Varese et al. (2012), in the most comprehensive meta-analysis to date, identified 36 studies and found that, irrespective of study design, childhood adversity was overall associated with a 2.78 increased odds of psychosis.

**Epidemiological fact 12 – life events**

Recent adverse life events (especially of an intrusive nature) increase the risk of psychosis.

Mondeli et al. (in press) Patients with first episode of psychosis have suffered more recent stressful life events (2.4±0.3) compared with controls (0.8±0.2; p<.001). These tend to be intrusive events rather than loses.

Byrne et al. (2004) have recently looked at the role of personal and parental social class in relation to first admission for schizophrenia using data from the Danish national registers. Risk of schizophrenia was associated with unemployment, low educational attainment, being single, lower wealth status, low income, and being childless.

Van Os et al. (2000) found that single people were more likely to develop psychosis if they lived in areas with fewer single people compared to those where being single was apparently more common.