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How Does Nature vs. Nurture Impact the Outcome of Violence in Children

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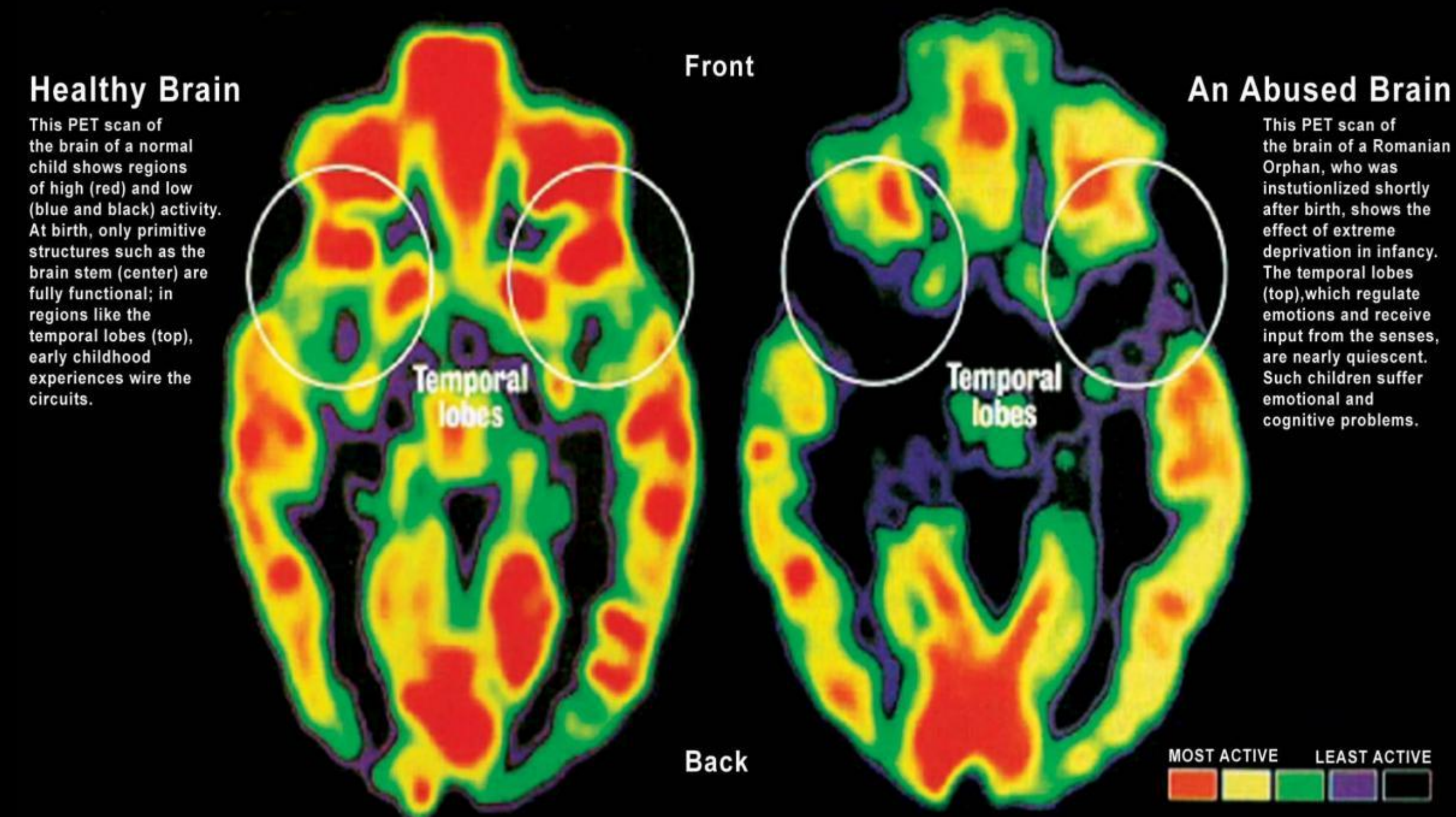
Nebraska College Preparatory Academy
Omaha North High Magnet School 2021
University of Nebraska- Lincoln

Abstract

Some believe that nature is the determining factor in how children act. Others believe it is all in the nurturing of children. Although, what impacts children's actions and how they behave, is an unhealthy balance of both genes that may make one susceptible to violent or delinquent behaviors, and exposure to a negative environment. Studies about these "bad" genes, or genes that may make a child predisposed to undesirable behaviors have shown that gene expression is likely to be amplified when exposed to a negative impacting environment. These results show that it is not only nature or nurture that creates violent tendencies, but both mixed together.

Key Points

- Children who are abused at home are more likely to show violent and delinquent behaviors or show signs of future violence.
- Genes that may pre-dispose children to violence may be suppressed if the children grow up in a nurturing environment.
- Although some do not have hereditary violent genes and some are not abused at home, they can still be violent.



Conclusion

Nature and nurture both play a significant role in children and the violent behaviors they show, as children who are abused at home show more violent tendencies, hereditary violent genes may be suppressed in good environments, and although some do not have genes that predispose them to violence and some are not abused at home, they can still have violent behaviors. Understanding where these behaviors come from, and whether they are a result of what is embedded in children or what they were taught to know can help create a better environment in the future and perhaps even eliminate some of the chances of violence.

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