

Parenting During Childhood on Adolescent Social Engagement

Healthy social skills development prepares children and adolescents for a future of healthy interactions, effective communication, and meaningful relationships. Parental involvement and aggravation in parenting contribute differently to the development of social skills. Literature suggests higher levels of parental involvement is related to higher levels of child social skills ratings, while decreased ratings of aggravation in parenting are associated with higher ratings of maternal involvement and child social skills. Whereas existing literature have explored the impact of non-resident father involvement, academic consequences, and dual-parent homes on the development of child social skills, few studies examine the effects of aggravation in parenting as a moderator in the development of social skills longitudinally. The purpose of this study is to expand on previous findings regarding the impact of maternal aggravation in parenting and maternal involvement. In this current study we examine maternal aggravation in parenting and involvement at age 3 on adolescent social engagement assessed at age 15. We hypothesized that maternal involvement and aggravation in parenting will directly affect social engagement at age 15 in respective directions, regardless of parent education and family structure. Secondly, we hypothesized that aggravation will also moderate the relationship between involvement and later social engagement. Secondary data from Fragile Families & Child Wellbeing Study longitudinal data set are currently being used to explore these relationships. Analyses is ongoing with a sample of 3,438 mother-child dyads. Results will be presented during scholar's week.

Keywords: Social Skills, Aggravation in Parenting, Maternal Involvement