

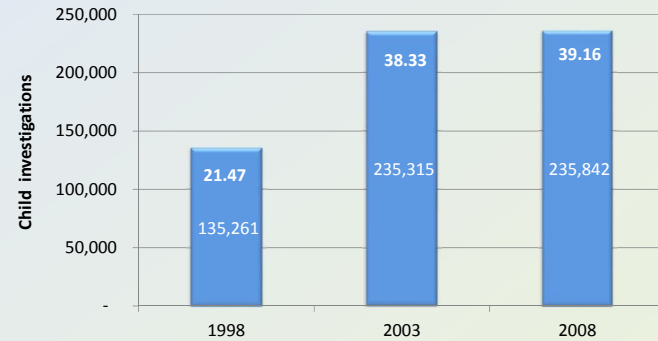
Dénouer la protection urgente et le bien-être des jeunes

Urgent protection versus chronic need: the dual mandate of child welfare services across Canada

Nico Trocmé, MSW, PhD, FRSC
 Le 25 mai 2019, Université de Montréal
 La Jeunesse au Carrefour: entre famille, communauté, état et société

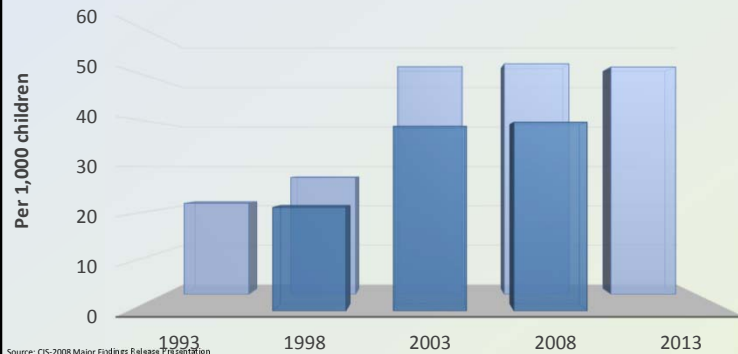
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Maltreatment related investigations in Canada: CIS-98, 03 & 08



Source: Trocmé et al. (2010)

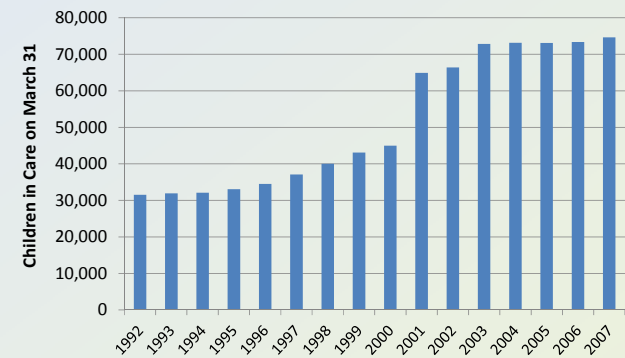
Incidence of Child Maltreatment Investigations in Ontario & Canada (1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, & 2013)



