



Nationaal  
Psychotrauma  
Centrum

# Generaties en trauma alertering

Updates 19 september 2023

**Familiepatronen kunnen worden overgedragen van generatie op generatie wat betreft gevoelens, gedragingen en herinneringen. In het onderbewuste worden herinneringen opgeslagen. Het zijn met name de niet verwerkte verlieservaringen en trauma's die apart worden opgeslagen en een individu kan sturen in het opnieuw creëren van situaties waar zijn of haar (voor)ouders zich in bevonden.**

**Regelmatig zet de ARQ-bibliotheek nieuwe publicaties over *Generaties en trauma* op deze lijst. Voor eventuele fulltext of voor eerdere updates kunt u ook mailen naar de [ARQ-bibliotheek](#). Deze alertering en meer vindt u ook in ons [themadossier Generaties en Trauma](#)**

Angeles, I. T., & Perkins, R. G. (2023). Intergenerational differences on resilience, sense of coherence, and self-efficacy coping of family during covid19 crisis: a salutogenic perspective. *Current Psychology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-023-05115-w>

The COVID-19 pandemic has afflicted people from all sectors of life, and families have faced unprecedented challenges. In this study, researchers explore how intergenerational disparities impact the self-efficacy coping and resilience of family members during a crisis. With family members of different ages forced to live together, the pandemic has tested the resilience and self-efficacy coping of each individual. Using a descriptive-correlational research design, the researchers examined the relationships between resilience behavior, sense of coherence, and self-efficacy in family members from different life-stage cohorts. Our findings show that resilience behavior is associated with Sense of Coherence, however, self-efficacy coping shows no variation by generation. Further analysis revealed unique strengths among Generation X and Boomers, who demonstrated greater resilience and a greater sense of coherence compared to other cohorts. In the context of salutogenesis, our work emphasizes the importance of intergenerational differences in fostering family mental health in times of crisis. Our research illuminates family coping mechanisms and attitudes at different life stages, making communities more resilient. This study can help build a more cohesive society where intergenerational support networks thrive and mental health is a priority for all generations. These insights can help future generations overcome challenges together.

El Moujabber, P., Homsy, V., Hallit, S., & Obeid, S. (2023). The generation that lived during/participated in the war and the generation that inherited it: association between veterans PTSD and adult offspring's emotional regulation strategies and alexithymia levels. *BMC Psychiatry*, 23(1), 599. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-023-05087-y>

The long-term repercussions that war can have on both war generations and post-war generations lack in the literature. It is imperative to understand the psychological consequences of the Lebanese Civil War that took place from 1975 to 1990, on the offspring of those who took part in it. Accordingly, the objective of this study was to assess the association between paternal/veterans PTSD and adult offspring's emotional regulation strategies and alexithymia levels, 30 years after the end of war.

Goswami, K. M., Smolka, K. M., Ahmed, A. E., & Ucbasaran, D. (2023). "We Are Still Here": The Everyday Work Of Coping With Intergenerational Trauma. *Academy of Management Proceedings*, 2023(1), 19134. <https://doi.org/10.5465/AMPROC.2023.200bp>

Coping, defined as “thoughts and behaviours used to manage the internal and external demands of situations that are appraised as stressful”, has been a research focus since Lazarus’s 1966 book, *Psychological Stress and the Coping Process*. However, while a fair amount of coping literature both in psychology and management focuses on discrete adverse events (for example, bereavement, job loss, COVID, etc.), there is little research on how everyday actors cope with chronic conditions of adversity like intergenerational trauma. Our qualitative study studies the context of Indigenous entrepreneurs in the Canadian Prairies and endeavors to answer the question – How do everyday actors (specifically, everyday entrepreneurs) cope with intergenerational trauma? We find that Indigenous entrepreneurs in the Canadian Prairies experience everyday (chronic) emotional hurt by virtue of intergenerational trauma. This necessitates deployment of everyday coping strategies which would help mitigate this hurt. Notwithstanding instances of maladaptive coping (e.g., addictions and alcoholism), we find that Indigenous entrepreneurs predominantly leverage two broad categories of adaptive intra-personal coping mechanisms – subversive humor and restorative storytelling – that “undo” some of the negative effects of chronic emotional hurt. In addition to intra-personal coping strategies, we also find a set of inter-personal communal coping strategies which implicate family and community members (for example, cultural ceremonies and storytelling). As we analyzed these strategies, we came to realize that these coping strategies serve as micro-processes which underpin both emotion-work and institutional-work, i.e. not only help with emotional work but also help with routine disruption and (re)-creation of alternative institutions. Consequently our findings have implications for both coping literature as well as social symbolic work literature.

