welfare schemes for the criminal poor are used as examples to prove the benefits of '*Childcare for All*', whether public or private.

The lack of ethics in pursuing policies that are unproven, especially concerning babies, and the use of publicly funded, foreign, welfare schemes to promote private care¹²⁴ in Britain demonstrate the lack of real professionalism in childcare. Since a duty of care must be presumed on the part of all concerned, nobody in the entire industry can claim innocence¹²⁵. All are guilty of the grossest form of cruelty by default.

National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (USA)

The largest study of childcare so far completed in America is the NICHD longitudinal survey¹²⁶ covering all types of care including private daycare. In 1997 the panel of 19 female and 4 male experts found "***significant main effects of maternal sensitivity and responsiveness***" and "***boys experiencing many hours in care and girls in minimal amounts of care somewhat less likely to be securely attached***". Most recent reports have been controversial, finding **aggression, disobedience and other behaviour problems** as the children have grown older. Bowlby predicted this in his research on *Effects of Substitute Daily Care*, quoted above. He also correctly predicted problems with *kibbutz* children, as above.

CONCLUSION

"You can take the child out of the slum, but can you take the slum out of the child?" Jesse Jackson

Bowlby should be given the consideration he deserves. Maternal sensitivity and responsiveness remain key factors in the development of the human infant. The longer mothers and babies are separated, the greater the distance between them. Mothers need support in "the most important job in the world" and babies need fathers. Fathers are essential for boys and for balance. Families need help to survive. Upsetting the family equilibrium upsets everyone. Even experts agree that nothing affects a child so much as the home and the people within it. Criminal environments produce criminals. Environments must be changed and family life encouraged.

Research is urgently needed on the effects of wartime deprivation and successful emergency measures to counter its effects on children and families. New, imaginative approaches are needed to channel the idealism and ambitions of youth into creative

and socially constructive activities. Measures might include the provision of driving licences only to holders of GCSE Maths and English certificates! No pain, no gain.

In view of the lonely nature of modern motherhood and of the dangers to children in having depressed parents, it is essential to provide regular home visits and child centres in every community for respite, parent education and part-time care. Babies should not be left for frequent and prolonged periods. Common sense, really.

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Problems with Boys - Research Module No 1

Appendix 1

Child negligence by authorities

12.01.01 National media Victoria Climbié 6 yr old killed after months of torture, 128 scars, left in bin bag in bath to freeze, total failure of authorities inc. Brent, Hackney, Harringey SS, police, hospitals and odd churches

07.03.01 Times News in Brief Derbyshire SS failed Chelsea Brown, 2, dead with 47 injuries at hands of father, jailed for life. 27 visits over 4 months failed to notice

09.03.01 Times More than 50 West African girls 'kidnapped' from council care to work as prostitutes in Italy. 59 have disappeared from foster homes and council care in W Sussex in 4 years

27.03.01 Times: *Transsexual was killed and set adrift on airbed*. Mismanagement of foster care by Essex SS resulted in murder of child's father by foster carer.

Nursery teacher Helen Lamb, 27, broke 15-month old's arm and given suspended sentence at Minshull Street Crown Court, Manchester (regulation by Social Services)

29.03.01 Times: 'Police childcare checks 'flawed'. Commons Home Affairs Select Committee wanted postponement of Criminal Records Bureau due to open in Merseyside July because of 15%-65% error rates and delays in updating.

12.04.01 Times : *Expel aggressive three-year-olds, teachers demand* - children were biting, kicking, scratching and screaming which continued throughout school unless steps were taken early; one in ten 3 or 4 year olds now so uncontrollable they need one-to-one help outside school; they have low self-esteem, lack of confidence, showing aggressive behaviour, no understanding of right and wrong; East Midlands reported 85 incidents already in school year inc headbutting, punching, kicking and holding a teacher in a headlock.

Mike Tomlinson, Chief Inspector, said 1 million days lost each year unauthorised, 6 million **authorised by parents**; 80% kids found with parents at shopping malls.

12.04.01 Times: *Abuser may have preyed on hundreds of boys* - swimming instructor William Hook 63, jailed 10 years at Kingston Crown Ct, worked at Shirley Oaks Children's Home, Shirley, Surrey council home used by Lambeth and Southwark. 2-year olds in nurseries at care homes not safe from him. Tower Hamlets also involved. Lambeth SS director said it 'could happen again'

11.05.01 Times: State liable to pay children abused by parents. SS no longer enjoy immunity and must pay according to EU Human Rights. Ben Emmerson QC for four abused by parents 1987-92 in Bedfordshire.

