Key Determinants of the Affect of Bereavement

Before the Bereavement

Relationship to the Deceased
Type of Relationship wife, husband, partner; child, parent.

Strength of Attachment

Security of Attachment

Degree of reliance on the deceased

Involvement

Intensity of Ambivalence - Love/Hate

Childhood Experiences: especially insecure parenting and losses of significant figures

Later Experiences especially losses of significant figures

Previous Mental Illnesses

Life Crises prior to the Bereavement

Mode of Death – Timing, Multiple Deaths, Previous warnings, Preparation for Bereavement, Violent or horrific deaths.

Situation and Environment of the Bereaved

Gender
Age
Personality
Proneness to Grief
Inhibition of Feelings
Socio-economic Status (Social Status)
Nationality
Religion
Cultural Factors Influencing the Expression of Grief

After the Bereavement

Social Support and Isolation
Secondary Stress
Life Opportunities – Options open to Bereaved.