FAMILY, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SCIENCES RESEARCH REPORT 2018
2017-2018 Research Publications


Caudill, D., & Harris, V. (2018). Together or apart: Practical and theoretical considerations for determining when to keep foster siblings together or to separate them. Social Science Learning Education Journal, 3(5), 7. doi:10.15520/sslej.v3i5.2155


Cyberbullying victimization and perpetration, connectedness, and monitoring of online activities: Protection from parental figures.

This research was used as a handout for an Adolescent Health Institute: https://www.nursing.umn.edu/centers/center-adolescent-nursing/learning-opportunities/summer-institute-adolescent-health

It was also featured in the Healthy Youth Development-Prevention Research Center newsletter.

"The findings informed my thinking regarding the development of a parent-based prevention program to reduce bullying and cyberbullying. I suspected parent-child connectedness was important but thought that parental monitoring would be more important than it was. In the end having a strong relationship is the most important part of keeping kids safe from cyberbullying."

Dr. Jen Doty


Providing family education for grandparent caregivers: Lessons from the GRandS Program

While the purpose of GRandS was to address many of the known educational and learning needs of GRGs, we were not prepared for the level of assistance, social support, and legal information they would request. As GRandS was adapted to meet the complex needs identified in these preliminary evaluation efforts, outcome data showed that grandparents particularly benefited from project activities that focused on parenting children with mental or physical disabilities as well as legal options for guardianship and adoption.

Drs. Larry Forthun and Kate Fogarty

"Stay tuned for presentation and publication of results from the qualitative assessment (focus group interviews) of the GRandS program to learn from grandparents’ own perspectives what they gained from GRandS.”


The Comprehensive Obesity Prevention & Education (COPE) Lab

Dr. LaToya O’Neal with members of her undergraduate research lab.

The Comprehensive Obesity Prevention & Education (COPE) Lab examines obesity-related chronic disease disparities among African American families. The primary goal of the research is to reduce risk factors associated with type 2 diabetes, such as poor dietary practices, low levels of physical activity, and limited access to healthy food and physical activity opportunities, among rural families through multi-level, community-based interventions.


America’s worst charities: The effect of bad press on philanthropic giving behavior.

"They say there is no such thing as bad press. They may be correct. In our study, we found that negative press mattered, but not much. Those participants who recalled the negative press still continued donating, and they also began using more discernment regarding which nonprofits received their gifts. The methods they used for evaluating which nonprofits to donate to were not particularly sophisticated. We hope nonprofit leaders will note that potential donors remember negative press for a long time, potentially years. Thus, nonprofits need to distinguish themselves in the media by pitching positive, informative stories about their missions and community contributions. In our experience most nonprofit leaders have little to no formal training in working with the media, and we recommend they either develop their skills or hire consultants who are experts."

Drs. Angie Lindsey, Jennifer Jones and Randy Cantrell
The Parent-Based Prevention of Bullying (PB2) Lab

The Parent-Based Prevention of Bullying (PB2) lab employs prevention science to minimize the risk of bullying and cyberbullying and to foster healthy parent-child relationships and youth well-being. We value an inclusive, collaborative environment that encourages curiosity and transparency, resulting in rigorous, ethical research.

The Nonprofit Research Lab

The Nonprofit Research Lab engages in a variety of research related to the nonprofit sector. Our primary goal is to create new knowledge that can help nonprofits raise funds to address complex issues such as climate change or poverty. We frequently use a mixed-methods approach with an emphasis on qualitative research.


Miller, L., & Harris, V. (2018). I can’t be racist—I teach in an urban school, and I’m a nice white lady!, World Journal of Education, 8(3), 1-12. doi:10.5430/wje.v8n3p1


Interspecies parenting: How pet parents construct their roles.

Dr. Nicole Owens

"This qualitative study explores a widespread contemporary family form, the interspecies family, to understand how people who count their cats and dogs as family members describe this process of becoming and maintaining family."

"This research has contributed to the scholarly discussion on family change and alternative family forms. Specifically, I think it has encouraged people to reconsider how they think about family and parenting. What it means to be a parent and the parenting role has undergone change in U.S. culture, and these shifts also give rise to alternative ways of defining parenthood including pet parenthood. This study documented how people accomplish parenting without having human children at all. These findings show how pet parenting is and is not constructed and the ways interspecies families could be conceptualized as a new pathway to parenthood."


