

CHILDREN OF PARENTS WITH A MENTAL HEALTH ILLNESS

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Children of parents with a mental health illness (COPMI) have been identified as being at increased risk of developing mental health problems themselves. As a result, programs have been developed to address this. The research in the area of COPMI is quite inconclusive and the face validity of many programs that has been questioned. Public Health agencies have not been collecting relevant data until recently, with a wide discrepancy between academic and clinical data. The issue of children with a mental health diagnosis who also have a parent with a mental health diagnosis is completely below the research radar and is the "elephant" in the clinic. My aim is to present the issue from a clinician's point of view in the hope that researchers will seek the help of actual clinics to establish the best possible intervention strategies for children and families affected by COPMI.

Biography

Antonios Chasouris is currently working in South Canterbury District Health Board as a Consultant Clinical Child Psychologist and also as an Assistant Professor in Psychology. He is serving as Director of Paediatric Psychological Services at Piraeus Hospital for children in Greece.

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