

Attachment Behavior

Any form of behavior that results in a person attaining or retaining proximity to a specific and preferred individual for the purpose of achieving protection, comfort, and/or the feeling of security. A young child's attachment behaviors include crying, smiling, calling, reaching, following, clinging, and protesting separations from attachment figures, the condition of being alone, or placement with a stranger. Attachment behaviors are designed to activate the caregiver's corresponding inclination to meet the child's need for protection, comfort, and/or the feeling of security.