Why Do Parents Seek Our Help but Reject Our Excellent, Evidence-Based Advice?

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Pondering Attachment

- Thinking about carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion
- Contemplating
- Considering
- Reflecting on
- Turning over in one's mind

Mentalizing

"Seeing oneself from the outside and others from the inside."

Peter Fonagy

- How they respond to us, their child, the information we share is filtered through their attachment state of mind.
- How we respond to them, their child, the information we share is filtered through our attachment state of mind.

No evidence that feeding type (breast or bottle or both) is predictive of whether an infant is securely or insecurely attached

Steele (2013)

It is the *state of mind of the mother* as she thinks about and delivers care, including the feeding of her baby, not whether the feeding is via breast or bottle, that fundamentally determines whether the baby will be a securely attached toddler.

Steele (2013)

It is our job as early childhood educators and parenting researchers to assure new parents that attachment is a process, not dependent on any single event or specific parenting practice.

Steele (2013)

Pondering your reaction to parent

How you are is as important as what you do

- Platinum rule:
- "Do unto others as you would have others do unto others."

Pawl and St. John (1998)

Principles for CDI coaching

- The CDI coach
 - Mostly follows parent's lead
 - Comments immediately AFTER parent behavior (usually)
 - Follows principles of differential social attention

Eyberg & Funderburk, 2011

Coding CDI coaching

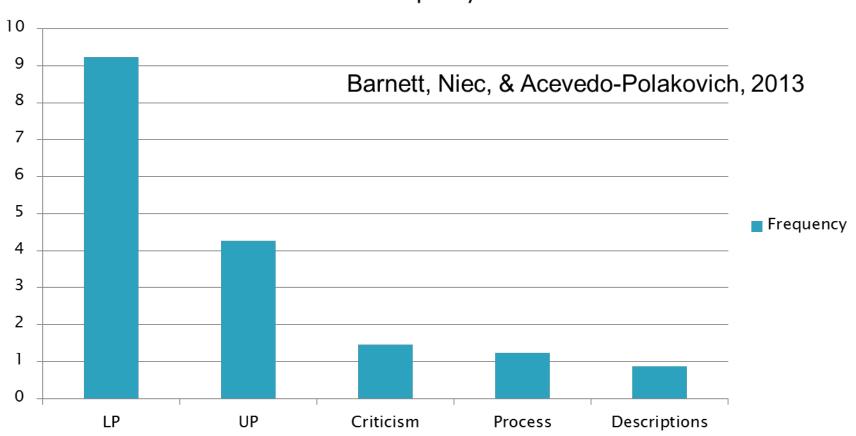
- Helpful to have a system for coding CDI coaching to ensure
 - Are you showing parents what you are telling them?
 - HANDOUT

Coding CDI coaching

- Therapist-Parent Interaction Coding System (TPICS)
- First published study of coding during CDI coaching sessions in clinical population
- Provides detailed information on statements made by PCIT therapists during CDI coaching
- Barnett, Niec, & Acevedo-Polakovich, 2013

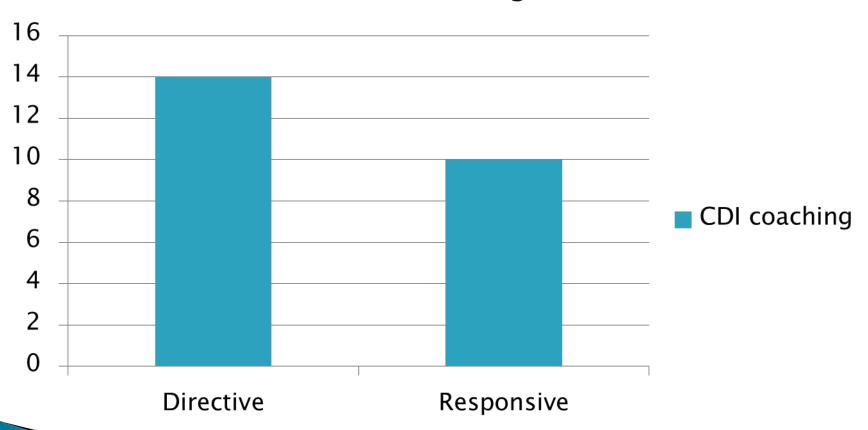
Responsive CDI coaching statements – 2nd & 3rd CDI coach

