



National Institute of Justice

# **Compendium of Research on Children Exposed to Violence (CEV) 2010-2015**

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COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON  
CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE (CEV)  
2010-2015



## Introduction to CEV Compendium

Children may experience violence in many settings, including at home, in school, online or in neighborhoods, and in many forms, such as bullying or harassment by peers, domestic violence, child maltreatment and community violence. For the purposes of this compendium, studies have been included if they relate to the topic of children exposed to violence broadly defined. Studies funded under NIJ's CEV solicitation are included as well studies funded in other portfolios if they relate to the topic. The Teen Dating Violence studies are also included in the VAWA Compendium, which is publically available. This compendium only includes studies funded from 2010 forward.

Where final reports are available in print, a NCJ number will be listed. All NCJ numbers listed herein can be searched through the "Library/Abstracts" link on the National Criminal Justice Reference Center (NCJRS) home page, <https://www.ncjrs.gov>. A search by NCJ number will yield an abstract of the final report as well as an Adobe PDF link to a copy of the final report or to the publisher's web-site. Final reports may also be found through a search by Author, Title or Subject.

The abstracts included in this document are presented as provided by the grantees in their research proposals and have not been edited.



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## A. Polyvictimization

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0046:</b>	<b>Screening for Poly-Victimization in Predicting a Range of Behavioral and Justice-Related Outcomes in Justice-Referred Youths Screened at Intake</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Connecticut Health Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$516,604</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This three-year project will use an experimental research design with 720 juvenile probationer participants randomly assigned to experimental (current screening augmented with poly-victimization screening, or PVE) and control (current screening as usual, or SAU) conditions. SAU uses the MAYSI-2, legal records, and probation or social work interviews for youth entering juvenile probation in the state of Connecticut. Measures of screening fidelity will ensure that the intervention is implemented as designed using the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ). The goal of the study, which will be conducted in all 12 juvenile courts in the state of Connecticut, is to determine if PVE improves the 1) identification, 2) referral to, receipt of, and retention in rehabilitative services, 3) school attendance, and 4) reduction in recidivism of traumatized youth. Multiple units of analysis and multiple measurements will be obtained from system data (one year prior to and one year after screening) and telephone follow-up data. Cost estimates will be conducted in order to preliminarily determine the economic value of the intended benefits (i.e., more accurate identification of poly-victimized youth; reduced recidivism and increased school engagement) relative to the cost of screening (i.e., screener time; increase in receipt of/retention in services).

<b>2013-IJ-CX-0029:</b>	<b>Familial Pathways to Polyvictimization for Sexual Minority Youth: Homonegative, Dangerous, and Adverse Family Typologies</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The Regents of the University of California</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$456,606</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to address the following aims with sexual minority youth: (1) identify the lifetime prevalence, past year incidence, and correlates of polyvictimization, (2) explore and establish a conceptual model of family typologies (homonegative, dangerous, and adverse) and (mediating factors internalizing problems, peer rejection) that lead to polyvictimization, and (3) inform the design of future research, policies, and practices to prevent polyvictimization. Adapting a conceptual model of polyvictimization developed by Finkelhor and colleagues (2009), this study proposes a new pathway to polyvictimization for sexual minority youth stemming from family level homonegative microaggression. The study will utilize an Internet-based, quota sample (N=760) to ensure a sufficient number of youth from all sexual minority categories. Inclusion criteria include nonheterosexual identity, 14-19 years old, middle or high school enrollment within the past year, U.S. residency, and English literacy. The study will utilize a cross-sectional, quantitative design and two recruitment strategies for the online survey: (1) targeted Facebook advertisements and (2) promotional materials distributed by ten youth organizations across the country. Polyvictimization will be assessed with the Homonegative Microaggression Scale, Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire, Swearer Bullying Survey, and Online Victimization Scale. Chi-square and ANOVA tests will be used to examine the co-occurrence of different forms of

victimization and differences in prevalence and incidence rates by individual, family, school, and community characteristics. Latent profile analyses will be used to identify clustering of family typologies and logistic regression to identify family and community factors that predict class membership. The conceptual model and its mediators will be tested using techniques developed by Preacher and Hayes (2004).

<b>2014-R2-CX-0020:</b>	<b>Factors promoting Risk and Resilience among Polyvictimized Youth in the Juvenile Justice System</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Utah</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$816,031</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Delinquent youth account for a substantial proportion of crime in the US and are detained each year in numbers that exceed the child population of some moderately-sized American cities. Far from being a deterrent, detention is associated with an increased likelihood of recidivism, particularly among those youth who suffer from posttraumatic stress reactions following from a history of victimization. Although an important body of research substantiates that victimization increases the risk of youths' entry into the juvenile justice (JJ) system and their likelihood of recidivism, there are limitations to this research that the present study will address. First, we take into account that the majority of JJ-involved youth have undergone multiple and repeated forms of polyvictimization, and will assess the dose of these experiences across development. Second, we will build upon recent theory and research regarding posttraumatic numbing as a key mechanism linking polyvictimization to delinquency, by further elucidating the psychological and physiological processes underlying this association and demonstrating their associations with risk/recidivism versus resilience/desistance. To this end, the present study will investigate processes associated with posttraumatic emotional numbing and experiential avoidance, and will advance the field by incorporating methods involving both self-report and psychophysiological measures of emotion regulation patterns within the stress response system. We will gather longitudinal data at multiple time points to establish the plausibility of directional hypotheses about the associations among polyvictimization, posttraumatic experiential avoidance, emotional numbing and youth outcomes, and to allow for testing state-of-the-art theoretical models positing curvilinear relations among variables. To fulfill these aims, the project will follow 300 first-time detained ethnically diverse youth ages 12-15 four times over a four-year period and will collect caregiver and youth reports using validated and reliable measures of polyvictimization, posttraumatic emotional numbing, experiential avoidance, externalizing problems, and resilience. In addition, validated psychophysiological measures of emotion regulation patterns will be taken, and JJ and school records will be obtained to provide objective indices of recidivism versus desistance from delinquency. Longitudinal structural equation modeling will be used to test hypotheses that the association between polyvictimization and youth outcomes is mediated by experiential avoidance and emotional numbing, comparing self-report and psychophysiological data. Multilevel modeling will be used to test hypotheses regarding curvilinear associations among these variables. The resulting dataset will be archived and the results will be disseminated to local and national stakeholders via interim and final reports, conference presentations, and peer-reviewed publications.

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<b>2015-R2-CX-0004:</b>	<b>Poly-victimization &amp; Resilience Portfolios: Advancing the Science of Resilience Following Children's Exposure to Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>National Children's Advocacy Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$755, 136</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Two trends have shown tremendous promise in increasing our understanding of children's exposure to violence (CEV) and improving our capacity to prevent CEV and intervene more effectively when it does occur: poly-victimization and resilience. Poly-victimization research has been greatly furthered by the development of a comprehensive instrument, the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire, developed by our team. However, no comparable instrument exists for resilience. This study will develop the Resilience Portfolio Questionnaire that will include a comprehensive assessment of key resilience strengths across all layers of the social ecology. This study will be accomplished through a community-research partnership between the National Children's Advocacy Center, the Life Paths Appalachian Research Center, and the University of New Hampshire. Our mixed-methods design consists of two key phases. Phase 1 involves a conceptual and development process for developing measures to test newly identified elements of our theoretical model. This will build on the Life Paths project to further develop and adapt measures for protective factors and resilient outcomes, such as characteristics of peers and schools beyond social support and sense of community, the importance of family well-being in addition to personal well-being for children, the ways that children use interpersonal and meaning making strengths to reinforce self-regulation, and the need for more behavioral measures of most constructs. We will also explore the role of more minor adversities in developing resilience and post-traumatic growth. The new items will be reviewed by violence and child development specialists, focus groups of parents and teens, and administered in an in-depth cognitive version to youth (ages 10 to 17) in order to determine the appropriateness of its language and content. Phase 2 will involve a community study of 500 children (ages 10 to 17) and parents in parent-child pairs. Grounded theory analysis will be used to interpret the qualitative data and psychometric analyses, including correlation, factor analysis, regression and structural equation modeling will be used to validate the questionnaire and identify the most important protective factors. Products will include an archived dataset, interim and final reports, at least 4 peer-reviewed journal articles, at least 4 conference presentations, and shorter summaries of key findings prepared for the general public that we will make available on our websites. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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## B. Internet-Based Harassment

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0024:</b>	<b>Technology Based Harassment Victimization: Placement in a Broader Victimization Context</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of New Hampshire</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$608, 210</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This basic research project aims to improve current policy and practice on technology-based harassment victimization by examining it within the context of other types of youth victimization, risk, and protective factors. A nationally representative sample of 1,000 youth (ages 10-17) will be surveyed to: 1) understand technology-based harassment as it is occurring in the context of concurrent and prior victimization experiences, including whether poly-victimized youth are at particular risk for technology-based harassment; 2) define a typology of technology-based harassment incidents and their relationship to adverse consequences for youth; 3) determine whether technology-based harassment has similar risk and protective factors as other types of peer victimizations such as physical violence, sexual harassment, and bullying; 4) explore the role that incident-level characteristics of technology-based harassment (e.g., duration, relationship with the perpetrator) have on its impact (distress and disclosure), and 5) assess the frequency and level of involvement of youth as bystanders of technology-based harassment. Data will be collected from a national sample of youth (ages 10-17), who will be interviewed by telephone about their experiences with technology-based harassment during the last 12 months. These youth will have completed the recent (2011) NatSCEV2 (The National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence) about lifetime and past year victimization exposures. The majority of households participating in the NatSCEV (80%) agreed to be re-contacted for future studies. Youth from families who agreed to be re-contacted tended to report more adversities and willingness to participate in future surveys was also more common among older youth, girls and racial minorities. However, lifetime property crime, exposure to family violence and, exposure to community violence were the only differences with significant, moderate effect sizes. This sampling opportunity allows for a longitudinal component to the study design in a cost-effective manner and permits an understanding with more precision how prior victimizations (as measured by the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire) serve as risk factors for technology-based harassment. This study builds on a highly successful, 12-year long research initiative focusing on internet victimization and safety at the Crimes against Children Research Center, as well as a program conceptualizing and examining poly-victimized youth.

**Product: NCJ# 249003**

**Technology-Involved Harassment Victimization: Placement in a Broader Victimization Context**

Thirty-four percent of youth reported 311 harassment incidents in the past year. Fifty-four percent of the incidents involved no technology (in-person only); 15 percent involved only technology, and 31 percent involved both technology and in-person harassment (mixed incidents). The analysis found that mixed incidents were more likely to have an overall negative emotional impact, even after adjusting for other incident characteristics predictive of emotional harm. Youth who experienced mixed harassment reported the highest average number of different types of victimization 2 years prior and were more likely to have experienced multiple

victimizations (34 percent). Multiple victims were over four times more likely than those with a single victimization to have experienced mixed harassment 2 years later. The number of prior adverse life events was also predictive of mixed harassment. Youth victimized by mixed harassment were more likely to be female and live in a household with higher socioeconomic status; they were less likely to live with both biological parents. These findings should relieve concerns about possible inherently harmful features of technology, since incidents of technology-only harassment were among the least problematic and upsetting to youth. Youth who report mixed technology and in-person harassment should be a priority for education and prevention.

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<b>2013-IJ-CX-0030:</b>	<b>Contents and Contexts of Cyberbullying</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Iowa</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$458, 246</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to classify the contents of cyberbullying messages, assess their frequency and associations with offline bullying, and examine whether and how peer groups in social networks promote these behaviors. Approximately 400 adolescents, grades 6 through 8, in three Iowa middle schools that have significant minority populations (14% Native American in school 1, 20% racial minorities in schools 2 and 3) will be surveyed. Two surveys, one in the fall semester and one in the spring, will gather self-reported information on perpetration, victimization, and witnessing of online and offline bullying and the structure of peer networks. Data will also be gathered during spring semester from a subgroup of participants who are smartphone users. Their smartphones will be equipped with software that is designed to capture incoming and outgoing text messages and Facebook activity and to periodically survey them about their bullying experiences. To identify and measure the frequency of cyberbullying, the contents of electronic communications will be analyzed using techniques from computer science and communications research and self-reported information on bullying experiences. Using formal social network analyses, whether cyberbullying is related to the structure and composition of peer networks, including affiliation with peers who engage in offline bullying or delinquency will be examined. In addition to providing NIJ with a wealth of data, the proposed research will inform scientific studies, policy decisions, and the public by increasing knowledge about actual cyberbullying communications and the social contexts in which they are embedded.

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<b>2013-IJ-CX-0051:</b>	<b>Electronic Harassment: Assessment, Associations and Policy</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Seattle Children’s Hospital</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$244,025</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to develop an evidence-based definition of electronic harassment and related measurement tool. Methods for this objective include Concept Mapping. To develop an evidence-based definition of electronic harassment, this

project will use Concept Mapping and recruit 80 participants including adolescents, parents, and professionals representing education, health and the justice system to participate. This validated approach includes five steps: preparation, generation (brainstorming), structuring (sort and rank), representation (statistical analysis) and interpretation. Analysis will include hierarchical cluster analysis to determine a cluster map representing electronic harassment. This Concept Map will be used towards developing a definition and measurement tool. From these aims, outcomes will include a standardized definition of electronic harassment and an associated measurement tool.

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## C. School Violence

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0003:</b>	<b>Social Bonds across Immigration Generations and the Immigrant School Enclave: A Multilevel Study of Student Violence, School Disorder and Dropping Out</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Virginia Polytechnic Institute &amp; State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$99,122</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this research is to examine the role immigration has on the known relationships between school, social bonds, student violence, school disorder, and educational failure. This research will examine the linkages between these factors through the lens of social bond theory and the assimilation theoretical framework. Data is drawn from the Educational Longitudinal Study (ELS) administered by the Research Triangle Institute for the National Center for Education Statistics at the Department of Education. This data was designed to monitor the transition of a national sample of youth as they progress from 10th grade through the world of college and work. It includes information obtained from students, their school records, their parents, teachers and administrators of their high school, including the principal and the library media center director. The data includes information for 9,870 youth collected in 2002, 2004, and 2006, with another round of data collection anticipated for 2012. The ELS will also be linked to the Common Core Data (CCD) that is the Department of Education's primary database on public elementary and secondary education in the U.S. It provides school level data. The data will be analyzed using two methods, hierarchical linear modeling and structural equation modeling. The nested structure of the ELS (i.e., students within schools) makes multilevel modeling an appropriate analytic tool. Hierarchical Linear and Nonlinear Modeling (HLM) will be utilized to analyze the multilevel relationships between school social bonds, race, ethnicity, gender, immigration, violence, and disorder. To address the longitudinal research questions associated with this proposal, the grantee will incorporate Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). SEM is ideal for identifying causal mechanisms because it allows for the simultaneous estimation of direct and indirect effects. It will be used to determine the extent to which student violence, school disorder, and school social bonds serves as mechanisms that contribute to or ameliorate the children of immigrants' likelihood of dropping out.

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<b>2014-CK-BX-0002:</b>	<b>Connect and Redirect to Respect</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Board of Education – City of Chicago / University of Chicago Crime Lab</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,197,178</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Check and Redirect to Respect (CRR) Program Project Abstract CPS is aware of the increasingly violent link between gangs and social media applications. Using social media, gangs can coordinate illicit activities and carry out threats leading to youth violence and unsafe schools. The district currently does not have the capacity to monitor these threats, instead relying on traditional methods of detection including observation and word of mouth referrals. Current research suggests a lack of policy knowledge and development related to social media and gangs. In order to dismantle gangs, provide intervention opportunities to redirect problem behavior, and improve school climate, the district proposes the Check and Redirect to Respect (CRR) program. Using the PathAR software, CPS will track social media posts to identify influential students who may either take part in gang activities or may be at risk for joining gangs. The district will dispatch the Chicago Police Department's Gang School Safety Team (GSST) to perform interventions drawing upon the knowledge gained of the student through monitoring. After GSST interventions, the students will either receive group or individual interventions from their school's behavioral health team. At the conclusion of the services, participating students will be equipped with the life skills to resist gang activity and reengage with their school. The CRR will take place at a total of 16 schools during Year 1, 20 schools in Year 2, and 24 schools in Year 3. The project will compare treatment schools receiving the CRR with control schools continuing to use traditional service models. The project will utilize the University of Chicago's Crime Lab, which will compare outcomes between school groupings and against baseline indicators. Armed with this knowledge, CPS will produce high quality research to identify strategies to reduce the influence of gangs and social media, establish best-practice intervention strategies, and better understand the process between initial interest in gang life and full participation. Through the CRR, CPS proposes to achieve the following outcomes: 1) decrease the incidence of high level infractions (Level 4-6 which also include violence related misconducts) by 10%, 2) decrease the incidence of out of school suspensions by 10%, 3) decrease the number of student expulsions by 10%, 4) increase the number of GSST interventions by 20%, 5) reduce student arrests by 5%, and 6) increase school climate ratings as measured by the My Voice, My School survey tool by 10%.

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<b>2014-CK-BX-0005:</b>	<b>Comprehensive Assessment of School Climate to Improve Safety in Maryland Middle Schools</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Virginia</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,616,205</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Many schools struggle to proactively promote a positive climate and safety, especially in middle schools where behavioral concerns increase. A partnership between the University of Virginia (UVA), Johns Hopkins University (JHU), Sheppard Pratt Health System (SPHS), and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is submitting this proposal to NIJ with the goal of promoting middle school safety through the use of a continuum of evidence-based approaches to school climate improvement, violence prevention, and culturally-responsive classroom management. This proposal examines the efficacy, costs, and benefits of an augmented version of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), which provides personnel with safety (e.g., surveys, observations) and climate data, technical

assistance, and training in evidence-based interventions. A recent randomized controlled trial (RCT) of the proposed Maryland Safe and Supportive Schools (MDS3) model has demonstrated effects in Maryland high schools. We propose to adapt this model for use in middle schools, thereby preventing the negative sequelae of violence involvement, disengagement from school, and disparities in outcomes for minority students. Subjects: The targeted RCT sample is youth attending 40 middle schools across 3 diverse Maryland counties in the Baltimore metro area. Partnerships: This proposal builds upon a 15-year partnership between UVA, JHU, SPHS, and MSDE which has collaboratively scaled-up PBIS in Maryland and conducted multiple RCTs testing different prevention programs. Research Design and Methods: This study aims to (1) adapt for middle schools and assess the acceptability and feasibility of the MDS3 model in 4 pilot schools; (2) test the efficacy of MDS3 for improving school safety and climate, problem behaviors, engagement, and achievement using a group RCT in 40 middle schools; and (3) measure the programmatic costs and benefits associated with the implementation of MDS3 to inform state-wide dissemination efforts. We hypothesize that MDS3 intervention schools will display decreased behavioral infractions and ethnic disparities, and improved school safety and academic success. Analysis: Aim 1 uses a mixed-methods approach. Aim 2 utilizes multilevel analyses to assess student outcomes over 3 years. Aim 3 will use cost-benefit and return on investment analyses. Products: Products include a comprehensive training series on the use of school safety and climate data to inform the selection and implementation of evidence-based programs; sustainable school climate survey system for use state-wide; administrator walk-through observation tool; professional development materials on culturally-proficient classroom management; peer-reviewed and practitioner oriented research summaries; archived data files (e.g., surveys, observations) submitted to NIJ.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0008:</b>	<b>Space-Time Study of Youth and School Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Pennsylvania</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,082,625</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

School violence including violence en route to and from school can make students afraid to go to school and frequently results in serious injury, with an estimated 7,397,301 youth in America receiving treatment in an emergency department between 2001-2008 for violent injuries sustained at or near school. These assaults occur in a context where the landscape that students navigate each day often includes bullying, substance use, and weapon carrying. Although many U.S. schools use metal detectors, security cameras, and security guards, these efforts have not been shown to effectively prevent violence. Understanding the locations and times when students are vulnerable to assault as they proceed through their school-day routine will identify opportunities for more targeted, evidence-based prevention strategies. We propose a mixed-methods study that employs an innovative case-time-control design with GIS-assisted activity path mapping to understand risk factors and protective factors for school assault. Subjects will be males and females (ages 12-18 years) requiring treatment at the emergency department of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia or the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania for an assault-related injury. Each subject will be interviewed using portable, computerized GIS technology to recreate details of the path of their activities, indoors during school and outdoors before and after, from the time they awoke in the morning up until

the time they were assaulted. At the same time, each subject will be asked to describe his or her activities sequentially during that period, including companions and weapon carrying, and site-line features of each location (prospect, refuge, and escape) that indicate the subjects ability to see their surroundings clearly or the potential for someone to be concealed and hiding nearby. Each subjects path will be appended with data characterizing streets, buildings, neighborhood populations, and the weather that day. These rich secondary data will be linked by latitude and longitude coordinate and time of day to the path of each subjects activities. Doing so will produce detailed records of the individual- and environmental-level context that each subject experienced at each point over the course of their day. With this study design, mixed-effects conditional regressions will compare each subject at the time they were assaulted to times earlier in their day, thereby identifying risk and protective factors for school assault. Qualitative analyses will inform our understanding of mechanisms by which these factors operate. Then, environmental design strategies to prevent school violence can be formulated using an evidence-based approach.

