

"BONDING" AND THE IMPORTANCE OF IN-PERSON VISITS:

CONSIDERATIONS IN A VIRTUAL WORLD

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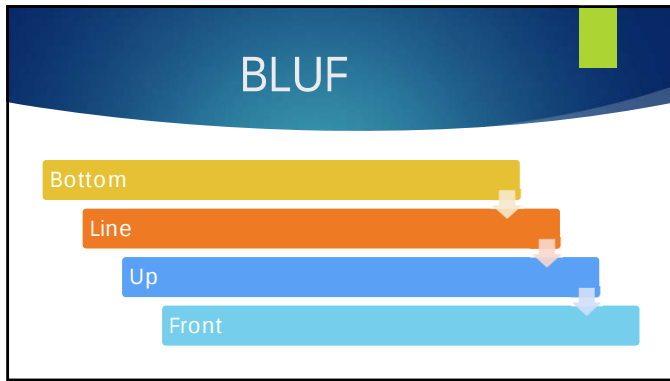
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OUR VIRTUAL NEW WORLD

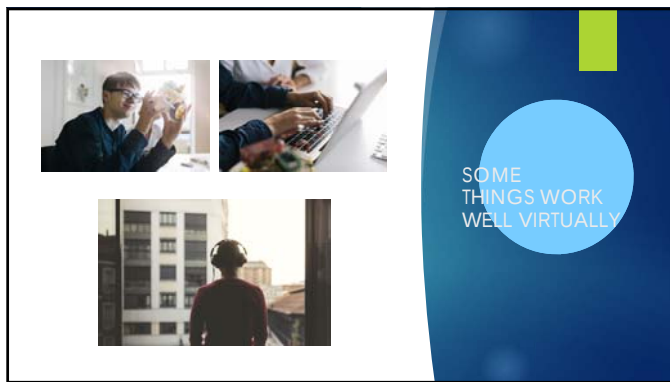
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DOES PHYSICAL CONTACT MATTER IN PARENTAL REUNIFICATION EFFORTS?

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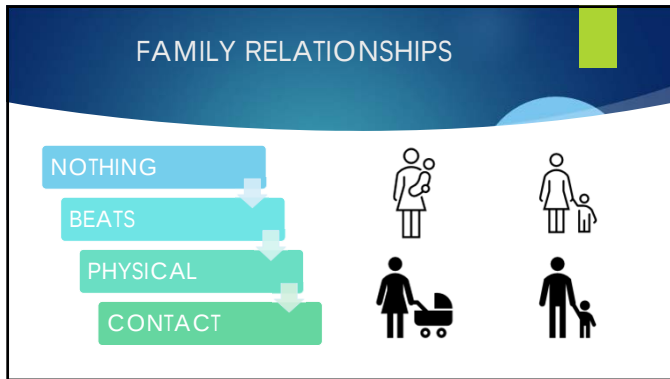
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THERE IS NO
SUBSTITUTE FOR
FACE TO FACE
IN PERSON
INTERACTION

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VIRTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ▶ AGE
 - ▶ Pre-school age alters the substance and quality of the interaction-rely on touch, smell
- ▶ DEVELOPMENTAL/INTELLECTUAL LEVEL
- ▶ LANGUAGE ABILITIES
- ▶ PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH LIMITATIONS
 - ▶ ADHD-attentional capacities

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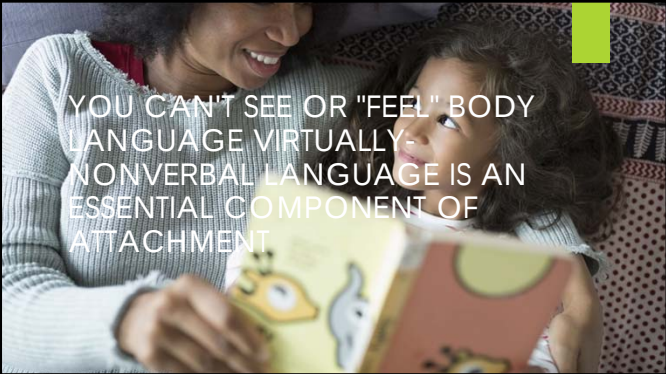
Is this quality interaction??