Frequency



Coaching statements – 2nd and 3rd CDI coach

CDI coaching



Barnett, Niec, & Acevedo-Polakovich, 2013

Following the Platinum Rule

- High rate of positive, responsive statements during CDI
- If parent has a low rate of PRIDE skills, describe and praise "pre-PRIDE" skills
 - Sitting on floor with child
 - Letting calls go to voice mail
 - Turning phone off at beginning of session
 - Watching child's play
 - Answering child's questions

CDI *alone* can lead to improvement in disruptive behavior

How you are is as important as what you do

- Platinum rule:
- "Do unto others as you would have others do unto others."

Pawl and St. John (1998)

Principles for CDI coaching

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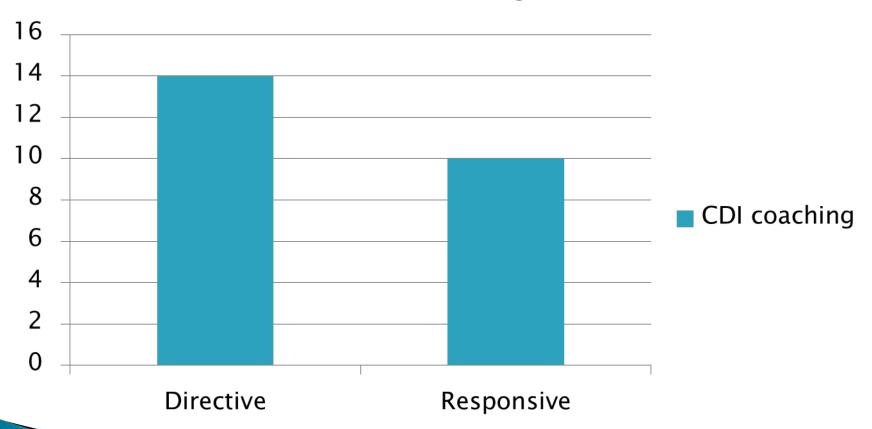
Eyberg & Funderburk, 2011

CDI coaching process

- Therapist-Parent Interaction Coding System (TPICS)
- First published study of method for coding CDI coaching
- Provides detailed information on statements made by PCIT therapists during CDI coaching
- Barnett, Niec, & Acevedo-Polakovich, 2013

