

Early life of the 'battered child'.

Holman,RR; Kanwar,S

Arch Dis Child. 1975 Jan; 50(1): 78-80.

The obstetric histories and early lives of 28 subsequently abused children are reviewed. The youngest child, more often male, was shown to be most 'at risk' especially if the mother was pregnant. Reduced antenatal care, separation of mother and child during the neonatal period, illness, poor features. It is felt that these and other difficulties may be regarded as 'environmental pressures' leading to child abuse by susceptible individuals, early recognition of such situations could lead to preventive and supportive measures.