

Understanding and Responding to Domestic Abuse in Early Years Settings

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Statistics

41% of adults disclosing DA via the CSEW reported children were present.

46,500 Nottinghamshire residents are likely to have experienced DA in the last year.

Children were likely to be present in 19,000 cases.

Nottinghamshire Police recorded 4,236 DA Crimes in 21/22 in which at least 1 child was present.

Nottinghamshire DA commissioned services supported 3,000 adults and 280 CYP experiencing DA in 2021

Non commissioning services supported another 300 CYP.
These figures demonstrate a huge unmet need for CYP support



*Children and Young People in Notts will be able to
lead fulfilling lives free from abuse and able to
reach their full potential*





Aims of the CADA project

Child health and wellbeing:

Increased wellbeing, reduced mental distress, improved sense of self and self-care and coping, enhanced social relations and social wellbeing

Feelings of safety:

Improved (understanding of) safety, CADA and non-abusing parents' increased understanding of abuse, freedom to go about daily life

Improved CADA access to support:

CADA have a voice, increased capacity to engage in school and social activities



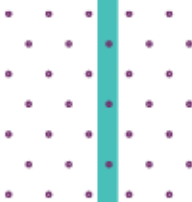
Aims of the CADA project

Early years professionals:

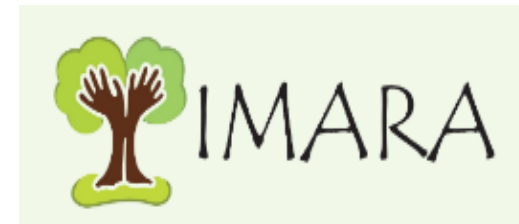
have increased understanding of and ability to identify and respond to DVSA/VAWG

Family relationships:

CADA and non-abusing parent have improved relationships, Caregiver emotional health and wellbeing improved, carers have greater understanding of abuse, parenting confident self-care and coping.



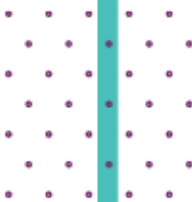
Specialist Support Services for Children Impacted by Domestic Abuse





Organisations Involved in CADA

- **Equation** – Training Element
- **Imara** - trauma-informed therapeutic intervention / DART
- **Nottinghamshire Women's Aid** - therapeutic recovery programmes for CYP and their non abusing parents
- **Nidas** - therapeutic recovery programmes for CYP and their non abusing parents DART / Art therapy
- **Juno Women's Aid** - therapeutic recovery programmes for CYP and their mothers / Stronger Families
- **Al Hurrahaya**











Understanding and Responding to Domestic Abuse in Early Years Settings

Content of Training Package








Content of Training in Early Years Sessions

-  Context and Statistics
-  What is Domestic Abuse?
-  Domestic Abuse and the Impact on the Unborn child
-  Reproductive Abuse
-  Impact on Parenting
-  Impact and Indicators / Children – Domestic Abuse and Trauma





Content of Training in Early Years Sessions

-  Local Statistics
-  Good Practice for Early Years Practitioners
-  Why does Early Years matter so much? Brain Development and positive experiences







Why does Early Years matter so much?

- There are key neuron chemicals that are vital called '**Positive Arousal chemicals**' in early child development – genetic expressions of these can be disrupted by early life stress.
- When the baby is born, the frontal lobes is unwired – like an unwired computer.
- Wiring up the baby's brain through positive experiences ensures best results and better outcomes in later life
- Babies and toddlers needs repeated positive relational interactions in order to develop well.
- **As early years practitioners are in a unique position** to give babies and toddlers as many positive experiences as it is possible.



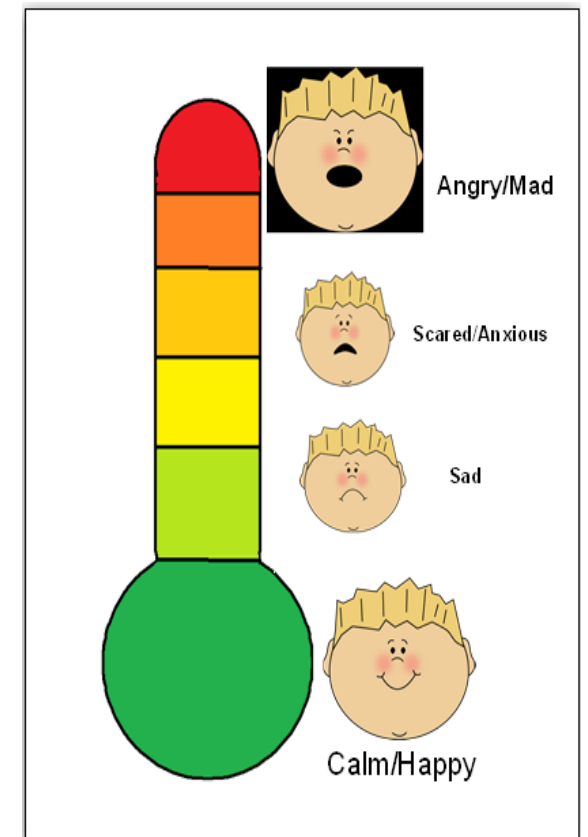
Providing Support for Children Impacted by Domestic Abuse

