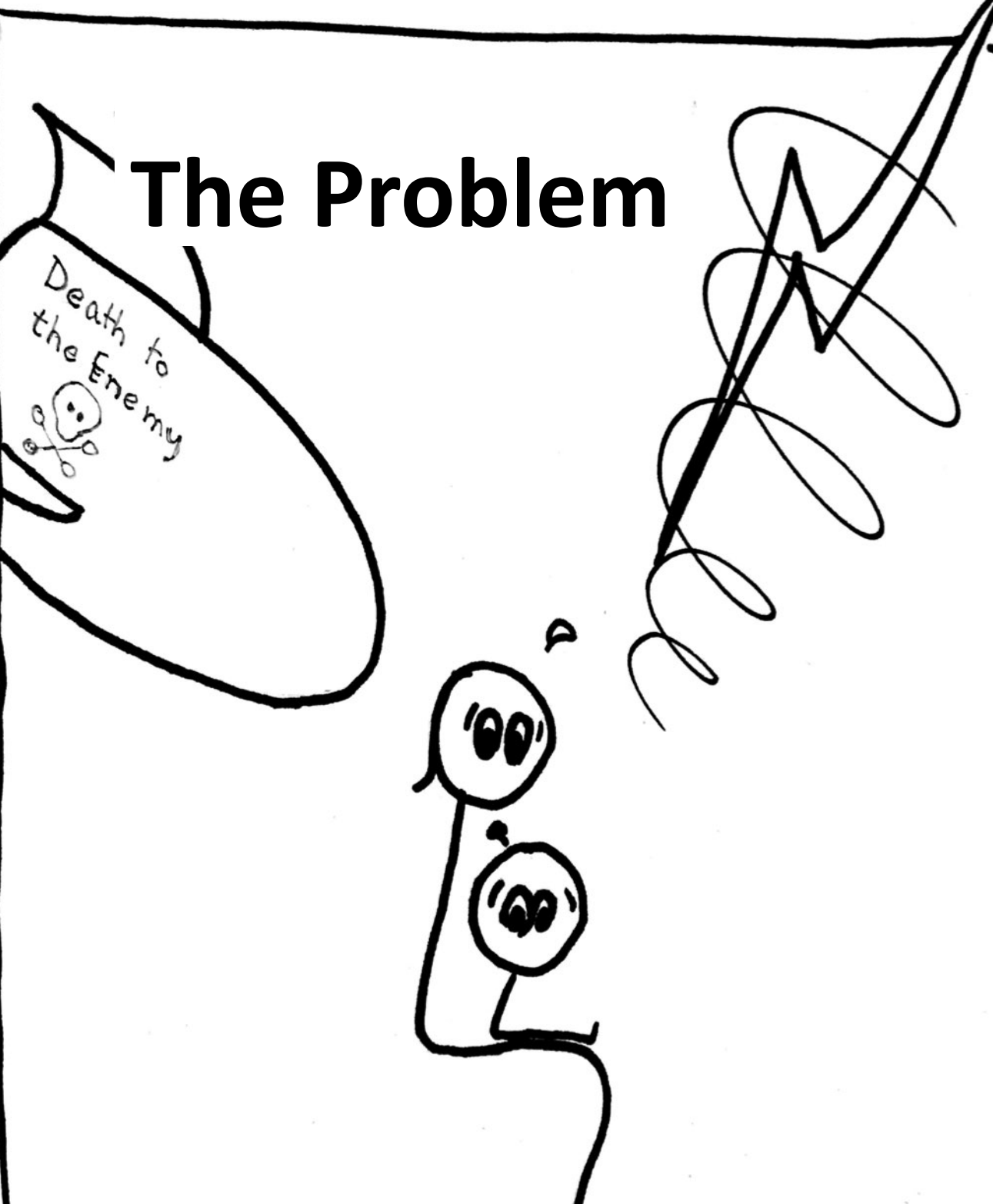


# SUPPORTING YOUNG CHILDREN GROWING UP IN AREAS IMPACTED BY ARMED CONFLICT

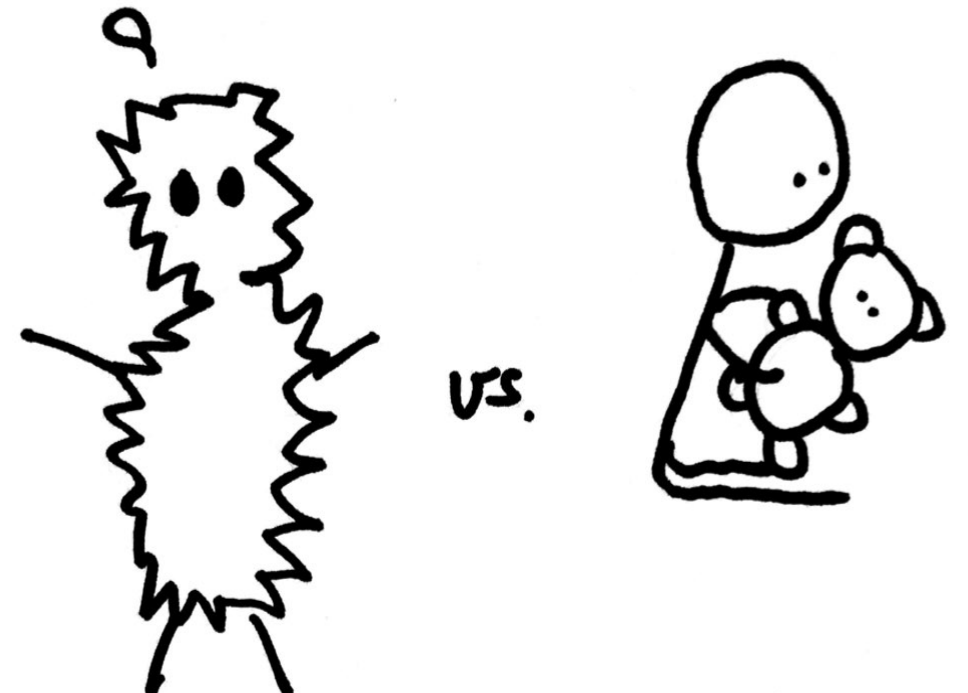
Josh Feder, MD  
Fielding Graduate University & Early Years, Belfast

## The Problem



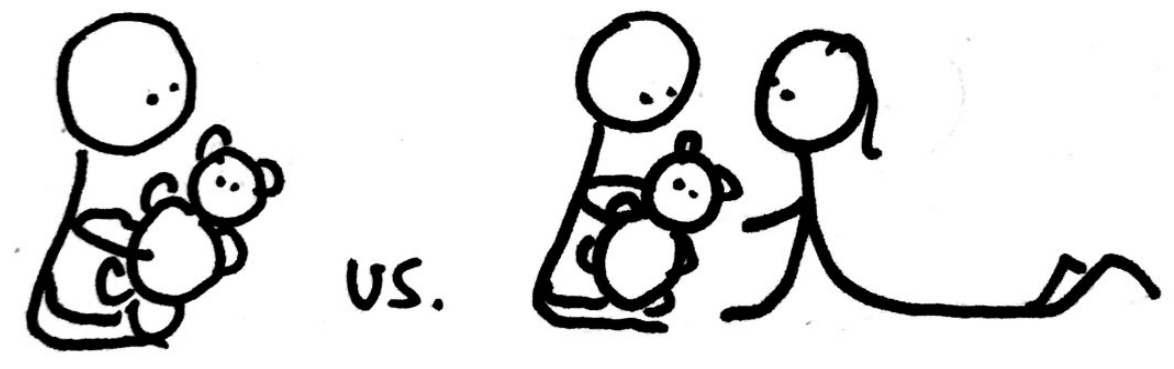
Young children in places impacted by armed conflict are at high risk for trauma. Caregivers (parents, relatives, daycare staff, and teachers) are under duress. How do we help the children be regulated and resilient?

