

ShowNotes

Episode 24: **Child Attachment and Maternal Sensitivity**

Summary of Episode:

Tommie Forslund talks about how he and his colleagues have used the lens of child attachment and maternal sensitivity to view the parenting of mothers with intellectual disabilities. He also talks about the importance of taking into account contextual factors, such as the parents' experiences of abuse and maltreatment, in order to intervene and provide support more efficaciously.

Biography:

Tommie's research concerns parenting among parents with intellectual and developmental disabilities, child development, influential factors, and parenting support. He has focused particularly on parents with intellectual disability and contextually based influential factors that go beyond intellectual disability per se. One project examined exposure to abuse and maltreatment among mothers with intellectual disability and its role for caregiver sensitivity, child attachment quality, and child psychosocial adaptation. Another project examines exposure to abuse and maltreatment and socio-economic adversity in relation to the parents' attachment representations and mentalizing. He has also conducted a systematic review of exposure to abuse and maltreatment among parents with intellectual disability. He recently examined how parents with intellectual disability experienced the Covid-19-pandemic. He is currently working on a project that examines how fathers with intellectual disability perceive the parenting role and another project evaluating the caregiving intervention Parenting Young Children (PYC) for parents with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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Articles

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Resources

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The Special Interest Research Group on Parents and Parenting with Intellectual Disabilities was founded in 1996 at an international conference in Denmark which was organized by the Danish Ministry of Social Affairs and The EU Commission. The SIRG/PID was formally affiliated with the International

Association on the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD) in 2002. The mission of the Special Interest Research Group on Parents and Parenting with Intellectual Disabilities is:

- To create opportunities for international and multidisciplinary networking;
- To foster research and innovation;
- To expose social and systemic discrimination against and promote equalisation of opportunity for parents with intellectual disabilities and their children;
- To facilitate the translation of knowledge from research into policies and practices.

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