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<b>2014-CK-BX-0015:</b>	<b>Safe Schools Research Initiative</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Pharr- San Juan- Alamo Independent School District/ SRI International</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,137,035</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The Pharr San Juan Alamo Independent School District (PSJA ISD) located just 8 miles from the Texas/Mexico border proposes a research initiative for an innovative, culturally relevant, multi-tiered intervention to target the need for increased violence prevention, school safety and educational effectiveness. Given the backdrop of border violence in the area and the documented threats of violent incidents and disciplinary referrals a model for transformational change is needed. The experimental design with 7 high schools and 8 middle schools, with randomly chosen half intervention sites and half control sites will develop, implement, test and report findings for replication for Hispanic populations. Outcomes anticipated are, a decrease in violence incidents and an improved school safety plan through rigorous research. The research initiative and school change model will impact 14,150 students. Partnerships, Methods, Analysis, Products and Archiving The proposed research will be conducted by principal investigative team SRI and coordinated by the Grants, Compliance and Evaluation Department of PSJA ISD. The transformational model will utilize the evidenced based, Safe and Civil Schools approach combined with a culturally relevant family component called Familias Unidas, which is also evidenced based. The Safe and Civil Schools approach is registered with SAMSHA and the Familias Unidas model is a DOJ Blueprint Model. Data collected will include but will not be limited to, student engagement, student attendance, academic achievement and performance, as measured by the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) reading and mathematics scores, discipline referrals and perceptions of school safety as measured by the School Safety Survey (SSS). Data will serve to answer the primary research questions, A.) Are multi-tiered system of supports effective in producing the following school safety outcomes? B.) Does the effect of multi-tiered system of supports differ by student and school characteristics? Because SRI investigators will measure outcomes at the school and individual levels, they propose somewhat different analyses for each. SRI conducted a power analysis showing the minimum detectable effect (MDE) for HLM analysis using the methodology in

Schochet (2008). They will use factor analysis, impact analysis and school level outcome analysis which also includes feasibility of implementation analysis, moderation analysis and mediation analysis. Archiving of data will follow the highest professional and ethical standards.

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<b>2014-CK-BX-0020:</b>	<b>Pursuing Equitable Restorative Communities</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>School District of Pittsburgh / RAND Corporation:</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,021,407</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose and overarching goal of this project, entitled Pursuing Equitable Restorative Communities, is to measure the capacity of restorative practices to improve the safety and climate in our schools. Data collected on the effectiveness of this intervention in targeted schools will be used to inform the district's decision to disseminate restorative practices across all schools. Significantly high numbers of PPS students report that they must fight to defend themselves and attendance rates at many of our schools reflect this concern. Motivated by the positive outcomes that restorative practices have demonstrated in a growing number of settings, we intend to implement a restorative practices intervention in Pittsburgh to address problematic school climates, high rates of violence and disproportionately high suspension rates among African American male students. We will partner with RAND Corporation to provide objective evaluation on the impact of restorative practices on school safety and climate, and with the International Institute for Restorative Practices who will provide access to its SaferSanerSchools, Whole-School Change intervention, a comprehensive school climate reform program that proactively builds relationships and connections while also providing a disciplinary alternative to existing punitive and zero-tolerance policies like out-of-school suspensions. The project will be guided by the following research goals to (1) assess fidelity of restorative practices implementation; (2) assess effectiveness of restorative practices; and (3) determine the likelihood of sustainability. RAND will employ a randomized controlled trial, selecting half of 50 eligible schools (serving approximately 10,000 students) to implement restorative practices during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years. The other half of the eligible schools will serve as control schools, whose experiences will be compared to the experiences of the treatment schools, with the differences indicating the impact of the restorative practices program. This project, particularly if coupled with two other RAND evaluations of restorative practices in other contexts, provides an opportunity to provide the National Institutes of Justice and the field more broadly with rigorous evidence generated through random school assignment on whether schools and districts should invest in this particular restorative practices intervention.

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<b>2014-CK-BX-0021:</b>	<b>Promoting School Safety: A Comprehensive Emotional and Behavioral Health Model</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Baltimore County Public Schools / University of Maryland, Baltimore</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,965,158</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>



This project will address the significant school safety issue of student emotional and behavioral health crisis. This study will employ a randomized controlled study design to evaluate the impact of the EBH-CRP (emotional and behavioral health crisis response and prevention) intervention on school safety outcomes. The EBH-CRP intervention is a comprehensive training, organization, and support protocol for school and community stakeholders aimed at increasing school/community competence in responding to and preventing student emotional and behavioral health crises using evidence-based, culturally competent, school-informed strategies that address emotional and behavioral health concerns across the continuum and are efficiently coordinated across child-serving systems. This intervention will build on existing school and community resources to implement a streamlined emotional and behavioral health crisis response and prevention protocol and comprehensive continuum of services including universal prevention, early identification, assessment and service linkage, crisis response and post crisis relapse prevention. After thoughtful consideration of potential target samples within BCPS, it was determined that addressing EBH crises across the continuum of grade levels would allow for the best understanding of this safety issue, the impact of the intervention across elementary, middle and high schools settings, and facilitate the replication of the intervention to non-target schools in the future. To employ and evaluate the EBH-CRP intervention across the continuum of grade levels, it was determined that "feeder patterns" within BCPS that are matched on key demographic variables, including race/ethnicity, poverty, and current EBH supports, will be randomized to receive the EBH-CRP intervention or participate in the control condition. BCPS feeder patterns are developed based on geography and typically include one high school, 2-4 middle schools, and 5-10 elementary schools. To establish adequate power to detect significant differences between intervention and control schools, at least 22 schools are necessary in each condition. Given this, two sets of feeder patterns matched on key demographic variables will be randomly assigned with one feeder pattern in each set to receive the intervention and one in each set to participate in the control condition. Outcome Measures Measurement of the impact of the EBH-CRP intervention will be driven by five research questions. The primary goal of the evaluation is to measure clear changes in specific school safety outcomes in intervention schools versus comparison schools, while the secondary goal is to measure process variables that are critical to understanding the mechanisms that impact the change process and inform potential modifications to the intervention. In addition, a cost-benefit analysis will be conducted to assess the net benefits of the EBH-CRP intervention over the project period.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0103:</b>	<b>Evaluation of Walking School Bus Programs and the Good Behavior Game</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Cincinnati City School District / RAND Corporation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,971,284</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Problem Statement: Our elementary students are exposed to high levels of safety risks at school and in the community, which can lead to a variety of deleterious school outcome. Safety on the way to and from school is of central concern to our students, parents and school staff. A review of evidence-based program lists related to violence prevention revealed no programs that focus on the trip to and from school. Research Design and Methods The Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) along with its research partner, the RAND Corporation, proposes to test the

provision of a Walking School Bus (WSB), along with the Good Behavior Game (GBG), a research-based universal prevention program, as a strategy for improving the safety of our most vulnerable students. In 12 schools in high crime and high poverty areas of the city, we plan to implement a WSB-GBG to escort students who are not currently provided bussing transportation to and from school on a daily basis. The evaluation of the WSB-GBG will focus on these research questions: 1. What barriers and facilitators to implementation are identified that can inform the implementation of a WSB-GBG? 2. Does WSB-GBG delivery improve participating student's proximal outcomes? 3. Does WSB-GBG promote school safety more generally? 4. What are the likely long term improvements in outcomes associated with the proximal outcomes that the WSB promotes? 5. What are the costs of implementing the WSB and how do they compare to other approaches to improving the student and school safety outcomes affected? Analysis of student's proximal outcomes will employ a randomized interrupted time series design/randomized waitlist control design in which each unit of randomization spends time in the control and intervention groups. The evaluation utilizes multiple approaches to data collection, including interviews, administrative data from the district, police records, student surveys, and teacher ratings of student behavior. Products and Outcomes Products from this project will aim to inform local and national policy audiences and contribute to the scholarly literature. Findings will be disseminated in a variety of products and modalities for our diverse audience sets. The primary outcomes of the project will be new program materials for incorporating a well-regarded prevention program into a new setting, knowledge regarding the feasibility of implementing WSB-GBG in high crime neighborhoods, and if and how WSB-GBG can improve student safety in the short and long term.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0104:</b>	<b>Group Randomized Trial of Teen Courts to Address the School-to-Prison Pipeline, Reduce Aggression and Violence, and Enhance School Safety in Middle and High School Students</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Columbus County Schools LEA, NC / North Carolina Academic Center for n Youth Violence Prevention (NC-ACE)</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,499,019</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Purpose:** The purpose of the proposed 3-year research project is to implement and evaluate a restorative justice school safety initiative that 1) reduces bullying perpetration and victimization, aggression, and violence, 2) enhances school safety and mental health in middle and high school students, and 3) reduces the school to prison pipeline by diverting first offenders from the juvenile justice system into school-based Teen Courts. **Partnerships:** The study will be conducted in Columbus and Robeson Counties in North Carolina. Both of these counties are rural, impoverished, and ethnically diverse. Staff from the North Carolina Academic Center for Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention will complete the research evaluation. NC-ACE is one of six CDC-funded youth violence prevention centers and the only one working in rural areas. Robeson County Teen Court and Youth Services is an agency implementing evidenced-based models of restorative justice programming and will coordinate implementation fidelity for the proposed project. **Research Design and Participants:** We will conduct a rigorous experimental trial of 24 disadvantaged, rural, and ethnically diverse middle and high schools that are randomly selected to either receive school-based teen courts (n=12)



or to conduct needs assessments without teen court programming (n=12). School Success Profile-Plus (SSP+) surveys collected from 4,000 randomly selected students in the 24 schools will serve as evaluation data. Analyses: Using pretest (2015), posttest (2016), and 1 year follow-up (2017) SSP+ data from the 24 schools, hierarchical linear models will be estimated to evaluate program effectiveness in reducing bullying perpetration and victimization, aggression, and violence, and enhancing school safety and mental health. We hypothesize that bullying, aggression, and violence will significantly decrease over the course of the 3-year study, relative to the comparison schools, while school safety and mental health will improve. Products: For specific deliverable products, we will annually publish three or more peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, book chapters, or program manuals that: 1) articulate risk and protective factors associated with school violence and safety; 2) describe implementation strategies for components of our school safety initiative so that these new approaches can be disseminated to practitioners and policy makers; and, 3) evaluate the efficacy and cost-benefit calculations of the restorative justice initiative for promoting school safety and reducing aggressive behavior. Impact: This will be the first rigorous experimental trial of school-based teen courts. This study will have a dramatic impact on school safety programming in the United States by validating an innovative restorative justice approach that can be disseminated to practitioners and policy makers across the country.

<b>2014-MU-MU-0017: School and Family Engagement – Trauma Informed (SAFE-TI)</b>	
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Bozeman School District #7 / The University of Montana</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,319,810</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Bozeman School District #7 (BSD7) in southwest Montana has a need to implement comprehensive, integrated prevention supports in order to enhance school safety. BSD7, in partnership with Gallatin County Youth Court Services, school- and community-based mental health providers, parent engagement experts, and university researchers, will implement The School and Family Engagement Trauma Informed (SAFE-TI) project. SAFE-TI will evaluate the school safety impacts of implementing a Trauma-Informed Care approach, when applied within a tiered assessment and intervention framework. SAFE-TI will provide trauma screening, assessment, and treatment of student-specific risk factors that impact school safety, including threat-to-self and threat-to-others. To establish a trauma-informed approach, partner agencies will engage in joint learning activities and research evaluation led by the Montana Safe Schools Center and the National Native Children’s Trauma Center, both of which are housed at the University of Montana's Institute for Educational Research and Service. In order to implement a comprehensive array of trauma-informed interventions, BSD7 will expand direct family and student services through the use of parent liaisons, student assistance specialists, student assistance paraprofessionals, and community Wraparound facilitators. At the Tier 1 level, trauma-informed approaches will be integrated with Trauma-Informed Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (TI-PBIS) and the Think Trauma Training for Juvenile Justice. Students and families in need of Tier 2 supports will be provided access to Support for Students Exposed to Trauma (SSET) or Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Trauma in Schools (CBITS). Youth in need of Tier 3 services will receive either Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-

CBT) or the Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention (CFTSI). In order to evaluate the effectiveness of a trauma-informed approach, all district students will be randomly assigned to either a treatment or control group. As students and families show need for intervention supports, those students identified as part of a delayed-treatment control group would have access to preexisting prevention services through a Student Support Center model. Students assigned to a treatment group would have immediate access to expanded trauma-informed services including SSET, CBITS, CF-TSI, or TF-CBT, as well as support from wraparound facilitators. The delayed treatment group will have access to these same services after an initial three-month period. Baseline and post-intervention school-wide data will be analyzed through a subset of Youth Risk Behavior Survey questions and incident reports. Data will be individually collected for risk assessment, trauma symptomatology, discipline referrals, attendance, behavior, course progress, and recidivism.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Individual, Institutional, and Community Sources of School Violence: A Meta-Analysis</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Cincinnati</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$380,122</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Horrific events like the school shootings at Columbine and Sandy Hook have undoubtedly and understandably-shocked the nation. And yet stacked on top of these events is also the daily task facing school administrators of keeping youths safe from the full spectrum of forms of violence-including bullying and intimidation, harassment, fighting, and sexual assault-in the school environment. But creating effective, evidence-based policies to address violence in school would first require knowing what the sources-or what might be termed the "root causes"-of school violence are. After decades of empirical research on the subject, it is important that we firmly determine what this literature shows are the important individual, institutional (i.e., school), and community-level sources of violence at school. Accordingly, the purpose of the proposed study will be to subject the body of empirical literature on school violence to a meta-analysis to determine the key individual-, school-, and community-level factors that substantially influence violence in school. The primary goals of the proposed meta-analysis are to inform school violence research and evidence-based policies by: (1) organizing the existing empirical knowledge base regarding school violence; and (2) identifying the key individual-, school-, and community-level factors that should be targeted for change and/or intervention to reduce school violence. In carrying out this meta-analysis, the proposed research seeks to achieve the following three objectives: (1) to determine which individual-level factors are most salient in predicting which youth are most at risk for experiencing violence at school in terms of both offending and victimization., (2) to determine which school-level factors influence the likelihood that a student will either offend or will be victimized at school, and (3) since schools are also embedded in a community context, we will also determine which community-level factors are most strongly associated with higher likelihood that youth will either offend or will be victimized at school. Contemporary meta-analytic methods will be employed to analyze data that will be arranged in a three-level hierarchical structure (effect size estimates nested within studies, which are nested within data sets). In addition to a final report to NIJ, we anticipate paper presentations at national conferences, a webinar to



disseminate our results online, and multiple articles to be submitted to peer-reviewed criminal justice and criminology journals. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0003:</b>	<b>Understanding the Impact of School Safety on the High School Transition Experience: From Etiology to Prevention</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Michigan State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$849,281</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Research suggests the transition to high school is a critical event in the life course, with serious implications for mental health, school completion, and long-term economic well-being. This transition coincides with a peak in exposure to school and community violence, including polyvictimization (i.e., exposure to multiple forms of victimization/victimization across contexts). Little is known about how perceptions of school safety impact the transition experience, how students respond to the threat of victimization, and the factors that protect youth from the negative consequences associated with high crime communities. In collaboration with the University of Michigan School of Public Health and Flint Community Schools (FCS), we propose a multi-method (survey, interview, police data) study of the sources and consequences of school violence and victimization, especially through the transition to high school. This study will consist of two major data collection efforts: 1) a full population (N . approximately 1 ,400) survey of 7th through 10th grade students across 10 FCS (fall 2016)- which serves a primarily African American and poor population-that will identify the prevalence, sources, and correlates of student victimization, including the location and seriousness of violent events, explore the connections between school and community violence, and measure the degree to which students are exposed to school and community violence; and 2) a three-wave panel qualitative study of 100 students interviewed every 6 months beginning in the spring of their 8th grade year (spring 2017)and continuing through their 9th grade year. The primary focus of the interviews will be to further the research from the survey and develop an in-depth understanding of how school safety impacts the transition experience, the genesis of school violence, including how community conflict impacts school safety, and what youth do to protect themselves from school-related victimization. Both data collection efforts will be guided by resiliency theory, and how personal characteristics and community resources protect youth from the consequences of school and community violence. We will integrate crime incident data from the Flint Police Department, including geocoded events and detailed offender/victim/incident characteristics as a source for triangulation of findings. A community workgroup will provide guided translation of findings generated from mixed-methods analyses, and develop an action plan to help students successfully transition to high school. Results and policy implications will be disseminated to practitioner, researcher, and public audiences through written, oral, and web-based forums. De-identified data will be archived at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. U.S. Department of Justice.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0004:</b>	<b>When Does Rejection Trigger Aggression? A Multi-method Examination of the Multi-motive Model</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Mississippi State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,619,644</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

As many as one in four youth experience aggression from schoolmates (Zimmer-Gembeck et al., 2013), with recent federal data indicating increases in crime and violence towards both students and teachers in U.S. schools (Rogers et al., 2014). Significant research supports that social rejection (e.g., bullying, cyberbullying, or romantic rejection) often precedes aggressive behavior (Kupersmidt et al., 1995; Leary et al., 2006; Vossekuil et al., 2000). Perceptions of having been unfairly outcast by their peers was a common theme in the diaries and websites left behind by the most violent of youth perpetrators (Dutton et al., 2013). This "outcast-lash-out effect" is not limited to school shooters (Reijntes et al., 2010). Research has clearly documented that rejection can trigger an array of aggressive behavior. However, the question remains: as many adolescents face social rejection, what leads the few who decide to engage in acts of aggression towards their peers? Indeed, this question has been posed as a pressing matter for social science to address (Blackhart et al., 2006). In an attempt to address the questions of when and why rejection leads to aggression, Richman and Leary (2009) proposed a Multimotive Model. In this model they synthesized forty years of research on the rejection-aggression link to identify six key factors regarding how the individual interprets the rejection that could predict whether rejection triggers anti-social, pro-social, or asocial behavior. We propose a three year research project that integrates the Multimotive Model with research on individual differences in the outcast-lash out effect (Reijntes et al., 2010) and research on intergroup conflict (Betts & Hinsz, 2013; Gaertner et al., 2008) to identify key predictors and buffers of aggression within high school students. Participants will come from Starkville High School, a rural school of 1,250 students. In 2013, Oktibbeha county schools were found to be underperforming; the resulting decision was to merge rural county schools with Starkville city schools. We believe that this merger provides us with a unique sample of students during a critical transition period where group-level interactions are particularly important. We plan to apply results from this study to improve individual well-being and intergroup relations via a school psychologist intern. To disseminate results, we take an open science approach. Specifically, we would distribute information widely via publishing in top scholarly journals, presenting at conferences oriented towards policy, and sharing research findings with schools directly and in blog form to be disseminated across multiple media platforms. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0009:</b>	<b>Sexual Misconduct by School Employees: Policy Implementation and Effectiveness</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Magnolia Consulting</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$445,052</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>



