

A. Children removed from their parents generally experience better outcomes when placed with kin, including:

7. Stronger connections to child's biological family

- Amy Holtan, et al., *A Comparison of Mental Health Problems in Kinship and Non kinship Foster Care*, 14 EUROPEAN CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCH. 200 (2005), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/7762944_A_comparison_of_mental_health_problems_in_kinship_and_nonkinship_foster_care.

This study compares psychiatric problems and placement characteristics of 124 children (ages 4-13) in kinship and 90 in non-kinship foster homes in Norway, with a minimum stay in care of 1 year. Their caregivers filled out the Child Behavioral Checklist (CBCL), a 120-item questionnaire that reflects their view of the child's behavior. Results show that children in kinship care are able to maintain higher levels of contact with their biological parents which likely contributes to positive wellbeing.

- Jed Metzger, *Resiliency in Children and Youth in Kinship Care and Family Foster Care*, 87 CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA 115 (2008), <https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.459.956&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

This study examines self-concept, resiliency, and social support in foster care children through a private nonprofit child welfare agency contracting with DSS. Data was collected in 1997 via voluntary participation of individuals filling out questionnaires. The questionnaire utilizes the PAIC which measures a child's sense of well-being and self-worth. The sample size includes 107 children in New York City; 55 in non-kin foster care, and 52 in kinship foster homes. The study finds that children in kinship care experience more communication with their biological parents compared to children in non-kinship care. Children in kinship care are also more likely to receive monthly visits from both their mothers and fathers. The study also suggests that increased visitation is correlated with increased well-being for the child. Children in kinship foster homes have "significantly more robust self-concept, performance, and personal attribute scores."