## Objectives



Help caregivers to recognize the presence and absence of regulation and common kinds of situations that impede regulation.

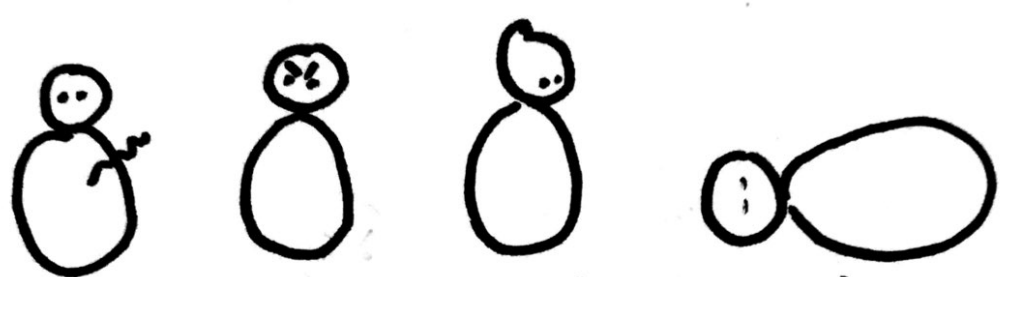
## Objectives



Help caregivers to recognize the presence and absence of affective connection / engagement, appreciate the developmental process of breaks and repairs of connection, and develop ongoing support for problem solving and planning.

