



BEHAVIOR-BASED CASE PLAN PILOT IN TULARE COUNTY PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE: DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND INITIAL EVALUATION

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THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

Personal Motivation

- Parental Example
- Childhood Experiences
- “Seek Justice, Love Mercy,
Walk Humbly”



THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (CONT'D)

Education

- Bachelor of Arts – Psychology
- Master of Social Work
- Internship
 - Community Day School
 - Permanency Planning / Admin

Professional Experiences

- In-Patient Psychiatric Care
- Group Home Facility
- Tulare County HHSA – Child Welfare Services



PURPOSE OF THE INQUIRY

The Problem

- Recidivism and Recurrence of Child Maltreatment
- Need for Effective Assessment and Intervention
- Task- / Service-Based Interventions

The Solution?

- Behavior-Based Case Planning
 - Safety-Organized Practice (SOP)
 - Solution-Based Casework (SBC)

THE LITERATURE

- Worker-Client Relationship
- Intervention as Secondary to Assessment
- Task- / Service-Based Intervention
 - “Quick Change”
vs.
“Lasting Change”



THE LITERATURE: THEORETICAL ORIENTATION

Safety-Organized Practice (SOP)

- Increased Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being
- Good Working Relationships
- Improved Critical Thinking

Solution-Based Casework (SBC)

- Family-Centered, Strengths-Based
- Collective, Collaborative Partnership
- Reducing Future Risk vs. Simply Intervening in Current Issues

SOP

SBC

THE LITERATURE: THEORETICAL ORIENTATION (CONT'D)

Supporting Theories / Concepts

- Cooperative Engagement
- Involvement of Families in Decision-Making
- Individualized, Tailored Practice
- Informal vs. Formal Interventions, Resources and Supports



THE LITERATURE: EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

- SBC Correlated to Decreases in Recidivism, Recurrence
- Worker-Parent Relationship Impacted by Provision, Relevance of Services
- Factors Contributing to Recidivism, Recurrence
 - Social Support Deficits
 - Co-Occurrence of Abuse
 - Family Stress
 - Child Vulnerability
 - Interplay / Interaction of Factors

THE LITERATURE: EMPIRICAL RESEARCH (CONT'D)

- Engagement in Intervention and Importance of the Helping Alliance
- Effectiveness of Individualized Intervention
- Impact of “Booster Trainings” on Positive Outcomes
- The Influence of Individual, Family and Societal Contexts and Constructs

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Is faithful adherence to the BBCP model of theory and practice achievable within the context and constraints of public child welfare / child protection agencies?

Does a BBCP model demonstrate a positive impact on outcomes when compared to more traditional methods of practice?

RESEARCH DESIGN

- Descriptive Design
- Agency Evaluation vs. Academic Inquiry
- (15) BBCP Cases
- (15) Standard Cases
- Human Subjects Considerations
 - No Direct Contact



VARIABLES IDENTIFIED

Worker Fidelity to the BBCP Model

- Were SOP Tools Used?
- Were Strengths Identified?
- Did Parent(s) Participate in Development of Safety Goals?