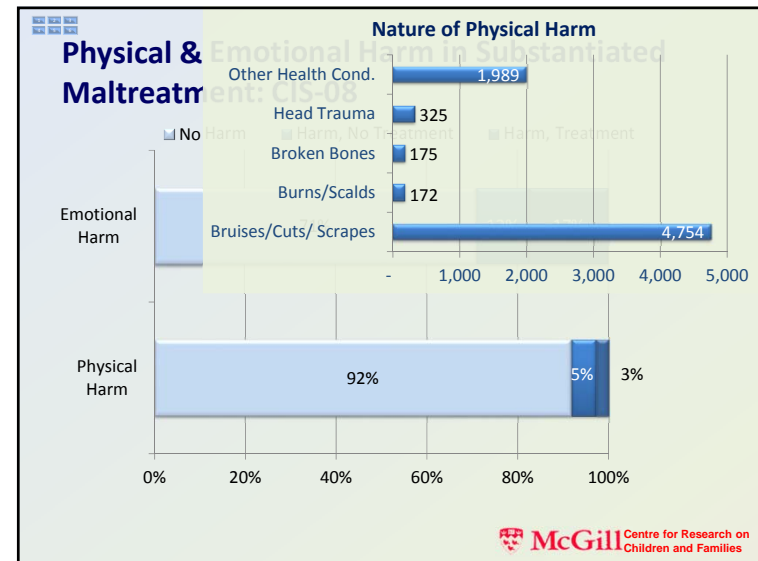
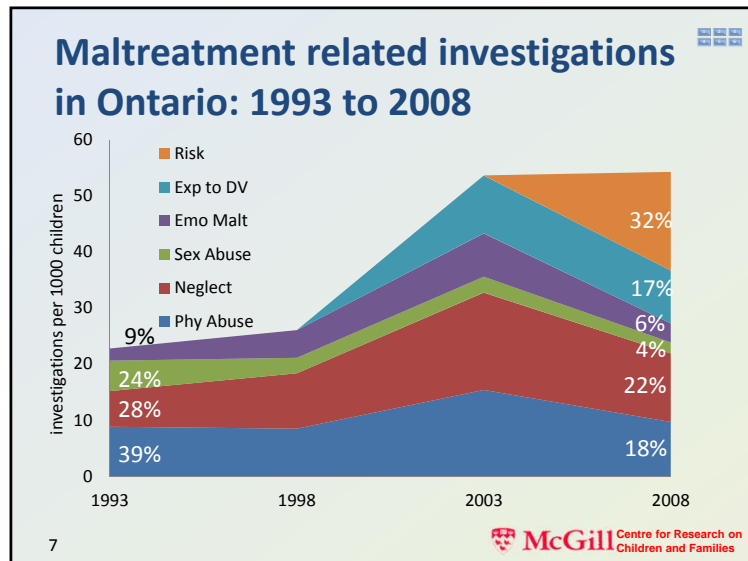
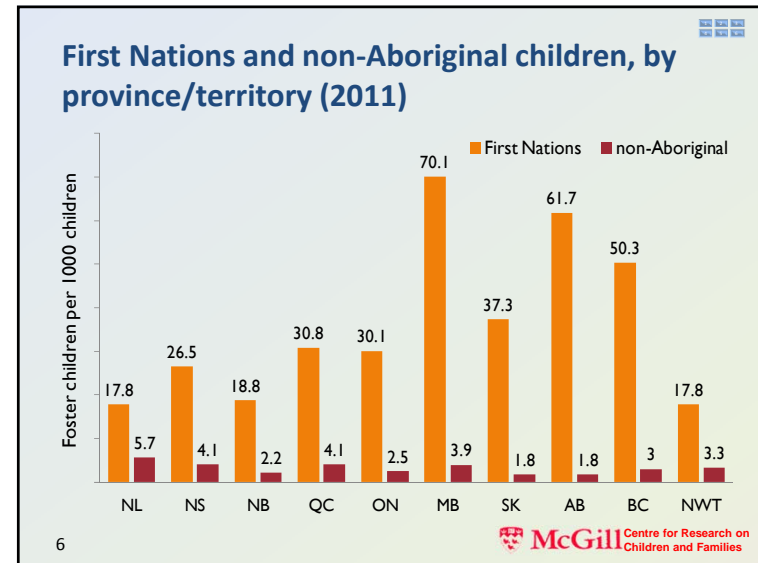
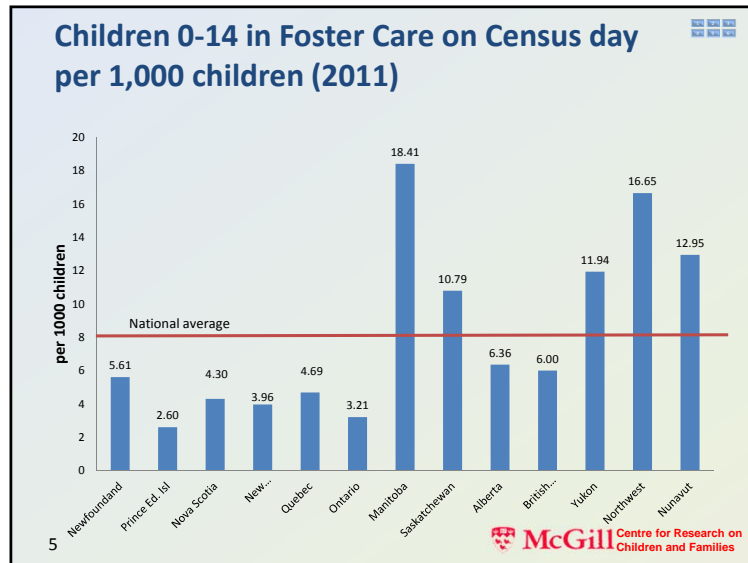
Source: CIS-2008 Major Findings Release Presentation

