

Tina Royles

Leader in the field of Domestic Violence



Domestic violence and the effect on unborn babies

It has been reported recently that high stress levels experienced by pregnant women can harm their unborn children, resulting in serious mental scars.



German researchers believe that a mother that experiences high levels of distress and unnecessary crisis causes an imprint to be left on the brains of her children. The result is that these babies as children and adults, are unable to cope with any sort of stress.

The research team studied 25 pregnant women, questioning them as to whether they had experienced extreme stress caused by domestic violence or abuse from their partners whilst pregnant, and they were asked to rate their emotional level.

Following this, the research team monitored the behaviour of a very specific gene in their children, from the ages of nine to 19. This gene is called the glucocorticoid receptor and is involved in the brain's response to stress.

The results showed that the gene was far less active in children whose mothers were victims of domestic violence when they were pregnant. However, incidents of domestic violence following the birth of their child had no affect on the gene in terms of the way gene responded in the brains of their children.

If You Or Someone You Know Is Experiencing Domestic Violence Call :

01244 760 113

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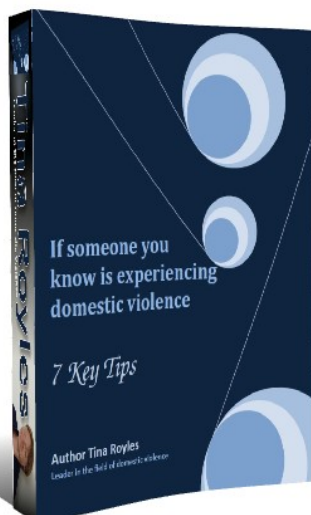
Domestic violence and the effect on unborn babies

There has been a number of significant studies over the last several years that have highlighted the effects and impact domestic violence and abuse can have on unborn children.

Not only on the immediate physical effects such as the mother suffering a miscarriage, but also resulting in the unborn baby being born with a physical impairment.

It has also been identified through medical scans the impairment to the frontal lobes; which reflect individuality associated with both physical and mental capabilities where domestic violence has been present.

This new data and research is helpful in highlighting and bringing to the forefront such information, the bottom line is domestic violence has the potential to have an affect on children throughout any stage of their development, and can hinder that development unless help or intervention is made



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