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JUVENILE JUSTICE
INSTITUTE 2020

CREATING A TRAUMA-INFORMED JUVENILE COURT NOTETAKING GUIDE

A history of childhood trauma is common among youth who enter the juvenile-justice system. When children are abused or exposed to other forms of violence, they may lose their trust in the adults who are either responsible for perpetrating the abuse or who fail to protect them. This distrust— often accompanied by a disregard for adult rules and laws — places these youth at greater risk for delinquency and other inappropriate behaviors. Research has repeatedly shown that the majority of youth in the juvenile justice system have experienced traumatic events.

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