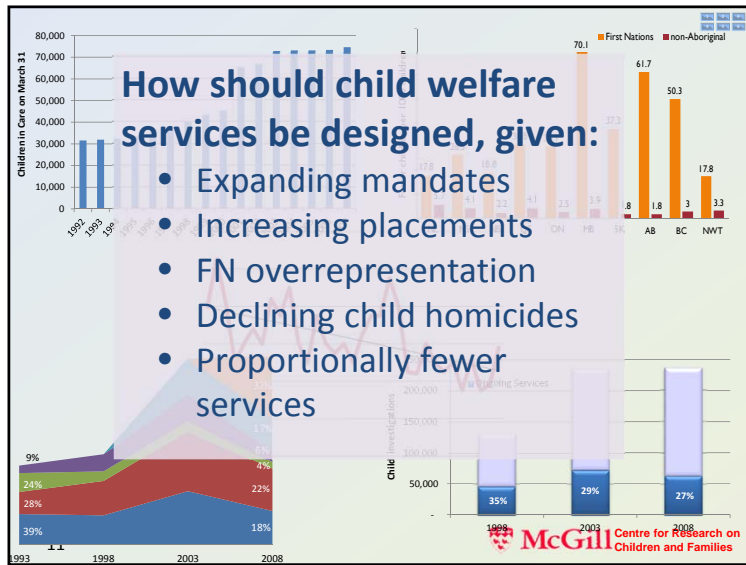
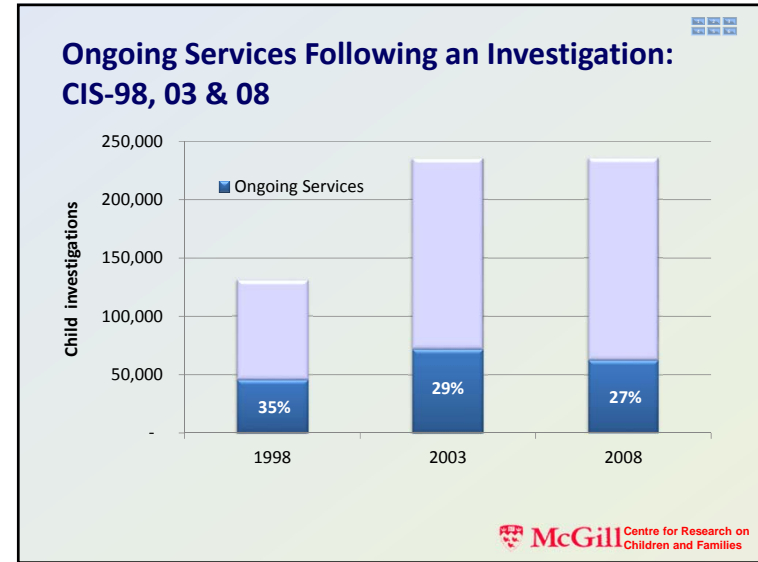
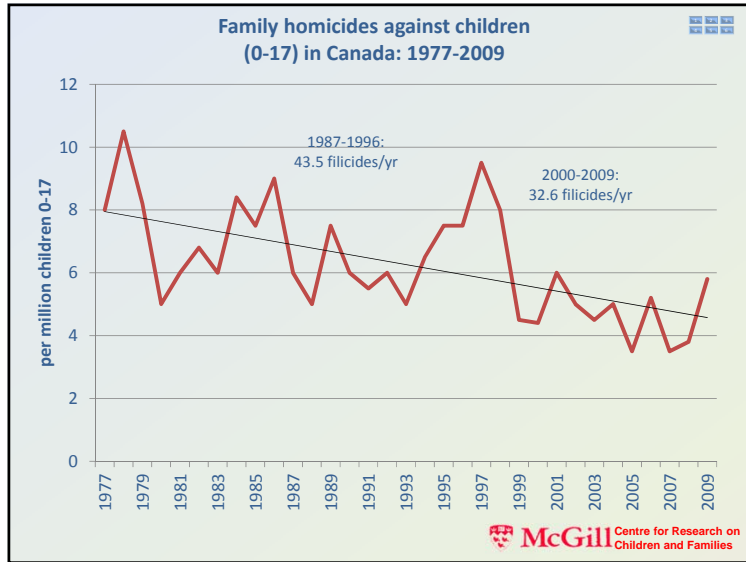
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Children in care in Canada: 1992-2007