An estimated 10% of K-12 students will experience school employee sexual misconduct during their school career. Such misconduct has a devastating impact on individual lives and institutional trust. Despite recent updates of state laws, no organization currently evaluates or assesses school employee sexual misconduct policies, perpetuating inconsistencies and loopholes. In addition, administrators and school employees often remain unaware of policies or fail to implement them effectively. To address this problem, this study will examine how districts that recently experienced an incident of school employee sexual misconduct defined, interpreted, and implemented policies before and after the incident. By investigating district strengths and challenges, this study will provide an analysis of existing policies and procedures to prevent and respond to cases of misconduct. Results from this study will also support efforts to improve current policies with findings from reliable data. Led by Dr. Billie-Jo Grant in collaboration with advisors Dr. Charol Shakeshaft, Dr. Roger Collins, and Ms. Terri Miller, this qualitative case study will include a purposeful sample of five geographically and demographically diverse districts that experienced an incident of school employee sexual misconduct in 2014. Beginning in January 2016, researchers will develop and validate a data documentation checklist and interview and focus group protocols. Data collection will begin in the spring of 2016 with study orientations and document collection, and it will continue throughout the year, with researchers conducting 100 interviews and 15 focus groups with school employees and county officials directly and indirectly involved with the incidents. These confidential, semi-structured measures will ask participants to discuss their knowledge of district policies and procedures, to describe the dissemination of and any changes to these policies and procedures, and to provide recommendations for improvement. Qualitative data will be triangulated and researchers will use analytic induction and descriptive statistics as applicable to analyze the data. Researchers hypothesize that current implementation practices will reveal shortcomings and warrant changes for policy improvement. Researchers will supply three interim evaluation reports as well as a final report in September 2017 and Dr. Zoe Barley will serve as the external evaluator. De-identified interview and focus group transcriptions and document collection data will be archived. Results will be disseminated in collaboration with Stop School Employee Sexual Abuse, Misconduct and Exploitation (S.E.S.A.M.E.net), with summaries provided to district, state, and national administrators and policymakers. Research findings will also be submitted to newspapers and journals and presented at national conferences. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0010:</b>	<b>School Safety and School-Based Mental Health Services in a Large Metropolitan School District</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>RTI International</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,993,730</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This project will develop knowledge about how expanding and enhancing school-based mental health (SBMH) programs can promote school safety and improve student well-being. Research has shown that SBMH can reduce behavior problems in children who receive services and



improve overall school climate for others, but more evidence is needed to understand the role of evidence-based programs and implementation in SBMH. RTI International will conduct a rigorous evaluation including process, outcome, and cost evaluations to better understand the effects of three levels of SBMH implemented in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS), a large, culturally diverse system. CMS will build upon its current SBMH framework in 24 middle and K-8 schools by randomly selecting 8 schools each to receive enhanced therapies SBMH (SBMH-ET), expanded SBMH (SBMH-EX), or SBMH treatment as usual (SBMH-TAU). During the first year of the study, SBMH-ET schools will provide training in two evidence-based treatments to mental health providers and student services staff: Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) for students exhibiting significant mental health problems and Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress (SPARCS) group treatment for students exhibiting behavior problems. At SBMH-ET and SBMH-EX schools, treatment will be expanded to include students who are unable to pay for services. In SBMH-ET schools, we will use a process evaluation to explore how often and how well providers use their training to implement the evidence-based intervention with students, using clinician logs, questionnaires, and interviews about barriers and supports. A primary source of school safety outcome data will result from a survey administered four times during the project to a random selection of 100 students per school. We will work closely with the CMS Office of Accountability to use administrative data collected by CMS about discipline infractions, attendance, and academic performance. SBMH-ET and SBMH-EX are expected to show improved individual student behaviors and school-level safety and climate over SBMH- TAU using weighted multilevel latent growth models. Schools with any SBMH program are expected to show improved results over a control group of eight schools without SBMH. Differences between school characteristics before intervention will be controlled for using propensity scores. A cost-effectiveness analysis will be conducted on each type of SBMH. We anticipate reporting our results in scholarly works including peer-reviewed journal articles and presentations at national conferences. We will provide a toolbox to help other schools evaluate their SBMH programs and provide evidence to policymakers for the benefits of SBMH. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0012:</b>	<b>A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of the Safe Public Spaces in Schools Program</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>American Institutes for Research (AIR)</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,042,273</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Practices of educational exclusion and criminalization of students are still widespread in the United States despite consistent research showing the negative effects of this approach. Experts have written about the value of nonpunitive approaches as alternatives to zero tolerance policies. Aligned with these approaches, the Safe Public Spaces in Schools Program (SPSSP) aims to create school cultures in which every adult in the building contributes to the goals of promoting safety, respect, courtesy, and friendliness. The program includes data-informed planning, initial professional development, and ongoing coaching supplemented with

follow-up training sessions. Planning with schools will take 5 months, followed by 2 full school years of implementation. Program content includes a set of promotion, prevention, and intervention practices and protocols for building a safe and supportive school climate. The effects of SPSSP on students will be examined in a cluster randomized controlled trial with 24 public middle schools in New York City (NYC). This project is conducted in collaboration with the Mayor's office, Department of Education, and New York City Police Department (NYPD) and focuses on schools considered least safe based on the determination of these agencies. Process data will be collected through site visits, which will include interviews and observations. For the impact analysis, the evaluation will rely on existing administrative records of student demographic characteristics; absenteeism; office disciplinary referrals, student safety-related incidents, as well as student and teacher self-reports on school safety from the annual NYC School Survey. Additional de-identified records of crime incidents at and around schools will be obtained from NYPD. The evaluation team will examine implementation fidelity, coordination with existing programs and policies, challenges to implementation, and implementation costs. Using hierarchical linear modeling, the evaluation team will assess the extent to which SPSSP schools provide a safer environment to their students compared with control schools and affect other student outcomes that are linked to problem behavior, such as absenteeism. Using a time series analysis of historical data, the evaluation will also examine potential effects on the nearby community. Findings will expand on the existing scientific knowledge and can support replication and scaling up in New York City and other districts around the nation. The project will yield multiple deliverables including two interim reports and one final technical report, a research brief, manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals, and a conference presentation. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0014:</b>	<b>A Randomized Impact Evaluation of Capturing Kids Hearts</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>WestEd</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,469,720</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The proposed study investigates the impacts of the Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH) program on school safety, students' connectedness to school, bonds with teachers and peers, and social competencies. Recent data on school crime and safety indicate that while the incidence of theft and violence victimization in schools decreased from 1992 to 2010, the victimization rate increased between 2010 and 2012 (Robers et al., Kemp, Rathbun, & Morgan, 2014). The rate of violent incidents is almost twice as high in middle schools than in high schools (NCES, 2011 ). Disruptive aggressive behaviors such as bullying and violence create a hostile school environment that interferes with the academic performance and mental health of students who are victims or witnesses. The CKH model is a promising, widely-used, school-level intervention designed to impact student behavior by enhancing school climate through improved relational and conflict management skills. CKH trains school staff to model and teach relational and problem-solving skills, communicative competencies, and teach consequential thinking. Although preliminary evidence or program effectiveness is promising, a rigorous evaluation is needed to understand CKH's impact on school safety. Subjects. The study will be conducted in 24 middle schools served by four school districts in South Carolina. Approximately



18,000 grade 6-8 students will participate in the study. The student population is largely minority, with 36% White, 52% African-American, and 6% Latino. Approximately 55% of students are eligible for free/reduced-price meals. Partnerships. To conduct the study, WestEd has partnered with the South Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the districts of Georgetown, Greenville, Richland 01, and Richland 02. Research Design, Methods, and Analyses. The study utilizes a cluster randomized experimental design, whereby 24 middle schools are randomly assigned to an experimental group and a wait-listed control group. Key student outcomes include measures of (a) violence perpetration and victimization, (b) relationship bonds between and among students and teachers, and (c) social competencies. Self-report survey data will be collected in the spring (staff data) and fall (student data) prior to implementation of CKH and in the spring of the first and second implementation years. The primary hypothesis-testing analyses will involve fitting mixed effects ANCOVA models (HLM or multilevel models). Products, Reports, and Data Archiving. Anticipated products include publications in journals and presentations targeting academic audiences, and dissemination to practitioners and policy makers through WestEd's national centers. Interim/final reports will be completed, and data will be archived for public dissemination. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0016:</b>	<b>Improving School Safety in the District of Columbia: Evaluating the Safe School Certification Program</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Child Trends, Incorporated</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$3,837,189</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Concerns about school safety continue to rise. Faced with increased budget constraints and pressure to address student behavioral issues, school officials often reach for the newest, best marketed program without consideration of program fit, feasibility, or efficacy. The majority of US schools implement several prevention programs, but few are either evidence-based or implemented with fidelity. Without careful assessments of site readiness and needs, even the most efficacious programs may fail. Although frameworks designed to help communities develop capacity exist, few focus on developing that capacity within schools. The Safe School Certification Program, a three year technical assistance model, is designed to help schools develop the capacity needed to select, implement, and sustain evidence based programs and strategies that fit their communities' needs. Originally implemented in 18 schools under Iowa's US DoED Safe and Supportive Schools grant, SSCP has had promising results, but has yet to be systematically evaluated. Partnerships: This proposal is a partnership between Child Trends, Safe School Certification, the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education, and the DC Office of Human Rights to implement and rigorously evaluate SSCP using a matched-pair cluster randomized design and a mixed-methods implementation evaluation involving 36 public and public charter middle schools in Washington, DC. Research Design, Methods, and Analyses: The project will address three primary questions: (1) Do schools implementing SSCP improve capacity to address school safety; (2) Do schools implementing SSCP see improvements in safety and climate outcomes, and; (3) What are the facilitators and barriers to successful implementation of SSCP. Each

spring, students, parents, and staff will take the forthcoming National School Climate Survey (NCLS). Classrooms at each school will also be observed using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System-Secondary (CLASS-S) to provide objective ratings of emotional support, instructional support, and classroom organization. Implementation data will be collected through annual observations of school SSCP teams, baseline and follow-up interviews with team members, regular interviews with technical support staff, and document reviews. Analyses for questions 1 and 2 will be conducted using multilevel structural equation models in MPlus, which take into account the clustering of data and provide robust estimation for missing data. Analyses for question 3 will be conducted using coding systems developed in NVivo. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: Products include scholarly journal articles, presentations at academic and practitioner conferences, and a web-based best practices database. Archived data files will be remitted to NIJ. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0017:</b>	<b>Comprehensive Approaches to Addressing Mental Health Needs and Enhancing School Security: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Michigan State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,430,775</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

School safety is fundamental to fostering positive outcomes for children and youth, such as academic achievement, well-being, and prosocial behavior. Here, we define a safe school as one that minimizes violence, promotes student mental health, and fosters a positive climate. Violence remains a pressing concern in American schools: in 2013, nearly 20% of high school students were bullied at school, while 8% had been in a physical fight on school property. Even by ages 10-11, more than half of boys and one-third of girls are either victims of or engage in delinquent behaviors. Among girls, victimization and delinquency increase significantly between ages 11 and 12; among boys, a corresponding jump occurs between ages 13 and 14. Similarly, over half of lifetime mental health concerns become evident before age 14. Thus, interventions to promote safety likely need to focus as early as elementary school (Cuevas et al., 2013). Such interventions should emphasize a positive school climate, which includes the appropriate connections, support, and commitment to promote positive outcomes. This study will examine a comprehensive multi-component intervention targeted to fourth through sixth graders (i.e. 9-12 year olds), using primary and secondary prevention approaches. It includes three main components: a restorative justice framework for managing violence and conflicts between students; timely assistance via Mental Health First Aid; and promotion of a positive school environment (e.g., by improving the physical surroundings). At each school, the intervention will be headed by a three-person leadership team consisting of one mental health professional, one police officer, and one school staff member, with support from parental leadership. To evaluate intervention outcomes, we will conduct a cluster randomized controlled trial with staged entry over two school years in Genesee County, Michigan (n=20 elementary schools, with 10 participating per school year). We will make use of data currently collected by Genesee Intermediate School District (GISD) schools, including the School Wide Information System

(SWIS) database, to record behavioral referrals and truancy, and the annual MiPHY student survey (with standardized measures of school safety, violence, climate, mental health). Students will receive a truncated follow-up survey at the end of the school year. We will also survey teachers regarding their perceptions of school climate and safety. Complementing the quantitative assessment, we will examine intervention management, implementation and sustainability, through focus groups with key stakeholders, teachers, and students. Finally, we will conduct a cost-benefit analysis with regard to violence outcomes. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0018:</b>	<b>Interconnecting PBIS and School Mental Health to Improve School Safety: A Randomized Trial</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of South Carolina</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,106,951</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Bullying, fighting, and other forms of interpersonal violence occur frequently in elementary schools, and are associated with student distress, poor school functioning, and increases in aggression, delinquency, and other behavior problems. Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a holistic, multi-tiered, evidence-based approach for preventing and reducing aggression and other problem behavior in school. However, the majority of PBIS schools struggle with more intensive interventions, which many students who present aggressive and disruptive behaviors need. School mental health (SMH) offers promise for addressing these limitations in PBIS. However, SMH lacks an implementation structure resulting in students effectively needing to be at crisis level to be referred for services. Unfortunately, PBIS and SMH have operated separately limiting impacts of both initiatives. To address these limitations, the Interconnected Systems Framework (ISF) has been developed by leaders from national centers for both initiatives, providing specific guidance on PBIS-SMH interconnection through effective teams, data-based decision making, implementation support for evidence-based practices and ongoing quality improvement to assure responsiveness to school and student needs. We propose that the ISF will bring coherence to and increase positive impacts of efforts in schools to improve school climate and safety, reduce discipline problems and aggressive behaviors, reduce exposure to bullying and violence, and improve student mental and behavioral health. Involving partnerships with school districts and community mental health agencies in SC and FL, 24 schools implementing PBIS with fidelity will be randomly assigned to the three conditions: the ISF, PBIS and SMH, or PBIS alone (8 schools per condition). Data will be gathered from school records, teacher and student reports, and PBIS teams. We will assess impacts of ISF compared to the other two conditions on school climate and safety; and student exposure to violence, problem behavior, and discipline problems, and their access to and quality of services. Multilevel analyses will be used to account for repeated observations of students and nesting of students in schools, and cost-effectiveness analyses will be used to evaluate the economic impact of the interventions, with de-identified data archived. We predict the study will document advantages of the ISF as a foundation for promoting school safety and preventing/addressing school violence. Products will include at an interim and final report and



full database usable by NIJ, at least five publications in high impact journals, the strengthening of a national webinar series, and at least 10 conference presentations to diverse audiences. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0020:</b>	<b>Trauma-Informed Approaches to Improve School Safety</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,662,969</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Schools across the country are rushing to scale up implementation of trauma-informed approaches as a way to create physically and psychologically safe environments for all students. However, no controlled studies have demonstrated the impact of trauma-informed care as a way to improve school safety. The purpose of the proposed project is to determine whether a multi-component implementation strategy including professional development in trauma-informed care, on-site coaching in the use of trauma-informed strategies, and technical assistance for system-wide adoption of trauma-informed approaches improves school safety by aligning staff attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors with a trauma-informed approach. Results will generate practical knowledge to guide the future implementation of trauma-informed approaches and enhance their impact on school safety. The multi-component implementation strategy will be evaluated using a multiple baseline experimental design with outcome data from 6 urban K-8th grade schools over a 4-year period during which the schools will be randomly assigned to begin receiving the intervention in different years. The experimental design will allow us to determine changes in outcomes after implementing the intervention in: a) teacher attitudes toward trauma-informed approaches; b) teacher use of explicit trauma-informed strategies for student engagement and classroom management; d) teacher perceptions of system-level support for the intervention; and e) organizational capacity to implement trauma-informed approaches. Analyses will also determine whether the intervention impacts school safety, as indicated by: a) reductions in student aggression, victimization, school disciplinary referrals, suspensions, and expulsions and b) increases in perceptions of school safety and positive school climate. The findings of the project will provide some of the first rigorous data on the best ways to develop, support, and understand the impact of trauma-informed approaches on school safety. Information gained will facilitate the timely, cost-efficient, and effective adoption and implementation of trauma-informed approaches by schools. Findings will be disseminated through the preparation of manuscripts for submission to scientific journals, presentations at practice-oriented conferences, dissemination to the public, and completion of a final report. Data will be archived for future project replication. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0021:</b>	<b>UMSL Comprehensive School Safety Initiative</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Missouri, St. Louis</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,603,690</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>



The most common forms of school victimization include minor theft, bullying, and minor assault. While “minor” in the eyes of the law, these victimizations have serious short- and long-term consequences for the victim as well as the overall school climate. The proposed research seeks to enhance scientific knowledge about the root causes, characteristics, and consequences of school violence by combining existing data from the NIJ-funded evaluation of the GREAT program (conducted beginning in 2006 in 31 middle schools in 7 cities across the US), with a new three wave panel survey study of approximately 4,000 7th and 8th grade students attending the same schools that participated in the GREAT study. Leveraging the GREAT data by utilizing some components of the original survey with newly collected data from the same middle schools will allow us to explore both long-term (ten-year) and short-term (three-year) patterns of a wide range of correlates of school violence. The questions included in the GREAT survey will be supplemented with new measures focused more on understanding nuances of individual, situational, and school factors associated with school safety, including bullying and cyberbullying. Our study will include in-person interviews with a subsample of students thereby allowing for more detailed information about the situational factors associated with school violence. Parents of this subsample will be interviewed to provide family-level context. Personnel in participating schools will complete a school climate questionnaire. Thus, our unique research proposal draws on the theoretically-driven design of the GREAT surveys while incorporating a mixed-method approach to allow for a comprehensive and innovative triangulation of key data from students, parents, and school personnel. To maximize demographic variability and study generalizability, we anticipate including four of the diverse settings of the original GREAT evaluation. Key partnerships include the school district in each city. Analytic techniques that account for individuals nested in schools and individuals nested in time will be employed. These analyses will assess the correlates of school violence, examine whether the effects of the correlates of school violence differ between middle school and high school, and descriptively map changes over the past decade regarding school violence including its prevalence and correlates, school climate, and disciplinary practices. Policy implications and plans for dissemination are integral aspects of our overall proposed design. NIJ and the participating school districts and schools will be informed via interim reports, presentations at professional conferences, and production of webinars on specific topics. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0023:</b>	<b>Coping Power in the City: Promoting Safety and Coping Skills in Baltimore City High Schools</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Baltimore City Public Schools</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$4,987,399</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Urban high schools face high rates of crime, aggressive behavior, and student disruption. These issues are compounded in Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools), where 9th grade attendance is lowest and suspensions for violent offenses are highest. To prevent school violence, City Schools retains its own Baltimore City School Police Force (BCSPF); however, research suggests trust in the local police and justice system is extremely low. Tensions have heightened in the aftermath of the death of Freddie Gray, the

young African American who suffered a fatal injury while in Baltimore City police custody. This proposal represents a comprehensive, multi-partner response to both recent and historical youth violence related challenges in City Schools. We have a dual focus on 1) 9th graders (including their parents and teachers) using the research-based Coping Power (Lechman & Wells, 2002a) program to address aggression, safety, mental health concerns, and academic engagement; and 2) the BCSPF using training in trauma-informed/ Mental Health First Aid, threat assessment-escalation, and cultural proficiency/adolescent development to promote positive student-police relationship-building. Subjects: The randomized controlled trial (RCT) sample is 600 9th graders attending 10 Baltimore City high schools. The pre-post evaluation sample is 160 Baltimore City School Police Officers. Partnerships: This proposal represents a partnership including the Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools), Johns Hopkins University (JHU), University of Virginia (UVA), Sheppard Pratt Health System (SPHS), and the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), which leverages a successful 15-year partnership. Research Design and Methods: Objectives are to (1) Develop and refine the existing evidence-based Coping Power model and assess the acceptability and feasibility of the integrated approach among City Schools 9th graders and the BCSPF; (2) test the efficacy of Coping Power for improving behavior and mental health problems using an RCT; and (3) evaluate the broader impacts of the multi-component initiative (including a 3-part BCSPF training and use of video surveillance data) on officer knowledge and skills and student behaviors and perceptions. Analysis: Descriptive and qualitative analyses will determine program feasibility and acceptability. Primary RCT analyses include multilevel modeling to compare the two conditions on student behavioral and mental health outcomes over 3 data points across 2 years. Products: Products include a manualized Coping Power intervention for urban high school youth, parents, teachers, and school police; three-part BCSPF training series; peer-reviewed and practitioner-oriented articles and briefs; and, archived data files submitted to NIJ. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-K002:</b>	<b>A Roadmap to Evidence-Based School Safety: Safe Communities Safe Schools</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Colorado</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$6,230,136</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This study evaluates the feasibility and impact of the Safe Communities Safe Schools (SCSS) Model in 32 Colorado middle schools. Middle school is a critical time to reinforce effective violence prevention efforts given that the risk of problem behavior (e.g., violence, suicide) dramatically increases with the onset of adolescence. The SCSS Model offers a comprehensive and coordinated approach for improving school safety that includes three Core Components and an SCSS Implementation Roadmap. The Core Components include: (1) engagement of a multidisciplinary school team and the development of key community partnerships committed to data-based decision making, cultural responsiveness, fair and consistent disciplinary practices, and school-wide change, (2) implementation of an effective intelligence gathering system to collect and interpret data at the school (e.g., climate, attendance, discipline) and student levels (e.g., bullying, violence, victimization, mental health), and (3) development of an evidence-based multi-tiered system of supports that includes a schoolwide approach to social and emotional learning (SEL) and builds staff capacity to identify and address student needs at



