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and Development; Bioecological Theory; The Person; The Proximal Environment of Child Development; Microsystem; DIRECT FAMILY EFFECTS - HERITABILITY; DIRECT FAMILY EFFECTS - EXPERIENCES; INDIRECT FAMILY EFFECTS: EXPERIENCE; FAMILY EFFECTS: SIBLINGS; Effects of the Natural and Designed Environments; Distal Environments of Child Development; Mesosystem, Exosystem, and Macrosystem; Peers; Day Care; Socioeconomic Status; Culture; Conclusions; Acknowledgments; References

CHAPTER 2 Risk and Adversity in Developmental Psychopathology: Progress and Future Directions Risk Factors and Cumulative Risk Index; Stressful Life Events and Adversity Exposure; Methodological and Conceptual Issues; Definitions and Assessment of Risk; Longitudinal Analyses of Risk and Adversity Effects; Specificity and the Unique Contribution of Different Risk and Adversity Factors; Interaction Effects between Different Sources of Risk and Adversity; Ethical Issues; Conclusion; Acknowledgments; References; CHAPTER 3 Maternal Care as the Central Environmental Variable

1. Introduction: Mothers in Focus 2. Maternal Care; 3. Mother and Child Moving toward Independence; The First Three months; Four to (about) Eight Months; Nine to Eighteen Months; Becoming a Conversational Partner; Summary; 4. The Relation between Maternal Care and Infant Development; The Impact of Postnatal Depression and Maternal Anxiety; 5. Methodological Considerations in the Measurement of Maternal Care; 6. Concluding Remarks; Notes; References; CHAPTER 4 Novel Assessment Techniques Aimed at Identifying Proximal and Distal Environmental Risk Factors for Children and Adolescents

Assessment of Proximal Risk Factors Ecological Momentary Assessment; Utility of EMA with School Aged Children; Use of EMA to Identify Environmental Risks for Infants; Methodological Considerations Use of EMA to Identify Environmental Risks for Infants; Assessment of Home Environment; The Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME); Structured Parent-Child Interactions; Dynamic Systems Approach to Assessing Parent-Child Interactions; Methodological Considerations for Observational Assessments; Assessment of Distal Risk Factors; Systematic Social Observation Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technology

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## Sommario/riassunto

Families, communities and societies influence children's learning and development in many ways. This is the first handbook devoted to the understanding of the nature of environments in child development. Utilizing Urie Bronfenbrenner's idea of embedded environments, this volume looks at environments from the immediate environment of the family (including fathers, siblings, grandparents and day-care personnel) to the larger environment including schools, neighborhoods, geographic regions, countries and cultures. Understanding these embedded environments and the ways in which they interact is necessary to understand development.

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