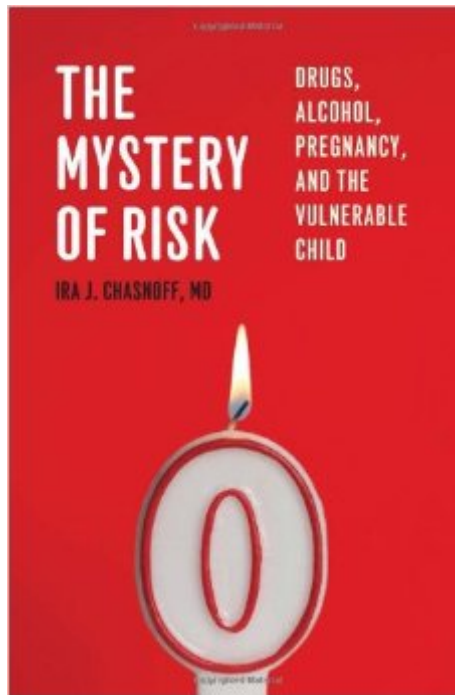


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# The Mystery Of Risk: Drugs, Alcohol, Pregnancy, And The Vulnerable Child



## Synopsis

The ill effects of a baby's exposure to drugs and alcohol while in the womb are demonstrated in this essential reference with cutting-edge information from the fields of medicine, neuroscience, and child psychology. These findings posit that many of the learning and behavior problems seen in children—from poor school performance to patterns of impulsivity often diagnosed as ADHD—are both treatable and preventable. The book first traces the history of fetal malformation back to the time of Aristotle, then presents a resounding call for integrated systems of care for high-risk children and their families. Methods for applying behavior management and treatment techniques are included for health care practitioners, social workers, early childhood intervention specialists, special education teachers, and parents, whether for use at home, at school, or in the clinical setting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a must-read for any person working with children who may have been prenatally exposed to drugs or alcohol or who have experienced early life trauma. It provides a very readable, yet scientifically sound, explanation of what happens in the brain when a child is prenatally exposed to drugs and/or alcohol. More importantly, it offers wonderful suggestions regarding strategies for effectively working with these children. I have a Ph.D. in special education and thought that I pretty-much had heard it all when it came to strategies. However, I came away with many practical suggestions that I could share immediately with families with whom I work. Furthermore, the

strategies suggested can be effectively used with children who have not been prenatally exposed. Parents of children with ADHD, autism, TBI, or learning disabilities will find easy-to-use strategies that they can implement immediately to make their lives, and their child's life, easier and more peaceful.

We are parents of 2 adopted children and one with confirmed exposure to alcohol, tobacco and cocaine. This book brings so much hope and understanding to what our daughter and our family are going through. If you have a child that you suspect have been affected I highly recommend this book. Dr Ira Chasnoff is an expert and a huge advocate for children affected.

This is a great book for understanding the effects on a child that has been compromised by drugs and tobacco while the mother is pregnant. A very easy reading book that also goes into ways to deal with the effect after the fact. It tells you what to expect and not expect. What could be the outcome if you don't ever address the problem. As adoptive parents it has helped me understand more and intervene in proper ways early in the developmental process.

A rare book on this subject, filled with research based analysis and recommendations for parents of children at risk. Unfortunately, the data on therapies is sorely lacking and the recommendations read more like available options, than preferred and effective programs. Regardless, it is the best resource so far on this risk group. Given the percentage of children diagnosed with needs (49-79%), it is important reading for professional and parents. I do wish the author collaborated with others, as he was the boy who cried wolf about the crack baby syndrome in the 1980's. Most important though is that he does not differentiate the consequences of stimulant medication (loss of motivation and drive), which is a common symptom of ADD/ADHD. Meanwhile I will heed his caution and when able follow his researched recommendations.

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