Comparison of BBCP Model and Traditional Approaches

- Time from Removal to Reunification
- Time from Removal to Case Closure

THE DATA

Primary Collection

- Carried Out by the Agency
 - BBCP Stat Tracking Tool
 - BBCP Case Reading Tool

Secondary Collection

- Carried Out by Principal Investigator
 - Model Fidelity
 - Model Comparison



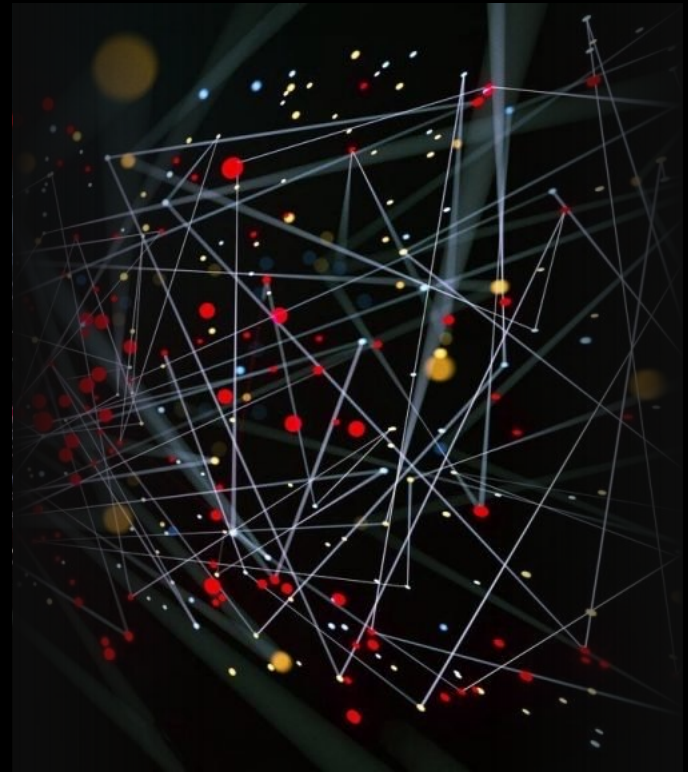
DATA ANALYSIS

Fidelity to the Model

- “Yes-No” Orientation
 - Use of Tools
 - Identification of Strengths, Protective Capacities
 - Inclusion of Caregiver(s) in Case Plan Development

Comparison of BBCP and Traditional Approach

- “Removal to Reunification”
- “Removal to Case Closure”



FINDINGS

- BBCP Model May be Feasible Within Public Child Welfare
 - Benefit of Further Coaching, Clarification of Standards
- BBCP Model Does Not Appear to Correlate to Negative Outcomes
- Need for Further Inquiry
 - Long-Term Outcomes
 - Increased Sample Size



IMPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE

- Departure from “Case Management,”
Return to Social Work
- Ethical Considerations
 - Dignity and Worth of the Individual
 - Importance of Relationships
- Implementation of BBCP Model
Appears Achievable Within
Constraints of Public Child Welfare
- Is BBCP Superior to Standard Practice?

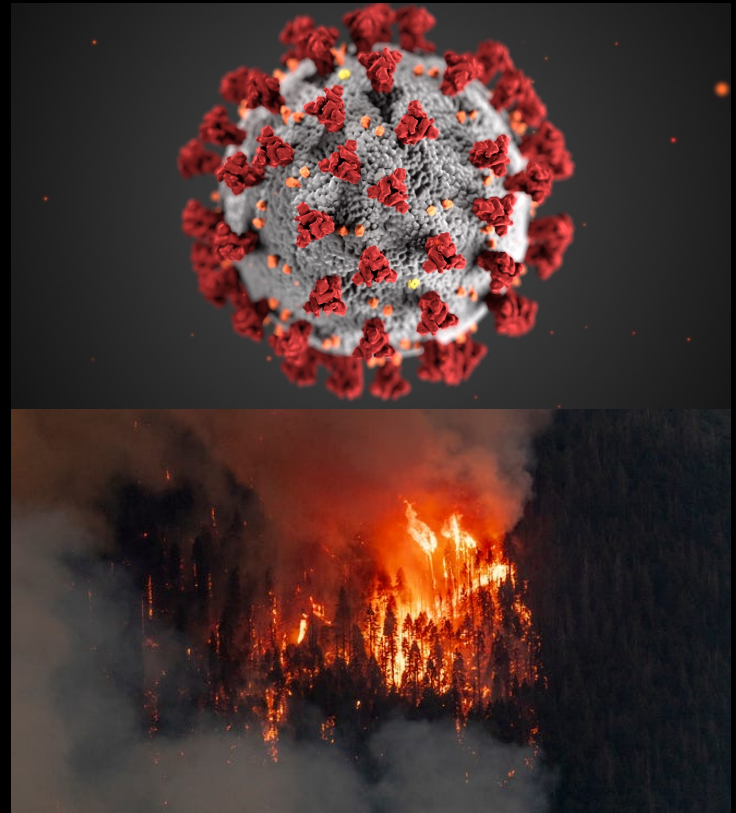
LIMITATIONS

External Barriers

- COVID-19
- Local Disasters

Limited Sample Sizes

- Representation of Sample
- Generalization of Findings



DIRECTIONS FOR FURTHER INQUIRY

- Impact of BBCP on Worker Engagement With Clients
- Impact of Worker-Client Relationship on Worker Satisfaction, Morale
- Need for Ongoing Training, Coaching for Skill Retention
- Impact of BBCP on Long-Term Outcomes
 - Safety, Permanency, Well-Being





IN MEMORY OF
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