

Voorwoord

It is a great honor to have been invited to write a foreword for this book on Modified Interaction Guidance, a brief, evidence-based, attachment-focused intervention that uses video feedback and emphasizes the improvement of caregiver sensitivity and the reduction or elimination of aberrant, atypical caregiver behaviors associated with disorganized child-caregiver attachment. Modified Interaction Guidance is derived from Interaction Guidance, which is an intervention method that has been used to reach caregivers who are difficult to engage, young and inexperienced, burdened by social adversity such as poverty, violence, and lack of education, have a limited capacity for introspection and/or cognitive limitations, and have resisted previous offers of help using other psychotherapeutic methods. Modified Interaction Guidance uses the principles of traditional Interaction Guidance to improve sensitive responsiveness in the caregiver to promote secure child-caregiver attachment, but also focuses on reducing and/or eliminating caregiver atypical behaviors associated with disorganized attachment and caregiver unresolved mourning or trauma.

The authors are uniquely qualified to write a book on Modified Interaction Guidance and its application with caregivers who have a history of trauma exposure. Nelleke van der Boon is a clinical psychologist, psychotherapist, and specialist in infant mental health who has a special interest and expertise in trauma and its impact on the child-caregiver attachment relationship. She has used Modified Interaction Guidance in her clinical practice and has a Dutch publication that conveys her experience with Modified Interaction Guidance (*In de schoenen van het kind – De MIG: interventie bij gedesorganiseerde gehechtheid*. *Kind en Adolescent Praktijk* (2013), 12(4), 182–189). Hedwig van Bakel is a respected, proficient, and widely published professor at Tilburg University with an interest and expertise in clinical, developmental and health psychology. She has mentored numerous students and inspired many colleagues over the years. Her research has focused on the child-caregiver relationships, including disorganized child-caregiver attachment and her research team have used many of the observational tools and structured interviews that are recommended when assessing child-caregiver attachment relationships and implementing Modified Interaction Guidance (e.g., Atypical Maternal Behavior Instrument for Assessment and Classification or AMBIANCE, Working Model of the Child Interview or WMCI and the WMCI-Disrupted scale that is associated with unresolved mourning or trauma in caregiver, disrupted or disorganizing interactions between caregivers and their children, and disorganized child attachment classifications).

This book is timely and unique. Indeed, it comes at a time when few brief, attachment-focused interventions specifically focus on known precursors of, or factors associated with, disorganized child-caregiver attachment, such as atypical caregiver behaviors (as assessed with the AMBIANCE) and disrupted internal representations of caregivers' attachment relationship with their children (as assessed with the WMCI-D).

It is the first book ever published on Modified Interaction Guidance, including its application with caregivers exposed to traumatic experiences.

This publication will help clinicians and researchers wishing to use Modified Interaction Guidance with step-by-step guidelines for its implementation. I regret not understanding Dutch as I cannot review this work as thoroughly and thoughtfully as it deserves. Hopefully, the authors will consider translating their book into English!

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gedesorganiseerde gehechtheid en trauma

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