Hyseni Duraku, Z., Jahiu, G., & Geci, D. (2023a). Intergenerational trauma and war-induced PTSD in Kosovo: insights from the Albanian ethnic group. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1195649.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1195649>

Introduction War has profound and deep-rooted ramifications for individuals and societies. War-induced post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is highly prevalent in Kosovo. This study aimed to obtain insights into the prevalence of perceived PTSD symptoms and their relation to the traumatic experiences of two generations: parents (survivors of the Kosovo War) and youth (children born after the Kosovo War), with an emphasis on the Albanian ethnic group. These experiences were then compared to understand intergenerational trauma. The study also aimed to identify the factors affecting PTSD prevalence, the role of social support, and the participants’ experience with mental health services. Method A total of 237 Kosovar Albanians (121 parents, 116 youth) from all seven districts of Kosovo were included in this study. Study variables were measured using the PTSD Checklist, the Life Events Checklist, Criterion A, and the Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support. Results The results revealed that the youth had significantly higher levels of perceived PTSD symptoms and lower levels of perceived support than their parents. Youth whose parents had PTSD were more prone to experiencing PTSD symptoms than those whose parents did not have PTSD. These youth also experienced significantly more traumatic situations, such as exposure to sudden violent death or accidental death, assault with a weapon, sexual assault, and captivity. Participants with perceived PTSD and lower perceived social support needed mental health interventions significantly more than those without PTSD symptoms. Discussion The findings emphasize the importance of addressing the intergenerational nature of PTSD and identifying factors affecting its prevalence, including social support and access to mental health services. The study underscores the need for a

comprehensive approach to examine the complex and diverse nature of PTSD and its impact on individuals, families, and communities, especially in conflict-prone or conflict-affected societies.

Hyseni Duraku, Z., Jahiu, G., & Geci, D. (2023b). Intergenerational trauma and war-induced PTSD in Kosovo: insights from the Albanian ethnic group. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1195649.

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Khalil Rahman, M. (n.d.). *Narratives of the Silenced: A Historical Analysis of the Intergenerational Effects of Sexual Trauma Within the Bengali Diaspora* - ProQuest. Retrieved September 14, 2023, from

<https://www.proquest.com/openview/d7893827087bda3a6f9f505eec3088fd/1?cbl=18750&diss=y&pg-origsite=gscholar&parentSessionId=Z1p6PGgqhft74QCKR%2FGWnohIGbL80CyHSIs6zjmbWQE%3D>

This study examines the intergenerational transmission of sexual trauma among Bengali immigrant women in the American diaspora. While members of these generations did not endure the atrocities of Bangladesh's Liberation War directly, they did inherit the experiences of their parents and cultural community. Three Bangladeshi-American women and two Bangladeshi women between the ages of 23 and 26 participated in psychodynamic interviews about their experiences with sexual assault. The interviews were analyzed using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis, focusing on both the content of the testimonies and the psychological process of constructing narratives. The analysis offers insight into themes such as patriarchal control, silence and betrayal, and the importance of testimony to a healing process. These narratives were examined in relation to insights from an initial pilot study involving Bengali community leaders and clinicians, existing psychoanalytic literature, and socio-historical writings on Bengali culture and history. Findings from this study may help inform the survivor

justice movement within the Bengali community and promote individual and collective healing. Limitations of the study are discussed, as well as suggestions for future research

Lamparter, U., Holstein, C., Nickel, S., & Wendell, A. (2021). ["And she turns around and sees it fully ..."] Psychological consequences in children of survivors of the "Hamburg Firestorm" (1943) in a systematic evaluation]. *Zeitschrift für Psychosomatische Medizin und Psychotherapie*, 67(4), 468–485.

