The Association of Protective Factors and Social Isolation Among Youth

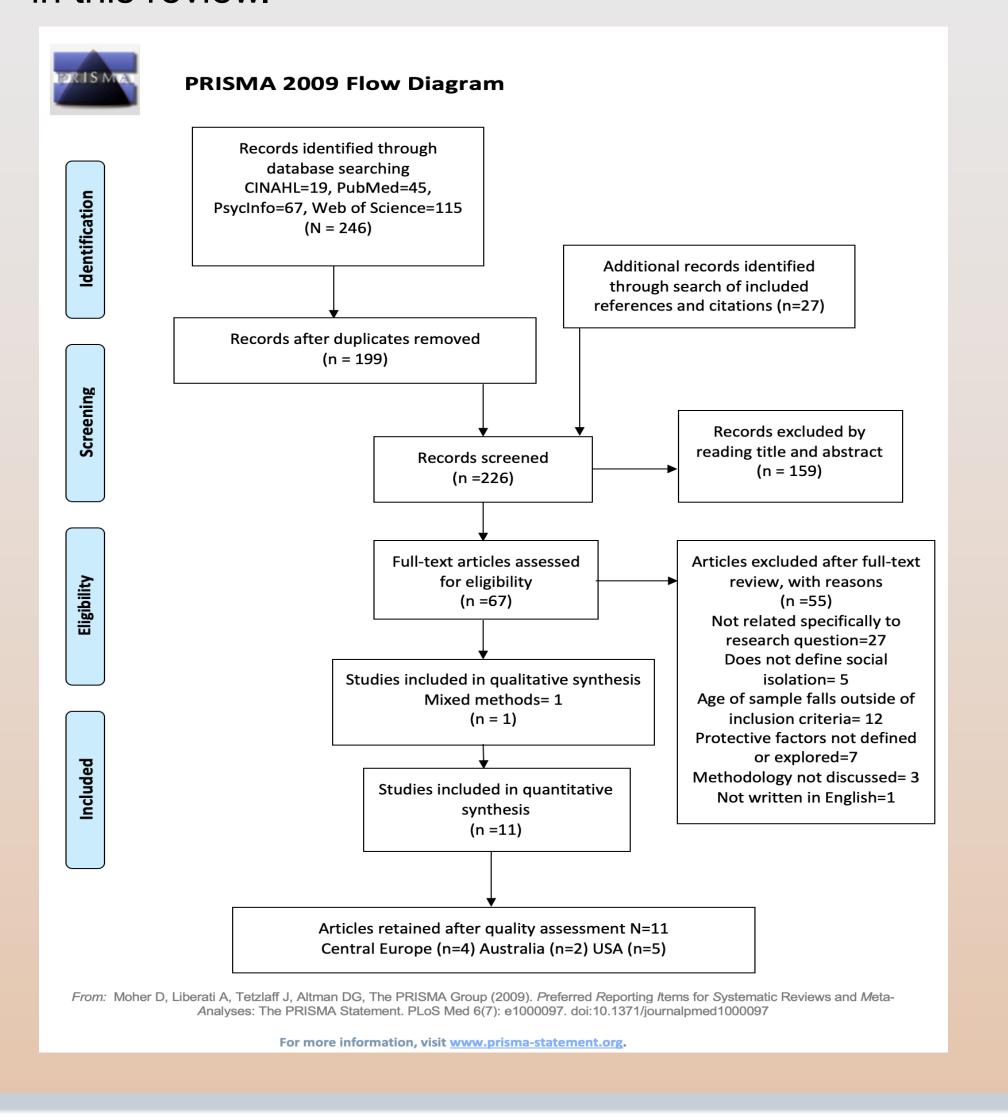
Angela Preston, MSN, RN, CNE

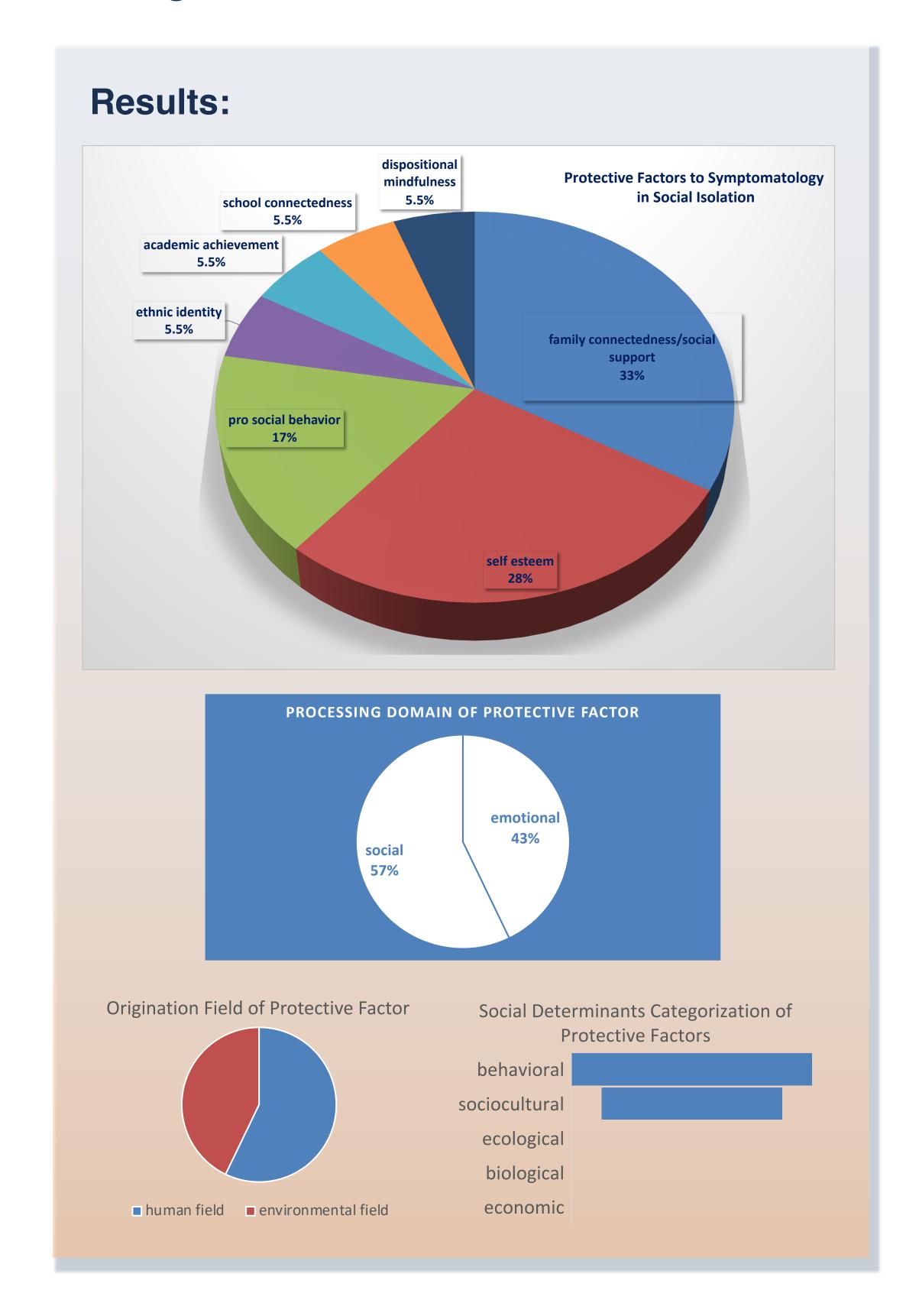
Purpose:

The primary aim of this review is to investigate the relationship between protective factors and social isolation among youth (ages 10-19 years).

Methods:

Roger's Science of Unitary Beings was helpful as a guiding theoretical framework to explore predictors in this review.





Findings:

Sample included 13,536 participants age 10-19. The majority of participants were representative of their regions in gender & ethnicity.

• 3 studies included youth at high-risk of discrimination (immigrants, refugees, and/or adolescent mothers).

Three protective factors were noted in multiple studies: Family connectedness, self-esteem, and prosocial behaviors negatively correlated with depressive symptomatology.

Roger's Science of Unitary Beings and Social Determinants assisted in organizing the findings related to protective factors.

Conclusion:

Strategies for increasing family connectedness and social circles as created-families is an opportunity for further research related to youth's sense of connectedness.

Individual interventions have the potential to increase self esteem and practice of prosocial behaviors. The relationship between family connectedness and culture may be an area for future exploration.

There was a lack of qualitive studies.

Acknowledgement:

Special thanks to Dr. Lynn Rew and Dr. Roxanne Bogucka for their guidance.

References available upon request.