the universal (i.e., all students), targeted (i.e., some students), and intensive levels (i.e., a few students). The SCSS Implementation Roadmap delineates a five-phase process for delivering evidence-based programs and strategies to meet each school's unique data-identified needs while maintaining fidelity. This project has two primary goals: (1) effectively implement the SCSS Models Core Components in middle schools, and (2) utilize a staggered-entry randomized control trial to evaluate the SCSS Model. Key outcomes include: SEL, collective efficacy, school climate, school safety, problem behaviors (e.g., delinquency, bullying, violence, mental health needs), and pro-social behaviors (e.g., academic achievement). Youth outcomes will be assessed annually using a modified version of the Youth Risk and Behavioral Surveillance System. School staff outcomes will be assessed annually with established surveys that target key outcomes of interest as well as direct classroom observation. Hierarchical Linear Modeling will be utilized to estimate the Models effects on youth and staff outcomes. A process evaluation will assess implementation fidelity through a mixed-methods analysis of implementation log and school staff survey data. We have convened a strong multi-disciplinary research team of experts and institutions including the University of Colorado Boulder, Arizona State University, American Institutes of Research, PassageWorks, and the Colorado Attorney General's Office to execute this project. Study results will provide practical and scalable solutions to help educators, lawmakers, and policy makers effectively promote school safety and violence prevention nationwide. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-MU-MU-K003:</b>	<b>Project SOARS: Student Ownership, Accountability, and Responsibility for School Safety</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>IRIS Media, Inc., dba IRIS Educational Media</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$5,622,172</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Project SOARS will develop, field-test, and evaluate a comprehensive, student-centered, and technology-based school safety framework for high schools designed to increase students' resilience to victimization. SOARS consists of: (a) web-based school safety and behavioral assessments, (b) a student-driven social capital building and safety awareness campaign, (c) a web-based student tipline with embedded training, and (d) student and school personnel web-based training in team-based restorative problem solving. SOARS will inform theory about how to reduce student victimization within a restorative framework. Project products (e.g. assessments, training videos, restorative problem-solving protocol) will be of practical use to high school personnel. Evidence of the feasibility and efficacy of blending school-wide climate improvement with restorative discipline will likely inform policy recommendations. We will conduct formative research with 36 students, especially from vulnerable groups defined by race/ethnicity, disability status, and sexual orientation, 36 school personnel, and 36 parents and community stakeholders. We will work with about 240 students, their parents and 8 teachers to field test SOARS, and with about 4000 students, their parents and 160 teachers to evaluate the efficacy of SOARS. All research activities will be carried out in partnership with Springfield Public Schools in Springfield, Oregon and Danville School District in Danville, Illinois. We will use focus groups during Year 1 to assess stakeholder needs and use NVivo to analyze the qualitative data. We will use the Agile development approach and user acceptance testing

protocol in Year 2 to test the relevance and usability of prototypes of all SOARS components. We will collect pre and post data during initial implementation in Year 3 to test the feasibility of SOARS in authentic high school settings via an ANCOVA model testing gain scores in student and teacher perceptions of school climate and knowledge of school safety strategies. In Years 4 and 5, we will use a quasi-experimental design and a 2-level analytical model to test the efficacy of SOARS on reducing bullying/harassment, improving student engagement with proactive and restorative school safety practices, and improving stakeholder perceptions of school climate. The web-based tools will be made available to practitioners. Empirical outcomes will be disseminated to stakeholder audiences via conference presentations, peer-reviewed publications and webinars. Annual and final reports to the funder will be prepared. Datasets resulting from the initial implementation and efficacy test will be archived in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data following de-identification of all variables and preparation of a data dictionary. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

## D. Bullying

<b>2013-IJ-CX-0031:</b>	<b>Meta-Analyses of Contextual Correlates of Peer Victimization</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Arizona Board of Regents, University of Arizona</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$384,928</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to quantitatively synthesize the existing empirical evidence on contextual correlates of peer victimization to achieve four goals. First, this research provides the best available estimates of the existence, direction, and magnitudes of associations between victimization and various peer, family, and school contextual variables. Second, this research identifies conditions (i.e., moderators) under which these associations are stronger and weaker. Third, this research estimates the longitudinal stability of peer victimization and moderators of this stability. Fourth, this research clarifies the temporal relations (i.e., antecedent and/or consequence relations) of these associations. These aims are achieved through a coordinated series of univariate (single correlate) and multivariate (multiple correlates) meta-analyses of the existing concurrent and longitudinal studies of peer victimization. The concurrent meta-analyses contain a large number of studies to allow (a) precise estimation of the bivariate and multivariate associations between victimization and contextual variables, (b) identification of features of study samples and methodology that systematically results in stronger or weaker associations, and (c) evaluation of multivariate models of the unique correlates. The longitudinal meta-analyses are useful in identifying the temporal relations and timing of effects between victimization and contextual variables. The proposed research provides definitive summaries of the existing literature on contextual correlates of peer victimization. Publication of these meta-analyses in high impact journals as well as more accessible outlets will impact the field in several ways. First, they provide more precise and generalizable information than is otherwise possible. Second, they clarify inconsistent conclusions of prior narrative reviews. Third, they provide quantified effect sizes rather than focusing on mere presence versus absence of associations. Fourth, these

summaries identify gaps in the existing research base, and therefore point to where more research is needed and where further research provides minimal added value. Finally, this research will intervention and policy, which currently emphasize contextual factors but are not directly informed by the magnitudes and conditions in which these factors operate.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0007:</b>	<b>A Randomized Impact Evaluation of the No Bully System</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>WestEd</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,497,696</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Statement of the Problem.** The proposed study investigates the impacts of the No Bully program on resolution of bullying incidents; bullying perpetration and victimization; and school safety, peer support, and other indicators of school climate. Bullying affects large numbers of U.S. students in elementary schools and is associated with short and long term harms for victims and bullies. Although prevention is critical, schools also need effective interventions for dealing with bullying once it occurs. The No Bully System is a promising set of interventions designed to activate adult and peer support systems within the school for bullying targets. No Bully trains staff to prevent and interrupt student harassment and bullying and ensure school-wide anti-bullying policies are in place. At its core is the Solution Team, an intervention where a trained adult facilitator (Solution Coach) works with the bullying victim, bully followers, and several pro-social peers on developing solutions for ending the bullying. Although preliminary evidence or program effectiveness is promising, a rigorous evaluation is needed to understand No Bully's impact on bullying, school safety, and school climate. **Subjects:** The study will be conducted in 24 elementary schools served by Oakland Unified School District. Approximately 6,480 grade 3-5 students will participate in the study. The student population is diverse and largely minority, with 7% White, 33% African-American, 39% Latino and 15% Asian/Pacific-Islander. Approximately 70% of students are eligible for free/reduced-price meals. **Partnerships:** To conduct the study, WestEd has partnered with the developer of the No Bully System (No Bully), Oakland Unified School District, and Dr. David Farrington of Cambridge University. **Research Design, Methods, and Analyses:** The study utilizes a cluster randomized experimental design, whereby 24 schools are randomly assigned to an experimental group and a wait-listed control group. Key student outcomes include measures of (a) bullying perpetration and victimization, (b) bully bystander behavior, (c) peer supports, and (d) other indicators of school climate. Self-report survey data will be collected at three time points: in the fall prior to implementation of No Bully and in the spring of the first and second implementation years. The primary hypothesis-testing analyses will involve fitting mixed effects ANCOVA models (HLM or multilevel models). **Products, Reports, and Data Archiving:** Anticipated products include publications in journals and presentations targeting academic audiences, and dissemination to practitioners and policy makers through WestEd's national centers. Interim/final reports will be completed, and data will be archived for public dissemination.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0009:</b>	<b>Evaluation of the Effectiveness and Sustainability of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in Increasing School Safety for Urban Low-Income Middle Schools</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Virginia Commonwealth University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,660,933</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) is a comprehensive school-based program designed to prevent youth violence and bullying by improving school climate. Although OBPP is being implemented in hundreds of schools across the U.S., few studies have evaluated its impact on schools in the U.S., particularly schools in urban areas that serve high percentages of minority adolescents from disadvantaged communities. This project builds on an evaluation of OBPP being completed within a CDC-funded Academic Center of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention (VCU-ACE Project). The VCU-ACE Project is using a multiple baseline experimental design that randomized the order and timing of the implementation of OBPP in three urban schools over a five-year period. This project is being conducted in partnership with an urban school district in Richmond, Virginia. Participants are adolescents 10-16 years old (83% African American; 47% male) at three public middle schools serving low-income urban communities. This proposed four-year project would increase the knowledge gained from the VCU-ACE Project by supporting continuation of OBPP in two of the VCU-ACE Project schools, implementing OBPP in the third school, and collection of three additional years of data (four waves of data each year) on proximal and distal outcomes for OBPP based on student reports, teacher ratings, and school and juvenile justice records (total projected sample of 2,545). Extending this design will provide a clearer picture of the relation between implementation of OBPP and changes in outcomes over time in the two schools where OBPP is currently being implemented, and will allow us to examine changes in outcomes that occur after implementing OBPP in the third school. Analyses of these interrupted time-series data will be conducted using multilevel modeling. This project will also include a qualitative study designed to identify barriers and supports to OBPP implementation and capture lessons learned by conducting focus groups with teachers who have been involved in implementing the intervention within the schools. Finally, a cost-benefit analysis for OBPP implementation will be conducted by comparing OBPP implementation costs to potential benefits including decreased disciplinary code violations, absences, juvenile justice involvement, and alternative school placements. Findings will be disseminated through the preparation of manuscripts for submission to scientific journals, presentations at relevant conferences, dissemination to the public, and completion of a final report. Data will be archived for future project replication.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0011:</b>	<b>Wisconsin School Violence and Bullying Prevention Study</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$858,187</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Violence within schools is of great concern. Instances range from pushing/shoving to shootings and homicides. In addition to the immediate implications, school violence, both as victim and perpetrator, holds a relationship with current and future violent acts outside of the school environment. These implications illustrate the need to understand ways that schools can



prevent instances of violence for the safety and well-being of students, faculty, and the greater community. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) proposes a three-year study to the US Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice. The proposed study researches the effectiveness of a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Bullying Prevention program regarding outcomes of school safety and climate among students in grades six through eight. The anticipated project sample is 50 middle schools, representing approximately 22,000 racially and economically diverse students. The Wisconsin DPI will partner with schools, academic institutions, and several community health partners in this endeavor. This study will utilize a matched case-control methodology, in which schools implementing PBIS, but without an active comprehensive bullying prevention program, as of December 2014, will be assigned to experimental or control groups. Experimental schools will implement a bullying prevention program beginning in September 2015. Control schools will delay implementation until September 2017, after data collection ends. The hypotheses involve improved metrics of school safety among experimental schools, relative to control schools. These metrics are: bullying (rate and incident), exclusionary discipline for violent acts and all reasons, and perceptions of school climate. Annual collection of the outcomes will be used to support the hypotheses or null hypotheses. Statistically, hierarchical generalized linear modeling will be used to account for clustering of students and data non-normality. The study is designed to maximize internal and external validity. Internal validity is addressed through uniform data collection procedures for all metrics. In addition, schools are matched at the district level before random assignment as experimental or control. External validity is addressed through study design and its effectiveness-trial format, which will enable program replication to a greater degree than previously available through existing efficacy-type trials. The anticipated global outcomes from the project involve generalizable knowledge on methods by which schools can reduce violence on their grounds and, indirectly, reduce violence by students outside of the school environment, school year and their school careers. Methods by which this knowledge will be shared include presentations at national conferences and publications in peer-reviewed journals.

<b>2014-CK-BX-0012:</b>	<b>Integrative Models to Improve School Safety: Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports and the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Chesterfield County School District / Clemson University / University of Oregon</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,460,220</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Most of what is known about what works to promote school safety is based on evaluations of stand-alone interventions, despite national calls to integrate interventions to account for limitations inherent to each approach when delivered in isolation. Chesterfield County (SC) School District, in partnership with Clemson University's Institute on Family & Neighborhood Life and the University of Oregon's Institute on Violence & Destructive Behaviors, propose to fill this knowledge gap by integrating two evidence-based approaches: School-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) and the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP). Both approaches target school, classroom, student, family, and community level risk and protective factors. Thus a primary goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive, feasible, and effective intervention that combines SWPBIS and OBPP strategies into one

integrated approach that improves school safety. SWPBIS/OBPP modules will be developed and assessed in an iterative fashion, with feedback from focus groups and key informant interviews with stakeholders. A second goal involves conducting a randomized controlled trial with 5,700 elementary, middle, and high school students (grades 3-12 attending 16 schools nested within three attendance areas) and 450 educators to assess the integrated SWPBIS/OBPP approach against an OBPP-only and a control condition. Key student outcome variables include involvement in bullying and cyberbullying, perceptions of bullying, perceptions of school climate and safety, and aggressive behavior. School level data on suspensions, referrals to the criminal justice center, truancy probation violations, and dropout rates will also be collected and analyzed. Teacher outcomes include school safety, school climate, and perceptions of bullying. Although several quasi-experimental studies of the OBPP in the U.S. have produced positive results, no RCT's have been conducted. This study will permit us to examine the effectiveness of the OBPP compared to a control condition and SWPBIS/OBPP condition (a third goal of this project). A fourth goal of the project is to assess the cost-effectiveness of the SWPBIS/OBPP approach. Several school-based mental health professionals will be hired to meet the needs of children and families. Thus, a final goal of the project will be to assess the effectiveness of school-based mental health professionals' services on school safety, through interviews with teachers, administrators, and parents. A variety of procedures will be used to analyze the qualitative and quantitative data including multi-level modeling. Findings will be disseminated to academic audiences, practitioners, and policymakers through journal and trade publications, presentations, blogs, and free webinars. All data will be archived.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0006:</b>	<b>Bullying and Violence on the School Bus: A Mixed-Methods Assessment of Behavioral Management Strategies</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>RTI International</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$677,259</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Statement of the Problem:** Millions of children in the U.S. regularly ride the bus to and from school. Despite the advantages of school-based transportation, the unique physical and social environment of the bus also makes it one of the leading locations for bullying and violence. In response, researchers, school officials, and other stakeholders have recommended strategies for managing behavior on the bus, including the use of surveillance technology, bus attendants, and training programs for drivers. However, little is known regarding the use of these strategies, or their effectiveness. **Subjects:** The target sample is all transportation directors from public school districts in the U.S. **Partnerships:** RTI International is partnering with the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT) and subject matter expert Dr. Pamela Orpinas from the University of Georgia. **Research Design and Methods:** In Phase I, we will administer a national web-based survey to district transportation directors to gather information about the range and perceived value of behavioral management strategies used on school buses in the U.S., to identify the most commonly used strategies, and to assess whether district characteristics are associated with their selection and perceived efficacy. In Phase II, telephone interviews will be conducted with up to 100 transportation directors to develop more detailed information about these strategies. In Phase III, we will perform evaluability assessments of selected strategies in 6-8 districts to establish a foundation for future evaluation. **Analysis:**

Results from the survey will be analyzed to produce descriptive information about the range and perceived value of behavioral management strategies for the bus. We will also examine whether district characteristics affect the likelihood of strategy selection and their perceived value using regression-based techniques. All interview notes will be coded based upon a pre-designed coding scheme and analyzed using NVivo 10 identify themes across strategies pertaining to selection, implementation, and perceived effectiveness. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: The final report will contribute valuable knowledge regarding behavioral management strategies on U.S. school buses. One component will be a taxonomy of strategies that is developed throughout each of the project’s phases. NAPT will host this information on their website to reach a broader audience and to enable districts to better understand what districts with similar characteristics are doing to enhance safety on the bus as well as the challenges that should be considered during the stages of selection and implementation. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0008:</b>	<b>Coaching Teachers in Detection and Intervention Related to Bullying</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Virginia</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$999,952</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Statement of the Problem:** Bullying is highly prevalent, particularly in urban settings, and negatively impacts individuals directly involved, bystanders, and the broader school climate. Given the majority of bullying occurs in the classroom context, classroom teachers are crucial for prevention programming, yet they often struggle to correctly identify bullying and effectively intervene. This proposal seeks to assist teachers by integrating an evidence-based teacher coaching model called the Classroom Check-Up (CCU) with an innovative, highly transportable training simulator (TeachLivE). The ultimate goals of this strategy are to increase teachers’ detection and effective intervention with bullying behaviors, in turn reducing the overall levels of bullying and improving safety and school climate. This adapted strategy will be specifically tailored to meet the needs of urban, minority youth living in low-SES communities. **Subjects:** We will work with 95 teachers (i.e., 15 for development and 80 for piloting) in middle schools serving urban, low-SES communities outside of Baltimore, Maryland (i.e., Anne Arundel County). **Partnerships:** This proposal builds upon a 15-year partnership between the University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins University, Sheppard Pratt Health System, and the Maryland State Department of Education. Through this partnership, the researchers have adapted the CCU and integrated it with TeachLivE in other Maryland schools. **Research Design and Methods:** The primary objectives are to 1) Develop, through an iterative process, the Bullying Classroom Check-Up (BCCU) integrated coaching and guided practice strategy that will aid teachers in detecting and effectively intervening with bullying behaviors; 2) Determine the feasibility and acceptability of the BCCU; and 3) Pilot test the BCCU using a small-scale randomized controlled trial (RCT) to determine its promise as an evidence-based strategy for reducing bullying and increasing safety in the classroom. Outcomes will be assessed through classroom and teacher observations, teacher survey reports, and students’ survey reports of bullying and safety using previously-validated measures. **Analysis:** Objective 1 uses teacher and student focus groups and rapid prototyping to adapt and modify the approach. Objective 2 uses mixed methods to ensure that the BCCU is valid, feasible, and acceptable to urban, minority youth and their teachers.



Objective 3 uses multilevel modeling to assess impacts on a range of student- and teacher-level outcomes. Products: Products include a CCU implementation manual with all adapted materials (e.g., interviews, classroom ecology checklist, feedback forms); peer-reviewed and practitioner-oriented research summaries; and the NIJ required reporting and archived data files (e.g., surveys, observations). This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0011:</b>	<b>School Climate Enhancement and Bullying Prevention in Southern Illinois</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Southern Illinois University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$786,409</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This project will assess school climate and bullying across 55 schools in 24 rural districts of Southern Illinois. We will evaluate the effectiveness of a low-cost, component based intervention comprising a combination of key targets focused on improving classroom management, playground monitoring and schoolwide disciplinary procedures as assessed by student, teacher/staff, and administrator ratings of school climate. We will utilize the Train the Trainer's model to disseminate the toolkit provide by the National Center for Safe Supportive Learning Environments by engaging teachers in the delivery of workshops designed for cultivating meaningful relationships with students while creating a positive climate in the classroom. We will incorporate standardized playground monitor training based on Systematic Supervision, a program available through Iris-Ed. The third component is an academy developed by the Illinois Principal's Association intended for school principals on bullying prevention. Finally, we will assess the impact of incorporating an anonymous reporting system to allow students in all schools to make reports of bullying and school safety issues. These components were selected based on meta analytic reviews and in response in to recent calls for more research identifying the most effective targets for bullying prevention and their cost effectiveness. The main analyses for this project will be conducted with hierarchical linear modeling, which allows for nested structures. These will be based on mixed effects longitudinal models for repeated outcomes. The data for this project will be composed of school climate surveys completed by students, teachers/staff and administrators, classroom management questionnaires completed by teachers, systematic playground observations and ratings, and bullying incident reports, collected repeatedly over the course of this three-year project. This project incorporates random assignment, with multiple pre and post intervention assessments. Randomized assignment will minimize the presence of differences across groups. To further ensure that groups are similar across school-level correlates, propensity score matching will be conducted. The analyses will also follow the intention to treat principal to compare participant's outcomes according to the condition they were assigned. The results of this project should yield findings that will inform decisions about the utility and feasibility low-cost bullying prevention programming for schools in rural areas and with very limited resources. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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## E. Long-Term Outcomes of Violence Exposure

<b>2011-JP-FX-0101:</b>	<b>Long-Term Consequences of Gang Membership</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Arizona Board of Regents on behalf of Arizona State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The aim of this study is to examine long-term consequences of adolescent gang membership. The central research question seeks to answer whether joining a gang in adolescence has a negative impact on life circumstances in early adulthood. This question will be examined using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth cohort, 1997. This dataset tracks 8,984 youth over 12 annual waves. Of these, 676 youth self-report gang membership. The study will employ group-based trajectory modeling, regression modeling, and counterfactual methods to assess the impact of gang-membership on latter educational, economic, and criminogenic life circumstances. This research design will allow for the PI to account for self-selection into gangs by pairing individuals with adolescent gang membership with those without membership but with the same risk factors for gang participation. Thus, this research creates a direct test of theories of persistent heterogeneity and the state dependence theory concerning persistence and desistance in crime. The results of this study will thus be able to identify if gang-membership has an impact on life circumstances apart from the individual factors that make gang membership likely. This will help researchers and policymakers understand the effectiveness of programs to prevent gang membership and promote desistance from crime.

