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## Trauma Among Juveniles in Residential Care

Rhode Island Family Court

Children, Trauma, and the Integration of Care

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## Sources of Trauma

- Social structural disadvantage
- Poor parenting
  
- ➔ Research is important to fully understand this population and to guide inter-agency solutions to the problems they face.

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## The Ocean Tides Boys

- Average age is 16
- 78% are 15-17
- 12% are younger than 15

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**Table 1: Behaviors and Attitudes *Prior to* Ocean Tides**

<i>Behaviors/Attitudes</i>	<i>Slight Problem</i>	<i>Moderate Problem</i>	<i>Severe Problem</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Aggression	33 (2.1%)	194 (12.2%)	822 (51.9%)	1,049 (66.2%)
Antagonistic Swearing/Disrespect	58 (3.7%)	305 (19.2%)	203 (12.8%)	566 (35.7%)
Attention/Concentration	58 (3.7%)	300 (18.9%)	239 (15.1%)	597 (37.7%)
Bullying	27 (1.7%)	74 (4.7%)	45 (2.8%)	146 (9.2%)
Emotionally Labile	29 (1.8%)	116 (7.3%)	56 (3.5%)	201 (12.7%)
Enuresis	16 (1.0%)	30 (1.9%)	17 (1.1%)	63 (4.0%)
Entitlement	19 (1.2%)	88 (5.6%)	35 (2.2%)	142 (9.0%)
Fights w/Peers	109 (6.9%)	293 (18.5%)	156 (9.8%)	556 (35.2%)
Fire Setting	63 (4.0%)	43 (2.7%)	88 (5.6%)	194 (12.2%)
Immaturity	60 (3.8%)	383 (24.2%)	202 (12.7%)	645 (40.7%)
Impulsive	65 (4.1%)	436 (27.5%)	467 (29.5%)	968 (61.1%)
Manipulative	48 (3.0%)	195 (12.3%)	129 (8.1%)	372 (23.5%)
Temper	50 (3.2%)	309 (19.5%)	271 (17.1%)	630 (39.7%)
Poor Judgment	105 (6.6%)	432 (27.3%)	587 (37.0%)	1,124 (70.9%)
Problems w/Authority	67 (4.2%)	427 (26.9%)	275 (17.4%)	769 (48.5%)
Risk-Taking	96 (6.1%)	264 (16.7%)	274 (17.3%)	634 (40.0%)
Runaway	86 (5.4%)	146 (9.2%)	174 (11%)	406 (25.6%)
Self-Centered	31 (2.0%)	150 (9.5%)	46 (2.9%)	227 (14.3%)
Stealing	19 (1.2%)	44 (2.8%)	1250 (78.9%)	1,313 (82.8%)
Truancy	59 (3.7%)	284 (17.9%)	590 (37.2%)	933 (58.9%)
General Violence	56 (3.5%)	116 (7.3%)	743 (46.9%)	915 (57.7%)

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**Table 2: Past School Performance *Prior to Ocean Tides***

<i>School Performance</i>	<i>Academics</i>	<i>Motivation</i>	<i>Behavior</i>
<b>Consistently Poor</b>	<b>741 (46.8%)</b>	<b>885 (55.8%)</b>	<b>795 (50.2%)</b>
Consistently Average	235 (14.8%)	185 (11.7%)	225 (14.2%)
Consistently Above Average	60 (3.8%)	33 (2.1%)	40 (2.5%)
Variable	176 (11.1%)	126 (7.9%)	127 (8%)
Average Poor to Poor Average	252 (15.9%)	184 (11.6%)	222 (14.0%)
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1464 (92.4%)</i>	<i>1413 (89.1%)</i>	<i>1409 (88.9%)</i>
<i>Missing</i>	<i>121 (7.6%)</i>	<i>172 (10.9%)</i>	<i>176 (11.1%)</i>

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## Drugs, Gangs, Guns

### Drugs

- 54% light to heavy drinking (53% of drinkers were white)
- 53% smoking pot (55% of smokers were white)

### Gangs

- 8% were in gangs (More common among non-whites and those in poverty)

### Guns

- 20% handled guns illegally (More common among non-whites, but SES is unrelated)

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## Mental Health

- 14% referred to mental health facility
- 25% were clinically evaluated at least once in lifetime
- 42% evaluated at Ocean

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## Poverty

- 43% are in extreme poverty
- Less than 3% in upper-middle
- No affluence

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## Family Structure

- 45% single-parent families
- 1980, almost 20% of U.S. households were single parent families with children compared to 58% of the Ocean Tides population in the same year
- Most in poverty

### *STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN THE FAMILY*

- Half structurally unstable

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## Parents

### *PARENTAL UNEMPLOYMENT*

- 62% of biological fathers
- 52% of biological mothers

### *PARENTAL ALCOHOL ABUSE*

- 21% of fathers
- 9% of mothers.

