

	Details
Name	Paddy Crampsey
Course & Year	MSc in Attachment Studies, 2016.
Title of Research	<p>'With New Eyes'</p> <p>A study which questions:</p> <p>'Does the inclusion of a standardised tool to observe contact between birth parents and their children in care improve the facilitator's ability in observing same?'</p>
Abstract	<p>The author has worked for the past ten years as a Social Care Worker within a Children and Families Social Work Department in the Republic of Ireland. The author states that he is passionate about Social Care and providing a committed and inclusive service to the children and families he works with. It is through this work, that he identified areas where there appears to be gaps in the knowledge base amongst the front line staff members working in child protection. One suggested gap is a lack of understanding of the concepts around attachment. More specifically, the author believes that an understanding of attachment is often absent in the planning, the supervision and the assessment of supervised contact between birth parents and their children. The author has worked extensively in the area of contact and is concerned that, at times, both he and his team may be doing more harm than good to children and their families by making decisions without having a basis of knowledge in attachment. It was for this reason that he decided to complete the MSc in Attachment Studies. The author has always had a keen interest in the area of contact and it is for this reason that the research proposal related to the topic was chosen. In carrying out this small scale, pilot study, it was the aim of the author to examine if 'the inclusion of a standardised tool to observe contact between birth parents and their children in care improve the facilitator's ability in observing same?' In considering the study as a whole and paying close attention to the information shared by the participants, the author concluded that the inclusion of a standardised tool does indeed improve the facilitator's ability in observing same. Although the standardised tool (SCOT method) is in no way an assessment of attachment, this does not make it void of any potential for those who use it to increase their knowledge and awareness of attachment and as a result begin to question what they are seeing and more importantly, it may allow them to reassess previous conclusions they may have drawn about a family.</p>
References	<p>Marschak Interaction Methods using the Marschak Interaction Method Rating System, International Journal of Play Therapy, 20(1), pp. 1-11.</p> <p>Blaxter. L, Hughes, C. & Tight, M. (2002), How to Research, London: Routledge</p> <p>Bowlby, J. (1982). Attachment and loss: retrospect and prospect. American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 52(4), pp. 664.</p> <p>Chimera,C.(2015). Presentation to MSc in Attachment Studies in the University of Roehampton, 30th April.</p> <p>Crittenden, P. (2010) CARE – Index Infants Coding Manual, Family Relations Institute: Miami</p>

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