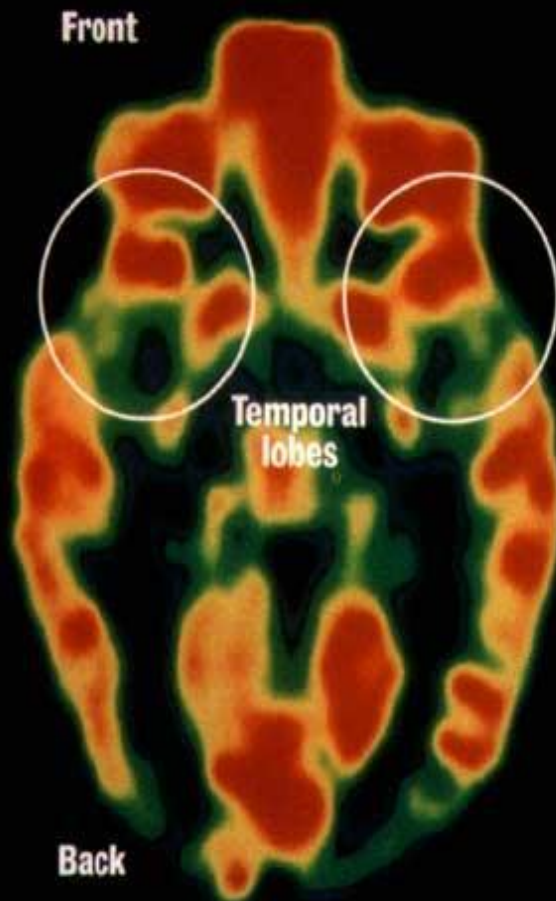


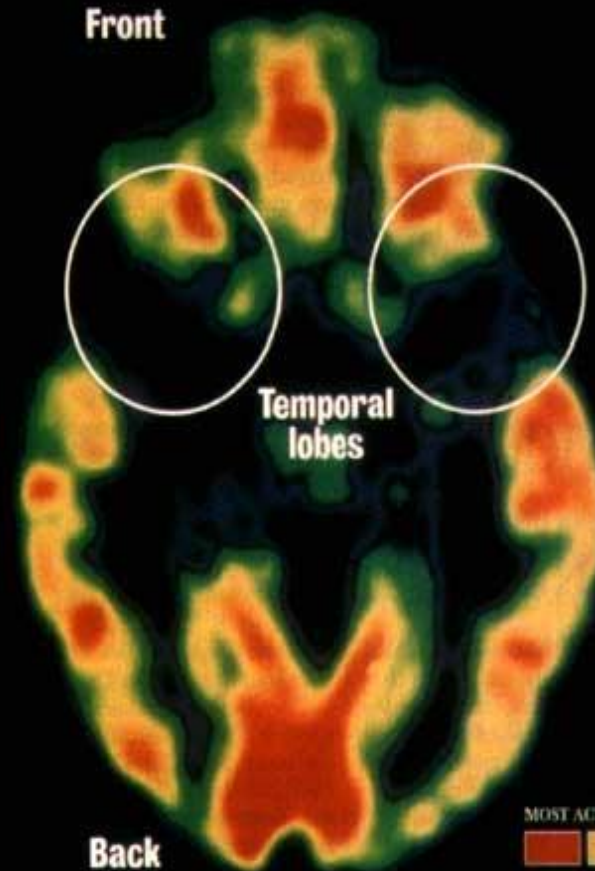
ACEs and Brain Development

Healthy Brain

This PET scan of the brain of a normal child shows regions of high (red) and low (blue and black) activity. At birth, only primitive structures such as the brain stem (center) are fully functional; in regions like the temporal lobes (top), early childhood experiences wire the circuits.



Front



An Abused Brain

This PET scan of the brain of a Romanian orphan, who was institutionalized shortly after birth, shows the effect of extreme deprivation in infancy. The temporal lobes (top), which regulate emotions and receive input from the senses, are nearly quiescent. Such children suffer emotional and cognitive problems.

MOST ACTIVE LEAST ACTIVE

A color scale legend for PET scan activity levels. It consists of five colored squares in a row: red, orange, green, blue, and black. The red square is labeled 'MOST ACTIVE' and the black square is labeled 'LEAST ACTIVE'.