Author Abstract:

Associations between maternal internal working models (IWM) (adult attachment projective: AAP) [George, C., West, M., Pettem, O., 1997, Manuscrit non publié. Mills College, Californie], preschool child attachment (separation–reunion procedure) [Cassidy, J., Marvin, R. S., 1992. Attachment organization in preschool children: procedures and coding manual. Manuscrit non publié. MacArthurWorking Group on Attachment; Dev Psychol 24 (1988) 415–526] and stressful life-events were examined in 119 dyads. A convergence for transmission similar to what has been reported in the literature [Psychol Bull 117(3) (1995) 387–403] was found (76% for security, kappa = 0.53; \( p < 0.001 \)). Moreover, unresolved mothers with disorganized–controlling children reported more stressful life-events (\( F [3, 106] = 4.70; p < 0.01 \)). The present study therefore indicates the importance of including contextual factors [van IJzendoorn, M.H., Bakermans-Kranenburg, M.J., 1997. Intergenerational transmission of attachment: a move to the contextual level.]