<https://doi.org/10.13109/zptm.2021.67.4.468>

"And she turns around and sees it fully ..." Psychological consequences in children of survivors of the "Hamburg Firestorm" (1943) in a systematic evaluation Objectives: Is there a transmission of traumatic war experiences through the generations? In an interdisciplinary research project at Hamburg University psychoanalysts and historians investigated the long-term psychological effects of World War II bombing attacks in the "Hamburg Firestorm" (Operation Gomorrha) in 1943. In the frame of this work the paper asks for the psychological consequences in the following generation Methods: Evaluation of 45 completely transcribed life-historical interviews (28 female and 17 male of an average age of 50.2 years) with descendants of contemporary witnesses (at the time of the firestorm between 3 and 27 years old) by systematic diagnostic assessment. Results: There are no certain consequences for everyone. Most of the consequences occurred, when the mother was the contemporary witness and the child the daughter. Conclusion: Different assessments on the intergenerational consequences of experiences of violence in World War II can be explained by the heterogeneity of the findings.

Lubin, R., & Gusovsky, T. (2023). Acculturation and Mental Health. In *Strategies for Cultural Assimilation of Immigrants and Their Children: Social, Economic, and Political Considerations* (pp. 25–44). IGI Global.

<https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-4839-7.ch002>

The chapter's objective is to highlight the acculturation process and the impact of mental health and wellbeing on the individual. The long-lasting ramifications of historic and widespread trauma can transmit communally based trauma to future generations. The effects of severe hunger, war, or lack of resources within a community of one generation may lead to the transmission of negative consequences within individuals of that community within the following generation. This can be manifested as problems with self-esteem and identity, certain types of cognitive problems, preoccupation with death, affective problems, or problems in interpersonal relationships.

Naylor, S. (2023). *Inheriting stress: an examination of intergenerational epigenetic changes associated with trauma*.

[https://repository.rcsi.com/articles/journal\\_contribution/Inheriting\\_stress\\_an\\_examination\\_of\\_intergenerational\\_epigenetic\\_changes\\_associated\\_with\\_trauma/23985762/1](https://repository.rcsi.com/articles/journal_contribution/Inheriting_stress_an_examination_of_intergenerational_epigenetic_changes_associated_with_trauma/23985762/1)

Epigenetics is a rapidly advancing field of research offering insights into how cells are able to adapt to environmental changes. There remain large gaps in the research regarding the long-term effects and heritable nature of epigenetic changes. This review discusses how stress may stimulate epigenetic changes, why these changes may be adaptive or maladaptive, and the current evidence of heritability. Through the study of Holocaust survivors and their offspring, and the specific analyses of the genes FKBP5, 11β-HSD-2, and GR-1F, the article explores how epigenetic changes contribute to physiologic and pathological manifestations of stress. This information may contribute to improved outcomes for diseases and may reveal mechanisms to reverse the harmful effects of trauma.

Palgi, Y., Greenblatt-Kimron, L., Ben-Ezra, M., & Shrira, A. (2023). Trauma-related and risk factors associated with perceived exacerbation in psychological distress due to the Russo–Ukrainian war. *Psychiatry Research*, 328, 115451. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2023.115451>