26.05.01 Times: Holiday mother dumped children North Shields - 3 sons left at home in filthy conditions while she (29) flew to Malta for a week. Jailed for 15 months

02.07.01 Times : Doctor Paul Collier 42 of Lympstone, Devon, consultant dermatologist at Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital charged with indecent photos of kids

27.07.01 BBC Look North: further charges of abuse at a children's home on Humberside, St Williams at Weeton and a new enquiry following earlier convictions of two priests.

02.10.01 Times report by Joanna Bale on death of Lauren Wright, 6 yrs : *Mistakes let girl die, says social work chief* David Wright, Norfolk SS Director. Lauren died May 2000 after being punched by stepmother (Tracey Wright, school playground assistant) while father 'turned blind eye' to continuous cruelty, both convicted of manslaughter and wilful neglect at Norwich Crown Court, sentencing due in 4 weeks. Neighbours complained but SS, teachers and hospital failed to act. Herts & Norfolk SS both involved, with regular visits, but failed her

09.10.01 Times: Two former Essex care workers jailed for 14 and 2 years for sex abuse at residential children's homes in Basildon and Hornchurch 1967-85

12.10.01 Times p20 *Council carers 'put children at risk in B&B'* Chairman of Victoria Climbié inquiry Lord Laming re Brent council, one of 3 councils involved. Kosovan refugee kids being left to fend for themselves, or with strangers, by Brent.

23.10.01 The Times: *Foster parents beat and bit boy, 4, to death* 54 injuries by Simon and Michelle McWilliam jailed 8 years at Lewes Cr Ct. Visited 20 times by SS in E Sussex who believed stories of self-harm.

26.10.01 Times: *Killer stepmother gets 15 years' jail* Welney, Norfolk Tracey Wright sentenced for manslaughter and wilful neglect at Norwich Crown Court by Judge David Mellor "despite being under the protection of social workers, doctors and teachers", Lauren Wright 6 yrs, died in May 2000

01.12.01 Times News in Brief: *Parents to sue* Lambeth Council for negligence after death of daughter Bunmi Shagaya, 11, of Brixton, on school trip to France in 2000

News in Brief: Anne Bristow, director of Haringey SS, summoned to answer allegations about missing files in Climbié inquiry

04.12.01 Eastern Daily Press: West Norfolk man, Alexander Knight, on short-term contract to Norfolk SS convicted of indecency/photos of young girls

Times News in Brief: Nearly £3M compensation to be paid by Surrey CC to Thomas Harrison, irreversibly brain damaged after shaking by childminder at 6 mths

19.12.01 Times: *Childminder faces jail for shaking baby boy to death* Linda Bayfield, 54, at Old Bailey, unanimous verdict of manslaughter of Joshua Osborne, 8 months; December 1986 acquitted at Croydon Cr Ct of ABH against 3-year old girl. Continued registered childminder at Addiscombe, S London. Nine complaints recorded in 25 years re "inappropriate chastisement".

Problems with Boys – Research Module No 1

Appendix 2

TB Risk to Babies

06.02.01 The Times reported Newham 'Britain's TB capital' as TB returns to UK, 9 cases in Devon pub. Multidrug resistant cases occur; over half are immigrants.

24.03.01 Times headline: Britain facing serious TB outbreak

03.05.01 Times reported Teacher with TB at Whitehall Primary School, Leicester.

09.05.01 BBC R4 news report of TB at a private nursery in Wandsworth. A teacher collapsed. 30 infants involved.

10.05.01 Times News in Brief: Children at Wee Ones private nursery in Wandsworth, SW London, may have TB – several had shadows on lungs after X-rays; at least 3 between 2–5 have symptoms awaiting confirmation; 30 had tests at St George’s Hospital, Tooting. Teacher collapsed on break in Wiltshire. Only one child completely cleared so far.

04.06.01 Monday BBC Health Watchdog reported many cases of TB mistaken for Asthma. 40 infected at Wee Ones Nursery, Wandsworth; 11 in Wales; 200 in Leicester; one student at Crown Hills Community College contracted TB in April 2000 and was not diagnosed till recently having infected many more. 90% students had BCG vaccination but only 50-70% effective; 159 infected, 59 with TB (it isn’t serious until lungs are affected). Archie Paterson a pupil at Wandsworth, about 3 has it. Jane-Anne Gunson diagnosed positive after asthma treatment, half lung removed.

