

Advice for parents affected by earthquake in Syria, Turkey and neighboring countries

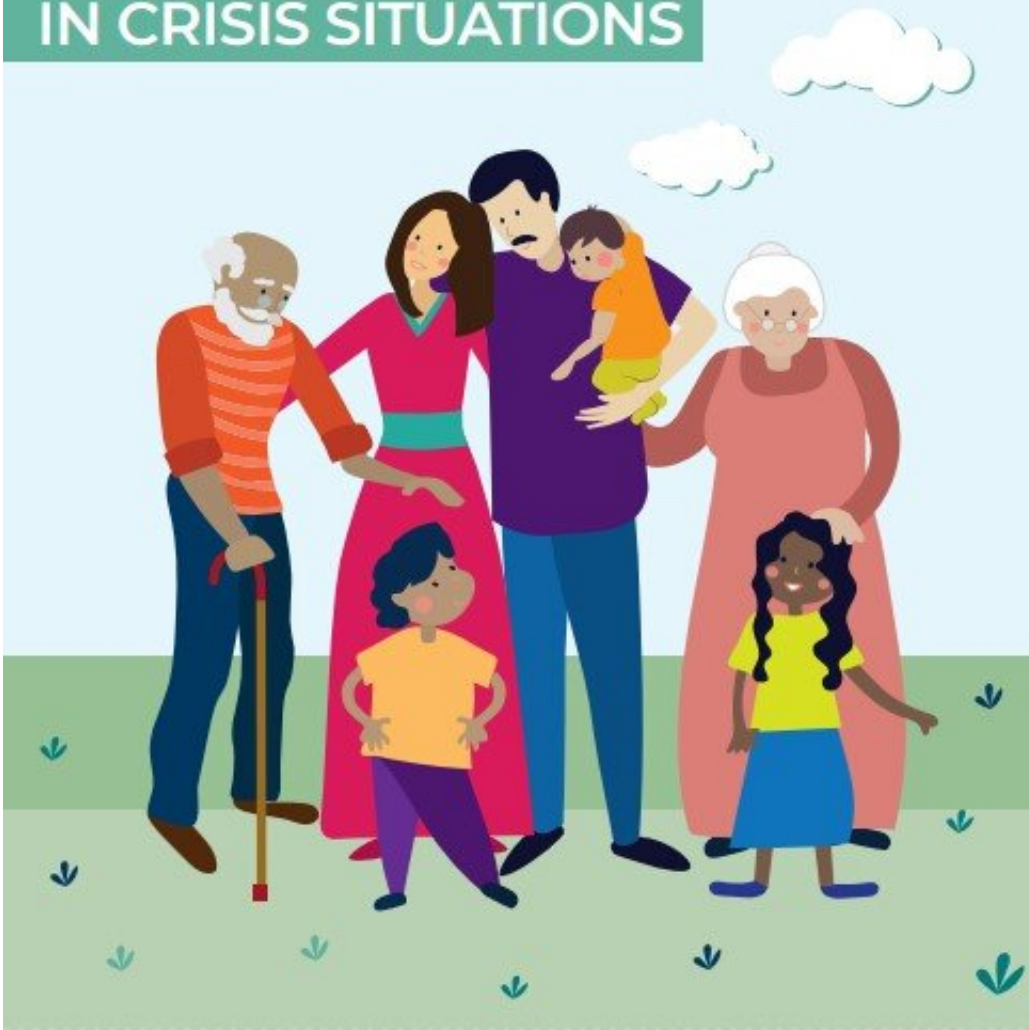
February 9 2023, by Michael Addelman



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

CARING FOR YOUR CHILD IN CRISIS SITUATIONS



**Listen
FIRST** | Listening to children and youth
is the first step to help them
grow healthy and safe



**STRONG
Families**

Credit: UNODC

Researchers at The University of Manchester have released some brief and simple advice for parents and caregivers of children and young people affected by the earthquakes in Syria, Turkey and neighboring countries.

The two-page leaflet from the University's Parenting and Families Research Group, has been made available, with support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Prevention Treatment and Rehabilitation Section (UNODC)

It is available in Turkish, Arabic and English and also as an [audio recording](#) in the languages for download on a dedicated UNODC website developed for the [earthquake](#) response.

The website also contains a number of other caregiver resources specifically for emergencies like the earthquake and is [available here](#).

The leaflets, booklets and audio resources provide basic, evidence-based guidance on best ways to help both caregivers and children to live through crisis, and have been updated to ensure its relevance for the current emergency.

It is designed to help [parents](#) and caregivers cope with their own emotions and stress and will help them to understand common reactions in children and how best to care for them.

The Global Initiative to Support Parents (GISP) —an interagency collaboration formed to ensure every parent and [caregiver](#) around the world has access to parenting support—has shared the resources across their networks and newsletters.

GISP was formed by UNICEF, WHO, Parenting for Lifelong Health at the University of Oxford, the Early Childhood Development Action

Network (ECDAN), and the Global Partnership to End Violence.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime are also working through the Regional Office for Middle East and North Africa—covering Syria, Lebanon and Jordan—and South East Europe Office (Turkey) to disseminate them through the respective UN Emergency Relief Country Teams.

The resources were originally created in collaboration with Syrian families and Turkish and Syrian humanitarian workers as a response to the stresses of flight and displacement. Caregivers rate them highly.

The earthquakes have hit an area which is already home to many displaced Syrian families.

Dr. El-Khani and Prof Calam have been working with UNODC for several years to develop a full set of resources for families living through the stresses of flight and displacement.

Prof Rachel Calam said, "Our hearts go out to everyone affected by these terrible earthquakes. However hard it is to keep going in such difficult times, understanding common reactions, and supporting and encouraging children and [young people](#) emotionally and practically can help them to cope."

Dr. Aala El-Khani said, "We know that one of the most important predictors for the mental health of children who experience a crisis is the way they are cared for by their families. We hope these resources will be shared with those families so terribly affected by the earthquake in Syria, Turkey and Lebanon, who need help and support."

Provided by University of Manchester

Citation: Advice for parents affected by earthquake in Syria, Turkey and neighboring countries (2023, February 9) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2023-02-advice-parents-affected-earthquake-syria.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.