-  Policies and Procedures
-  Staff training
-  Creating a supporting environment for staff
-  Trauma Informed Practice



Responding to Children in Early Years Settings

- Providing a Safe Place in the Nursery
- Consistency and Schedules
- Focus on the individual child
- Establish a Key Person System
- Helping Children to Regulate Emotions
- Responding to disclosures
- Safeguarding – best practice and Sign Posting to Specialist Agencies



Children Affected by Domestic Abuse

Early Years Guide





Feedback from Early Years Settings / Impact of Training



"This training made me so much more aware of how domestic violence can have such a huge impact on the whole family. It was hard to comprehend that even a baby in it's mother's womb can be affected so deeply."



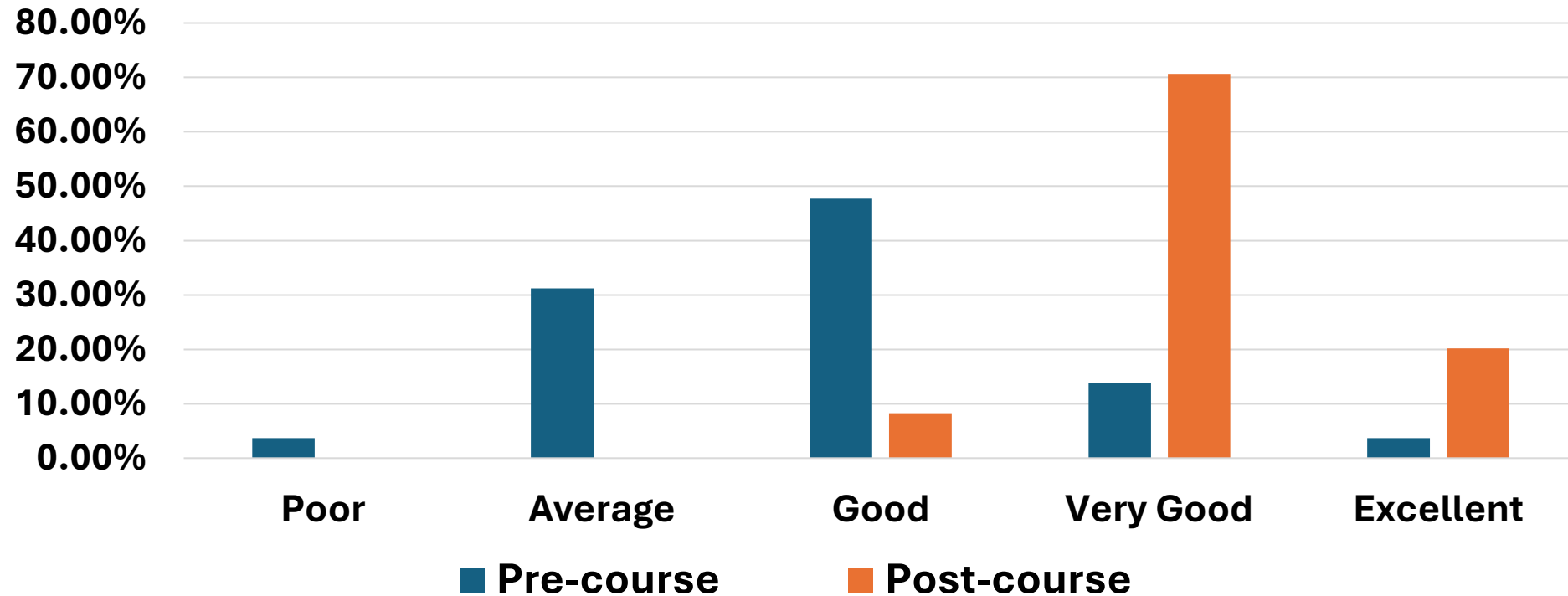


'This course has really supported my understanding of domestic abuse. It has made me reflect on how we as early years setting support and meet the needs of children who may be experiencing this at home. Confidence in having very difficult conversations'