11.10.01 Times: *London has twice as many TB cases as New York* over 3000 pulmonary TB ‘not very infectious’ and only a quarter are infectious. Medical interest “considerable” over 3 recent school outbreaks inc nursery in Wandsworth where teacher caught it abroad

30.11.01 BBC R4 PM asylum seekers in large numbers, Afghans the biggest group. Times article about high incidence of TB in Afghanistan due to women living in cramped, unhealthy conditions.

Other disease risks

13.01.02 BBC reported rise in exotic diseases, many deadly and without cure, due to foreign travel and alien contact

Note: Nursery staff underpaid, underqualified, working in warm, humid conditions, badly regulated – typical jobs for poor migrants

Problems with Boys – Research Module No 1

Appendix 3

Paedophile risks

20.01.01 The Times: ***Perfect kibbutz lifestyle hid rape and child abuse***

20.01.01 Times: Police anti-paedo squads lack resources: Det Chief Super Derrick Kelleher ***says “child abusers have infiltrated the childcare system with some in senior positions”***. Metropolitan Police unit SO5 for paedophile investigations lacks computer skills.

25.01.01 The Times: 10,000 Childline calls from victims of sexual abuse last year

09.03.01 Times More than 50 West African girls 'kidnapped' from council care to work as prostitutes in Italy. So far 59 have disappeared from foster homes and council care in W Sussex in past 4 years, mostly from Nigeria. Probably gangs organizing both ends of scheme, becoming asylum seekers.

29.03.01 Times reporter Richard Ford, Home Correspondent, reported: **'Police childcare checks 'flawed'**. Commons Home Affairs Select Committee wanted postponement of Criminal Records Bureau due to open in Merseyside July because of **15%-65% error rates and delays** in updating. Robin Corbett MP, chairman of committee. Update 14.01.02 BBC R4: Will not be operational before March 2002.

12.04.01 Times: **Abuser may have preyed on hundreds of boys** report by Ian Cobain: swimming instructor William Hook 63, jailed 10 years at Kingston Crown Ct Cupboard shrine with altar and photos of boys and girls. **2-year olds in nurseries not safe**. Tower Hamlets also involved. **Lambeth SS director said it 'could happen again'**. Further investigations continue. Women also involved.

27.07.01 BBC Look North reported further charges of abuse at a children's home on Humberside, St Williams at Weeton and a new enquiry following earlier convictions of two priests

16.11.01 Times report by Gillian Harris, Scotland reporter: **Computer consultant member of Wonderland internet paedo ring freed due to legal technicality**: Andrew Aspinall, 42, charged with 7500+ images of kiddieporn Sept 1998 at home in W Lothian. Civilian not named on search warrant. Aspinall now in Gumley, Leics. 7 men jailed in Feb at Kingston Cr Court, 6 suicides out of 180 members, **"the elite of the world's paedophiles"**. Aspinall pleaded not guilty.

29.11.01 Worldwide kiddieporn raids in 19 countries found 10,000 paedophile operations with 320,000 pix on computers, but **only issued 130 warrants, 10 in UK**.

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Babies abused for pictures. Ops took 10 months. Demon Internet helped Det Super Peter Spindler.

2pp feature Reportage by P-P Hartnett on paedophiles, talking to Giles Whittell, book called *"Sixteen"* pub Sceptre 2001 evidence from men convicted of offences against boys: Polish parents, father left when boy was 5; mother sent him to good public school where two masters picked on him at 12, caning often and ritualistically, with erections; he grew up as a fetishist, using boys in master-pupil relationships, liked 13 year olds best. Of 12 in British prisons, much in common: low self-esteem among contemporaries, craving power and control over youngsters. Another man went to public school and was secretly gay, not bullied or ill-treated, became addicted to

porn, then boys, hanging out in pools, 4 a day in summer, meet boys, 3 F's: make friendship, seal friendship, abuse friendship 'a series of little love affairs'; very excited about the lowering of consent to 16, **excuse to "go young"**. Prison didn't change him but he was going to **make up for lost time**. Images important to fantasize in a "long yearning stage" prior to crime. All had magazine cut-outs, esp **Vogue Bambini**; all had struggled with urges before giving in with abandon.

04.12.01 Eastern Daily Press: West Norfolk man, Alexander Knight, on short-term contract to Norfolk SS convicted of indecency/photos of young girls at Norwich Cr Ct.

