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Poster Summaries II. Human Development: Intersections with Psychoanalytic Perspectives: Facilitating Effective Coping in Children Following Disasters: A Psychoanalytically Informed Guided Narrative Intervention

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Following disasters like 9/11, the recent tsunami, and Hurricane Katrina, children with poor affect regulation, avoidant defenses, and deficient social skills are at special risk for developing traumatic stress reactions. Our aim is to develop a supportive-expressive and cognitive skill-building therapeutic intervention that can be widely used with post-disaster populations to reduce emotional distress and promote healthy adaptation in children. Many areas of family life are pulled into workbooks using children's drawings and narratives. Topics the caregiver requests the child to draw and write about include parental and sibling relationships, schooling, hobbies, and self-concepts. Traumas the child may have experienced are potentially disclosed. Potential research topics covered that may be of special interest to psychoanalytic researchers include sections on "My best dreams in my whole life," "My best dreams since the hurricanes,"

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