

Propositions related to this thesis

## **Early-Life Adversities and Neurocognitive Outcomes**

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1. Protective factors have small interaction effects with childhood adversity on the brain volume outcomes of children and young adults. (*this thesis*)
2. Children with an organized infant-mother attachment have smaller hippocampal volumes than those with a disorganized attachment. (*this thesis*)
3. Prenatal maternal stress is not related to cognition in children from the general population. (*this thesis*)
4. Minority status can moderate the relation between poverty and child brain morphology. (*this thesis*)
5. Children who experienced adversity during childhood including physical abuse, low family income, or harsh parenting have smaller brain volumes than children not exposed to these adversities. (*this thesis*)
6. Studies aiming to address the impact of psychological stress need to consider the role of psychopathology, which can be an antecedent (and thus likely a confounder), a correlate, or a consequence of the stress experience.
7. If you wish to include the entire universe in the model, causality disappears because interventions disappear — the manipulator and the manipulated lose their distinction. — *Judea Pearl*
8. Excess of hypothesis-driven, e.g. neuroimaging region-of-interest, analyses limits the ability to unravel novel and unexpected relevant associations.
9. Factors without causal associations with the exposure assessed can still confound the results of natural experiments.
10. Although important, in the study of national origin minorities it is a challenge to distinguish the universal associations from the variable, specific aspects.
11. Finding your *why* is the key to everything.