This study examined trauma-related and other potential risk factors associated with perceived exacerbation in psychological distress among Israelis due to the Russo-Ukrainian War. Specifically, we assessed how vulnerability factors such as previous traumatic exposure, having relatives and friends affected by the war, media exposure, having a Holocaust familial background, lower levels of resilience, and probable posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and complex PTSD (CPTSD) are associated with perceived exacerbation in psychological distress. A random sample of 845 Israeli Jews aged 18-75 who reported exposure to at least one traumatic event participated in the study. Univariate logistic regression showed that Holocaust familial background, previous exposure to trauma, media exposure to the Russo-Ukrainian War, and probable diagnosis of PTSD or CPTSD are the main factors associated with perceived exacerbation in psychological distress. These results suggest that various traumatic factors associate with perceived higher psychological vulnerability to international conflicts, even when there is no direct personal threat. Practitioners should be aware of these factors among individuals exposed to trauma.

Peltonen, K., Gredebäck, G., Pollak, S. D., Lindskog, M., & Hall, J. (2023). The role of maternal trauma and discipline types in emotional processing among Syrian refugee children. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 32(8), 1487–1495. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-022-01962-3>

Stressful experiences in armed conflict incur intergenerational effects through parental behaviors with their children. A recent study reported that among Syrian refugee families, mothers' (but not fathers') post-traumatic stress (PTS) impacted children's emotional processing. In this study, we aim to shed further light on this phenomenon by analyzing how the parenting practices in the context of post-traumatic stress confers protection or risk for children's emotional processing. Participants were 6–18-year-old children (n = 212) and their mothers (n = 94), who fled from Syria and were residing in Turkish communities. We used the computer-based emotional processing task including photos of facial movements typically associated with different emotions to measure children's capacity for emotional processing. Mothers reported their PTS and the discipline types they use, as well as the contextual factors related to their refugee background. Linear mixed effect models were constructed first, to find out the discipline types that are most strongly associated with emotional processing of the child, and second, to examine whether these discipline types moderate the effect of maternal PTS on children's emotional processing. Finally, generalized linear models were constructed to examine which contextual factors are associated with the use of these discipline types by mothers. We found that spanking as a discipline type was associated with poorer child emotional processing, whereas withholding of media access was associated with better emotional processing. Younger and less religious mothers were more prone to use spanking. The study underlines the need for parenting programs alongside with efforts to address mental health issues among mothers living under armed conflict.

Roch, K. L. (2023). The mechanisms of influence in intergenerational trauma transmission from mother to baby after the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina: what have we learned since then? *European Psychiatry*, 66(S1), S179–S179. <https://doi.org/10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.431>

Introduction After the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina that lasted from 1992 to 1995, the populations gradually rebuilt their lives haunted by the spectrum of personal and collective painful souvenirs.



Regarding the children who were born after the war, some mothers would rather not talk about it to protect their children from what they might be feeling while others would definitely share what they have experienced to protect their children. Because the intergenerational transmission of war trauma from mother to baby has been poorly explored among populations who recently lived in a warzone, we sought to highlight the particularity of the interpersonal relations between the mother and her child in connection with maternal psychotrauma, by searching the factors of influence on the functioning of the dyad. Objectives The main objective of this study is to determine and conceptualize the modes of transmission of trauma from the study of mother-baby interactions in a Bosnian environment, after the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Methods In 2003, 40 mothers and their babies aged 2 to 36 months living in Sarajevo were enrolled in the study. Among these mothers, 31 lived in or near the warzone and 9 were either displaced in other areas of the country or were refugees in foreign countries. We assessed the level of severity of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) using the Clinician Administered PTSD Scale (Blake et al, 1998). In order to examine the quality of the mother-child dyads of mothers who lived through the war, we videorecorded a 10-minute free play of 23 dyads in their home environment. Then the interactions were coded using the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development observation grid by two independent raters. Results The results showed that all mothers who lived through the war presented post-traumatic symptoms but only half of them showed a PTSD. Videotaped observations of mother-child interactions during playtimes revealed that their interactions are less linked to the mother's PTSD than to the influence of PTSD on maternal attitudes and thereby extending to those of their infant. They are less sensitive to their children's signals. They are also more intrusive and detached. Overall, they are more focused on themselves than on their child when they are interacting. As a result, their children are more focused on play and less actively engaged in communicating with their mothers. Conclusions The interactions between the mother and her child cover a set of relatively complex processes during which the two partners influence each other. When a mother lives through the war, she will pass on to her child an often painful life story. And thus, it is not only the content but also the way she transmits it that influences how the child receives the objects of the transmission. Disclosure of Interest None Declared

