

Study	Aims	Procedures	Findings
Robertson	To investigate the consequences of temporary disruption of attachments.	John, a healthy 17-month-old child was placed in a residential nursery for 9 days. Over the course of those 9 days, observational tests were carried out.	Over the course of the 9 days, John went from being happy and well-adjusted to being depressed and distressed.
Hodges & Tizard	To examine the effect of institutional upbringing on later attachments	Using various self-report measures, interviews and psychometric tests, Hodges & Tizard studied multiple 16 year olds who had been in institutional care until at least two years of age. At this age they were either adopted or restored to biological parents.	<p>At 16 the majority of the adoptive mothers felt that their child was deeply attached to them. By contrast only a half of the restored children were described as deeply attached. Adopted adolescents were also more often said by their mothers to be attached to their father than the restored group. Hodges and Tizard believed argued that their findings demonstrate that children who are deprived of close and lasting attachments to adults in their first years of life can make such attachments later, although this does depend on the adults concerned and how much they nurture such attachments.</p> <p>Hodges and Tizard offer an explanation for why the adopted children were more likely to overcome some of the problems of early institutional upbringing better than the restored children. The financial situation of the adoptive families was often better, they had on average fewer children to provide for, and the adoptive parents were particularly highly motivated to have a child and to develop a relationship with that child. The biological parents in Hodges and Tizard's sample seemed to have been 'more ambivalent about their child living with them'.</p>
Robertson & Bowlby	To examine the effects of hospitalisation and institutionalisation on children	Hospitalised children had their visiting rights restricted to one hour a day. The effects on the child were measured.	<p>Robertson &amp; Bowlby found three distinct stages in the children's behaviour:</p> <p><b>Protest:</b> Initial response is acute stress; the child cries, and either rejects or clings desperately onto substitute caregivers</p> <p><b>Despair:</b> Seeks PCG's return but shows increasing signs of helplessness. Less active, mourns.</p> <p><b>Detachment:</b> Child may welcome attention of others; if PCG returns, child remains remote. Prolonged stays and child develops attachments would substitute caregivers who come and go, resulting in further loss.</p> <p>If the child stops committing to further relationships, it is called "Anaclitic Depression"</p>