Coaching statements during 2nd and 3rd CDI coaching sessions

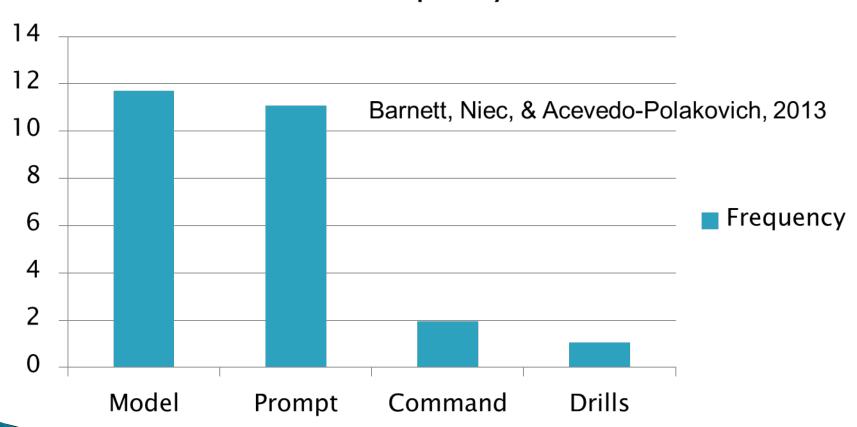
CDI coaching



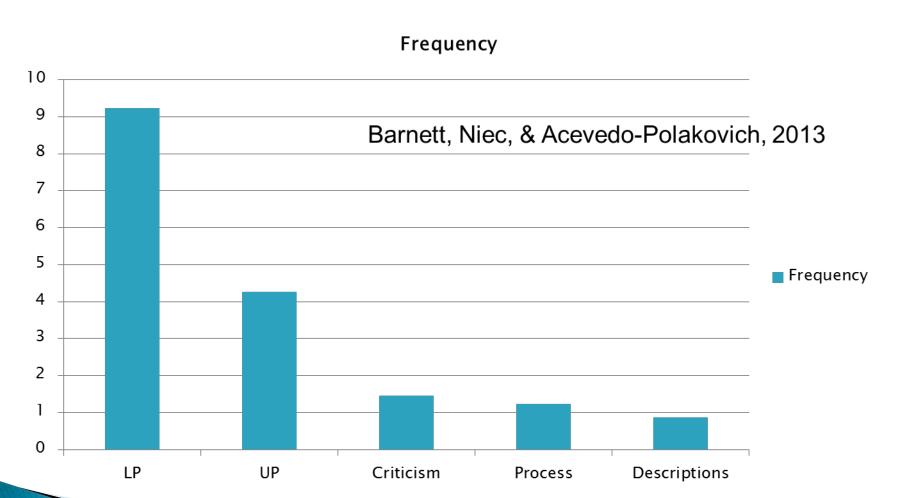
Barnett, Niec, & Acevedo-Polakovich, 2013

Directive CDI coaching statements





Responsive CDI coaching statements



Coding CDI coaching

Is what we're *showing* parents during our interactions with them similar to what we're *telling* them about how to interact with their child?

How can CDI coaches have a high rate of positive, responsive statements when parents have a low rate of PRIDE skills?

- Shaping
- Describe and praise "pre-PRIDE" skills
 - Sitting on floor with child
 - Letting calls go to voice mail
 - Turning phone off at beginning of session
 - Watching child's play
 - Answering child's questions

Move To the Level of Representation

Attachment Representation

- Internal Working Model
- State of Mind
- Unthought Known

Research-Based Assessment of Adult Attachment State of Mind

Adult Attachment Interview (AAI)

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- Developed to predict infant-mother attachment by assessing parent state of mind
- Interview about memories of relationship with primary caregivers during childhood
 - Classification based on HOW caregiver tells story (process)
 - Not story of WHAT happened (content)

Parent Internal Working Model of Attachment Matters Due to Association with

- Physiological response to child's behavior
- Perception of child's behavior
- Interpretation of child's behavior

Parent Internal Working Model of Attachment Matters Due to Association with

Selection of appropriate response to child's behavior

- Verbal
- Nonverbal
- Response to child's behavior
 - Verbal
 - Nonverbal

Parent Internal Working Model of Attachment Matters Due to Association with

Perception, Interpretation, and Response to therapist's coaching

- Verbal
- Nonverbal

Secure/Autonomous State of Mind (F)

Attachment State of Mind associated with Secure Attachment

Secure/Autonomous State of Mind (F)

Ordinary Magic



Collaborative discourse

Sifting my thoughts and choosing my words. Trying to say what was true.

Marilynne Robinson

Collaborative is not the same as compliant

Preoccupied State of Mind (E)

Attachment State of Mind Associated with Ambivalent/Resistant Attachment

Preoccupied State of Mind (E)

- Entangled in discussions of relationships about significant others
- Hyperactivation of attachment system "needy"

Preoccupied State of Mind (E)

- Concerns about being abandoned by therapist if competent
- Concerns about child rejecting them

Potential struggles with PCIT

- Too much time on check-in
 - "Preteach" at the beginning of each CDI coach session that coaching is the most important part of the session
 - Schedule occasional sessions with parent only so they feel listened to

- Focus on relationship
- Parent-Child

INTERACTION

Therapy

What does therapist need to help the parent "see" during CDI?

- When child has opportunity to go out and explore, child will come back and interact
- When parent quits chasing, child will quit dodging
- Child (and parent) have capacity for selfregulation

What does therapist need to help the parent "see" during PDI?