**Product: NCJ# 239241**

**Non-Criminal Consequences of Gang Membership: Impacts on Education and Employment in the Life-Course**

Key findings from this research on the lifetime impact of adolescent gang membership on education and employment prospects include the following: gang members were 30 percent less likely to obtain a high school diploma and 58 percent less likely to earn a 4-year college degree than non-gang members; the effect of adolescent gang membership on educational attainment exceeded one-half year; while ex-gang members were able to decrease the deficits in high school graduation and college matriculation rates over the course of the study, the gaps in 4-year college degree and overall educational attainment continued to grow; ex-gang members were less likely to be employed and more likely to not participate in the labor force; and the cumulative effect of adolescent gang membership on annual income in the last 6 years of the study exceeded \$14,000. Data used for the research were obtained from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Cohort of 1997 (NLSY97). The data was used to examine the effects of adolescent gang membership on the nature and patterns of educational attainment and employment over a 12-year period in the life course. The findings from the research indicate that the consequences of joining a gang extend beyond the domains of crime and victimization into educational and employment prospects, and show the need for continued and improved gang prevention efforts. Prospects for future research are discussed.

<b>2011-WG-BX-0013:</b>	<b>Thirty Year Follow up of the Cycle of Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Research Foundation of CUNY c/o John Jay College</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$311,967</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to conduct a 30 year follow-up of criminal histories for the large sample of abused and/or neglected children and matched controls that were part of an original NIJ-funded study in an attempt to further understand the life-course of criminal behavior in these individuals who have now reached middle adulthood. Criminal history information (arrests) for these individuals was last collected in 1994 when these people were approximately 32 years old. In 2012, the mean age of the sample will be 49.1 (SD = 3.6). There are four major goals: (1) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to be arrested for partner (or domestic) violence, compared to matched controls; (2) To determine whether individuals with histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to be arrested for crimes against children (e.g., physical abuse, sexual abuse, unlawful imprisonment, and threats of physical harm), compared to matched controls; (3) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of childhood sexual abuse are more likely to be arrested for sex crimes when followed up into middle adulthood, compared to matched controls; and (4) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to offend, and to continue offending, in adulthood, compared to matched controls. This research project utilizes a cohort design in which 908 physically and sexually abused and neglected children (ages 0-11 between 1967 and 1971, males and females, 2/3 White, 1/3 African American) were matched with 667 non-abused and non-neglected children and followed prospectively. The current study will conduct a criminal history search using the FBI National Crime Information Service to obtain arrest and conviction data on partner violence and child abuse and will obtain information on sex offenses from public sex offender websites. This study's findings will have clear implications for developing programs to break the cycle of violence based on empirical evidence and will be used by policy makers and economists to calculate long-term costs associated with the consequences of childhood maltreatment.

**Supplemental Award:**

The purpose of this research is conduct a 30-year follow-up of criminal histories for the large sample of abused and/or neglected children (N = 908) and matched controls (N = 667) in the original NIJ-funded study who have now reached middle adulthood (in 2013, the mean age of the sample was 51). There are four major goals: (1) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to be arrested for partner (or domestic) violence, compared to matched controls; (2) To determine whether individuals with histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to be arrested for crimes against children, compared to matched controls; (3) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of childhood sexual abuse are more likely to be arrested for sex crimes when followed up into middle adulthood, compared to matched controls; and (4) To determine whether individuals with documented histories of child abuse and/or neglect are more likely to offend, and to continue offending, in middle adulthood, compared to matched controls. This

research is based on a prospective cohort design study in which physically and sexually abused and neglected children (ages 0-11) were matched with non-abused and non-neglected children and followed into adulthood. Approximately half the sample is female (51%) and 66% White, non-Hispanic. An updated criminal history search at federal and state levels and a search of the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website has been conducted for all individuals in the sample. Statistical analyses will include chi squares, analyses of variance, and logistic, ordinary least square, and Poisson regressions. Products will include a data set, interim and final reports, numerous manuscripts submitted for publication in scholarly journals, and short research "briefs". This project is a supplement to the original project (#2011-WG-BX-0013), entitled "Thirty Year Follow up to the Cycle of Violence."

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0023:</b>	<b>Effects of Child Maltreatment, Cumulative Victimization Experiences, and Proximal Life Stress on Adult Outcomes of Substance Use, Mental Health Problems, and Antisocial Behavior</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Washington</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$428,396</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to conduct secondary data analysis on a comprehensive, longitudinal dataset to examine the long-term, developmental effects of child maltreatment, subsequent victimization, and life stresses related to adult outcomes of substance use, mental health problems, and antisocial behavior. Comprehensive data on these and other adult outcomes were collected at the most recent adult follow-up of the Lehigh Longitudinal Study sample, completed in July, 2010. Over 80% of those children, now adults ages 31-41, were recently assessed using a comprehensive, interviewer-administered survey. The original sample was comprised of 457 children and their families in 1976-1977 when participants were preschoolers (18 months-6 years) and included children from child welfare cases in two counties as well as control groups comparable in gender, age and SES of children from day care, Head Start and nursery school settings. The sample is relatively homogeneous with respect to race and ethnicity but generally consistent with the makeup of the two-county area from which the sample was originally drawn (approximately 80% White, 11% more than one race, 5% Black/African American). Eighty-six percent of children were from two-parent households and the income level of 63% of families at baseline fell within the low income and/or poverty status range. Childhood data on risk and proactive factors as well as maltreatment are from multiple sources, including child welfare case records, birth records, observations of parents and children, school records, and parent and child surveys. Data collected during adolescence and adulthood offer detailed accounts of the psychosocial adjustment and well-being of participants and their families at later life stages, ongoing experiences of abuse and victimization, and sources of protection and resilience. Utilizing both descriptive and predictive models, as well as illustrative case studies related to each substantive aim (which includes an examination of gender differences), this study has the potential to have enormous public health and criminal justice significance by strengthening theory, guiding the development of interventions, and shifting policy to improve the lives of young people at-risk of costly but preventable problems in adulthood.

<b>2013-IJ-CX-0104:</b>	<b>Long-Term Eyewitness Memory in Children Exposed to Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The Regents of the University of California</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$439,989</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to provide law enforcement with scientifically validated techniques to interview adults who as children were exposed to violence. Specifically, this project will investigate reinstatement techniques as a means for adult witnesses to retrieve accurate childhood memories. Study goals include: (1) testing context reinstatement effects on memories of adults with documented histories of child trauma, (2) examining effects of an initial interview in childhood (versus no initial interview) on the accuracy of adult eyewitness memory, and (3) examining reinstatement effects in relation to individual differences (e.g., in psychopathology and cognitive functioning). This research involves a prospective-longitudinal study of adults 18 to 22 years after their participation in forensic investigations. The study utilizes a large and detailed data set (total N = 730) of participants who, as children in the 1990s, were assessed for memory, mental health (e.g., dissociative tendencies, traumatic stress symptoms), intelligence, trauma history, and stress (e.g., physiological reactivity, including cortisol levels); 126 of the former participants will be included. Participants will be located and then interviewed via telephone. While balancing factors such as age, gender, race, and prior interview, participants will be randomly assigned to one of three experimental conditions: (1) no reinstatement, (2) mental reinstatement, as used in the Cognitive Interview, or 3) context reinstatement. A number of additional variables (e.g., demographic, mental health) will be examined as predictors of memory completeness and accuracy. This project's specific aim is to support development of forensic best practice. It is hypothesized that context reinstatement will result in the most complete and accurate eyewitness memory. This innovative research will provide valuable information about scientifically validated techniques for forensic interviews of adults exposed as children to violence. Data will be reliably coded (e.g., Kappa > .80). Analysis of variance and regression analyses will be employed.

<b>2013-VA-CX-0002:</b>	<b>Long-Term Impact of a Positive Youth Development Program on Dating Violence Outcomes During the Transition to Adulthood</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Colorado, Denver</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$440,642</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this research project is to examine the developmental trajectories associated with dating violence (DV) from pre-adolescence through young adulthood within a high risk population (youth with a history of maltreatment and foster care) with a focus on the potential buffering impact of a prevention program on DV outcomes. The study's findings will have important implications for the prevention of DV among young people at high-risk for criminal justice involvement. Participants will include 250 young adults (ages 18-22) who were enrolled in a randomized controlled trial (RCT) of a mentoring and skills group intervention for maltreated children in foster care when they were preadolescents. The proposed sample is gender balanced (49% female) and has a good racial/ethnic distribution: 44% Hispanic, 46% Caucasian, and 27% African American (non-exclusive). This study builds upon a 10-year RCT of a

prevention program that has demonstrated positive impacts on targeted risk and protective factors for DV. Each summer between 2002 and 2009, all 9-11-year-old children placed in foster care (during the preceding year) by participating departments of child welfare were recruited for the study and 91% of those eligible agreed to participate. Participants were assessed at baseline (ages 9-11), 6 months post-intervention (ages 10-13), and 2 years post-intervention (ages 12-15) with high retention rates. This study will collect a 4th wave of data, 6-8 years post-intervention to assess DV when participants are 18-22. Multi-informant data collected at earlier waves will provide information about baseline risk factors as well as putative mediating factors. The proposed T4 interview will include measures of DV and concurrent risk and protective factors. An innovative measure of DV will include the assessment of physical, sexual, and psychological DV perpetration and victimization, partner attributes, context of DV, and consequences. Several analytic strategies, including regression, factor analyses, and path analyses will be used to: (1) Describe the topography of DV and develop the measurement model; (2) Use longitudinal data to examine hypothesized relationships among baseline risk factors, mediating risk and protective factors, and DV outcomes; (3) Examine whether the prevention program attenuates the impact of risk factors on DV victimization and perpetration, as hypothesized.

<b>2014-IJ-CX-0006:</b>	<b>The Age-Graded Consequences of Victimization</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Arizona State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$32,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

**Statement of the Problem:** A large body of research links victimization to various harms. Yet it remains unclear why victimization leads to these outcomes, or how the effects of victimization vary over the life course. Accordingly, this study seeks to advance the literature and inform victim service interventions by: 1) examining the effects of violent victimization on multiple behavioral, social, psychological, and health-related consequences; 2) specifying theoretically and measuring directly the intervening processes (i.e., supportive social ties) that explain why some victims are more resilient than others; and 3) testing these relationships across multiple stages of the life course. In doing so, the broader purpose of this research is to inform evidence based-interventions that will be appropriate for victims at different stages in the life span.

**Research Design and Methods:** Existing data from Waves I (1994-1995), II (1996), III (2001-2002), and IV (2008-2009) of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) are used. The Add Health is a nationally representative sample of over 20,000 American adolescents enrolled in middle and high school during the 1994-1995 school year. On average, respondents are 15 years of age at Wave I (11-18 years), 16 years of age at Wave II (ranging from 12 to 20 years), 22 years of age at Wave III (ranging from 18 to 26 years), and 29 years of age at Wave IV (ranging from 24 to 32 years).

**Analysis:** After conducting descriptive and bivariate analyses, multivariate regression models (e.g., ordinary least-squares, logistic and negative binomial models) are used to assess the effects of violent victimization on the various behavioral, social, psychological, and health-related outcomes at each wave of data. Two-stage sample selection models are estimated to correct for attrition bias, and missing data due to item non-response are handled using multiple imputation.

**Products, Reports, and Data Archiving:** An official copy of the dissertation will be provided to NIJ. These results will be used



to prepare a webinar, three manuscripts for academic and practitioner audiences, and will be presented at a national conference.

**Product: NCJ# 249103**

**Age-Graded Consequences of Victimization**

The study found a wide variety of adverse outcomes associated with victimization in adolescence, and victimization is linked to increasingly fewer of these outcomes as people experience victimization in emerging adulthood and into adulthood. A suggested explanation of this finding is that coping skills in addressing adverse events develop with age. Still, although the problems linked to violent victimization become fewer in number over the life course, they continue to be serious. Regarding the influence of social ties on victimization consequences across age groups, the study found that social ties were important in buffering the harms of victimization in adolescence and adulthood, but not so much in emerging adulthood. This may be because young adulthood involves a period in which new relationships are being formed and social ties of adolescence are weakened. Data for the study were obtained from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Waves I (1994-1995), III (2001-2002), and IV (2008-2009). On average, respondents are 15 years old at Wave I, 22 years old at Wave III, and 29 years old at Wave IV. Multivariate regression models were used to assess the effects of violent victimization on the various behavioral, social, psychological, and health-related outcomes at each wave of data.

<b>2014-IJ-CX-0013:</b>	<b>Diverse Long-Term Effects of Childhood Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence: Development of Externalizing Behaviors</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Colorado/Colorado Springs</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$39,994</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Using pre-existing longitudinal data from all three waves of the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN), the proposed study will assess the long-term effects of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) exposure during childhood and adolescence on subsequent externalizing behaviors (i.e., delinquency I adult crime, violence, and substance use). There are four main goals of the project : 1) To examine whether there are differences in the baseline levels of externalizing behaviors at three different time points between the IPV exposed children versus the matched group of non-IPV exposed children; 2) to estimate longitudinal developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors for both, IPV exposed and matched group of non-IPV exposed children; 3) to compare the developmental pathways of externalizing behaviors of IPV exposed children to matched non-IPV exposed children; and 4) to evaluate the individual- and neighborhood-level predictors of high externalizing behavior pathways among IPV exposed children. At each step, the sample will be stratified by gender to also assess the gender differences. To achieve the proposed goals, this study will be using a combined quasi-experimental longitudinal research design. Specifically, a propensity score matching will be utilized to closely match a group of individuals reporting childhood IPV exposure to those who do not on multiple other key variables. Group-based trajectory modeling techniques will then be utilized to estimate the longitudinal developmental trajectories of externalizing behaviors separately for the IPV exposed and non-IPV exposed groups and compared to each other.

Finally, multilevel modeling will be utilized to evaluate which individual- and/or neighborhood-level variables best predict the group assignment to high level delinquency I adult crime, violence, and substance use trajectories. This proposal is relevant to theory, practice, and policy. Current IPV exposure research lacks in a body of inquiries that allows for causal inferences and investigations of complex longitudinal developmental patterns of varying externalizing behaviors. The present work will address this gap in the literature. By doing so, this study hopes to build the theoretical framework surrounding the issue of childhood IPV exposure and its developmental consequences as well as contribute to empirically informed policies and interventions. The project will culminate in a final report that will help criminal justice and family welfare agencies to develop best practices regarding to delinquency, violence, and substance use prevention. In addition, the results of this project will be disseminated to a broader audience through presentations and peer-reviewed manuscripts.

**2014-MU-MU-0011: Building Capacity to Reduce Bullying and its Impact on Youth across the Lifecourse: A Consensus Study**  
**Grantee: National Academy of Sciences**  
**Amount: \$175,000**  
**Status: Ongoing**

Bullying has evolved from "just a part of growing up" to an unacceptable behavior that has long-term consequences on the targets and perpetrators of bullying behavior which can include poor school performance, anxiety, depression, and future delinquent behavior. In addition, bullying can be understood as an opportunity for intervention with troubled youth, potentially preventing the proliferation of more extreme violence throughout the nation's schools and communities. Bullying behaviors occur across a spectrum of age groups from elementary school through high school; it can occur in various forms such as physical, verbal, social isolation or with the use of technology known as cyberbullying. Bullying behaviors occur in social settings that can support or mitigate the act of bullying. Bystanders, targets, and perpetrators of bullying behavior are all part of the process and each participant brings individual risk and protective factors to the situation. Due to the complexities of bullying, identifying universally effective prevention programs and policies is challenging. Results can vary based on the duration of the intervention, the age group or community of individuals being targeted, or the intervention strategy applied. As a result, communities or decision makers may implement bullying prevention initiatives and policies without knowing the effectiveness of these interventions. Building on the activities from the recent (April 9-10, 2014) bullying prevention workshop, the Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the IOM and the NRC, will convene a committee of about 15 experts to conduct a consensus study that will produce a comprehensive report on the state of the science and policies related to bullying prevention. Based on currently available evidence, the committee will review relevant research and practice-based literatures on bullying prevention and provide recommendations for future research and policy efforts to support bullying prevention Initiatives, which are likely to result in improved health, safety, and well-being of children and youth. Recommendations may be geared toward government agencies, legislatures, foundations, and academic Institutions. The report will inform Institutions serving youth, federal, state, and local policymakers, and other stakeholders. Finally, the report will identify areas for further research to answer questions

raised during the study. The committee will meet four times over the course of the study. These meetings will allow for gathering data from a variety of sources, data synthesis, developing background papers, engaging in committee deliberations, and drafting of conclusions and recommendations. The final consensus report will undergo peer review according to Academies policies.