### *CRIMINAL PARENTS*

- 16% of biological fathers
- 13% of biological mothers
- 5% of other parental figures or adult relatives
- 17% of the boys had a sibling with criminal charges against them

### *EMOTIONAL REJECTION AND PHYSICAL ABANDONMENT*

- 37% physically abandoned by their biological fathers
  - 2% more emotionally rejected
- 10% physically abandoned by their biological mothers
  - 2% more emotionally rejected

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**Table 3: Discipline at Home**

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Valid Percent</i>
None	196	12.4%	17.4%
Lenient	416	26.2%	36.9%
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>22.9%</b>
Harsh	75	4.7%	6.7%
Inconsistent	181	11.4%	16.1%
<i>Totals</i>	<i>1126</i>	<i>71.0%</i>	<i>100%</i>
<i>Missing</i>	<i>459</i>	<i>29.0%</i>	

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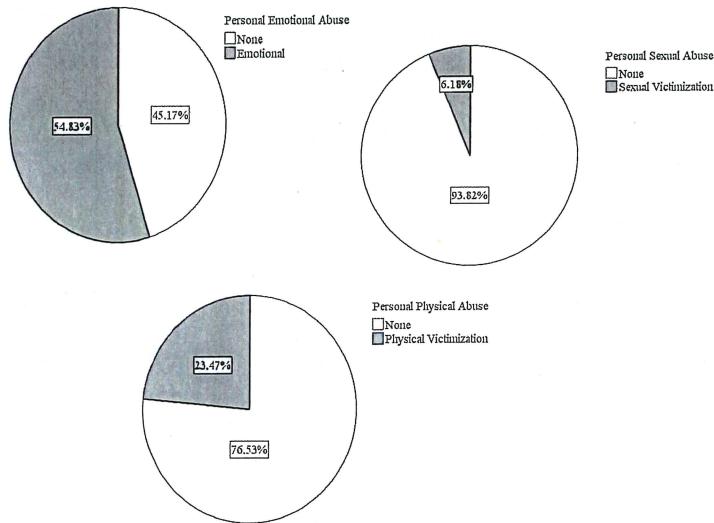
**Table 4: Child Abuse**

<i>Abuser*</i>	<i>Emotional Abuse</i>	<i>Physical Abuse w/No Serious Injury</i>	<i>Physical Abuse w/Serious Injury</i>	<i>Sexual Abuse</i>
Biological Father	723 (45.6%)	145 (9.1)	52 (3.3)	9 (0.6)
Step Father	14 (0.9)	34 (2.1)	34 (2.1)	3 (0.2)
Other Father	22 (1.4)	36 (2.3)	11 (0.7)	11 (0.7)
Biological Mother	325 (20.5)	34 (2.1)	30 (1.9)	7 (0.4)
Step Mother	0	2 (0.1)	3 (0.2)	0
Other Mother	4 (0.3)	4 (0.3)	1 (0.1)	2 (0.1)
Sibling	8 (0.5)	19 (1.2)	4 (0.3)	10 (0.6)
Other relative	5 (0.3)	8 (0.5)	4 (0.3)	25 (1.6)
Other Non- Relative	5 (0.3)	42 (2.6)	29 (1.8)	54 (3.4)

\*Some boys experienced multiple abuses from multiple abusers

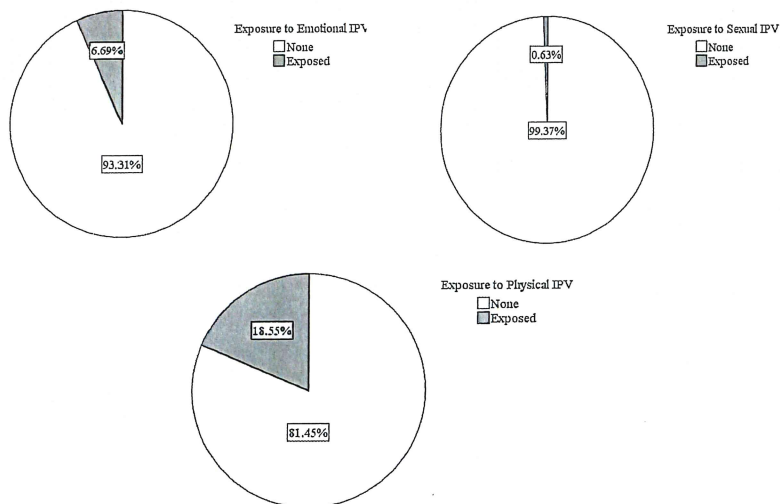
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**Table 5: Lifetime Measures of Personal Child Abuse**



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**Table 6: Lifetime Exposure to Parental Inter-Personal Violence (PIPV)**



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**Table 7: Victimized Boys who were also Violent**

	Personal Abuse		Decrease in Violence	Exposure to PIPV		Decrease in Violence
	Before OT	At OT		Before OT	At OT	
Emotional	61.4%	24.2%	<b>61%</b>	74.5%	20.8%	<b>72%</b>
Physical	67.2%	28.5%	<b>58%</b>	68.4%	23.8%	<b>65%</b>
Sexual	78.6%	38.8%	<b>51%</b>	90%	30%	<b>67%</b>

**Table 8: What's Correlated w/Violence**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Physical Abuse									
2. Emotional Abuse	.216**								
3. Sexual Abuse	.130**	.091**							
4. Physical PIPV	.337**	.140**	.046						
5. Emotional PIPV	.197**	.147**	.036	.360**					
6. Sexual PIPV	.106**	.072**	.013	.146**	.170**				
<b>7. Violence Before</b>	<b>.106**</b>	<b>.083**</b>	<b>.108**</b>	<b>.103**</b>	<b>.091**</b>	<b>.052*</b>			
<b>8. Violence at OT</b>	<b>.096**</b>	<b>.075**</b>	<b>.109**</b>	<b>.028</b>	<b>-.004</b>	<b>.017</b>	<b>.191**</b>		
9. Race	-.095**	-.043	-.069*	-.081**	-.082**	-.036	<b>.064*</b>	<b>.010</b>	
10. SES	-.004	-.130**	.018	-.028	.017	-.054*	<b>-.009</b>	<b>-.016</b>	-.178**

\* p ≤ .05, \*\* p ≤ .01, n=1585



## How Does Ocean Tides Help?

- Coordinates its services
- Serve as surrogate parents
- Draws on their strengths
- Integrates care
- Conducts careful research

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## Thank You

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