06.01.02 AOL news **PAEDOPHILE 'RAPED INMATE AT TOP-SECURITY JAIL'**
A notorious paedophile is under investigation accused of raping a prisoner in the jail where he is serving two life sentences. Sidney Cooke, 73, is alleged to have sexually assaulted a "very vulnerable" young prisoner at Whitemoor prison in Cambridgeshire. The attack is said to have taken place last autumn and police say an allegation was reported to them by prison staff in December.

Nearly three years ago, Cooke was taken into custody for his own safety after being freed from jail where he was serving a sentence for the manslaughter of a 14-year-old boy. A year later he was accused of abusing two young brothers he befriended while working on fairgrounds more than 30 years ago. He admitted 10 offences against the youngsters during a hearing at Manchester Crown Court and was given two life sentences.

During the 1980s, Cooke led a gang which was suspected of being responsible for the killing of nine young boys during sex orgies. The former farm worker and his fellow paedophiles were based in a flat in Hackney, east London. They were suspected of hiring rent boys or snatching children off the streets before subjecting them to horrifying sexual torture. Cooke was convicted of killing 14-year-old Jason Swift, from Hackney.

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Appendix 4

Bullying

25.01.01 The Times reported 22,000 *bullied*; **bullying 'still the greatest misery for children'** according to Childline calls from victims, the fourth year running; also 14,000 kids counselled for physical abuse

07.09.01 Letter to DT Burke challenging him for domestic data and accusing him of intimidation, threats and bullying. CC Charity Comm, NAO.

28.11.01 *Bullies drive girl to suicide* by Helen Studd Elaine Swift of Hartlepool saved her younger sister's life by donating bone marrow 4 years ago but publicity caused bullying at old school and new; she took over 100 Paracetamol over 2 weeks and died despite liver transplant; physical attacks included setting light to her hair.

Reported other suicides recently, 10 year old in Oxon hanged herself, 13yr old Morgan Musson (Nottghm) overdosed after bullying because of his 6' height. Email from bullied boy's mother.

30.11.01 Times supplement interview with Jonathan Franzen, successful new author in NY of *The Corrections* about economic slump, pushed by his civil engineer father at school, "miserable at junior high....a late bloomer, short with squeaky voice and glasses, braces and dowdy clothes, and enormous vocabulary. It was social death....grew up with an overdeveloped sense of empathy and a morbidly heightened sensitivity of what was going on in other people."

01.12.01: David Mattin, Camb graduate, at average comp, had to forget politeness, willingness to learn as 'social death', in middle of council estate; most kids from council houses and hated better off kids from suburbs outside "We learnt it was all right to do the bare minimum, to keep the teachers off your back....Praise was embarrassing... By year 9, at 14, none of us was a child any more. Cheek towards teachers had turned into aggression. Teasing had turned into verbal abuse and physical violence. ..Peer pressure meant that almost everyone had given up the desire to achieve academically or to learn anything" **Nobody squealed about bullies.** There is a smaller underclass, disenfranchised, abandoned by the state system with unsupportive parents who will shout at staff if challenged, but do not support children's learning. They see no point in trying to aspire to things valued by others.

22.12.01 Times report by David Brown: ***Pupil jailed for 12 months for fatally punching boy, 15. 8 months of relentless bullying*** at S London school ended with manslaughter conviction for 16 year old Tristan Gordon. Jude, nephew of John Fashanu, footballer, recently arrived from Nigeria, **was "bright, ambitious.....bullied because he was seen as being too academic"**

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Appendix 5

Jamaica, West Indies, a basket case

Personal observations made in Jamaica, West Indies, in the Sixties immediately prior to Independence in 1962 confirmed the effects of family breakdown amid poverty.

Now described by BBC Radio 4 (03.01.02) as "*among the world's most dangerous streets*", few places were considered safe for pedestrians even four decades ago. Young men roamed for easy pickings apparently without morals or conscience. Visitors to the island were warned to leave nothing that could be picked up and carried away, even garden implements. Burglar bars over windows were standard but did not prevent robberies. Supple youths greased themselves to slip through bars

only 8” apart. In a sub-tropical climate it was a common mistake to leave windows open at night if the house was not air-conditioned. Louvered windows proved only a partial deterrent because poles with hooks could be inserted to lift clothing containing wallets. Razors were then attached to the poles to prevent angry victims snatching back their belongings. Warnings of cannabis-enraged sugar-cane cutters were rife.

