



Children's Religious Development

Attachment and Religion

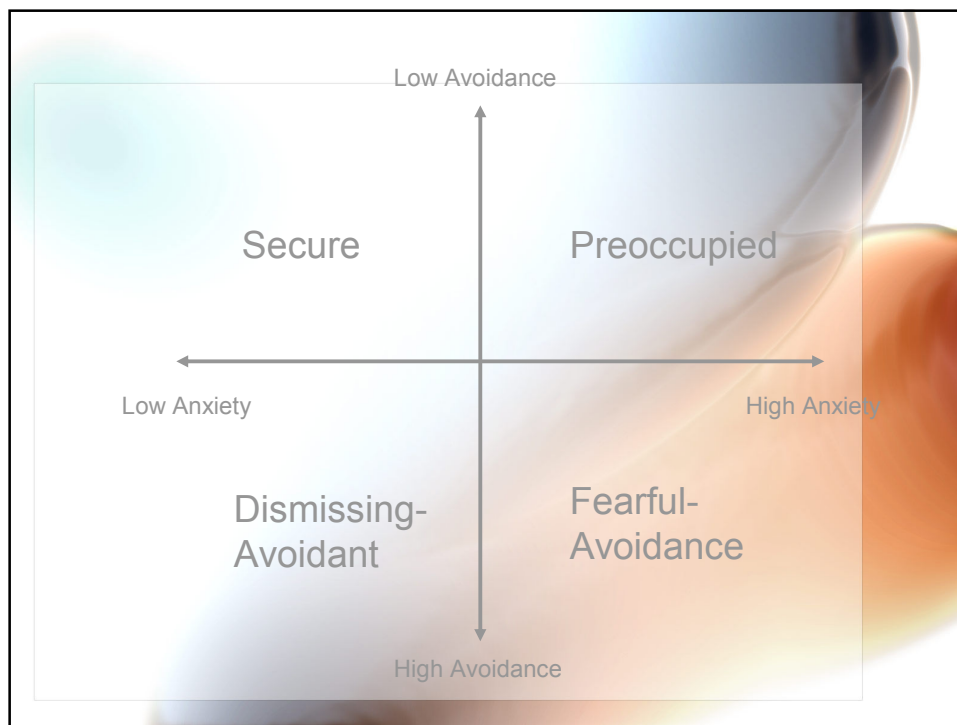


From the Chapter

- Children's God images
- Children's conceptions of prayer
- Children's religious experience

Attachment Theory

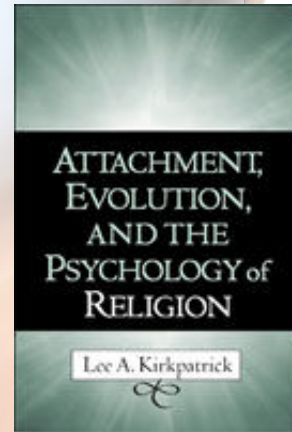
- The original conception of attachment
 - Bowlby and Ainsworth
 - Categorical Approach
 - Secure, Insecure (Anxious and Avoidant)
- New theories
 - Dimensional Approach
 - Two dimensions: anxious and avoidant



Attachment and Religion

Leading Researchers

- Lee Kirkpatrick (US)
- Pehr Granqvist (Sweden)



Attachment and Religion

Attachment Predictions

- Compensation
- Correspondence (mental model)
- What would each predict?

Attachment and Religion

Results

- **Several studies support each hypothesis, but results are mixed.**
- **Examples**
 - **Kirkpatrick & Shaver (1990)**
 - From the text
 - **Birgegard & Granqvist (2004)**
 - Experiment inducing separation
 - Secure attachment increased whereas insecure attachment decreased emotionally based religiosity

Attachment and Religion

Results

- **Granqvist & Kirkpatrick (2004) meta-analysis**
 - Sudden religious conversion is related to insecure attachment
 - Gradual conversion is related to secure attachment