## Methods

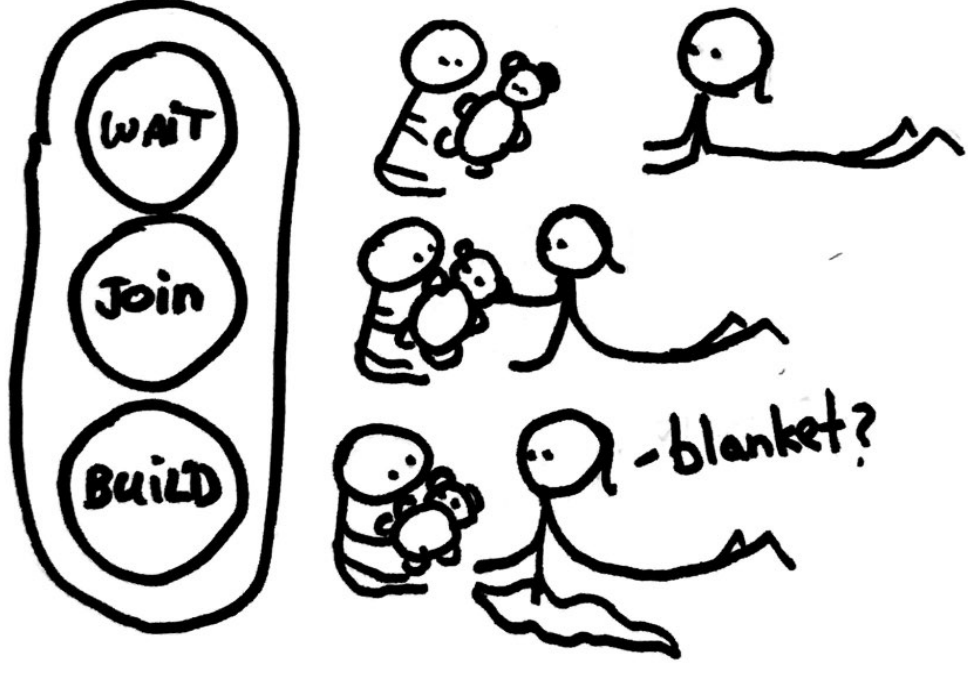
eg.



hungry angry lonely tired

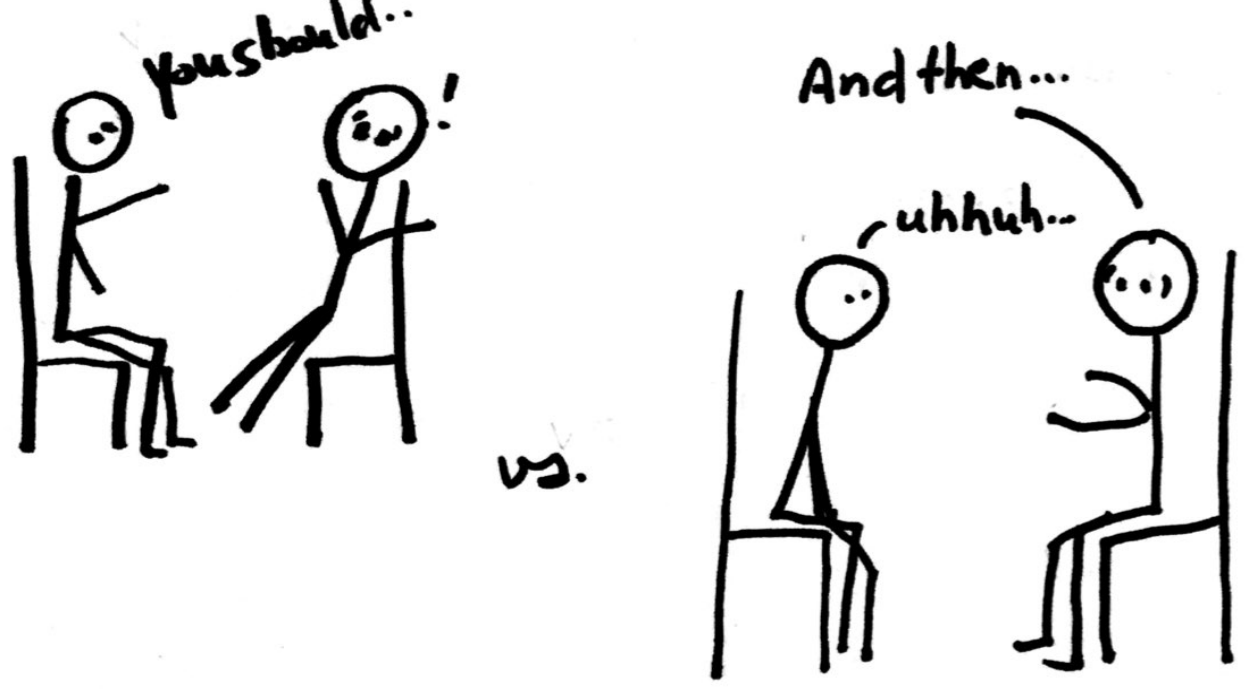
Preschool and daycare based caregiver engagement to work with children and catalog their various states and challenges in regulation, and talk about and practice co-regulation.

