

bottom-up and top-down perspectives in the RPP, will be learned about processes of growth and change in the RPP? Study participants will include infants living in the RPP, their incarcerated mothers and caregivers, DOC personnel, and PSESD-EHS staff. This project will be the first step towards engaging additional collaborators and launching a longitudinal, prospective, mixed methods study of the effects of reflective, relationship-focused, residential services for incarcerated woman and their young children.

Sample:

No more than 30 participants total, including 10-12 incarcerated women and their children, 2-4 formerly incarcerated mothers and their children, 4-6 incarcerated caregivers, 5-6 DOC personnel, and 4-5 PSESD-EHS personnel who work in the RPP

Measures:

Individual interviews, focus group discussions, participant observation, and audit trail will be used to collect data. No tests or measures per se will be administered because of the small, unique sample of people participating in the study. Content and critical discourse analyses will be used to analyze and interpret data *with* informants.

Nicole Denmark

Project Title:

Socialization for Learning: Examining Pathways from Mothers' Socialization Goals to Children's Classroom Competencies in Central American Immigrant Families

Mentor:

Brenda Jones Harden, Ph.D.

Project Funding Years:

2008-2010

University Affiliation:

University of Maryland at College Park

Project Abstract:

The University of Maryland will examine the school readiness concepts of classroom social competence and approaches to learning in Head Start children from Central American immigrant families. The project has several objectives, which include: (a) to examine how mothers' relatedness and autonomous socialization goals are associated with their relatedness-oriented and autonomy-oriented parenting behaviors in Central American immigrant families; (b) to examine the association between mothers'

relatedness-oriented and autonomy-oriented behaviors and children's social competence and approaches to learning in Central American immigrant families; and (c) to examine the relation between parents' socialization goals, parenting behaviors, and children's social competence and approaches to learning in Central American families by developing and testing a theory-based structural equation model predicting children's social competence and approaches to learning. Participants will be mothers who emigrated from Central America whose children attend Head Start. Mothers, recruited in the second phase of the two phase study, will be interviewed with regard to their socialization goals and will participate in a videotaped free play session with their children.

Sample:

100 Central American mothers of Head Start children

Measures:

Mothers:

Background Characteristics

Bidimensional Acculturation Scale for Hispanics

Keller's list of 10 statements concerning the traits or qualities that children should learn or develop during the first six years

Children:

Social Skills Rating Scale-Preschool Edition (SSRS)

Teachers:

Social Skills Rating Scale-Preschool Edition Teacher's Form

Preschool Learning Behaviors Scale (PLBS)

Jennifer DiBara

Project Title:

Look at the facts: Investigating the relationship between book genre (information book or storybook) and preschoolers' development of vocabulary and pretend reading skills

Mentor:

Catherine Snow, Ph.D.

Project Funding Years:

2008-2009