**Supplemental Award:**

In addition to finalizing the consensus report document, these additional funds would be used to create opportunities for widespread communication about and dissemination of the consensus report findings and recommendations. Given the progress of the project thus far, only \$50,000 in funds are necessary to support these dissemination and communication efforts. It is anticipated that this report will attract a significant amount of media and press attention as well as attention from all of the study sponsors' respective stakeholders and partners. Additional funds are necessary to ensure that the study's conclusions and recommendations are broadly disseminated and that the communications products produced by NAS are accessible to a wide variety of end-users. Activities will include a range of briefings, presentations, events, and products across a diverse range of settings, modes and stakeholder communities. Examples of potential dissemination products include infographics, Congressional and/or agency briefings, research in brief reports, presentations at academic and practitioner conferences and other activities as determined by the NAS communications team. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-R2-CX-0003:</b>	<b>Child Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence and Parent Aggression in Two Generations</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Oregon Social Learning Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$407,802</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a complex and significant public health problem with adverse physical and mental health consequences not only for adults involved but also for the children who are exposed to IPV. However, the impact of IPV exposure on children's adjustment has shown substantial variability. The proposed study draws upon Dynamic Development Systems Theory to examine IPV dynamics and family/child risk and protective factors and processes that relate to children's adjustment, including psychopathology, social competence, and academic achievement into adolescence. The current study advances the field in important regards. The inclusion of dyadic aggression data across multiple family contexts, over two generations, will help build theory and inform more tailored, timely interventions. Subjects: We will conduct a secondary analysis study using a prospective multi-generation data set involving the children (N=265, approx. 50% of girls at age 5 years) of the Oregon Youth Study (OYS) men and the children's biological mothers (even if the couple has separated) from the Three Generational Study (3GS). At enrollment into the OYS in Grade 4, the men were at risk for aggression (by virtue of living in neighborhoods with relatively high rates of juvenile delinquency) and from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Research Design, Methods, Analysis: The available 3GS data set includes two generations with childhood data on each (i.e., developmental history of the OYS fathers and their offspring), and includes 5 waves of IPV and 6

waves of child adjustment data for the offspring over a 12-year period using a multiagent/method measurement strategy. We will first examine (1) moderation of early childhood proximal associations between exposure to violence (IPV and parent aggression) and child adjustment by child and parent gender. Next, we will capitalize on the prospective, longitudinal design to examine (2) how the developmental timing of violence exposure may effect changes in offspring adjustment across adolescence; (3) risk and protective factors (e.g., child emotion regulation, parent monitoring) that may mediate associations between violence exposure in childhood and adolescence adjustment; (4) intergenerational transmission of IPV (and parent aggression) and the circumstances whereby parents' developmental risk factors (e.g., exposure to IPV during childhood) increase the occurrence of IPV (and parent aggression) in adulthood and the risk of child adjustment difficulties. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: Study results will be disseminated via local and national meetings and in manuscripts submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-VF-GX-K113:</b>	<b>Examination of the Short-and Long-term Impact of School Shootings</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$1,254,975</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Although the frequency and severity of school shootings is increasing, there is a paucity of information about the immediate and long-term consequences of these violent events on a school system and its community. By examining multiple school shootings, we can identify current gaps in services and policies, we can refine recovery protocols in school emergency plans, foster collaboration between different responding organizations, and ensure that funding streams are available during critical phases of recovery. The UCLA/Duke University National Center for Child Traumatic Stress and its National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) have a long history of create school-based recovery programs after deadly school violence. In this project, "Examination of the Long- and Short-term Impact of School Shooting," we are proposing a multiple method collaborative study to investigate the consequences associated with six school shootings that have occurred in the U.S. within the past five years. Partners include the UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters and several of our NCTSN centers. After the formation of a Study Advisory Board consisting of national experts to help guide the research project, focus groups will be held at each of the selected sites with targeted membership from the affected population to obtain information about the acute and longer term impacts, including effects on the school system and community, responses and recovery efforts, and issues of community cohesion. Next, semi-structured interviews with key informants (such as students, parents, school personnel, first responders, victim service providers, civic leaders, religious professionals, and media), will be conducted to obtain in-depth information about protective and vulnerability factors associated with individual, school, and community recovery, including coping strategies, the utilization and perceived benefit of victim services, and the role of culture and religion in recovery. Third, based on information obtained from the focus groups and semi-structured interviews, structured interviews and surveys will be conducted at each study site with additional target populations. A second component of the project will obtain and analyze the content and impact of media and social

media at selected study sites. Qualitative and quantitative findings from this study will be published, presented at professional meetings and on-site at the collaborating communities, presented in webinars, and incorporated into training programs of the NCTSN. Implications of the findings will be drawn for the development of recommendations for preparedness, response, and recovery of communities after catastrophic violence at school, and for policy briefs. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

## F. Forensic Research

<b>2010-DN-BX-K230:</b>	<b>Genetic Markers Associated with Sudden Unexplained Death or Sudden Infant Death</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>County of Harris, Texas</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$254,521</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

There are two classes that are forensically linked: sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and sudden unexplained death (SUD). In some cases, there is no known pathology that is identified during the autopsy, therefore a genetic screening of known mutations (in cardiac related ion channels) might identify a 'cause of death' for previously unknown cases. The researchers propose to utilize the next-generation pyrosequencing platform, 454 Roche, to identify potential mutations responsible for cardiac channel abnormalities that could potentially lead to death. A deliverable from this project would be a high throughput tool for assessing autopsy cases for the presence of genetic defects associated with channelopathies that can cause sudden cardiac death.

<b>2011-DN-BX-K535:</b>	<b>Investigating Unexplained Deaths for Molecular Autopsies</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>City of New York, Office of Chief Medical Examiner</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$696,879</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

In this application, the researchers propose to sequence the entire coding regions of 52 candidate genes believed to be involved in sudden unexplained deaths in 200 samples, as well as sequence all identified variants in an additional 50 cases and 1,000 gender and ethnically matched controls. Data will be evaluated for new variants as well as combinations of variants that alone may not be disease causing, but in concert may predispose victims to sudden death. To achieve these goals, the authors propose to use the massive parallel sequencing technology available in next generation sequencing platforms.

<b>2011-DN-BX-K540:</b>	<b>Pediatric Fracture Printing: Creating a Science of Statistical Fracture Signature Analysis</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Michigan State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$681, 147</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This research will address this significant gap in best practice through a multidisciplinary effort that: (1) continues the development of experimental data from an experimental animal model, to help correlate input forces and cranial fracture patterns; (2) develops a pattern recognition method for "fracture-printing" to be used in the identification of injury causation, initially based on this "ground truth" data from an animal model; and (3) collects data on human pediatric deaths involving blunt force cranial fracture and known impact scenarios from current forensic case files at medical examiner offices across the country to establish a database (The Pediatric Cranial Fracture Registry). This research will develop automated pattern recognition methods to classify cranial fracture patterns based on contact interface, impact energy, and head constraint condition based on subject age. The predictive analysis will use classification models that are generated using experimentally produced data (e.g. digital images of cranial fractures) and are accompanied with the ground truth data (i.e. contact interface, impact energy, and head constraint condition). The ultimate aim of this research will be that for a given cranial fracture pattern in a subject of a given age; the researchers will be able to compute a statistical probability that a particular impact condition was the cause.

**Product: NCJ# 248960**

**Pediatric Fracture Printing: Creating a Science of Statistical Fracture Signature Analysis**

A total of 354 porcine cranial fracture samples have been produced in controlled biomechanical-impact experiments. Subsequently, the cranial-fracture diagrams were uploaded to a fracture printing interface (FPI). The FPI automatically extracts characteristic features of the fracture patterns. Depending on specimen age and the user's particular request, the FPI can predict one or more class labels. To date, the class labels are impact energy level (high or low); head constraint condition (entrapped or free-fall); and impact surface (rigid, compliant, or carpet). The current research evaluated the performance of the FPI in various sub-tasks. The experimentally controlled data enabled researchers to use classification accuracy as a measure of performance for the FPI. Overall, the FPI achieved reasonably high levels of accuracy in categorizing cranial fractures into classes based on constraint condition, impact, surface, and impact energy. For a fixed impact energy level, the FPI showed an accuracy of 81-85 percent in predicting constraint condition for a compliant surface and 92-94 percent for a rigid surface. For a free-fall on a rigid surface, the FPI accurately predicted the associated impact energy level (high or low) 86-95 percent of the time. A pilot study was also conducted on 100 human pediatric cranial fracture patterns from forensic cases of child deaths. The initial study has shown that the models and algorithms from the FPI developed from porcine data could be transformed in classifying human pediatric cranial fracture patterns into categories of homicides or high-energy accidents with an accuracy of 75 percent. Implications for criminal justice policy and practice are discussed.

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<b>2011-WG-BX-0005:</b>	<b>Forensic Evidence and Criminal Justice Outcomes in a Statewide Sample of Sexual Assault Cases</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$ 97,519</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study has three goals: (a) to provide a detailed description of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases, including its timing relative to criminal justice outcomes; (b) to examine the relationship of forensic evidence to criminal justice outcomes; and (c) to analyze the effect of forensic evidence in key segments of the sample: cases with child victims, cases with stranger assailants, and cases with SANEs conducting the examination. The research objectives include 1) examining the frequency of different types of forensic evidence; 2) assessing the timing of forensic evidence availability vis-à-vis arrests and filing criminal charges; 3) assessing the relationship of forensic evidence to arrests and filing criminal charges; 4) assessing whether the relationship of forensic evidence to outcomes is stronger in cases with child victims and in cases with stranger suspects; 5) comparing SANEs versus non-SANE medical providers on forensic evidence and on arrests and filing criminal charges. The proposed retrospective research will draw a random sample 436 sexual assault cases reported in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts between 2008 and 2010 from a database of 3,000 documented sexual assault cases with medical examinations maintained by the state's Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). Using unique, anonymous case identifiers, data will be merged from three sources: 1) Provider Sexual Crime Reports, a mandatory form on assault and victim characteristics filled out by medical providers and stored in EOPSS' data base, 2) Non-electronic crime laboratory data, from which data on forensic evidence and injury will be abstracted and put into spreadsheets, and 3) Police incident data from the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and a Boston Police database, electronic databases that provide information on arrest and filing criminal charges as well as victim, offense and assailant characteristics. Descriptive and bivariate statistics will be used to describe the prevalence and timing of different types of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases. Multi-variable logistic regression analyses will assess the effect of forensic evidence on case outcomes, controlling for other variables of importance. Logistic regression analyses will also examine forensic evidence by age of victim and forensic evidence by assailant relationship to victim interactions, to see if the effect of forensic evidence is stronger for child victims and in stranger cases, and examine forensic evidence effects separately in these groups. Logistic regression will also compare SANE and non-SANE cases on forensic evidence and arrest and filing charges, and to see if any SANE impact on outcomes is mediated by the forensic evidence SANEs obtain.

**Product: NCJ# 248254**

**Forensic Evidence and Criminal Justice Outcomes in a Statewide Sample of Sexual Assault Cases**

Sexual assault is a heinous crime that as much as a quarter of women nationally experience in their lifetime. Not only do victims suffer the terror and degradation of the assault, but they are further at risk of injury and a range of difficulties with mental health and functioning. Survivors are also at risk of re-victimization from informal and professional responses that question their credibility and in effect blame them for the assault. In this difficult context, investigative methods that increase evidence against assailants while decreasing the burden on victims are especially important, and advances in the technology and expertise of collecting and analyzing injury and forensic evidence offer promise. The study: 1) examines the frequency of injury and biological evidence in sexual assault cases; 2) identifies case factors associated with the presence of injury and biological evidence; 3) analyzes how often biological evidence is

processed prior to versus after arrest; 4) explores how injury and biological evidence as well as other factors are related to arrest; and 5) examines results for key comparisons thought to be salient for forensic evidence: Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners vs. other medical examiners; strangers vs. known suspects; child victims vs. adults and adolescents. This study merged data from three sources: 1) the Massachusetts Provider Sexual Crime Report (PSCR) database, 2) forensic evidence data abstracted for the study from the two crime laboratories serving the state, and 3) data on founding, arrests, and criminal charges from 142 different police agencies across the state.

<b>2012-DN-BX-K049:</b>	<b>A Multi-Modal Method for Determining the Postmortem Interval in Juvenile Remains and Assessing Skeletal Health</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>North Carolina State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$270,877</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The Department of Health and Human Services reports that in 2005 there were 1460 cases of child maltreatment fatalities in the US. Child maltreatment crimes are difficult to investigate and resolve because little scientifically based research has focused on this specific issue. Because of the relatively small size of the victim, concealment of child maltreatment crimes are common and the victims may not be found for months allowing sufficient time for soft tissue decay and skeletonization. The purpose of our study is to use immature pigs as an analog for human subadults to identify the specific changes in bone decomposition and weathering that could be used as key elements in estimating the post mortem interval (PMI). Seasonal data collection over two years will be conducted to document bone weathering and survivability of the different skeletal elements. Moreover, a major contribution of this project is the assessment of bone mineral density (BMD) loss during the decay process and the histological evaluation of diagenesis resulting from the postmortem environment. Although some normative data is available for infants and children, which have been developed by the instrumentation companies (e.g. Hologic, Lunar) and, to some degree, from population specific scientific research (.e.g. data for Turkish and Spanish children), data does not exist for the American juvenile population at large. Thus, in order to develop normative data for clinically healthy (e.g. well nourished) and ill or malnourished infants and children (0-4 years of age) that can be used to assess skeletal health in the medicolegal setting, bone mineral density (BMD) will be obtained via a Hologic DXA scanner from incoming cases at the North Carolina and New York City medical examiner offices. The proposed study will address many of the unknowns regarding juvenile decomposition (i.e., timing, patterns) and will develop baseline data on postmortem BMD loss, differential decomposition due to body disposition environment, and BMD data from human subadult forensic cases. Thus, the proposed goals of our study are to: 1. to develop a model to estimate the postmortem interval of skeletal decomposition and bone mineral density changes for juvenile remains; 2. evaluate microscopic agents that cause changes to bone in the postmortem environment (histotaphonomic changes) and their potential effect on bone mineral density; and 3. to develop bone mineral density baseline data for infants and children from a modern forensic population to help assess the skeletal health. The implications for criminal justice practice is the development of regionally specific bone

weathering standards, which has tremendous implications for more accurate PMI estimates that could impact case solvability and produce a much more informative assessment of unidentified human remains, particularly for juvenile homicides.

<b>2014-DN-BX-K006:</b>	<b>Development of a Computer Simulation Model to Predict Potential Bruising Patterns Associated with Common Childhood Falls</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Louisville Research Foundation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$377,187</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

As submitted by the proposer: Child abuse is a leading cause of fatality in children aged 0-4 years, with approximately 1,500 fatalities annually. Infants (younger than 1 year) are at greatest risk. Most infants and children have earlier, non-life threatening injuries prior to a fatal assault. These earlier injuries, termed sentinel injuries, are often misinterpreted as accidental trauma due to false histories provided by caregivers. The ability to detect child abuse in its earliest stages has proven to be critical in the prevention of escalating injury severity and even death. Bruising is the earliest sign of physical abuse, and previous studies have shown differences in bruising location and number when comparing accidental vs. abusive trauma. Differentiation between accident and abuse based upon bruising patterns presents an opportunity for early diagnosis/detection of abuse, as well as a means to exonerate innocent families in cases where accidental trauma has occurred. Bruising patterns provide a "roadmap" documenting a child's exposure to impact, providing information that can be critical in a forensic analysis. Currently there are limited means to predict potential bruising patterns associated with common household falls or abusive events that include the ability to investigate the influence of fall environment- and child-specific parameters. Moreover, knowledge of potential bruising patterns and corresponding injury events does not exist. In this study we will develop and use a computer simulation model of a pediatric surrogate to characterize potential bruising patterns associated with common household falls often falsely reported as the cause of injury in abuse. This will be accomplished through development and adaptation of a virtual sensing skin to a computer model of a pediatric surrogate. We will use experimental falls employing an instrumented physical surrogate capable of measuring/recording impact locations to verify our model's predictive capability. We will also investigate the influence of surrogate properties and fall environment on potential bruising patterns. The outcomes from this project will include a pediatric computer simulation model capable of predicting potential bruising patterns in bed/sofa falls, along with predicted bruising patterns. We will also gain an improved understanding of how fall victim and fall environment factors influence bruising patterns and will disseminate our findings through peer-reviewed journals, trade magazines and conference presentations to an audience of judicial practitioners and clinicians. Working with Lurie Children's Hospital, our project will be completed over a two-year period.

<b>2014-MU-MU-0001:</b>	<b>The Prosecution of Child Sexual Abuse: A Partnership to Improve Outcomes</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Massachusetts, Lowell</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$498,333</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>



Statement of the problem: In collaboration with prosecutors' offices and mentors from the field, researchers at the University of Massachusetts Lowell propose research designed to increase knowledge of the criminal prosecution of child sexual abuse (CSA) cases, the characteristics of cases prosecuted, and the factors associated with case attrition. Designed to enhance current and foster new researcher/practitioner collaborations, this research will identify barriers to prosecution of offenders and factors that contribute to successful outcomes while minimizing victim trauma. The attrition of CSA cases from the CJ system has been a concern to victims, practitioners and researchers for decades. In contrast to cases of sexual assault of adults, where considerable attrition occurs at earlier stages, reported child victim cases may experience most significant attrition at the prosecutorial stage. Past research indicates that less than 10% of CSA cases brought forward for prosecution go to trial. Gaps in knowledge of the processing of these cases point to a need to examine current cases to understand more about these challenges and the factors predictive of attrition including the extent to which victims and their families decide not to participate in trials and why. This study will document (1) case attrition; (2) the frequency with which CSA cases require the child to testify at multiple hearings, directly confront the alleged perpetrator, and experience harsh cross-examination; and (3) the factors that impact case outcomes. Methods: We propose a retrospective analysis (previous 5 years) of 500 CSA cases referred for prosecution in several counties. This research will identify factors (details about the alleged incident, victim/victim family, perpetrator, evidence, prosecutorial decisions) that affect the trajectory and outcomes of cases and will lead to recommendations to improve outcomes for victims and successful prosecution of perpetrators. This project relies on a team of experienced researchers and a PI who has forged relationships with prosecutors to create a meaningful researcher/practitioner partnership. The Co-Investigator/Mentor has several decades of experience forming successful research/practice collaborations designed to identify key research questions and find answers useful to the field- a strength of this proposal. Our approach involves collaboration with practitioners to assist with interpreting findings and report writing. This will assure that materials useful for policy and practice will be widely disseminated. Implications: This study will contribute to scholarly and practice-oriented literature and understanding of CSA case attrition with the goal of increasing access to justice for victims and successful prosecution of perpetrators.

<b>2014-NE-BX-0006:</b>	<b>Serial Sexual Assaults: A Longitudinal Examination of Offending Patterns Using DNA Evidence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Michigan State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$699,533</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Serial sexual assault is a pervasive problem: court record recidivism studies show that 10-15% of convicted sex offenders re-assault within five years, and self-report surveys suggest that 60%+ of males who have committed sexual assaults have raped more than one individual. The purpose of the current study is to document the scope of repeat perpetration using a different method of finding serial rapists: DNA evidence in sexual assault kits (SAKs). Using a sample of previously untested SAKs from Detroit, we will examine rates and patterns of serial sexual assault based on DNA matches in CODIS (Combined DNA Index

System), the federal criminal DNA database. Guided by criminal career theory, we will explore serial sexual offenders longitudinal crime patterns and the extent to which their offending varies with respect to victim-offender relationship (i.e., stranger vs. non-stranger) and victim age (i.e., child vs. adult victims). Subjects: We will examine how many CODIS hits emanate from a sample of N=7,393 previously untested SAKs. We will also obtain full adult criminal histories for all CODIS-identified offenders to model their offending patterns over time. Partnerships: Our practitioner partners are the Michigan State Police, who have granted research access to the CODIS testing outcomes and criminal histories; and the Michigan Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention & Treatment Board, who will advise the team on implications for survivors and victim advocacy services. Research Design & Methods: Using a cross-sectional design, we will document the rates and types of serial sexual assault CODIS hits and how those rates vary by victim-offender relationships and ages. Then, we will shift to a longitudinal design to explore patterns of serial sexual offending, both patterns identifiable within an offenders own criminal history and similarities between the cumulative criminal histories of different offenders. We will also examine variability in the geographic locations of serial sexual offenders patterns of crime. Analysis: We will use continuation-ratio and polytomous logistic regression models to quantify the rates and types of CODIS hits. Latent variable mixture models will be used to identify subgroups with distinct patterns of offending over time. We will apply log-linear models to transition matrices to explore geographic mobility of offenders crimes over time. Products, Reports, & Data Archiving: Research products will include: interim and final reports; archived data pertaining to CODIS hits and adult criminal histories (de-identified); and conference presentations, scientific publications, webinars, and podcasts that summarize key findings.

## G: Youth Systems Involvement and Response

<b>2010-JB-FX-0006</b>	<b>Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Fellowship Placement Program-- Enhancing Judiciary's Role in Child Welfare: Promoting Interagency Collaboration and Best Practices</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Maryland</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$275,991</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Juvenile justice researchers and criminal justice practitioners have long been aware of the challenges in effective and efficient service delivery for troubled youth and their families. These challenges are embodied by the persistently negative life trajectory for many crossover youth, who are youth involved in both dependency and delinquency systems. Researchers at the University of Maryland, College Park, (UM) and the Maryland Judiciary propose to engage in a research-practitioner partnership to enhance the Judiciary's role in child welfare reform in Maryland, to develop a model for integrating the Judiciary into cross-system collaborations, and to prepare Maryland to be on the forefront of systematic and broad-reaching electronically-based case management systems that inform comprehensive service delivery for the most troubled of America's youth. The researcher-practitioner partnership between UM and the

Maryland Judiciary aims to collect systematic data on crossover youth to identify needs and gaps in services, to evaluate the landscape of interagency partnerships, and identify a model of collaboration. Specifically, this project will use court records, interviews, surveys, and archival documents to study crossover youth and interagency collaborations. Quantitative and qualitative analysis will be used to provide insight into the prevalence and characteristics of crossover youth, as well as to identify needs and gaps in current service delivery. The researchers will also identify evidence-based and promising practices to address gaps in the current system. Furthermore, the study will identify data elements related to crossover youth for inclusion in the electronic case management system currently being developed by the Judiciary. The proposed project will capitalize on two emerging statewide electronic monitoring systems to enhance research and practitioner awareness of the prevalence and needs of crossover youth. The first electronic system, a comprehensive case management system, is currently being developed by the Judiciary. The Judiciary will implement the tool for statewide use within five years. A goal for this system is to serve as a comprehensive resource for identifying youths' needs and services, and the researcher will assist this effort through the proposed project. The second electronic system is the Department of Juvenile Service's (DJS) statewide Maryland Comprehensive Assessment and Service Planning (MCASP) data system. Activated in 2010, this tool offers a comprehensive picture of the needs and treatment service plans for DJS youth.

