

Children and adolescents in natural disasters: psychological implications for Thai youth affected by the 2004 tsunami

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Abstract

Sudden, senseless losses after devastating natural disasters usually present psychological challenges to their victims, both children and adults. This paper reviews research studies on the psychological impact of natural disasters on children and adolescents, examining variables that may intensify the psychological impact of a natural disaster on youth. The paper highlights ways to reduce psychological risks, and enhance the adjustment and resiliency of child and adolescent survivors of natural disasters, especially those affected by the 2004 tsunami.

Key words : children and adolescent, natural disaster, psychological impact

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