- Parent-child relationship is a hierarchical relationship
- Important for their child's safety for them to be in charge
- Being in charge when necessary actually improves their relationship

Dismissing State of Mind (Ds)

Attachment State of Mind Associated with Avoidant Attachment

Dismissing State of Mind (Ds)

- Idealizing of significant others
 - Positive description at semantic level without specific memories that support
- Emphasis on personal strength
- Positive wrap-up

Potential Struggles with PCIT

- Being vulnerable
 - Therapist may reject them
 - High rate of positive, responsive comments
 - Child may reject them
 - Empathic to how hard it is to be vulnerable

Unresolved with respect to experiences of loss or abuse by attachment figure (U/d)

Attachment State of Mind Associated with Disorganized Attachment

Disorganized spiral

Anxiety begets anxiety

More CDI

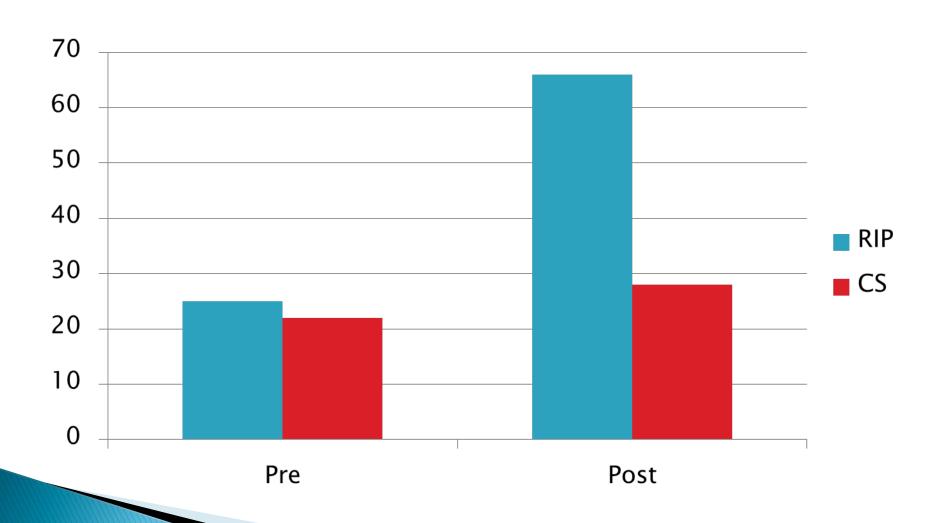
- CDI is a powerful intervention especially for traumatized children and parents
- Take as long as needed in CDI to
 - Reach CDI mastery
 - Reduce anxiety and disorganized/controlling behavior
 - Reduce coercive interactions and disorganizing caregiving

Use of video feedback

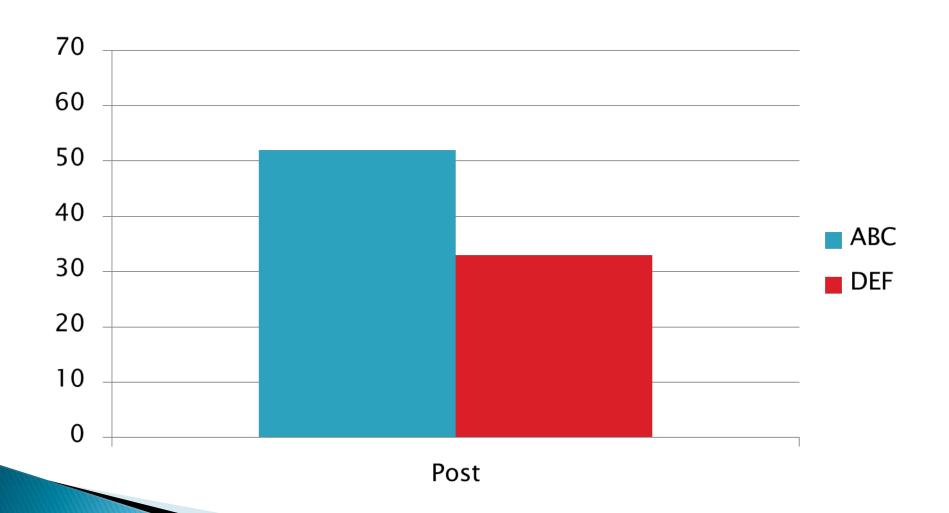
More PDI Too!

- Roll PDI out slowly
 - Think in terms of systematic desensitization hierarchy for treatment of PTSD
 - Build on success
 - Gradual exposure to anxiety-producing situations
 - Continue to watch for indications of disorganized caregiving and disorganized/controlling attachment

Relationship Intervention Program Rate of Secure Attachment



Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up - Rate of Secure Attachment





http://www.medicine.uiowa.edu/psychiatry/parentchild interactiontherapy/

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