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A PHD STUDY OF RELIABILITY AND VALIDITY: ONE STEP CLOSER TO A STANDARDIZED MUSIC THERAPY ASSESSMENT MODEL

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Abstract: The paper will present a phd study concerning reliability and validity of music therapy assessment model "Assessment of Parenting Competences" (APC) in the area of families with emotionally neglected children. This study had a multiple strategy design with a philosophical base of critical realism and pragmatism. The fixed design for this study was a between and within groups design in testing the APCs reliability and validity. The two different groups were parents with neglected children and parents with non-neglected children. The flexible design had a multiple case study strategy specifically with interplay of turns between parent and child as the case under study comparing clinical and non-clinical groups and looking for differences in patterns of interaction. The flexible design informed the fixed design and led to further valuable statistical analysis. The presenter will provide an overview of the theoretical understanding of the clientgroup. Furthermore, a short description of the specific assessment protocol and analysis procedures of APC will be a part of the presentation. The phd study sought to explore how to develop measures of parenting competences in looking at autonomy relationship, communication patterns between parent and child, and type of parental response. This included a comparison with a nonclinical group and the presentation will elaborate on the advantages and disadvantages of this in building models or tests with high degrees of reliability and validity. Promising results of the interrater reliability analysis, test re-test analysis, and internal consistency analysis will be presented to open a discussion on the possibility of standardized music therapy models.

Requirements: The presenter brings her own laptop and makes a power-point presentation. To illustrate differences between clinical and non-clinical groups there is a need for enhancing the audio sound from video excerpts coming from the laptop.

References: Jacobsen, Stine & Wigram, Tony (2007). Music Therapy for the Assessment of Parental Competencies for Children in need of care. In: Nordic Journal of Music Therapy, 16(2) 2007, pp. 129-143.

Jacobsen, S. L. (2009) Music Therapy assessment as evaluation and validation: Commentary on Lagan´s article 2009. In: Australian Journal of Music Therapy. 20

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Biographical details: Stine Lindahl Jacobsen finished her MA in 2006 at Aalborg University, Denmark. She was employed as a clinically working music therapist at a family care centre in Aalborg Municipal from 2005-2007. Jacobsen started her PhD study in December 2007 and aims to defend it in April 2012. She teaches at the MA-Programme of Music Therapy, Aalborg University. Jacobsen is also board member of the Danish Association of Music Therapists, (MTL).

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