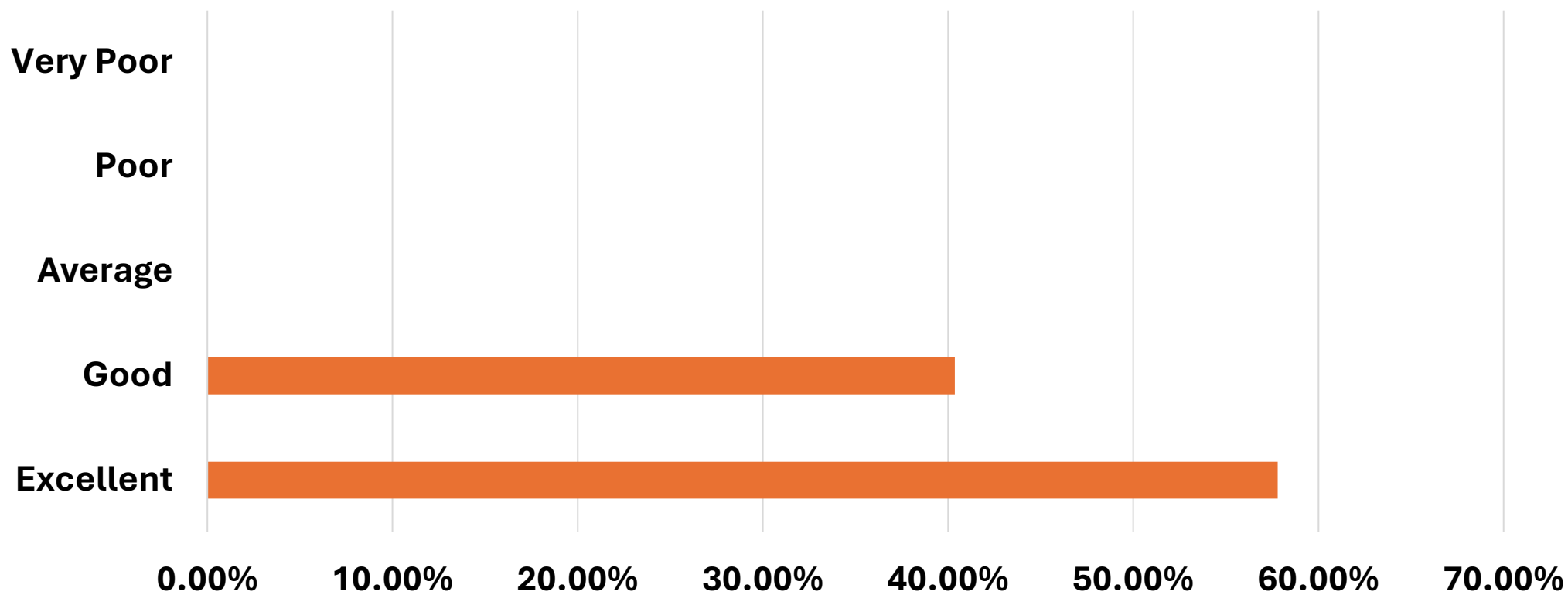


Delegates were asked to rate their knowledge about domestic abuse pre & post training.....

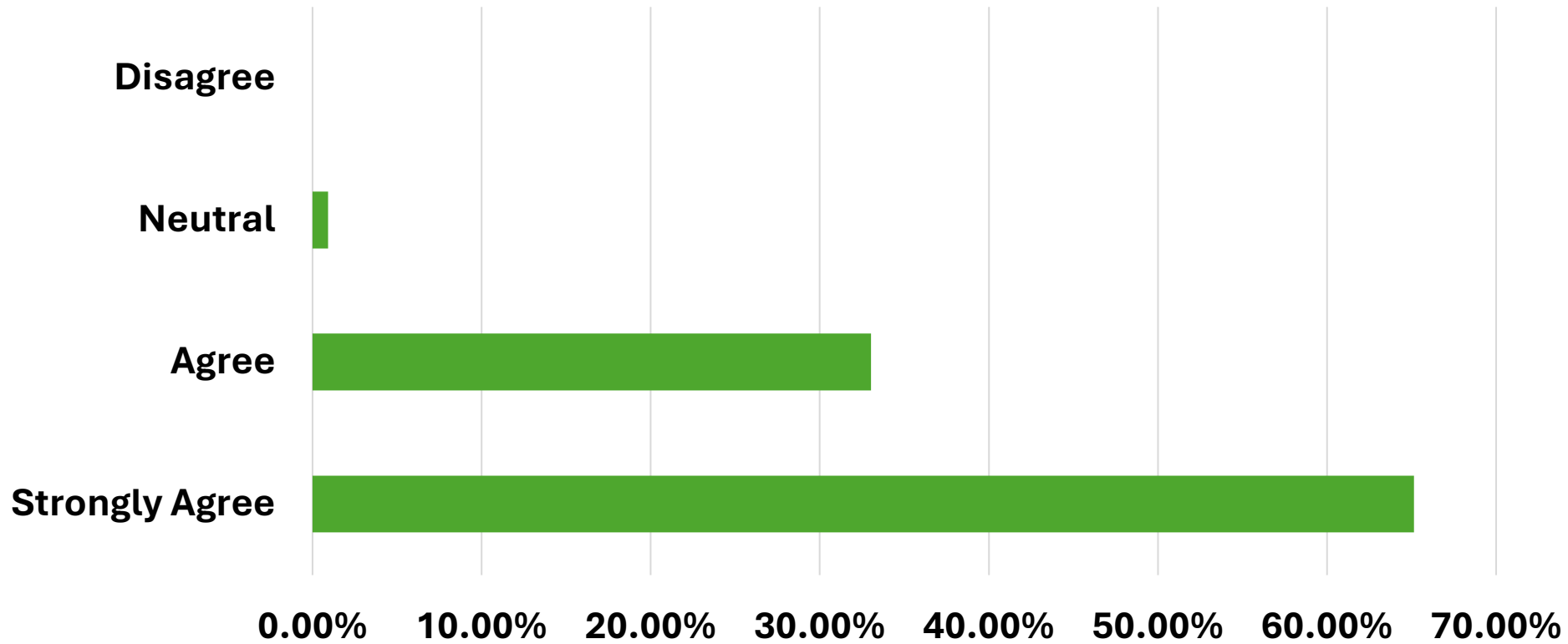
How would you rate your knowledge around Domestic Abuse?



