



rffada

Russell Family Fetal Alcohol Disorders Association
THE 'DOMINO EFFECT' OF FASD – PREVENTION

*Are you thinking of becoming a parent?
 Can't give up alcohol [the grog]?
 Think again, because this is what your life could look like
 Seriously
 You baby deserves better!
 The impacts on your baby, your life and that of your whole family, will
 be devastating
 Have you truly thought about this?
 This is the truth not scaremongering*

Mum	Child	Parents Caregivers	Family and social networks
<p>25 years old</p> <p>Unable to return to work Child care facilities refuse to have child or child is expelled multiple times - doctors misdiagnose and or ignorant of FASD – they just don't get it</p>	<p>0-12 months - crying, not thriving, developmentally delayed, often at doctors for illnesses, bills mounting</p>	<p>Difficulty coping, strain on relationship, time can only go to child, friends help</p>	<p>Joy of being a parent is crushed with demands and frustrations, professional disregard of plight</p>
<p>30 years - dismay and confusion – why me? Loves her child but feels guilty about not loving enough - is it something to do with her enjoyment of an occasional drink when pregnant? Guilt, grief and loss after diagnosis</p>	<p>2-3 years - child demanding, a loner, temper tantrums, developmentally delayed and demanding, cute, mischievous, runs away, hyperactive, looks for excitement, needs 24 7 supervision</p>	<p>Tired, frightened, and knows there is something wrong with their much-loved child, Is this something to do with their alcohol use before and during pregnancy?</p>	<p>Difficult to find solutions despite increasing financial burden - home life impacted, increasing parental fatigue and discord as parents blame each other, grandparents can't cope, Extended family unsupportive and or stressed, friends refuse to assist</p>
<p>35 years – tired, realises there is a problem with child, found child has ventricle septal defect in heart, frightened and anxious, relying heavily on medications</p>	<p>5 years of age, in prep but not doing well, has already been expelled from two prep schools, developmentally delayed, always sick, has no one to play with, mum can see the difference to other children the same age – just doesn't get it</p>	<p>Relationship breakdown, parents traumatised, children traumatised</p>	<p>Aspirations and future plans are entirely being seen as dependent on what is happening with their child children – can they go on holiday? What sort of behaviour will being out of routine precipitate? Respite care required but after one day carer refused to provide more</p>
	<p>10 years, child in year 4 but developmentally much younger, inappropriate sexual behaviour, slow in literacy, maths and language skills, refuses to do homework, always unwell, just got glasses and had grommet operation</p>		<p>Frightened for the future – unless they are prepared for holiday in hell, they do not dare leave their routine, developmental delay unsupported by extended family who believe parents are not parenting correctly, parents take parenting classes</p>

Mum	Child	Parents Caregivers	Family and social networks
40 years – tired, anxiety disorder, clinical depression	15 years of age – stealing, increasing financial burden, drinking, fighting, using drugs, mixing and being manipulated by gangs, stealing cars, fighting, known to police and juvenile courts, rejects counselling, sexually active, quarrelsome at home, demands money and refuses to leave - extended family and neighbours complaining, increasingly aggressive and volatile, unpredictable violence, police involvement	Ongoing tension, parents have been constantly in touch with school, now child has been expelled,	Arguing and blaming each other, extended family refuse to help, mother has to stop work to stay with teenager as he must be supervised
50 years – exhausted and resigned to rearing grandchildren, meeting brick walls, constant cries for help ignored, superannuation and economic independence impacted	25 years - Has been incarcerated for assault including sexual assault, break and enter, car and other theft, drug peddling and use, mental health problems and suicide attempts, unemployment – in fact never been employed, has been injured in car accident	Struggling to cope with financial burden, emotional disempowerment – ex-husband doesn't cope with children or grandchildren	Living separately, victims of elder abuse, active in FASD advocacy, political and medical blockades protecting alcohol industry, unable to retire but must stop work to raise grandchildren

Source: Contribution by parents of Russell Family Fetal Alcohol Disorders Association

Baby at 0-12 months - crying, not thriving, developmentally delayed, often at doctors for illnesses, child care facilities refuse to have child or child is expelled multiple times

Mum at 25 years old - bills mounting, difficulty coping, strain on relationship, time can only go to child, friends help, joy of being a parent is crushed with demands and frustrations, professional disregard of plight, unable to return to work doctors misdiagnose and |or ignorant of FASD, they just don't get it

Child at 2-3 years - child demanding, a loner, temper tantrums, developmentally delayed and demanding, cute, mischievous, runs away, hyperactive, looks for excitement, needs 24 |7 supervision, difficult to find solutions despite increasing financial burden - home life impacted, increasing parental fatigue and discord as parents blame each other, grandparents can't cope, extended family unsupportive and |or stressed, friends refuse to assist

Mum at 30 years - dismay and confusion – why me? Loves her child but feels guilty about not loving enough - is it something to do with her enjoyment of an occasional drink when pregnant? Guilt, grief and loss after diagnosis, mum can see the difference to other children the same age – just doesn't get it Tired, frightened, and knows there is something wrong with their much-loved child, Aspirations and future plans are entirely being seen as dependent on what is happening with their child |children – can they go on holiday? What sort of behaviour will being out of routine precipitate? Respite care required but after one day carer refused to provide more

Child at 5 years of age - in prep but not doing well, has already been expelled from two prep schools, developmentally delayed, always sick, and has no one to play with

Mum at 35 years – tired, realises there is a problem with child, found child has ventricle septal defect in heart, frightened and anxious, relying heavily on medications, Relationship breakdown, parents traumatised, children traumatised, frightened for the future – unless they are prepared for holiday in hell, they do not dare leave their routine, developmental delay unsupported by extended family who believe parents are not parenting correctly, parents take parenting classes

Child at 10 years - in year 4 but developmentally much younger, inappropriate sexual behaviour, slow in literacy, maths and language skills, refuses to do homework, always unwell, just got glasses and had grommet operation

Mum at 40 years – tired, anxiety disorder, clinical depression, ongoing tension, parents have been constantly in touch with school, now child has been expelled, arguing and blaming each other, extended family refuse to help, mother has to stop work to stay with teenager as he must be supervised

Child at 15 years of age – stealing, increasing financial burden, drinking, fighting, using drugs, mixing and being manipulated by gangs, stealing cars, fighting, known to police and juvenile courts, rejects counselling, sexually active,

quarrelsome at home, demands money and refuses to leave - extended family and neighbours complaining, increasingly aggressive and volatile, unpredictable violence, police involvement

Mum at 50 years – exhausted and resigned to rearing grandchildren, meeting brick walls, constant cries for help ignored, superannuation and economic independence impacted, struggling to cope with financial burden, emotional disempowerment – ex-husband doesn't cope with children or grandchildren, living separately, victims of elder abuse, active in FASD advocacy, political and medical blockades protecting alcohol industry, unable to retire but must stop work to raise grandchildren

Child at 25 years - Has been incarcerated for assault including sexual assault, break and enter, car and other theft, drug peddling and use, mental health problems and suicide attempts, unemployment – in fact never been employed, has been injured in car accident