

## Implications of Trauma: The Seven Domains

Children who have experienced the types of trauma that precipitate entry into the child welfare system typically suffer impairments in many areas of development and functioning, including:

- **Attachment**- Traumatized children feel that the world is uncertain and unpredictable. They can become socially isolated and can have difficulty relating to and empathizing with others.
  
- **Biology**- Traumatized children may experience problems with movement and sensation, including hypersensitivity to pain. They may exhibit unexplained physical symptoms and increased medical problems.
  
- **Mood regulation**- Children exposed to trauma can have difficulty regulating their emotions as well as difficulty knowing and describing their feelings and internal states.
  
- **Dissociation**- Some traumatized children experience a feeling of detachment or depersonalization, as if they are “observing” something happening to them that is unreal.
  
- **Behavioral control**- traumatized children can show poor impulse control, self-destructive behavior, and aggression towards others.
  
- **Cognition**- Traumatized children can have problems focusing on and completing tasks, or planning for and anticipating future events. Some exhibit learning difficulties and problems with language development.
  
- **Self-concept**- traumatized children frequently suffer from disturbed body image, low self-esteem, shame, and guilt.