Anecdotal evidence maintained that men passed from village to village impregnating girls without responsibility; it was believed that sex with a virgin cured venereal disease. Babies were born diseased and without hope. Single mothers traditionally left their babies with rural relatives, usually grandmothers, to find work in the towns. They had virtually no education and the work was poorly paid, usually domestic. Many were ignorant of basics, referring to their thumb as a “finger”. A maid was paid a pittance and provided with food and a room, often behind the garage of the house with a very rudimentary shower and lavatory. The room was bare concrete. She would prepare meals, shop at local markets for vegetables, wash clothes by hand, and spread them on bushes to dry. She would mind toddlers for her employer and teach them local lore. Wise parents did not leave small children for long periods.

Caring for the children of the house was considered a perk. Jamaicans appeared to love English children although they rarely saw their own. Whether this affection was because white children were usually intrinsic to employment or out of genuine fondness is difficult to determine. There are enough records of hired carers who did not love children to indicate the affection was genuine. The affection was reciprocated by the children who responded to gentle control when taken out walking.

Had the children been badly behaved it is doubtful the happy relationship could have continued. Most English children in the Sixties were raised in two-parent families with strict limits on behaviour, both parents applying discipline as they had themselves received from their own parents. Smacking was occasionally used but more often the moral disapproval described by Charles Darwin¹ was sufficient. Without a stable family environment such discipline was – and is - lacking in Jamaica.

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Appendix 6

Case Studies: What makes a terrorist?

Poverty, disability, peer pressure, parental neglect, may all cause alienation. If parent-child bonding is weak, alienation is almost certain. If parental control is severe, alienation is sure. If parents say “We love you so much we are sending you away”, alienation follows confusion. A confused child is prey to bad influences and easily led astray. If a child feels helpless because adults do not listen to him, apathy will result. An insecure child will be fearful and timid. Older, he will try to control his world and demand too much of those around him. Nothing and nobody will ever be good enough. He will expect evil.

Alienation is certain to create rebels who may become terrorists in time. Osama Bin Laden and his mother allegedly were regarded as inferior in Arab society, Mohammed Atta could never please his harsh father however hard he tried; Richard Reid was a drifter. A sense of inadequacy is common. Young men often have high ideals combined with natural aggression. The absence of proper channels of expression may lead to gangs, political extremism or religious fanaticism, Nazism or Taleban. The promise of power is a strong addiction to the powerless. Whether rich or poor, boys need sensitive mothers, strong fathers. However, good schooling can ameliorate parental deficiencies.

Successful businessman Donald James had a tyrannical mother and easy-going father. Despite a middle-class home, Donald suffered beatings from his mother whose instant fury was no doubt the result of her own emotionally deprived childhood. Left with servants while her mother played the piano and father worked, Dorothy unleashed her rage on her younger son, whose nature resembled her own. As a youth Donald made a bomb, losing a limb when it exploded prematurely. As an adult he harshly controlled his family and held them in thrall to his tantrums. At work he is quiet, polite and very efficient. He believes good schooling made him a good citizen although he still feels the urge to bomb people. His sons are well-adjusted model citizens with families.

Mark Leech is an ex-convict and founder of “Unlock” prisoners’ charity. His early life was marked by neglect and poverty. His rebellion landed him in prison many times, where he continued to provoke authority, eventually becoming an expert on penal law. His autobiography has a preface by Judge William Pickles. Mark is now a respected writer and broadcaster.

Emotional poverty can be as disabling as material poverty, if not more so. Poor children raised in loving homes do not become terrorists or criminals; rich children from unloving homes seek identity and self-worth where they find it.

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Appendix 7

Maternal sensitivity

Schaffer: p88 *Mothering* Fontana 1977 quotes **Mary Ainsworth** on a ***sensitivity-insensitivity scale***:

“This scale deals with the mother’s responses to the infant’s signals and communications. The sensitive mother is able to see things from her baby’s point of view. She is tuned-in to receive her baby’s signals: she interprets them correctly, and she responds to them promptly and appropriately.

Although she nearly always gives the baby what he seems to want, when she does not she is tactful in acknowledging his communication and in offering an acceptable alternative. She makes her responses temporally contingent upon the baby's signals and communications. The sensitive mother, by definition, cannot be rejecting, interfering, or ignoring.

The insensitive mother, on the other hand, gears her interventions and initiations of interactions almost exclusively in terms of her own wishes, moods and activities. She tends either to distort the implications of her baby's communications, interpreting them in the light of her own wishes or defences, or not to respond to them at all."

The second paragraph reflects the insensitivity, if not immaturity, of many 'experts'. Most female specialists and media types have vested interests in childcare although few admit to leaving babies in fulltime day nurseries. Most researchers at London U Institute of Education have no small children, if any.