Rogers-LaVanne, M. P., Bader, A. C., de Flamingh, A., Saboowala, S., Smythe, C., Atchison, B., Moulton, N., Wilson, A., Wildman, D. E., Boraas, A., Uddin, M., Worl, R., & Malhi, R. S. (2023). Association between gene methylation and experiences of historical trauma in Alaska Native peoples. *International Journal for Equity in Health*, 22(1), 182. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-023-01967-7>  
Historical trauma experienced by Indigenous peoples of North America is correlated with health disparities and is hypothesized to be associated with DNA methylation. Massive group traumas such as genocide, loss of land and foodways, and forced conversion to Western lifeways may be embodied and affect individuals, families, communities, cultures, and health. This study approaches research with Alaska Native people using a community-engaged approach designed to create mutually-beneficial partnerships, including intentional relationship development, capacity building, and sample and data care.

Scharpf, F., Paulus, M., Christner, N., Beerbaum, L., Kammermeier, M., & Hecker, T. (2023). Intergenerational transmission of mental health risk in refugee families: The role of maternal psychopathology and emotional availability. *Development and Psychopathology*, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0954579423000846>

To prevent an intergenerational cycle of malfunction, it is crucial to understand how mothers' exposure to traumatic war experiences contributes to their children's vulnerability to mental health problems. This study examined the role of maternal psychopathology and mother-child emotional availability (EA) in the association between mothers' trauma exposure and children's mental health problems in a sample of 222 Burundian mother-child dyads living in refugee camps in Tanzania. Maternal and child EA were assessed through recorded observations of mother-child interactions. In structured clinical interviews, mothers reported on their lifetime exposure to traumatic events and their psychopathology and both mothers and fathers reported on children's emotional and behavioral problems. Structural equation modeling showed that mothers' higher trauma exposure was indirectly associated with higher levels of children's mental health problems through higher levels of maternal psychopathology. Mothers' higher trauma exposure was also directly associated with lower maternal EA in mother-child interactions, which was in turn related to higher levels of children's mental health problems. The findings suggest that trauma exposure independently affects mothers' mental health and their EA, which can contribute to children's mental health problems. Interventions aiming to reduce mothers' psychopathology and strengthen their EA may be beneficial for children's well-being.

Tan, C. M., Tan, Z., & Zhang, X. (2023). The intergenerational legacy of the 1959–1961 Great Chinese Famine on children's cognitive development. *Economics & Human Biology*, 51, 101300. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2023.101300>

We investigate the effect of early exposure to malnutrition on the cognitive abilities of the offspring of survivors in the context of a natural experiment; i.e., the Great Chinese Famine (GCF) of 1959–61. We employ a novel dataset – the China Family Panel Studies (CFPS) – to do so. The paper finds that the cognitive abilities of children whose fathers were born in rural areas during the famine years (1959–1961) were impaired by exposure to the GCF and the negative effect was greater for girls than boys, whereas children whose mothers were born in rural areas during the famine years were not affected. The uncovered gender-specific effect is almost entirely attributable to son preference exhibited in families with male famine survivors.

Tolkunova, K., Usoltsev, D., Moguchaia, E., Boyarinova, M., Kolesova, E., Erina, A., Voortman, T., Vasilyeva, E., Kostareva, A., Shlyakhto, E., Konradi, A., Rotar, O., & Artomov, M. (2023).

