



## Melissa Kimber, PhD, MSW, RSW



**HEALTH SCIENCES**  
Psychiatry & Behavioural  
Neurosciences

### Research Work

Dr. Kimber is a full-time Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences at McMaster University; a Core Member of the Offord Centre for Child Studies; an Associate Member in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact, and a part-time social worker in private practice. Her research focuses on the epidemiology of child maltreatment and mental disorders among children and adolescents, as well as the implementation and evaluation of interventions, including health professional education interventions, to address associated sequelae. Dr. Kimber uses qualitative, quantitative and mixed method research designs to address her research questions. One aspect of her current work focuses on the influences and impacts of emotion processing capabilities on mental disorders and child maltreatment exposure. In addition, her work is evaluating the extent to which caregiver-focused emotion processing interventions can effectively reduce the onset and persistence of mental disorders among children at risk, as well as alter biological markers of adaptive emotion processing, including stress physiology.

### Current Research Projects Include:

- Investigation of practitioner training and experiences related to recognizing and responding to family violence.
- Secondary analysis of representative epidemiological data to characterize the experiences of violence, eating disorders, and well-being of Indigenous, immigrant and settler youth.
- Investigating structural interventions to reduce the recurrence of intimate partner violence among female survivors.

### Engagement Opportunities

#### Introductory Level

- Compile literature lists and summaries to support grant development & conference presentations (emotion processing literature)
- Screening of titles, abstracts and full-texts of research articles (child maltreatment review)

#### Intermediate Level

- Perform deductive secondary analysis of qualitative data (SDSH Study)
- Compile systematic search strategy and implement search strategy according to evidence-based guidelines for systematic review (emotion processing interventions)
- Extract data for systematic review (child maltreatment)

#### Advanced Level

- Analyze quantitative data set (SMHS data; indigenous mental health)
- Perform inductive secondary analysis of qualitative data (SDSH study)

*If you are interested in learning more, please leave your contact information with the Research Office and/or contact Dr. Melissa Kimber at [kimberms@mcmaster.ca](mailto:kimberms@mcmaster.ca)*