## Methods



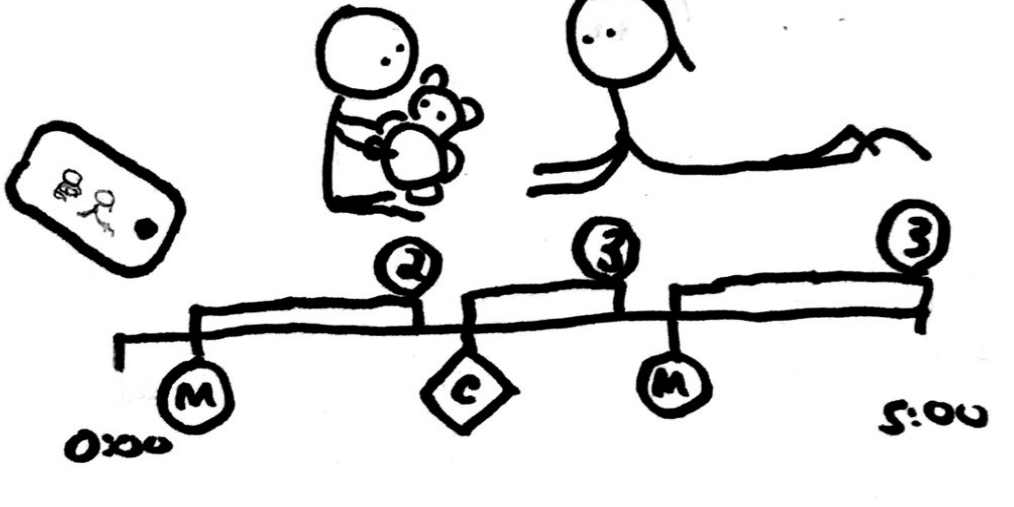
We use a form of Developmental, Individual Differences, Relationship-based (DIR/Floortime) approach to coach caregivers in how to assess, connect, and support helpful interactions with young children.

## Methods



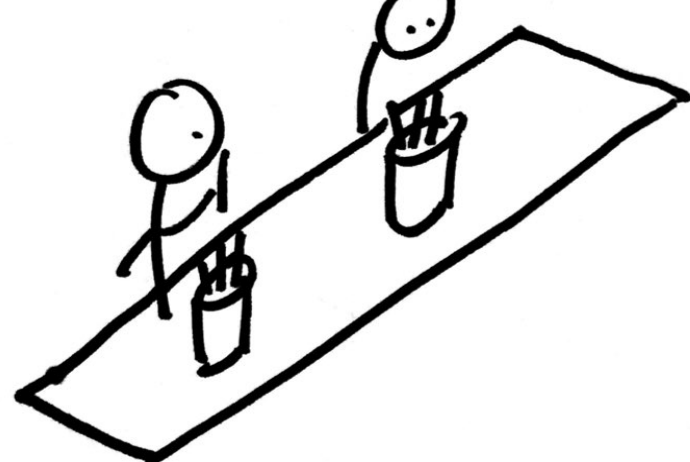
We build and nurture a horizontal and vertical community of reflective support between and among caregivers and those supporting them, in the context of local culture.

## Assessment



We use the Fielding Connection Coding Paradigm to score video, looking at the quality and length or connections and balance of initiation / repair in the dyad.

## Assessment



We use developmentally appropriate and safe tests of empathy. How will the child respond when a peer or caregiver needs help?

## Summary

The Early Years Toddler Module for the Media Initiative for Children is an evidence-informed program in development for expected pilot in 2018 – 2019.

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- Greenspan, S. , Wieder, S. Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health: A Comprehensive Developmental Approach to Assessment and Intervention. 2006.
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- Tronick, E. The Neurobehavioral and Social-Emotional Development of Infants and Young Children. 2007.
- Clough, M., Nilsen, S., Feder, J. Inter-rater reliability in video coding of engagement between caregivers and children outside of laboratory settings. 2013 (submitted).
- Harris, K, et. al. Assessing Empathy in Young Children: The Pink Pencil Test. 2017 (in process).

The International Networking Group  
on Peace Building with Young  
Children



early years  
the organisation for young children