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VIDEO CONFERENCE VISITATION
CAN'T PROVIDE

- ▶ PROXIMITY
- ▶ RECIPROCITY/INTERACTION
 - ▶ LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OCCUR AS WE NAVIGATE SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS
- ▶ PHYSICAL CONTACT
 - ▶ NO HUGS, HIGH FIVES, FIST BUMPS, KISSES

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YOU CAN'T SEE OR "FEEL" BODY LANGUAGE VIRTUALLY-
NONVERBAL LANGUAGE IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF ATTACHMENT

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TOUCH FOSTERS LOVE, SUPPORT,
REASSURANCE, CONNECTION,
STRONG BONDS

THIS CAN ONLY HAPPEN DURING CONTACT
VISITS

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THAT'S NOT TO SAY THAT
VIRTUAL CONTACT
DOES NOT PLAY AN
IMPORTANT ROLE IN
MAINTAINING HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS; IT
DOES!!

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IT'S THE "EXTRA"

THAT SUPPLEMENTAL CONTACT
THAT AUGMENTS THE **CRITICAL**
FACE TO FACE INTERACTIONS

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Family visits help families stay connected, decrease stress, and contribute to child and parent well-being, especially during times of crisis

SIMPLE AS THAT

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ATTACHMENT
VS. BONDING

ARE
THEY
THE
SAME?

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ATTACHMENT
VS. BONDING

- ▶ Often used interchangeably but not the same
- ▶ Parents **bond** with children
 - ▶ The feeling of closeness that a mother/caregiver feels toward her baby is called "**bonding**"
- ▶ Children **attach** to parents
 - ▶ How you build a relationship over time that helps a child feel secure, loved, and equipped to face the world
 - ▶ A process based on experience
 - ▶ Positive caregiving enables a child to trust, feel close to others, and care about others' feelings.

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ATTACHMENT

- A reciprocal process in which an emotional connection develops between an infant and their primary caretaker (most often the mother)
- Attachment influences the infant's physical, cognitive, and psychological development and becomes the basis for the development of basic trust (or mistrust)
- Child uses the primary caregiver as a secure base from which to explore the world, and when necessary, as a source of safety and comfort

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ATTACHMENT

- Attachment affects brain development and shapes how the child will relate to the world, learn, and form relationships throughout life
- Healthy, secure attachment occurs when the infant experiences a primary caretaker as consistently providing emotional essentials such as love, touch, playful interaction, comfort, emotional regulation, and meeting of physical needs

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**ATTACHMENT IS A POWERFUL
PREDICTOR OF A CHILD'S
FUTURE SOCIAL AND
EMOTIONAL OUTCOMES**

THAT'S WHY WE WANT TO STRENGTHEN AND
PRESERVE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

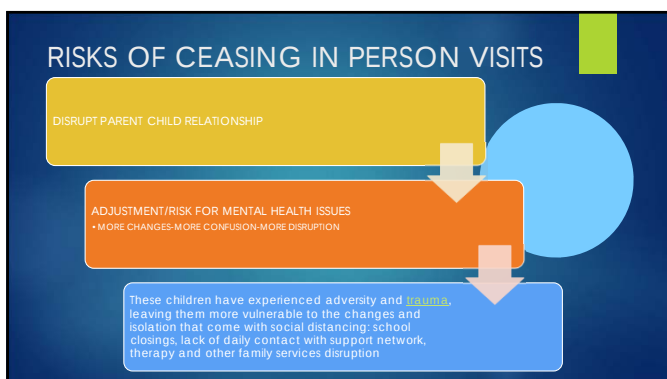
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RISKS

- ▶ DEVELOPMENT or INCREASE in EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL ISSUES
- ▶ FEAR
- ▶ ANXIETY
- ▶ STRESS
- ▶ DEPRESSION
- ▶ RETRAUMATIZATION
- ▶ YOUNG CHILDREN ACTING OUT THEIR DISTRESS
- ▶ WEAKENING OF FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS WHICH ULTIMATELY AFFECTS REUNIFICATION EFFORTS