Transgenerational and intergenerational effects of early childhood famine exposure in the cohort of offspring of Leningrad Siege survivors. *Scientific Reports*, 13(1), 11188. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-37119-8>

Famine exposure during early life development can affect disease risk in late-life period, yet, transmission of phenotypic features from famine-exposed individuals to the next generations has not been well characterized. The purpose of our case-control study was to investigate the association of parental starvation in the perinatal period and the period of early childhood with the phenotypic features observed in two generations of descendants of Leningrad siege survivors. We examined 54 children and 30 grandchildren of 58 besieged Leningrad residents who suffered from starvation in early childhood and prenatal age during the Second World War. Controls from the population-based national epidemiological ESSE-RF study (n = 175) were matched on sex, age and body mass index (BMI). Phenotypes of controls and descendants (both generations, children and grandchildren separately) were compared, taking into account multiple testing. Comparison of two generations descendants with corresponding control groups revealed significantly higher creatinine and lower glomerular filtration



rate (GFR), both in meta-analysis and in independent analyses. The mean values of GFR for all groups were within the normal range (GFR less than 60 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> was recorded in 2 controls and no one in DLSS). Additionally, independent of the creatinine level, differences in the eating pattern were detected: insufficient fish and excessive red meat consumption were significantly more frequent in the children of the Leningrad siege survivors compared with controls. Blood pressure, blood lipids and glucose did not differ between the groups. Parental famine exposure in early childhood may contribute to a decrease in kidney filtration capacity and altered eating pattern in the offspring of famine-exposed individuals.

Watson, S. E. (n.d.). Transgenerational Trauma. The role of warrior talk. *International Body Psychotherapy Journal*, 21(2), 59–68. <https://www.ibpj.org/issues/articles/Sally%20E.%20Watson%20-%20Transgenerational%20Trauma.pdf>

This article focuses on the relationship between warrior talk and transgenerational trauma. Research findings from an extensive study of warrior talk within a lengthy modern conflict is used to explore the ways in which trauma is transmitted across generations. A trauma-informed approach for understanding transgenerational trauma is outlined, and the case for a somatic focus on trauma healing is introduced.

Yoon, Y., Cederbaum, J. A., Duan, L., & Lee, J. O. (2023). Intergenerational Continuity of Childhood Adversity and Its Underlying Mechanisms Among Teen Mothers and Their Offspring. *Child Maltreatment*, 10775595231200144. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10775595231200145>

The present study investigates how parenting stress mediates the intergenerational continuity of childhood adversity in teenage mothers. Childhood adversity experiences of caregivers significantly affect their offspring's exposure to childhood adversity. However, little is known about the mechanisms linking childhood adversity across generations. The study measures how parental distress and parent-child dysfunctional interaction mediate the association between teen mothers' childhood adversity and their offspring's adversity, measuring when the offspring reached 11.5 years of age. The results revealed that parental distress, but not parent-child dysfunctional interaction, mediated the association between teen mothers' child abuse and their offspring's household dysfunction. This suggests that parental distress may be a crucial intervention target to prevent the intergenerational continuity of childhood adversity. The findings imply that efforts to prevent the intergenerational continuity of childhood adversity may be more successful if the public and professionals have a broader understanding of the associations between early adversity and parenting contexts. In conclusion, the study shed light on the potential mechanisms underlying the intergenerational continuity of childhood adversity and highlights the importance of targeting parenting stress, specifically parental distress, as an intervention strategy to prevent the perpetuation of childhood adversity across generations.

Zhang, Z., & Kim, J. H. (2023). *The Inheritance of Historical Trauma: Intergenerational Effects of Early-Life Exposure to Famine on Mental Health* (SSRN Scholarly Paper No. 4541367). <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4541367>

Can the effects of early childhood trauma persist across generations, impacting the long-run outcomes of their children? To answer this question, we exploit the geographic variation in the intensity of the Great Famine in China and distinguish the effects of exposures during four stages of childhood cognitive development between ages 0 to 15 as defined in the child development theory of Jean Piaget. We find

that exposure to famine in childhood, especially in ages 0—2 and 3—7, negatively impacts the adult mental health of the survivors' children. We also find negative effects on parent's mental health and parent-child interaction frequency, consistent with the role of childhood home environments as transmission channels. Our findings show that the determinants of mental health problems can be traced back across a generation and demonstrate the persistent damage of early childhood trauma on the survivors and their children.

