
BY KENT HOFFMAN, GLEN COOPER, BERT POWELL AND CHRISTINE M. BENTON (FOREWORD BY DANIEL J. SIEGEL)

Today’s parents are constantly pressured to be perfect. But in striving to do everything right, we risk missing what children really need for lifelong emotional security.

Now the simple, powerful “Circle of Security” parenting strategies that Kent Hoffman, Glen Cooper, and Bert Powell have taught thousands of families are available in self-help form for the first time. Readers learn how to protect and nurture babies through teens while fostering their independence - and what emotional needs a child may be expressing with difficult behaviour.

Vivid stories and unique practical tools offer insight into how our own upbringing affects our parenting style (and what to do about it). Healthy attachment requires self-understanding, flexibility, and the willingness to make and learn from mistakes. This book shows parents they already have what it takes.

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Kent Hoffman, RelD, has been a psychotherapist since 1972. Hoffman and Glen Cooper and Bert Powell received the Washington Governor’s Award for Innovation in Child Abuse Prevention and the New York Attachment Consortium’s Bowlby-Ainsworth Award. They are co-authors of The Circle of Security Intervention.

Glen Cooper, MA, has worked as a psychotherapist with individuals and families in both agency and private practice settings since the 1970s. He has extensive training in family systems, object relations, attachment theory, and infant mental health assessment. Mr. Cooper also works as a treatment foster parent and long-time Head Start consultant.

Bert Powell, MA, is certified in psychoanalytic psychotherapy by The Masterson Institute in New York City, U.S. He is Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Counselling Psychology at Gonzaga University, U.S. and serves as an International Advisor to the editorial board of the Journal of Attachment and Human Development.

Christine M. Benton is a Chicago-based writer and editor.

Footprint Books: 4/8 Jubilee Avenue, Warriewood NSW 2102 Email sales@footprint.com.au Telephone 02 9997 3973 Facsimile 02 9997 3185

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The Circle of Security Intervention
Enhancing Attachment in Early Parent-Child Relationships
BY BERT POWELL, GLEN COOPER, KENT HOFFMAN AND BOB MARVIN

Presenting both a theoretical foundation and proven strategies for helping caregivers become more attuned and responsive to their young children’s emotional needs (ages 0–5), this is the first comprehensive presentation of the Circle of Security (COS) intervention.

The book lucidly explains the conceptual underpinnings of COS and demonstrates the innovative attachment-based assessment and intervention strategies in rich clinical detail, including three chapter-length case examples. Reproducible forms and handouts can be downloaded and printed. COS is an effective research-based program that has been implemented throughout the world with children and parents experiencing attachment difficulties.

The authors are co-recipients of the 2013 Bowlby–Ainsworth Award, presented by the New York Attachment Consortium, for developing and implementing COS.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:
Bert Powell, MA, Glen Cooper, MA, and Kent Hoffman, ReID, have devoted their Washington, U.S. clinical practice of more than 30 years to translating complex clinical insights and developmental research into straightforward and accessible protocols for use with families. During the last two decades they have focused specifically on the creation and dissemination of the Circle of Security (COS), for which each has received the Washington Governor’s Award for Innovation in Prevention, among other honours.

Bob Marvin, PhD, served as principal investigator on the original COS study and participated in the development of COS. He is Founder and Director of the Mary Ainsworth Attachment Clinic in Charlottesville, Virginia, U.S.

“COS is solidly based on attachment theory and research. With a surprising combination of simplicity, clinical relevance, and academic rigor, this book effectively teaches the reader what children need for secure attachment and clarifies what might stand in the way of parents being able to respond to these needs. For clinicians and students alike, the book brings to life what is viewed, both nationally and internationally, as the cutting edge of early parent-child intervention programs.” — Jude Cassidy, PhD, Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park, U.S.

“In this important book, the authors provide a masterful translation of complex concepts into an approach to enhancing attachments that makes intuitive sense and is supported by effectiveness research. The sensitive use of video enables parents to see themselves in a new light and gain awareness of how they enact their own early experiences in raising their children. COS frees the parent to respond to the child’s needs for protection and support in ways that build trust and promote self-confidence. The gems of wisdom coupled with practical intervention strategies are a gift for any clinician seeking to enhance parenting and prevent child maltreatment.” — Alicia F Lieberman, PhD, Irving B. Harris Endowed Chair in Infant Mental Health, University of California, San Francisco, U.S.