**Product: NCJ# 248679**

**Traversing Two Systems: An Assessment of Crossover Youth in Maryland**

The review of State and local practices with such youth identified preliminary signs of progress within a general context of inattention to their distinctive risk, needs, and treatment. Consistent with prior studies, quantitative analyses that compared samples of crossover youth (n=526) and delinquency-only youth (n=601) showed that crossover youth were chronically involved in the juvenile justice system, having their first arrest at an earlier age and with more arrests and referrals than non-crossover youth. The most stark differences between crossover and delinquency-only groups were on objective indicators of mental health needs. Analyses of Baltimore City crossover youth (n=200) and a dependency-only sample (n=200) determined that the crossover group had different and more persistent family problems, more out-of-home placements, and longer length of placement. Regarding Maryland's response to this issue, several State-led initiatives are promising, as they have incorporated practices promoted in the crossover-youth practice literature; however, none of the programs specifically address this group. Local efforts have involved information-sharing, collaborative case reviews, and joint attendance at court hearings on crossover cases. Approximately 60 percent of survey respondents reported using routines for identifying crossover youth, providing cross-system notifications on proceedings, and holding family and multidisciplinary team meetings for crossover cases. The study findings indicate a consensus need for more focused efforts on crossover youth in Maryland.

<b>2010-JB-FX-0014</b>	<b>For the Kids or for the Bottom Line?: A Case Study of the Proposed Closing of the Department of Juvenile Corrections in Arizona</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Arizona Board of Regents for Arizona State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$122,431</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this study is to examine the process of closure of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections which is scheduled for elimination in July of 2011, and the impact of this elimination on the juvenile offenders currently under state jurisdiction in Arizona. Using a combination of case study and outcome approaches including document reviews, interviews, focus groups, and data analysis, this one year study will seek to understand the processes that led to the decision to eliminate the agency, the responses of local jurisdictions assuming custody and supervision of state youth, youth outcomes, organizational changes, and the legal issues involved in transfer of custody from the state to counties.

**Product: NCJ# 244085**

**Case Study of the Response of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections to the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act Consent Decree**

The consent decree was instituted pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), which allows the U.S. Justice Department to investigate allegations of civil rights violations of institutionalized persons in State custodial facilities. The investigating agency may then enter into consent decrees or file motions of contempt in order to gain compliance by State agencies found to be in violation of the CRIPA standards. This study found that significant changes were made in each of the 16 areas of the consent decree. The efforts to prevent suicide were particularly notable. The remedies included both hardware and human responses, suggesting the importance of a broad and integrated approach to this issue. Given the focus of this study on long-term compliance with CRIPA, researchers were impressed that these changes have been sustained over time, even during budget cutbacks. The roles of both internal and external institutional pressures were significant factors in these changes, as well as the ability to sustain them over time. Holding the ADJC accountable by the commitment of external stakeholders (sovereigns) was a key to successful and sustained change. The study focused on the processes leading to Federal intervention; the resulting changes in the immediate months after the investigation; the status of services and quality of care after a reduction of funding for the agency; and how selected juvenile court jurisdictions perceive and respond to the changes. The study reviewed relevant documents and conducted interviews with key personnel (e.g., judges and administrators).

<b>2011-MU-MU-0027</b>	<b>A Multi-method, Multi-Site Study of Gang Desistance</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Curators of the University of Missouri on Behalf of UMSL</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$501,337</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

In the proposed research, in-depth interviews will be conducted with youth who have been gang involved at some point during the past five years. Importantly, the researchers will include

both short-term gang members as well as those who have been gang-involved for multiple years. In light of this rich information, the proposed interviews will focus on the youths' gang experience by tapping into the meanings of youths' experiences, and what they attribute as the salient factors associated with their gang desistance. The overarching goal of the proposed research is to use a multi-method, multi-site approach to explore factors associated with gang desistance. Embedded within this overall goal are four objectives: 1) to assess the extent to which the experience of leaving the gang is similar or different for stable and transient youth; 2) to examine whether the processes for leaving the gang vary depending upon the gang members' centrality in the gang (i.e., core versus peripheral); 3) to investigate the role of sex and race/ethnicity in gang leaving; and 4) to investigate the extent that gang characteristics (e.g., group structure, sex composition, and gang types) influence the desistance process. The proposed qualitative interviews with gang members (both current and former members) will provide insight into desistance while a life-course perspective (e.g., Elder 1985, Sampson and Laub 1997, 2002; Thornberry et al. 2003) will guide the quantitative analyses; that is, the researchers view gang membership as part of the adolescent experience and believe that it can best be understood by conceptualizing the onset of gang membership as a turning point in the lives of youth (Melde and Esbensen 2011). For instance, gang joining impacts youths' relationships with peers, school, and family; it changes their routine activities, and may even affect the way they think about themselves and their ideas about right and wrong. These potential consequences of gang joining may also impact their behavior and account for the observation that gang youth are substantially more involved in delinquent behavior generally and violent offending specifically. Importantly for this proposal, a body of research has found that gang membership is a transitory stage for most youth who become gang involved; gang membership is a status generally held for less than one year (e.g., Bendixen et al. 2005; Esbensen and Huizinga 1993; Gatti et al. 2006; Peterson et al., 2004; Thornberry et al., 1993, 2003). If indeed joining the gang is a turning point, then leaving the gang may also be a turning point with attitudinal and behavioral changes similar to those associated with joining the gang; the researchers will examine gang membership as part of a trajectory that involves transitions from one stage to another. This multi-method study will allow the researchers to examine factors associated with turning points and whether leaving the gang is a gradual process or the result of some drastic change in status.

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0027</b>	<b>Out of Home Placement Location and Juvenile Delinquency: The Investigation of Neighborhood Impact on Child Welfare Population's Juvenile Justice Involvement</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this research is to examine whether the neighborhoods associated with foster care placement affect the risk of delinquent offending for adolescents in the child welfare system. The study will present the spatial distribution of placements and investigate the effect of neighborhood on delinquency. The study has three major hypotheses. The first hypothesis is that there are similarities between the spatial distribution of foster care placements and neighborhood demographics. Second, that concentrated disadvantages and immigrant

concentration of the neighborhoods are positively associated with delinquency, while residential stability is negatively associated with delinquency. The third hypothesis is that concentrated disadvantages and immigrant concentration of the surrounding neighborhoods are positively associated with delinquency, while residential stability of the surrounding neighborhoods is negatively associated with delinquency. The design is longitudinal and involves the analysis of a unique data sharing agreement in a large metropolitan county. The sample was comprised of 18,676 children from Cook County, Illinois. The sample included two birth cohorts born in 1983 and 1984. The sample was selected from the official child abuse and neglect records associated with the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (IDCFS). All children were associated with at least one substantiated allegation of maltreatment. Sixty nine percent of the sample was African American, 19% was White and 12% was Hispanic, and less than 1% was Asian and Native American. Forty-eight percent of the sample was male. The average age at the time of maltreatment was 6.3 years old. The study will follow the placement experiences and juvenile arrests associated with the sample from birth through 18 years of age. The study will use data from IDCFS administrative data, Cook County juvenile court administrative data, the 1990 census, and the community survey of the Project of Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN). To explore the patterns and distributions of foster care placements, the study will use mapping in ArcGIS. The researcher will compare the distribution of placements with the distribution of neighborhood characteristics from census data and the community survey of the PHDCN. The researcher will examine whether there are similarities between the spatial distribution of placements and neighborhood characteristics (e.g. concentrated disadvantage). Regarding the effect of immediate neighborhood, the researcher hypothesizes that immediate neighborhoods have impact on delinquency among the child welfare population, and the association between neighborhood demographics (concentrated disadvantage, immigrant concentration, residential stability) and delinquency among the child welfare population is mediated by social disorganization (collective efficacy, neighborhood disorder) and social norm (violent culture). Given that the data has a nested structure, the researcher will use multilevel structural equation modeling to test the hypothesis. In addition to immediate neighborhoods, the researcher hypothesizes that the surrounding neighborhoods will be associated with delinquency among the child welfare population as well. The study will use spatial cross-regressive modeling to test this hypothesis. The researcher will use the distance-decay strategy for the spatial weight matrix. The analyses are intended to help child welfare and juvenile justice system develop effective strategies to reduce the risk of delinquency for an extremely vulnerable and high risk population.

**Product: NCJ# 248763**

**Location of Placement and Juvenile Delinquency: Do Neighborhoods Matter in Child Welfare?**

The study followed the placement experiences of 2,360 foster youth in Chicago from birth to 16 years of age, using State administrative data, census data, and the community survey of the Project of Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods. The results show that foster care placements clustered in neighborhoods characterized by high concentrated disadvantage, low ethnic heterogeneity, low collective efficacy, prevalent neighborhood disorder, and violent

culture. The results indicated that neighborhood ethnic heterogeneity is positively associated with delinquent offending. The implications for policy and practice are discussed.

<b>2013-IJ-CX-0011</b>	<b>"It's Not All Cupcakes and Lollipops": An Investigation of the Predictors and Effects of Prison Visitation for Children during Maternal and Paternal Incarceration</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Arizona Board of Regents on behalf of Arizona State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The purpose of this project is to better understand the factors associated with and effects of prison visitation for children during maternal and paternal incarceration. As gatekeepers, caregivers play a pivotal role in the facilitation of parent-child prison visitation. Yet mothers (during paternal incarceration) and grandmothers (during maternal incarceration) may be the most likely facilitators of parent-child visits despite the obstacles in doing so given their own vested interests in securing parental involvement post-release. Additionally, among those children who do visit, visitation may be positive in some ways and negative in others hence the visitation paradox. To advance prior work, this study 1) Assesses the relationship between caregiver type and patterns of parent-child prison visitation and 2) Investigates the emotional and behavioral responses of children who visit, relying on and extending the theoretical construct of the visitation paradox. These findings will have direct implications for correctional policy and practice pertaining to the accessibility, cost, manner, and regulation of prison visits and will inform reentry efforts using a family-centric approach. This project uses a mixed-methods approach and will be carried out in two phases. Phase 1, quantitative data on 1,130 children collected from structured interviews with incarcerated parents (N = 300 mothers; N = 171 fathers) in the Arizona Department of Corrections will be used to assess the relationship between caregiver type and the likelihood/frequency of father-child and mother-child visitation. Phase 2 will draw from qualitative data on 40 children who visit their parent in prison as reported by their caregivers to assess children's emotional and behavioral well-being. For Phase 1, descriptive statistics and multivariate analyses (e.g. logistic regression and ordered probit models) will be run separately by paternal and maternal incarceration. Clustered robust standard errors will be used to correct for correlations between children from the same parent. For Phase 2, qualitative data will be coded to identify positive and negative child internalizing and externalizing behaviors, visitation paradox indicators, child age and prior life circumstances. Thematic content analyses will be conducted to capture major themes and frequencies of themes will be presented.

**Product: NCJ# 248650**

**"It's Not All Cupcakes and Lollipops": An Investigation of the Predictors and Effects of Prison Visitation for Children during Maternal and Paternal Incarceration**

A highlight of the study is the finding of the significant investment of time, planning, and financial resources made by many overly burdened mother and grandmother caregivers of children during their father's or mother's incarceration; however, the study found largely negative impacts from children's prison visits. Out of the 40 children examined for prison visitation experiences, 69 percent manifested negative responses; only 31 percent of the

children responded positively to the prison visits. Typical negative responses were fear, anger, and crying that stemmed from the prison environment, invasive security procedures, and stern and unfriendly prison staff. Although recommendations are offered for improving prison visitation for children, the primary recommendations focus on reducing the use of imprisonment in favor of community supervision that not only facilitates a more normal interaction between offender parents and their children, but also eliminates the burden on child caregivers of having to manage the logistics of a prison visit. Although quantitative data were collected on 984 children through structured interviews with incarcerated parents (279 mothers and 143 fathers) in the Arizona Department of Corrections, data on only 40 children’s emotional and behavioral reactions to prison visitation were obtained from their caregivers. Implications are drawn for policy, theory, and future research.

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<b>2013-JF-FX-0034</b>	<b>Secondary Analysis of the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement Data</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>American Institutes for Research</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of research is to examine racial disparity among youth placed in residential facilities. Using data from the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement (SYRP) in 2003, this secondary analysis will assess disparity using information concerning background characteristics, youth experiences while incarcerated, and expectations for life after incarceration. In 2003, the SYRP was administered to a sample of youth residing in 204 residential placement facilities in 35 states. Youth self-report included responses to items regarding demographics, living conditions and calls to family, circumstances and sentence for the current offense, substance use and treatment, emotional problems and treatment, medical service needs and utilization, educational needs and services, rules and treatment by staff, victimization, prior offenses, and expectations for the future. Additional data from the Juvenile Residential Facility Census (JRFC) will be used to provide information about the contexts in which youth participants reside. The JRFC provides facility information concerning private or public ownership and facility operation, locked sleeping rooms, mental health evaluation at intake, availability and type of mental health counseling, substance abuse evaluation at intake, and type of counseling and therapy available for substance abuse. Racial and ethnic disparities will be examined using background characteristics, experiences while incarcerated, and future expectation.

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<b>2014-JF-FX-0023</b>	<b>The Self-Determination and Mental Health of Youth in Residential Placement: Patterns of Risk Resilience in Links with Prior Abuse and Victimization</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Georgia State University Research Foundation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$38,116</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this proposed project is to examine patterns of vulnerability and resilience related to prior trauma, including abuse and victimization, amongst youth in residential placement. The project will focus on two outcomes predictive of successful transitions back to



the community: self-determination, which refers to youths' goals and aspirations for the future and their skills to accomplish them, and mental health. Project goals are twofold: (1) to examine the link of prior abuse and victimization with the self-determination and mental health of youth in residential placement; and (2) to identify experiences of youth in residential placement that either exacerbate or protect against the risks to self-determination and mental health. The goals of this proposed project will be addressed through analysis of data from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJD's) Survey of Youth in Residential Placement (SYRP), a nationally representative sample of 7,073 youth offenders aged 10 to 20. Hypotheses associated with the project goals will be tested with structural equation mixture modeling, a cutting-edge statistical technique for detecting groups that represent distinct subpopulations. Analyses will test (1) for distinct subpopulations of youth characterized by vulnerability and resilience based on (a) their self-determination and mental health outcomes, and (b) the effects of prior abuse and victimization on these outcomes; and (2) hypotheses that victimization at the facility will be associated with increased odds of belonging to a subpopulation characterized by vulnerability, whereas youth perceptions of positive facility climate and psychological services received at the facility will be associated with increased odds of belonging to a subpopulation characterized by resilience. Practical and policy implications are related to the importance of understanding the relationship between victimization, mental health, perceived facility climate factors, and self-determination. Identification of the relationships between risk and resilience can then be used to develop specific interventions to promote youth's self-determination and mental health, and to improve their confinement conditions. Two primary types of scholarly products will be developed. The first is a peer reviewed journal article targeted at researchers who will hopefully build on the findings of this project to investigate tailored self-determination and mental health interventions that can be designed to improve outcomes for incarcerated youth through changing facets of facility climate. The second scholarly product will be a journal article targeted to professionals who work in juvenile justice settings.

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<b>2015-CK-BX-0007</b>	<b>A Multiple Perspectives Analysis of the Influences on the School-to-Prison Pipeline in Virginia</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$914,241</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

We propose a systematic analysis of existing data in Virginia to explore how the school to prison pipeline is activated, and to conduct qualitative research to explore in-depth case studies of how the pipeline has been avoided. A recent study by the Center for Public Integrity highlighted the number of students who are referred to law enforcement from schools, and found that 15.8 students per 1,000 in Virginia were referred to law enforcement. Our partners, the Virginia Departments of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), Juvenile Justice (DJJ), and Education (DOE) have existing data sets that directly address characteristics and influences on



the STPP. DCJS has statewide, building-level data on threat assessment, a secondary-school climate survey, and a School Safety Audit; DOE has Discipline, Crime and Violence (DCV) data; and DJJ has juvenile court referral information. The DCV dataset has never been systematically analyzed, and there has been no analysis across the datasets to establish linkages among them. We propose systematic analysis of all the data that has been collected, in an effort to understand how the school to prison pipeline is activated. This will involve multiple regressions and path analyses to determine influences. Further, we believe that a comprehensive understanding of the school to prison pipeline in Virginia requires analysis of qualitative information. We propose conducting interviews, case studies, and document analysis as part of this research. This qualitative component will help us understand how successful schools have avoided facilitating entry into the school to prison pipeline. It will also help us to identify factors that contribute to decision-making at settings that are less successful and serve as pipeline pathways. Our expectation is that this analysis of existing data and of schools practices, policies and procedures will contribute significantly to the knowledge base on better alternatives for supporting students and managing problematic behavior in schools. We anticipate publishing the findings in scholarly journal and practitioner outlets, leading training workshops, and giving professional presentations. Consistent with the RFP, we will prepare a draft and final summary overview of research results, as well as interim and final progress and financial reports. We will archive the research data with National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) in accordance with our Data Archiving Plan. We would welcome an opportunity to present finding from the research projects through one of the NIJ's dissemination vehicles, such as a webinar, on-site presentation, and/or NIJ publication.

<b>2015-JF-FX-0145</b>	<b>An Examination of the Link between Gang Involvement and Victimization among Youth in Residential Placement</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Institute for Intergovernmental Research</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Goals and Objectives:** The purpose of this study is to examine (1) the relationship between placement in a juvenile residential facility and gang involvement; and (2) the relationship between gang involvement and victimization in juvenile justice residential facilities. **Study Sample:** Data are drawn from the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement (SYRP), a cross-sectional survey of a nationally representative sample of 7,073 youth in custody in 2003. In this sample, the unweighted prevalence of gang membership prior to confinement (at the time of the offense) is approximately 30 percent, while the unweighted prevalence of gang involvement in the residential facility is 21.5 percent. More than half of the sample reported at least one form of victimization while in custody (theft, robbery, physical assault, or sexual assault). **Research Design and Methods:** Given the disparate number of gang-involved youth in the community setting (prior to residential placement) and during incarceration, research is needed to understand these changes in gang involvement. This study will explore what

individual and facility characteristics are related to different patterns of gang involvement (i.e., desistance from gang involvement upon placement, new involvement upon placement, and continued involvement across both settings). In addition, this study will explore the relationship between these patterns of gang involvement and victimization among youth in custody. The goal of these analyses is to determine whether gang involvement is indeed a risk factor for victimization in residential placement, as is seen in community samples, or whether it serves as a protective factor, as youth often believe. Products and Reports: The results of this work will be pertinent to public policy and juvenile justice practice and will result in at least one manuscript, which will be submitted to a high-quality academic journal for publication. The broad dissemination plan also involves presenting the findings at both academic and practitioner-oriented conferences and dissemination by the National Gang Center through its newsletters and research bulletins. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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## H: Family Violence

<b>2010-IJ-CX-0021:</b>	<b>A National Profile of Children Exposed to Family Violence: Police Response, Family Response and Individual Impact</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of New Hampshire</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$400,572</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This study involves interviews with caregivers and children about the experiences of a nationally representative sample of 525 children all of whom have been exposed to family violence in the previous year, including about 140 in which the episode was known to police. The key goals of the study are to: 1) Describe the law enforcement response, service system response and family response to the episodes of family violence as they relate to the exposed children; 2) Analyze the children's and caregiving parents judgment about the positive and negative features of law enforcement and service system response; 3) Analyze from a developmental perspective whether law enforcement, service system and family system responses were associated with higher or lower levels of current distress among the exposed children. This study capitalizes on a unique opportunity to piggy-back onto an existing large study about crime and victimization in the lives of a nationally representative sample of 4500 children and youth. The questionnaire will cover information on the response of the justice system, social service system and family system to the episodes as well as children and caregivers evaluative judgments about the these responses.

