

Comparison of Social Abilities

- Children with FAS
- Children with same IQ (no FAS)
- Control group (normal children)

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Research Citation

Thomas SE, Kelly SJ, Mattson SN, Riley EP.
Comparison of social abilities of children with fetal alcohol syndrome to those of children with similar IQ scores and normal controls. *Alcohol Clin Exp Res* 22:528–533, 1998.

Medline link:

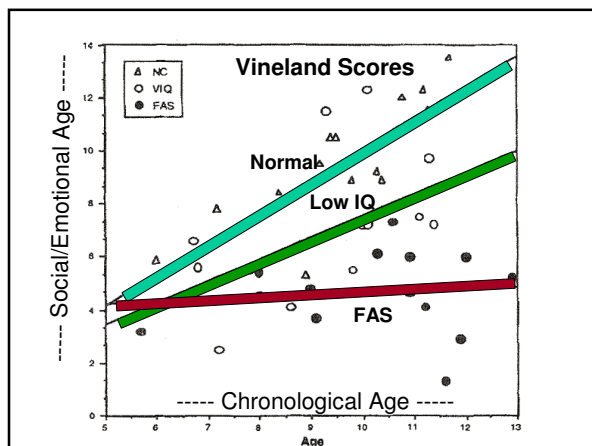
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9581664?dopt=Abstract>

Research Report

- **Adaptive and Social Skills.**
Studies that involve parent reports have suggested that alcohol-exposed children are at high risk for problem behaviors that can interfere with their participation in home, school, and social environments. For example, these children are more likely than non-exposed children to be rated as hyperactive, disruptive, impulsive, or delinquent (74, 75). Furthermore, based on parent ratings of their child's behavior, children with histories of prenatal alcohol exposure had significant and profound impairment, with particular difficulties in social, attention, and aggressive domains (74). In a recent study (76), the relationship between social skills and verbal IQ score in children with FAS and controls was assessed. Results from this study suggest that social deficits in children with FAS are beyond what can be explained by low IQ scores and indicate that they may be arrested, and not simply delayed.

Social Abilities Assessment

- Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales
- Parent Version
- "VABS-II"
- Administered by school psychologist



Arrested Social Development

- Social developmental age is reflected in emotional regulation and conscience development.
- With FAS, social development is arrested rather than delayed (Riley et al 1998).
- Behavioral profile of children with FAS does not change when they become adults (Steinhausen et al 1993).
- The 18-21 year old with FAS may be functioning intellectually at the level of a 12-16 year old but socially - emotionally at the level of a 4-6 year old.