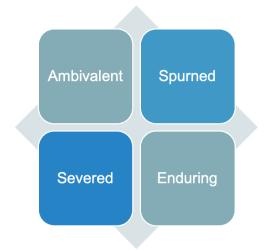


# Classifications of Relational Permanence

#### **Ambivalent**

- In-tact relationship with caregiver, but mixed feelings about relationship
- Don't feel 100% like a member of the family
- Sometimes caregiver is there for child/youth, other times they are not
- Youth not sure they can count on caregiver



### Spurned

- Affectional tie to caregiver that conveys permanence, but commitment goes only until age of majority or a specific event (such as high school graduation)
- End of living arrangement results in feelings of unwantedness
- No level of engagement from caregiver to build relationship

#### Severed

- Youth describe relationship in a mixed affective tone
- Relationship cut off by caregivers; belief that caretaker uses legal permanence to promote self-interests
- Caregivers do not support young person's goals

## Enduring

- Views caregiver as primary parental figure
- Feel a sense of peace, consistency and belonging
- Perceived caretakers are committed for the long-term
- Uses a consistent, positive affective tone when talking about caregiver
- Caregivers use authoritative parenting style

Pérez, A. G. (2017). Classifying Relational Permanence among Young Adults who Exited Foster Care through Legal Permanence as Adolescents. Families in Society, 98(3), 179–189. https://doi.org/10.1606/1044-3894.2017.98.31