

# Social Workers Perceptions of Alignment Between Trauma-Informed Care and Common behavior Intervention Strategies

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# Research Question

How do school social workers rate the feasibility, clarity, and usefulness of a survey developed to evaluate their perceptions of alignment between trauma-informed care and common behavior intervention strategies?

# Background

- Trauma-informed care (TIC) - critical framework within schools, aiming to create environments that promote safety, trust, and healing for all students.
- Significant research done on Tier 1 interventions, less on Tier 3.
- Approximately 1 in 4 children have experienced physical abuse, while 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 13 boys have been subjected to sexual abuse (World Health Organization, n.d.).
- Pillars of Trauma-Informed Function-Based Intervention (TF-FBI) Framework
  - *(Building Healthy Relationships, Include Family or Incorporate Elements of Culture and/or Community, Prioritize Inter-Professional Collaboration, Teach Skills, Empower Students through Voice and Choice, & Ensure Safety)*

# Methodology

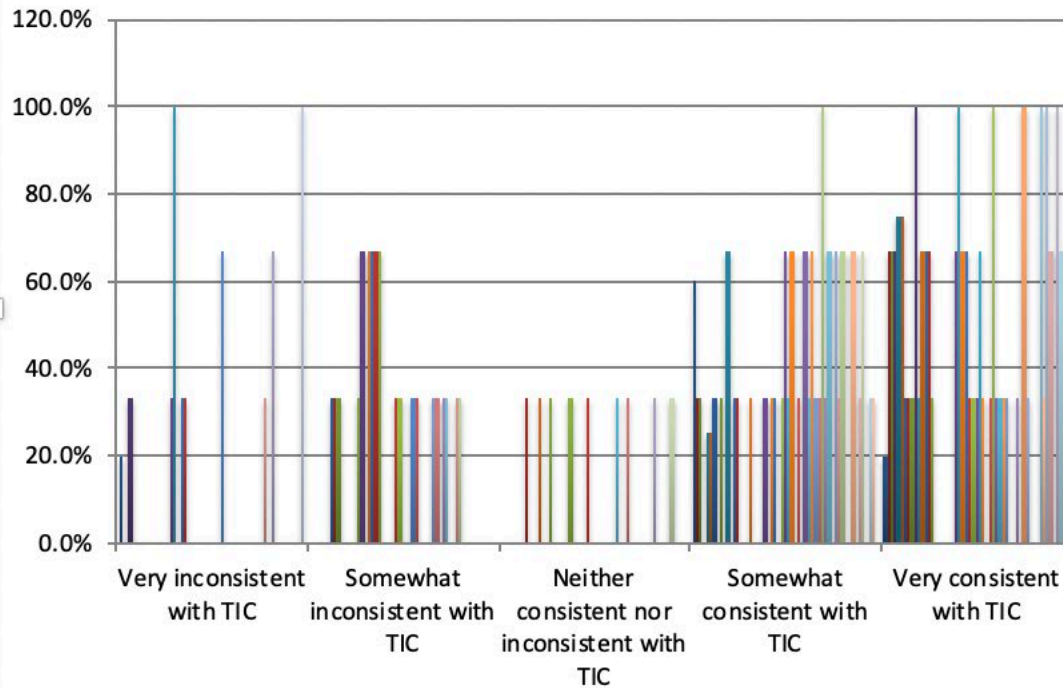
- Sample: 3 social workers
  - One clinical at community mental health clinic
  - One school-based from Guilford Public Schools
  - One community-based social worker -New Haven, CT
- Used TF-FBI Framework developed by Pollack et al. (2023)
  - Case example generated by Marney Pollock (BCBA) and myself (social work)
    - Then generated specific examples using the case to exemplify the different pillars to the TF-FBI Framework

# Methodology Cont.

- Chose behavior intervention strategies from each of the pillars of TF-FBI and asked:
  - Please read each behavior intervention strategy and rate the extent to which it aligns with trauma-informed care (TIC). Please consider each strategy in isolation when making your decisions. For each strategy, we provide an example of its application as it relates to the Diego case example.

# Results

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■ During functional behavior assessment (FBA; conducted to inform individualized behavior intervention plan), interviewing or administering a questionnaire, rating scale, or checklist to caregivers to understand how home factors might be influencing student

# Implications

- Shows a need for more Tier 3 supports and training in Trauma-Focused Interventions
- Shows a lack of consistency in Trauma-Focused Interventions

# Strengths

- Practical implications
- Current data from various sources
- Data representative of a bigger city (New Haven) and smaller town (Guilford)



# Limitations

- Data was not well rounded, only 3 respondents
- Survey is up to interpretation
- No direct contact
- Findings are subjective

# References

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