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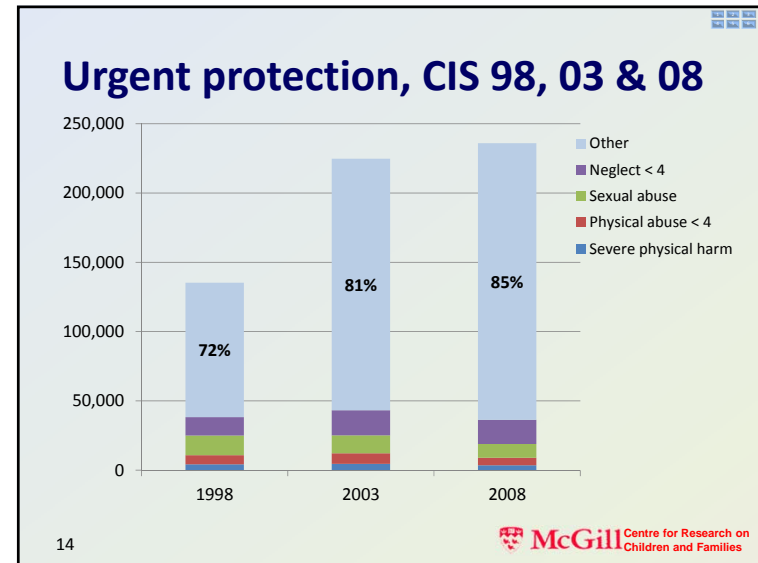
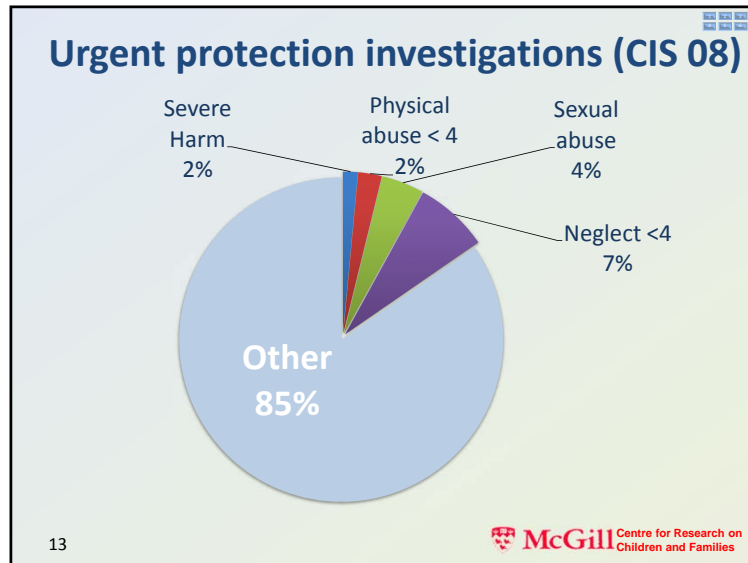


Urgent protection in the CIS

- Trocmé, Kyte, Sinha & Fallon (2014) *Urgent protection versus chronic need: clarifying the dual mandate of child welfare services across Canada*
- Re-categorization of CIS investigations on the basis of urgency.
- Three factors considered:
 - Severity of injury
 - Form of maltreatment
 - Age of child

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The other 85%...

- at risk of harm?

or

- endangered development & well-being

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Endangered development & well-being:

<h4>Children</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language delays - Aggressiveness - Anxiety/depression - Disorganized Attachments - Educational delays - Early drop-out - Tobacco & substance abuse - Social isolation & marginalization 	<h4>Parents & families</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extreme poverty - Mental health problems - Substance abuse - Spousal violence - Social isolation & mistrust - Feeling of parental incompetence - Limited support for school activities - Poor self-esteem
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Safety & well-being paramount principles in child welfare legislation across Canada

- **Newfoundland:** *promote the safety and well-being of children and youth who are in need of protective intervention.*
- **New Brunswick:** *"protective care" means a service which provides an immediate safeguard for a child's security and development...*
- **PEI:** *...the best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration.*
- **NWT:** *the paramount objective of this act is to promote the best interests, protection and well-being of children.*
- **Quebec:** *loi s'applique à un enfant dont la sécurité ou le développement est ou peut être considéré comme compromis.*
- **British Columbia:** *the safety and well-being of children are the paramount considerations...*
- **Alberta:** *For the purposes of this Act, a child is in need of intervention if there are reasonable and probable grounds to believe that the survival, security or development of the child is endangered...*
- **Saskatchewan:** *The purpose of this act is to promote the well-being of children under 16 who are in need of protection...*
- **Manitoba:** *The best interests of the child shall be the paramount consideration...*
- **Ontario:** *The paramount purpose of this Act is to promote the best interests, protection and well being of children.*

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Urgent protection and chronic need require different approaches

- A **forensic approach** with clear reporting and investigation protocols and rapid response times is critical in cases where serious physical abuse, sexual abuse or neglect of young children are the central concern.
- Cases involving **chronic family problems** call for comprehensive, flexible and collaborative assessments that identify and build on all potential resources (family, communities, education, recreation & health care)
- Confounding **urgent protection** and **chronic need** puts both groups of children at further risk

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Differential Response

- Tailor child welfare response to an increasingly broad range of child and family problems.
- Engage lower risk families with a collaborative approach that access community resources and services (assessment).
- Severe abuse or imminent risk cases receive full protective (forensic) investigation.

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Outcomes of Differential / Alternate Response

- Evaluating DR programs is challenging because they are system wide.
- Categorized as a "promising" approach by the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse (2014)
- Most recent evaluation (Fluke et al. 2019) compared AR to Investigative Response (IR) in 6 states using county level rates or re-reports
- Counties had 3% fewer re-reports overall for each percentage increase in AR use; higher levels of AR use are related to lower levels of re-reporting.

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Merci

nico.trocme@mcgill.ca

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Supplementary slides

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