Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a chronic and pervasive condition characterized by developmental deficiencies in sustained attention, impulse control, and the regulation of motor activity in response to situational demands. ADHD also carries associated with it a variety of comorbid disorders. These include, including oppositional behaviors and aggressive-spectrum disorders, learning disorders, depression, and anxiety. Unfortunately, each comorbid condition has its own associated with difficulties and impairments. Often, when present, ADHD can be highly disruptive and adversely affecting many areas of child psychosocial functioning in a child. For example, virtually all children with ADHD display significant academic underachievement, as many as 65% may exhibit aggressive behavior or oppositional defiant tendencies as well. Low self-esteem, anxiety, depression, peer relationship problems, and other emotional complications are also quite common in children with ADHD. So too are peer relationship problems. Although a direct causal connection has yet to be firmly established, there is correlational evidence suggesting that the correlation and marked impact of ADHD impacts the functioning of both the child and parent; however, a direct causal relationship is yet to be firmly established. Of particular clinical significance is the fact that parents of children with ADHD often experience considerable stress in their parenting roles. The presence of ADHD in children is associated with varying degrees of disturbances in family and marital functioning, disrupted parent–child relationships, specific patterns of parental cognitions about a child’s behavior and reduced parenting self-efficacy, and increased levels of parenting stress and parental psychopathology. Importantly, while all parents experience stress, although some degree of stress may be experienced by all parents, it has been reported to be significantly higher among parents of children with externalizing behavior problems.
more stress than parents of those of children without externalizing behaviour symptoms. Parents of children with externalizing behavior problems view themselves as having less parenting knowledge, less parental competence, and less social support. Parental psychopathology, including parental depression, anxiety, substance abuse, personality disorders, and ADHD, has been shown to be related to children’s behavior development.