Childcare is riddled with hypocrisy, cant, secrecy, arrogance, bullying, intimidation, dishonesty and greed. Big money means big corruption. Investment brokers Teather & Greenwood solicited funds for Childcare Corporation 1-4 while under investigation for non-disclosure of essential information relating to other business and were severely reprimanded and fined by the financial authorities in 2002. Alchemy invested £30M in childcare forecasting 12% annual return. The only sensitivity involved is for profitability.

Professors and others do not answer questions; neither do they accept apologies. An American commented: Childcare is full of shit. He was right.

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Appendix 8

Early Years

05.01.02 Radio 4 Weekend Woman's Hour: **women want daughters** a) because they are easier to handle in the event of divorce and b) because **boys mean trouble**.

04.12.01 BBC TV News **Boys falling behind with reading; one-third never read for pleasure; R4 Desert Island Discs: Jamie Oliver finds books "too boring"**

03.06.01 Sunday Times: News 1.9: **Nursery boys 'devalued' by female teachers** report by Jonathan Leake on research with American, British and other western

nursery kids by Dr Leonard Sax, child psychologist in Am Psychological Assn journal – **lack of men in their lives affects boys.**

Speight & Wynne re Children Act *Arch.Dis.Child* 2000;82:192-196 'Is the Children Act failing severely abused and neglected children?'

P293 'impending crisis' with crime, violence etc, and problems with discipline

1970 1.6M offences

1992 5.6M (total crimes 1992 15M)

parenting of kids most intense in first 5 years

'basic security essential for mental health and self-esteem'

P294 Love – care and commitment – no apologies for the word 'love' – hardly to be found in the scientific literature. **"Children need to feel that they are loved consistently and unconditionally, and attachment behaviour is the natural consequence of this.....(Even) If the deprivation is partial, the child will be at risk of developing insecure attachments with subsequent disturbance of social and emotional relationship. Unfortunately some child care professionals seem to have lost sight of the crucial importance of "emotional deprivation" as highlighted by Bowlby. "** Maybe a test is needed for **"emotional failure to thrive"** - criminal behaviour can be predicted early and should provide excellent opportunities for preventive strategy

Farrington and West Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development found teacher's assessment of "troublesomeness" at 8-10, confirmed by Norwegian studies of bullies. **60% of bullies committed crimes by 24. Poor parenting** the chief cause.

Poverty alone not the reason, because **"Good parenting protects against the acquisition of a criminal record"**. 300% increase in crime over 30 years

Official costs of crime in 1992 £9B, a 100% increase since 1978

Pollak, Margaret: Textbook of Developmental Paediatrics 1993 Churchill Livingstone
p24 failure to thrive usually emotional; malnourishment can be followed by quick 'catch up'

p29 aggression aggravated by rejection by parents and then society; dysfunctional family life leads to shyness, timidity, awkwardness and inhibited moral development
behaviour problems more common than psychoses or disorders but **more common in boys** preschool and school; **adolescents equally problematic**

p30 **nonverbal tests better for maths/science ability: 'many eminent scientists and engineers were considered backward'** (see Autism/Asperger)

p34 "Communication begins at birth" with babbling, **differs between ma and pa**

p38 environmental effects on language and adaptive devlopt begin earlier than thought, i.e. **by 7-9 months "Many more boys affected than girls" esp in inner cities**

P48 **gender has a more far-reaching effect than thought, boys more aggressive; girls more anxious; girls more sympathetic carers; boys more at risk of disorders, accidents (see School Accidents), less resistant to infections**

Babies born to mums under 20 and over 30 at more risk from environmental factors

P52 early experiences affect later life

P54 **“Self-confidence and ability to obtain and hold down a job” are big benefits of proper devlopt**

Family Life p55 **marital disharmony affects boys more than girls, with antisocial behaviour and delinquency common**

Divorce causes aggression esp in boys, and lasts longer, also noncompliance and suspicion of peers

P56 Harsh, inconsistent, unfair discipline leads to alcoholism and depression later

P57 preschoolers in low socio-economic area who were encouraged by parents to be creative and adventurous had “most effective learning skills”

Young fathers most prone to abuse, often picking on one scapegoat child

P57 mother-child relationship “of great importance to both”

Maternal depression in first year bad for development (‘absent parent’)

P58 1979 M Pollak study of 200 3-year olds divided in two groups: one for material welfare, other for emotional. Inadequate housing had no effect; **inadequate care affected everything except motor development**

