

Coming Home: The Post-deployment Reintegration Process and Health Outcomes in Military

Student Veterans and their Children

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Abstract:

In comparison to veterans from previous eras, veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan experience higher rates of mental health outcomes such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and suicide. Few studies have examined the extent to which such problems affect the veterans' children. To address this issue, the present study will examine the influence of several aspects of the post-deployment reintegration process on student veterans and the association with veterans' mental health. The association between veterans' mental health and child health outcomes will also be explored. Further, we will investigate how student veterans' expectations for post-deployment reintegration relate to veterans' mental health. This cross-sectional study will involve an online survey of student veterans of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.