

# Research into Attachment

Useful 'commentary' phrases include:

- "This study shows that...'
- "This evidence supports...because...'
- "This evidence challenges...because...'
- 'On the other hand...'
- 'However, ...'
- 'One problem with this evidence is...'
- 'A strength of this evidence is...'
- "In conclusions...'
- 'The evidence as a whole suggests that...'

*Harlow & Harlow (1962) raised infant rhesus monkeys in total isolation. When they were introduced to other monkeys, they were fearful and withdrawn, and unable to relate socially to the other monkeys.*

*Although research by Van Ijzendoorn & Kroonenberg (1988) found that children vary cross-culturally in the types of attachment they form, attachment behaviour has been observed in all cultures that have been studied (Gross, 1992).*

*Shaffer & Emerson (1964) found that infants form one strong attachment first, but that attachments to other people follow soon afterwards.*

*Harlow (1959) found that infant monkeys would show attachment behaviour towards a soft 'cloth mother' even though it was the 'wire mother' that dispensed the food.*

*In Shaffer and Emerson's study, it was the people who had high quality interactions with the child that became the attachment figures.*

*Hazan and Shaver (1987) found that people who had insecure attachments as children were more likely to be either clingy and over-involved or distant than people who had secure infant attachments.*

*Tronick et al (1992) studied the Efe, an African tribe where children are looked after and even breastfed by a number of different caregivers. Despite this, Efe children still showed a strong preference for their mothers.*

*Ainsworth et al (1971) found that sensitive and responsive caregivers tended to have securely attached children, whereas inconsistency or unresponsiveness tended to be associated with insecure attachments.*