1976 Newcastle study showed “most important factor...quality of mother’s care in first three years”; financial aspects not the whole story

P90 Maternal depression more common with 3 kids under 14. (See Home-Start)

“One of the quickest ways to produce symptoms of insanity is to isolate a person as totally as possible”

213 boys have more friends than girls

216 too many carers causes defective bonding

fathers very important as providers, support and for one-on-one re/ship with baby

217 interested parents have better children; family stress a big negative;

p218 schools very important Sylva 1989 found more problems from daycare centres than educative preschool

Family stress caused problems, boys more than girls

220 results same in Newcastle and USA; Schoolers 28% referred, 2/3 found to have emotional disturbance; age 7, 27% maladjusted, 71% hostile and difficult, withdrawn, anxious, restless, **boys more so, even in China**

p221 **boys become anti-social**: girls neurotic. Adolescents 20% with 'significant psychological problems

p226 Intervention can help prevent problems; **all children should feel wanted**; parenting should be taught; accidents prevented; special counselling for twins; parental involvement; grandparents also

Melhuish, E:

Borge & Melhuish: International Journal of Behavioural Development 1995 18

(1) 23-42 A Longitudinal Study of Childhood Behaviour Problems, Maternal Employment and Day Care in a Rural Norwegian Community: *behaviour problems...influenced by gender and intelligence; teachers' perceptions indicated early maternal employment associated with higher levels of problems; mothers did not see same problems*

Miller, Alice: *Banished Knowledge* Virago 1990 p46 "child learns cruelty not by watching TV but always by suffering"

LIGHT, PAUL: The Development of Social Sensitivity_ 1979 CUP (Southampton Uni Dept of Psychology)

See 1971 Garner, Percy et al on "sex differences in behaviour impulsivity and attainment in young children in Jnl of Ch Psycholo and Psychia 12. 261-71

P28 social interaction at home a major setting, parental discipline inductive, produced moral superiority in children

1970 "*advanced moral development*" due to reasons and consequences given; punishment-oriented associated with poor moral development

P86 **boys showed "significant inverse relation between intro time and completion"** on simple task – **differences in maternal education and child's IQ immaterial**

p88 **boys given more intro time did better** and both sexes better where mother allowed mistakes before correcting and praised more, **bearing no relation to education or class**

sensitive mothers had better role-taking kids; social controls not related to class; concessions and bargaining not related to class

Ch 6 Follow-up at 6 years at Cambridge study

Qualitative differences in adjustment and interaction between mother and babe in first year very important for relationship see Richards and Bernal 1972-5

Heinicke, C & Westheimer, I and Eliz Wolpert: ***Brief Separations* Longman 1965**

Attachment insecurity is associated with a wide range of psychiatric disorders

Bowlby Vol 2: *Separation – Anxiety and Anger* [see discussion of Bowlby]

P11 “What is believed essential for mental health is that the infant and young child should experience a warm, intimate and continuous relationship with his mother (or permanent mother-substitute) in which both find satisfaction and enjoyment “

length of separation proportionate to the detachment and clinging later; adults have same traits, intensely demanding, anxiety and anger when needs not met, neurotic/psychopathic, emotionless

P13 “presence or absence of mother figure is itself a condition of the greatest significance in determining a child’s emotional state”

P54 “*psychologists have (unintentionally) amassed evidence that to start nursery school much before the third birthday is for most children an undesirably stressful experience. The records, indeed, make it apparent that ignorance of the natural history of attachment behaviour, coupled with a misguided enthusiasm that small children should quickly become independent and ‘mature’ has resulted in practices that expose children, and their parents, to a great deal of unnecessary anxiety and distress”.*

Modern Perspectives in International Child Psychiatry (Vol 3 of 5 of Modern Perspectives in Psychiatry) ed. John Howells, Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh 1969

P41 **boys more prone to childhood illnesses** 21.1%, girls 9.1% 1950-60s

84 “a major developmental move in becoming a mother”

Bibing: baby’s sex a major issue with American and Japanese; Newton found maternal women preferred girls; **tomboys preferred boys**

V Fathering – John G Howells (Ipswich Hosp)

Greatly neglected; paternal tenderness a form of mothering, not masculine but a virtue of marriage/re/ship; challenges accepted opinions, esp Bowlby; mother and father both products of an ‘intimate emotional experience’

P126 mother accepts father, and his child “one can compensate for the other” esp in bottle-fed society and father influences attitudes to newborn