Zhou, A., & Ryan, J. (2023). Biological Embedding of Early-Life Adversity and a Scoping Review of the Evidence for Intergenerational Epigenetic Transmission of Stress and Trauma in Humans. *Genes*, 14(8), 1639. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes14081639>

Severe or chronic stress and trauma can have a detrimental impact on health. Evidence suggests that early-life adversity can become biologically embedded and has the potential to influence health outcomes decades later. Epigenetics is one mechanism that has been implicated in these long-lasting effects. Observational studies in humans indicate that the effects of stress could even persist across generations, although whether or not epigenetic mechanisms are involved remains under debate. Here, we provide an overview of studies in animals and humans that demonstrate the effects of early-life stress on DNA methylation, one of the most widely studied epigenetic mechanisms, and summarize findings from animal models demonstrating the involvement of epigenetics in the transmission of stress across generations. We then describe the results of a scoping review to determine the extent to which the terms intergenerational or transgenerational have been used in human studies investigating the transmission of trauma and stress via epigenetic mechanisms. We end with a discussion of key areas for future research to advance understanding of the role of epigenetics in the legacy effects of stress and trauma.

Zigic, N., Becirovic, E., Mirkovic-Hajdukovic, M., Aljukic, N., & Löffler-Stastka, H. (2023). Role of transgenerational transmission of trauma in development of schizophrenia: A case report of a patient whose parents survived genocide in Srebrenica. *European Psychiatry*, 66(S1), S632–S633. <https://doi.org/10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1316>

**Introduction** Developmental predisposition to schizophrenia can be a consequence of early experienced traumas. Transgenerational trauma is process in which traumatic experience of one generation is passed on to the next generation. **Objectives** To show connection between transgenerational transmission of trauma and development of schizophrenia. **Methods** Psychiatric interview, psychological testing. **Results** Patient G.E. age 29, admitted to Psychiatry Clinic due to altered behavior, aggressiveness and presence of delusions and hallucinations. First mental problems in form of a catatonic stupor appeared 6 years ago. Patient has history of earlier abuse of psychoactive substances. A drug test performed at admission was negative. Patient was born in Srebrenica in 1993, he escaped to Tuzla with his mother in July 1995, while father survived escaping on foot. Patient is a first child from his father's second marriage. The father's first wife and two minor children were shot by Bosnian Serbs in early 1992. Patient was born a year and a half after death of his siblings and was named after his half-sister. Patient's father consumed alcohol after the war and was aggressive towards children. In the last two years, patient had frequent hallucinations, he told his parents that voices were telling him to kill his mother and told his father that his children were still alive. **Diagnostic processing** was performed and diagnosis of schizophrenia was stated. During hospitalization, patient was treated with olanzapine and low doses of haloperidol, along with haloperidol decanoate, which resulted in significant reduction of

productive psychotic symptoms. A partial remission is achieved, negative schizophrenic symptoms and cognitive impairments verified by psychological instruments remain. Conclusions Case report emphasize transgenerational transmission of trauma: father's untreated trauma, alcohol dependency and abuse of the patient in childhood. These findings are important for treatment and therapeutic considerations. Mentalizing is a possible mediator between childhood abuse and negative symptoms. Parental bonding was explored within high expressed emotions theory as a risk factor for relapse to psychosis, especially the "affectionless control" in the parental (mainly father's) bonding style. Studies also stated that psychotic patients often show insecure attachment representations. Possible pathway for further analysis could be discussed: a cold parental bonding style leading to experienced emotional neglect and attachment avoidance might be reflected in lower capacity to mentalize. To improve the mentalization capacity, it would be essential to establish a sustainable therapeutic treatment frame.