

Review of: "Viewing trauma as a developmental process emerging from chronic repeated experience and reiterated meaning-making mental processes"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

1. The authors argued that trauma could well be due to long-term developmental processes from chronic repeated experience. I thought the community has long accepted the concept of developmental or complex trauma, e.g., Mols 2005. The International Trauma Questionnaire (ITQ) also offers a survey for a possible complex trauma diagnosis. So I must missed something in the paper. If the authors are proposing that meaning-making is the process of developmental trauma, then I would suggest that they make their hypothesis in a more succinct manner, and if possible, provide some experimental data to support their assertion.
2. One may argue that meaning-making may be a result of changes in the brain and not the driver. An analogous concept in EMDR is the concept of negative cognitions associated with a traumatic memory. After the traumatic memory is processed, the negative cognitions, or the meaning of the traumatic event, would be reduced and positive cognitions, positive meanings to the processed event would emerge. I wonder how the authors would address this issue.
3. There are other published works in related areas such as memory reconsolidation, e.g., Ecker (2018). It will be helpful if the authors can relate their work to published work in the trauma area.
4. The authors offered a cursory review of modalities that might be useful for addressing the issue of developmental trauma. I would appreciate an in-depth discussion in this section. Most clinicians working in the trauma field would subscribe to the concept of developmental trauma. The challenge is what can be done about it. The authors tried to relate various modalities to changes in the brain. A more detailed discussion on this topic, supported by published data, can make a big contribution to the counseling community.
5. The paper reads like a transcript from a talk. It can use some editing to make it more concise.