

# Neglect

## Background Notes

Child neglect is one of the most difficult types of child abuse for the child welfare worker to deal with. Neglect affects the child socially, emotionally, physically and developmentally and requires intense involvement by social service agencies to improve. Frequently children experience severe levels of neglect before the child welfare system is able to intervene and sometimes the intervention is so late the child suffers life long consequences.

## Tasks / Assignments:

- Review a case that is primarily based on neglect. Read policy online and identify the various types of neglect. Identify the specific areas where the parent is neglecting the child. What has the worker/agency done that has helped improve the care of the child? Talk with the worker about their view of neglect, what causes a neglect referral to be assessed or not. How effective is the agency's work with neglectful families?
- Go to Dr. Bruce Perry's Child Trauma Academy online training.  
[http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/bonding\\_attachment/index.html](http://www.childtraumaacademy.com/bonding_attachment/index.html) Complete the free course Bonding and Attachment in Maltreated Children.

## *Discoveries:*

# Neglect continued...

## Tasks / Assignments:

- Consider the case previously reviewed and the material you just learned from the Child Trauma Academy. What indicators do you remember from the case you reviewed that could be signs of attachment disturbance?
- Ask your supervisor to provide you a case to read in which the agency has treatment notes and psychological and other assessments on the parent. What indication of disturbance of attachment exists for this parent from their own childhood? Ask your supervisor or a co-worker about how courts assess neglect and how petitions are written regarding neglect.

*Discoveries:*