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CONSEQUENCES OF DISRUPTIONS IN ATTACHMENT

- ▶ POOR SELF-ESTEEM
- ▶ POOR EMOTIONAL REGULATION
- ▶ LOW FRUSTRATION TOLERANCE
- ▶ IMPAIRED RELATIONSHIPS
- ▶ IMPAIRED COGNITIVE, DEVELOPMENTAL, ACADEMIC COMPETENCE
- ▶ INCREASE RISK FOR BEHAVIORAL AND MOOD DISORDERS
 - ▶ AGGRESSION
 - ▶ ISOLATION

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PARENTING CAPACITY ASSESSMENTS INCLUDE:

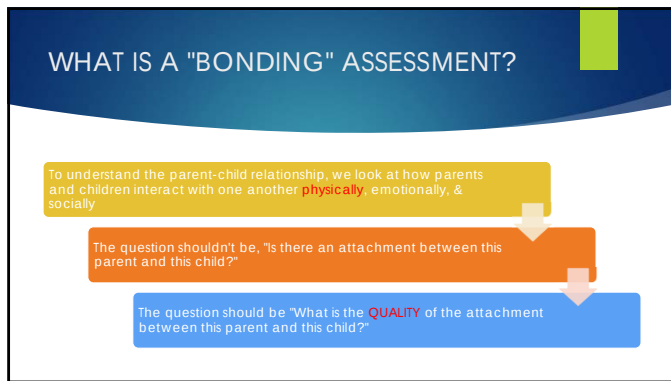
AN ASSESSMENT OF PARENT-CHILD ATTACHMENT RELATIONSHIPS BY OBSERVING INTERACTIONS AND HOW THEY ENGAGE

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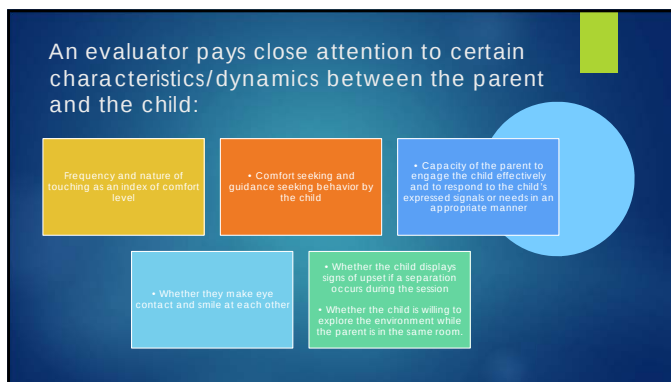
COMPONENTS

VERBAL	NONVERBAL	PROXIMITY	TOUCH	RESPONSIVENESS
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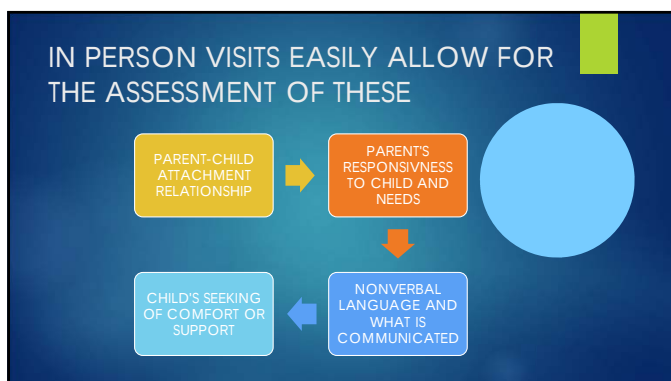
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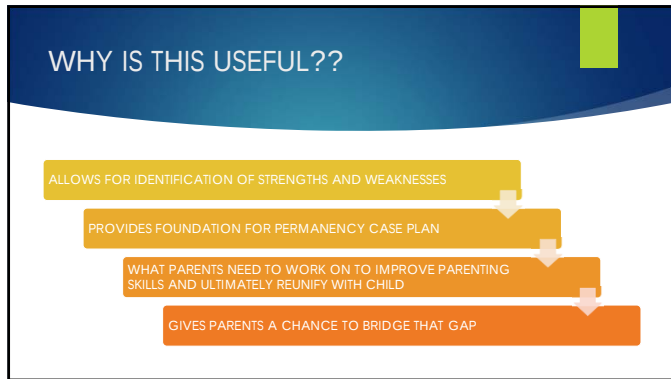
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