P138 **Soviet fathers told “You are not only a citizen. You are also a Father” who must know child “from earliest years”, his likes and dislikes; “If you are rude at home..or insult his Mother” you are bringing them up badly**

P140 **father’s absence has great ill effects “*makes children dependent on mother’s idea of father*”**

P141 War caused great stress on return; college kids had sex problems, **some boys effeminate, clinging, with problems with peers; could talk to mothers more easily than fathers**

p143 the warmer the parent the more effective the punishment

p143 **57% Class 1 fathers ‘highly participant’; 61% white collar, 51% skilled manual; 55% class 4 + 36% cl 5; 44% mid-class pas “did everything” to help;**

21% all but nappies; 31% interested but “not helpful”; 4% non-part. **52% working class did everything**

p144 Oedipus peaks at 3-5th year love ma, hate pa

145 **Pa’s mental health vulnerable during pregnancy**; Jewish children’s eating problems related to weak fathers; delinquency closely related to pa’s absence in early ch’hood; schizophrenia in varied families; aggressive pas, passive mas and vice-versa; child must be seen in relation to whole family using “Family Relations Indicator” **“no ill chance that a child was given 2 parents, one was meant to compensate for the other”**

Conclusion: “less well-adjusted individuals enter childcare” pre-occupied with family problems

160 mother responds “to his every cry” (newborn); baby sucks for other comfort than hunger, “pleasure sucking”; 4th week smiles and **develops “rudiments of feeling” called trust**

p162 **sudden change may affect infant badly**

p167 marked difference between relaxed parents and “*emotionally more detached or absorbed in social or professional pursuits*” **“manifestly unhappy, retarded in speech and locomotion, and often with a variety of dissociated activities”** **“sleep too little, tend to be hyperactive...and frequently have eating problems”** **“apt to become either much more helplessly irritably dependent upon his mother or more detached”** with “*little impulse to love*”

191 good dvlopmt depends on “minimum of anxious-hostile coerciveness..in the early years”

Avoidance of anger and jealousy reduces risk of “repressed hatreds – of anxiety, anger and revengefulness”

Liselotti Frankl found neglect of early trauma long-lasting; accidents seen as failure in self-preservation; infants protected by mothers; toddlers develop self-preservation; but accident-proneness seen as symptom of anger against self instead of fantasising

IX Separation and Deprivation – J Howells

P255 MoHealth doc on separation under 5 could have “serious effect on the emotional growth of children” and neuroses – Ainsworth for WHO 196

258 2 groups of 37 kids at 6 ½ yrs found insensitive mothers caused neuroses

XXIII Bender, Laretta (NY)

676 Hoch (India) noted increase in **autism** where fathers were academics or military upset by social changes, from “empathetic symbiotic stage of culture into a more individualistic existence” causing personality disturbance in presence of organic brain disease – but Himalayan peasants had autistic kids who were breastfed till 4.

Childhood schizoid symptoms: **“apathy, anxiety, hypersensitivity, hyperactivity, distractibility and disturbance of impulse control” assumed to be caused by lack of “ego-nurturing experiences”**

XXVI Glidewell [Chicago]

School - produces some stress; kids more influenced by peers they like than those seen as more competent “Intervention of any sort at any point (can) ..produce effects in all the related parts” (by teachers) see Bronfenbrenner 1965

745 link between anxiety and low self-esteem

747 Boys and girls at school 1956 girls used intelligence less when social acceptance was lost; **boys when social power lost; boys had poorer relations with teachers and were seen by teachers to have more mental problems**; girls “more apt to respond to social pressure by conformity and more apt to ask teachers for help”

1966 St Louis County study found lower-cl boys 3% rarely withdrew socially, so rare that teachers regarded withdrawn boys as disturbed; 2/5ths mid-class boys withdrew; lower class girls 8% but seen also as severe; ¼ mid-class girls withdrew; mid-class white males in conflict due to pressure to be sociable and aggressive and has social power

slums produce different values from (mid-class) school; 1967 nursery black girls copied young maternal assertiveness but older maternal stoicism, avoiding success

Boys less influenced by mothers

749 1965 slum school, violent and sensational, but with a “pervasive sense of defencelessness”; each **child sought alliances with peers**, close ID with an “in-group”, full involvement in the “here and now”, resigned to future; lack of self-esteem and interpersonal skills caused by disturbance of developmental process

XXVII Sven Ahnsjo, Stockholm

Intro: “The great importance of the complete family for the development of a child’s personality is indisputable” and “normal family” best for security