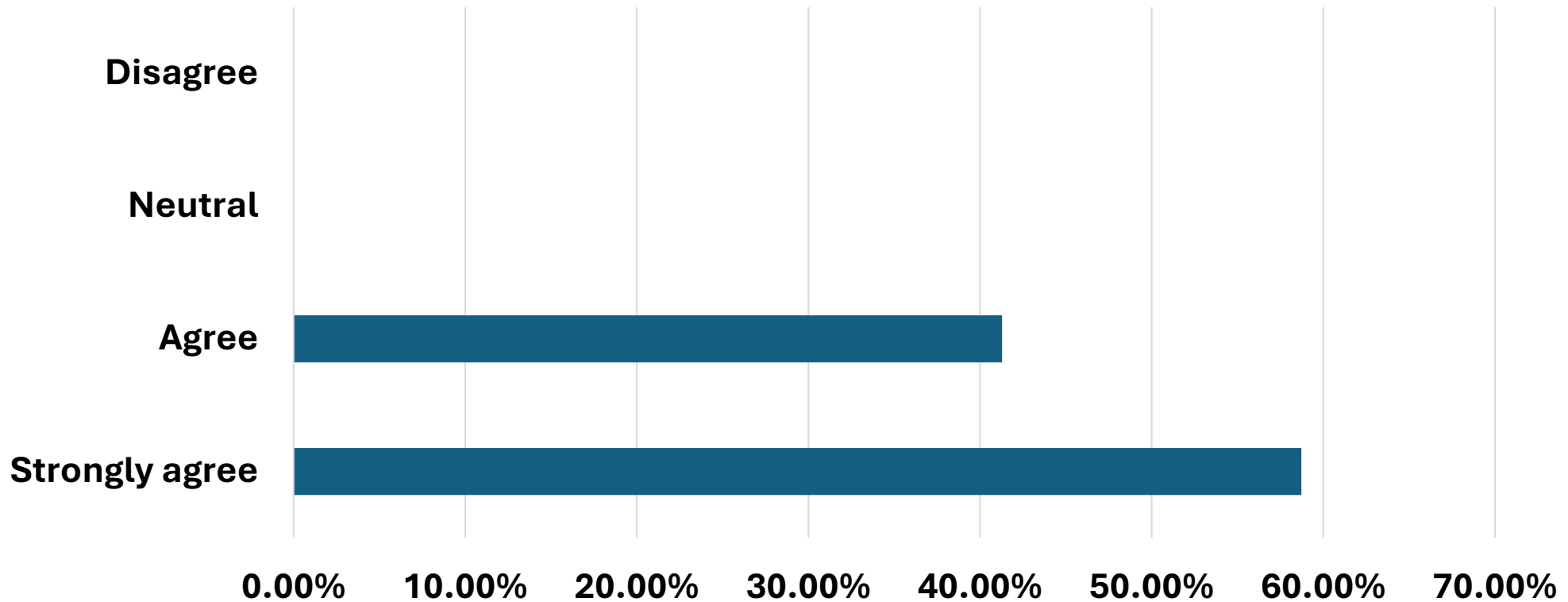
Overall, how would you rate the training session?



I have a better understanding of the impact of Domestic Abuse on both adult and child survivors



I have a better understanding of the support options and referral processes for child and adult survivors





Thank you

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