

Domains of Impairment in Children with Developmental Trauma

I. Attachment	II. Biology	III. Affect regulation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems with boundaries • Distrust • Suspiciousness • Social isolation • Difficulty attuning to other people's emotional states • Difficulty in perspective-taking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensorimotor development • Analgesia • Problems with coordination, balance, body tone • Somatization • Increased medical problems across a wide span (pelvic pain, asthma, skin problems, autoimmune disorders, pseudoseizures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty with emotional self-regulation • Difficulty labeling and expressing feelings • Problems knowing and describing internal states • Difficulty communicating wishes and needs
IV. Dissociation	V. Behavioral Control	V. Cognition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinct alterations in states of consciousness • Amnesia • Depersonalization and derealization • Two or more distinct states of consciousness • Impaired memory for state-based events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor modulation of impulses • Self-destructive behavior • Aggression toward others • Pathological self soothing • Sleep disturbances • Eating disorders • Substance abuse • Excessive compliance • Oppositional behavior • Difficulty understanding and complying with rules • Reenactment of trauma in behavior or play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties in attention regulation and executive function • Lack of sustained curiosity • Problems with processing novel information • Problems with object constancy • Difficulties planning and anticipating • Problems understanding responsibility • Learning difficulties • Problems with language development • Problems with orientation in time and space • Two or more distinct states of consciousness • Impaired memory for state-based events
VII Self Concept		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of a continuous, predictable sense of self • Poor sense of separateness • Disturbances of body image • Low self esteem • Shame and guilt 		

Schooler, J.E. & Atwood, T.C. (2008). *The whole life adoption book*. Colorado Springs: NavPress.