### **Product: NCJ# 248577**

#### **National Profile of Children Exposed to Family Violence: Police Response, Family Response, and Individual Impact**

The National Profile of Children Exposed to Family Violence: Police Response, Family Response and Individual Impact study provides the first nationally representative data on youth contact

with law enforcement and victim services – including best practices and help-seeking obstacles – for cases of family violence involving exposure to children. These data come from a nationally representative sample of 517 family violence incidents drawn from the 4,503 respondents to the Second National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV II). The NatSCEV study, conducted in 2011, involved telephone interviews with parents of children age 0-9 and with youths age 10-17. Between 13%-58% of law enforcement contacts, and between 34%-97% of advocate contacts, following domestic violence incidents involving a child witness included actions from one or more of 10 best practices. Most law enforcement best practices were associated with increased likelihood of arrest. Almost half of children witnessed an arrest when one occurred, though only 1 in 4 youth were spoken to by police responding to the scene. Youth exposed to domestic violence, as a group, have higher rates of other victimizations and adversities. Although this group reports elevated trauma symptoms, the characteristics of a specific domestic violence incident and the response to that incident by police were generally unrelated to youth's current trauma symptoms after controlling for history of victimization and other adversities. However, child current trauma symptoms were lowest when perpetrators left the house after the incident, followed by when no one moved out, and were highest when the victim moved out. Child witnesses to family violence are a highly victimized group, and it is recommended that they systematically receive assessment and services when any member of their family enters the system due to family violence.

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<b>2010-IJ-CX-0022:</b>	<b>Impact of Legal Representatives on Child Custody Decisions among Families with History of Intimate Partner Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Washington</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$844,297</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center and the University of Washington's School of Public Health, will conduct a collaborative research study to examine the impact of legal representation on child custody and visitation decisions in marital dissolutions between spouses with a history of intimate partner violence (IPV). The governmental agencies providing cooperative support for this project include the Seattle Police Departments Domestic Violence Unit (SPD DVU), Washington State Office of the Administrator for the Courts (OAC), and King County Superior Court (KCSC) and Kent Regional Justice Center (RJC). A retrospective cohort study will be conducted among King County couples with minor children filing for marriage dissolution with the King County Superior Court (KCSC) or Kent Regional Justice Center (RJC) between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2010 who have a history of police- or court-documented IPV. Specifically, a complete list of all such cases filed at the KCSC in Seattle, Washington or the RJC in Kent, Washington between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2010 available from the OAC SCOMIS database, will comprise the initial eligible pool from which the study sample will be drawn. Also examined will be the two-year period post-decree among the subset of cases with filings between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2009 for post-decree court proceedings indicative of continued child custody/visitation disputes. Using propensity score matching, both civil paid (n=500) and pro bono/legal aid (n=250) represented cases will be matched with pro se cases (n=750) for a total sample size of 1,500 cases. This study is designed to address the critical gap in IPV and legal representation research through

accomplishing these specific aims: 1. To describe the prevalence of legal representation (both paid civil representation and pro bono/legal aid representation) among IPV victims undergoing marriage dissolution involving children during a ten-year period in a population-based sample of marriage dissolutions; 2. To estimate the effect of legal representation, both globally (any legal representation) and by pay or status (paid civil vs. pro bono/legal aid) on child custody and visitation outcomes and post-dissolution child custody and visitation disputes including the proportion of couples for whom: 1) visitation is denied to the abusing parent, 2) supervised visitation between the abusing parent and the child(ren) is ordered, 3) restrictions are placed on the abusing parent's child visitation, 4) treatment program completion is a prerequisite to the abusing parent's child visitation, and 5) sole decision-making is awarded to the non-IPV-abusing parent. 3. To estimate the effect of legal representation on the following set of secondary outcomes: 1) court order of professional supervision of visitation, 2) court order that future dispute resolution to be conducted only through the court, 3) prohibition of overnight visitation by the abusing parent, 5) formal court findings of IPV, 6) post-decree child custody/visitation disputes, and 7) primary residential parent status is awarded to the abusing parent (adverse outcome).

Product: NCJ# 248886

Final Report of the "Impact of Legal Representation on Child Custody Decisions Among Families With a History of Intimate Partner Violence Study"

The overall finding is that attorney representation of IPV victims, particularly by legal-aid attorneys with expertise in IPV cases, resulted in greater protections being awarded to the IPV victims and their children. The study found that in cases where a parent who was an IPV victim had legal representation, the abusive parent was 85 percent more likely to be denied child visitation, and was 77 percent more likely to have restrictions or conditions placed on the abusive parent's child visitation. Also, in the subset of cases in which the abusive parent was awarded visitation, 47 percent were more likely to have treatment or program completion ordered for the abusive parent. These cases were also 46 percent more likely to award sole decisionmaking to the victim parent. This was a retrospective cohort study conducted among King County (Washington) couples with minor children who filed for marriage dissolution between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2010. Only those couples who had a history of police- or court-documented IPV were included in the study. The effect of legal representation of the IPV victim was examined separately according to whether the victim parent was represented by a legal aid attorney or a private attorney. A comparison group of unrepresented abused parents was matched to represented subjects.

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<b>2012-IJ-CX-0045:</b>	<b>Criminal Protection Orders as a Critical Strategy to Reduce Domestic Violence: The Impact of Orders on Victims' Well-Being, Offenders' Behavior, and Children's Contact with Offending Fathers</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Yale University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$753,081</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>



Criminal protection orders are a critical tool to enhance the safety and protection of victims of domestic violence (DV). They are issued frequently, but, limited research exists to elucidate the process and outcomes of these orders. Only two NIJ studies in the last 15 years focused explicitly on criminal orders. Further, research on civil orders cannot be relied on to inform practice and policy for criminal orders given the vast differences in their processes and implications. To ensure the safety and wellbeing of victims and their children, there is a critical need for research to (a) elucidate the process of criminal orders as a critical strategy to reduce DV, (b) increase knowledge about how criminal orders influence the daily lives of women, are associated with offender behavior, and impact children's contact with offending fathers, and (c) disseminate findings broadly to key audiences. This project was developed and will be conducted via strong, existing collaborations between a researcher and two criminal justice system practitioners (separately representing victim and offender services). Goal 1, Victims: To increase knowledge about how criminal orders affect victims' safety and wellbeing. Objectives aim to (a) provide descriptive information about victims wellbeing subsequent to their partners arraignment and (b) compare wellbeing among victims grouped on two dimensions of orders, (1) the extent to which orders are issued at a more restrictive level than requested by victims and (2) the extent to which orders affect daily living, and (c) determine if offender and victim characteristics moderate the differences. Goal 2, Offenders: To increase knowledge about how criminal orders, in combination with offender programming, affect offender behavior. in order to identify level of order and type of programming associated with the lowest rates of revictimization and recidivism, and if offender and victim characteristics moderate the differences. Goal 3, Children: To increase knowledge about how criminal orders affect children's contact in cases where offenders are the fathers of victims' children. Objectives aim to (a) identify the proportion of victims who seek civil orders to protect their children and if differences exist by level of criminal order requested or issued, and (b) for residential stay-away or full no-contact order, to gather information about contact with the offending father. A mixed-method, design will be used to gather quantitative and qualitative data from 300 women recruited from the state's office of the victim advocate and the community. Straified random sampling procedures will be used to secure a diverse sample from the office of the victim advocate files. Participants will be victims in a DV case with a male partner arraigned months prior to study entry. The sample is expected to be 47% white, 37% African American, 14% Latino, and 2% from other or unknown racial/ethnic groups. Victims will self-report all data via interview. The state criminal justice system will provide additional quantitative data. Data collection is expected to take 27 months. Descriptive statistics will be used to elucidate the phenomenon of criminal orders and inferential statistics (e.g., linear and non-linear regression) will examine study objectives. Qualitative data will be transcribed, coded, analyzed, and interpreted using NVivo 9 software.

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<b>2013-VA-CX-0044:</b>	<b>Intimate Partner Violence and Custody Decisions: A Randomized Controlled Trial of Outcomes from Family Court, Shuttle Mediation, or Videoconferencing Mediation</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Trustees of the University of Indiana</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$763,686</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The proposed study is a randomized control trial of family mediation cases with intimate partner violence. If the parties agree to study participation, these cases will be randomly assigned to one of three study conditions: traditional court based litigation, shuttle mediation, or videoconferencing mediation. An IPV screen, administered at mediation intake, will be used to examine IPV level and determine study eligibility. It is estimated that there will be 75 mediation cases per study condition. The study will be conducted at a metropolitan court within a dispute resolution division. Immediate outcome measures include: 1) data coded from divorce decrees and mediation agreements, regarding resolution of disputed issues; 2) party self-reports of satisfaction and perceptions of process and outcomes; and 3) for mediation cases, mediators report regarding process and outcome. One-year outcomes, coded from court records, include: 1) number and nature of legal motions filed; and 2) evidence of continuing IPV. Demographic information will be gathered to describe the sample, determine if randomization was successful, and predict outcomes. A follow-up survey will be sent to all participants to examine continuation of IPV, self-reported outcomes, and self-reported satisfaction with mediation method. For exploratory purposes, court records for cases that refuse study participation will be coded, providing a non-randomized court comparison sample. After conducting measurement models of IPV and outcome variables to create theory- and statistically-based latent measures of constructs from multiple measures, data analyses will be conducted to test analyses. Cost-benefit analyses will be conducted.

<b>2014-IJ-CX-0018:</b>	<b>State Laws on Child Custody Related to Judges' and Custody Evaluators' Recommendations in Cases of Intimate Partner Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Regents of the University of Michigan</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$37,532</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Serious harm can occur to intimate partner violence (IPV) survivors and their children as a result of family court decisions. Offenders may be able to continue their abuse of ex-partners and their children due to inadequate supervised visitation arrangements or custody of children may be awarded to a violent parent. Only one study has investigated the role of state laws in relation to the recommendations of professionals in these cases and only six states were involved. The purpose of this study is conduct further analysis of a recent, N IJ sponsored national survey of professionals to help better understand the relation between state statutes and professionals' recommendations for custody and visitation in IPV cases. The web-based and mailed survey yielded usable surveys from 465 custody evaluators and 200 judges in 46 states. In addition to reporting their experiences with custody cases involving IPV and their beliefs about custody and IPV, respondents answered questions about a case vignette involving serious, coercive-controlling violence. Respondents also reported on knowledge they had acquired on IPV, the number of survivors they had known, and their work setting, education, and other demographics. The interval level measures showed good to excellent reliability and validity. A bivariate analysis of the possible impact of state laws on the practice of custody evaluators was conducted for the following provisions: 1) Cooperative/friendly parent provision; 2) Presumption of joint custody in general; 3) Restrictions on mediation in IPV cases; 4) Mandated IPV training for mediators/attorneys; 5) Mandated IPV training for evaluators; 6) Mandated IPV training for judges; 7) Opt out or barring of parenting coordinators; 8) IPV given

extra weight in determining the best interest of the child; 9) Presumption that abuser will not get custody; 10) A parent who kills the other parent does not get custody. This study will use multivariate analysis with sets of variables used to control for other statutes, background, training, demographics, beliefs and other variables. The multivariate analysis will be able to handle dichotomous predictor variables and dichotomous and interval level control variables. The distribution of samples across the states with and without particular statutes provides sufficient samples sizes in all groups for the analysis. The findings of this study will have implications for policy reform on a national level. Findings will be published in professional journals and online newsletters.

<b>2014-IJ-CX-0025:</b>	<b>Family Instability and Exposure to Violence in Childhood and Adolescence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Texas at Austin</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$39,517</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Two contemporary social trends in the U.S. the growing instability in children's family structures, the continuing exposure of many children to violence in their homes and neighborhoods are each the subject of significant attention from researchers, policymakers, and the public at large. Yet, they are rarely connected to each other in empirical research, even though such research can expand understanding of why family instability is a source of inequality, elucidate the etiology of violence and its deleterious effects on young people, and shed light on the ramifications of other potential social crises (e.g., the effects of mass incarceration on families, growing inequality by race and social class). The purpose of this proposed project is to leverage extant data from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN) and federal data bases (e.g., U.S. Census) to examine the degree to which past and contemporaneous family structure changes predict greater and increasing exposure to violence among children and adolescents. The conceptual model to be tested elaborates on this basic longitudinal association in several ways, including by: 1) measuring family instability by changes in parents, partnership statuses but also more broadly through the movement of other adults and children through the home, 2) exploring how parental incarceration predicts exposure to violence indirectly through family instability as well as more directly, 3) assessing the variability in links among family instability, parental incarceration, and exposure to violence by race, poverty, age, and gender, and 4) examining such variability across neighborhoods differing in social disadvantages and cultural resources. The PHDCN includes three waves of child, parent, and community data for multiple cohorts (ages 3, 6, 9, 12, and 15 to be used here; n = 16% White, 35% African American, 45% Latino/a, 4% other race/ethnicity). These data will be analyzed through lagged and cross-lagged structural equation modeling linked to other techniques designed to improve causal inference in the face of observable confounds (e.g., propensity score weighting) and unobservable confounds (e.g., fixed effects, robustness indices). Three manuscripts will be produced for submission to peer-reviewed journals, with policy briefs, press releases, and teaching resources linked to each one.

<b>2014-MU-CX-0859:</b>	<b>Child Custody Outcomes in Cases Involving Parental Alienation and Abuse Allegations</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The George Washington University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$501,791</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Arguably the most troubling aspect of justice system response to intimate partner violence is custody courts' failure to protect children when mothers allege the father is abusive. Family courts' errors in assessing adult and child abuse, and punitive responses to abuse allegations, have been widely documented. A significant contributor to these errors is the pseudo-scientific theory of parental alienation. Originally termed parental alienation syndrome (PAS), the theory suggests that when mothers allege that a child is not safe with the father, they are doing so illegitimately, to alienate the child from the father. PA labeling often results in dismissal of women's and children's reports of abuse, and sometimes trumps even expert child abuse evaluations. PAS was explicitly based on negative stereotypes of mothers and has been widely discredited. However, the term parental alienation is still widely used in ways that are virtually identical to PAS. However, because PA is nominally gender neutral (and not called a scientific syndrome) it continues to have substantial credibility in court. The first goal of this Project is to ascertain whether empirical evidence indicates that parental alienation is also gender-biased in practice and outcome. Drawing from courts' own reports of facts, findings, and outcomes, such research could powerfully inform advocates and the courts regarding the validity or invalidity of relying on parental alienation to strip mothers of their children and potentially subject children to ongoing abuse. Second, inspired by some tentative findings, the study seeks to explore outcomes in custody/abuse litigation by gender and by differing types of abuse. The study relies solely on electronically available published opinions in child custody cases; to date we have identified 240 involving alienation and alienation plus abuse. We seek to expand the database to include non-alienation abuse cases as a comparison, and to address additional questions about custody/abuse adjudications. The Principal Investigator, Joan Meier, Professor of Clinical Law at GW Law School, will be supported by consultants Chris O'Sullivan, PhD, Leora Rosen, PhD, Sean Dickson, MPH, Esq., and the Institute for Women's Policy Research. First year - collect data set of opinions coded by relevant factors; second year - perform statistical analyses; third year - develop scholarly publications and practice tools. The Project will also produce an invaluable database identifying 15 years of published cases involving alienation, abuse, and custody while coding parties claims and defenses, outcomes, and other key factors by gender and parental status.

<b>2015-VA-CX-0073:</b>	<b>Interdisciplinary Evaluation of Child Custody Decision-making among IPV Families</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Washington</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$697,120</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

**Goals and Objectives:** The major aim of this study is to examine the involvement of custody evaluators and corroborating evidence of a history of parental intimate partner violence (IPV)



for their potential contribution to increasing protections awarded in child custody and visitation orders and lessening rates of post-dissolution IPV and child abuse. Subjects: This study will involve a sample of King County, WA couples with minor children filing for marriage dissolution between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2010 who have a history of police- or court-documented intimate partner violence (IPV) preceding the filing date of the marriage dissolution. A complete sampling of custody cases with a history of IPV and a custody evaluation will be performed. Cases with a custody evaluation will be matched via propensity score techniques to comparison group cases without a custody evaluation. Propensity score matching will also be used for corroborating IPV evidence study groups, if deemed necessary. Research Design and Methods: A retrospective cohort study will be conducted to accomplish study aims. Data collection will involve the use of existing police and court electronic data as well as extensive data collected from dissolution case files. Study groups will be assessed for covariate balance, and propensity score matching will be used for independent variables with insufficient covariate balance. The goals of this study will benefit from the substantial efforts of an NIJ-sponsored parent study designed, using propensity score matching, to examine the effect of legal representation of the IPV victim on child custody and visitation decisions. The parent study will provide approximately half of the custody evaluation cases and all the comparison group cases needed to accomplish study aims, and the infrastructure for successful, accurate data collection and efficient production of working datasets. The results from this project will help to inform US policy regarding the degree to which child custody evaluations and corroborating evidence of IPV history contribute to greater protections being awarded in child custody arrangements and the degree to which these protections lead to lower rates of IPV and child abuse following marriage dissolution among this high risk population. Analysis: Multiple logistic, robust Poisson and Cox regression analyses will be conducted on the full or propensity score-matched samples. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: Study deliverables will include study data, interim and final reports, peer-reviewed manuscripts, dissemination of findings at professional scientific meetings and to stakeholders regionally, nationally and globally. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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## **I: Trafficking in Persons (Minors)**

<b>2010-IJ-CX-1674:</b>	<b>Estimating the Unlawful Commercial Sex Economy in the United States</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Urban Institute</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$499,036</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Research is desperately needed to 1) study the size and scope of the unlawful commercial sex economy (UCSE) in the U.S. and explore the extent to which the UCSE and other commercial sex activities are related. This study relies on a multi-method approach using both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect data and estimate the size of the unlawful sex economy in the U.S and assess the ties across different types of activities in the UCSE. The proposed technique builds upon the theoretical and technical foundations used to estimate the size of other illicit

economies and adapted to extant research on the activities that comprise the other unlawful commercial sex economies (sex trafficking, prostitution, and child pornography). This technique represents a top-down approach that will use data on total cash spending derived from federal data bases to first estimate the total unlawful economy and then determine the portion of the unlawful economy due to unlawful commercial sex, illegal weapons, illegal drugs, or other means (including both legal uses and other illegal uses such as under-the-table employment). The Urban Institute (UI's) Justice Policy Center (JPC), in collaboration with the City University of New York John Jay College of Criminal Justice, will test this method in six cities over a five year time period (2002 to 2007). To examine ties across different activities in the UCSE, the team will conduct a network analysis informed by interviews with convicted traffickers, prostitutes and pornographers at the federal, state and local levels and police investigators. These interviews will also explore the known nature and extent of the UCSE as well as probe for any connections between traffickers, pornographers and prostitutes as well as connections between the illegal sex, gun and drug markets. The result of the quantitative and qualitative data collection efforts will be an aggregate estimate of the unlawful economy and its sub economies supported by qualitative insights and experience of local law enforcement and convicted offenders. The proposed research design will provide answers to the following questions: 1) How does the UCSE operate? and 2) What is the role of social networks in the UCSE?

**Product: NCJ# 245295**

**Estimating the Size and Structure of the Underground Commercial Sex Economy in Eight Major US Cities**

The study estimates that the UCSE in the eight cities studied ranged from \$39.9 to \$290 million in 2007. In five of the cities, the size of the UCSE decreased between 2003 and 2007. There does not appear to be any connection between weapons trafficking and the UCSE in any of the eight cities, the overlap with drug trafficking varied by UCSE venue. In five of the study sites, gang involvement in sex trafficking and prostitution seems to be increasing. Pimps travel in circuits and use social networks to facilitate the transportation of employees to various locations for work. Pimps and sex workers both cited socioeconomic conditions as prominent in their becoming involved in the sex industry. Pimps use various forms of coercion and fraud in recruiting, managing, and retaining control over employees. The widespread availability of the Internet has expanded the reach of the sex market for both recruitment and advertisement. Across sites, criminal justice stakeholders believed that the UCSE was much larger than they were able to investigate due to resource constraints, lack of political will, or minimal public awareness of the prevalence of UCSE crimes. Child pornography was found to be an escalating problem. For offenders (production, distribution, and possession), the prevalence of online child pornography reinforces and normalizes child pornography offenses. Due to resource limitations, the least technologically sophisticated offenders are most likely to be detected. Based on study findings, 14 policy and practice implications are drawn. The study used a multi-method approach that involved both qualitative and quantitative data. The eight cities are San Diego, Seattle, Dallas, Denver, Washington, DC, Kansas City, Atlanta, and Miami.

**2012-IJ-CX-0025: Addressing Under-Reporting of Minor Victim Sex Trafficking in Illinois**  
**Grantee: Research Triangle Institute**  
**Amount: \$370,000**  
**Status: Ongoing**

This study will address the underreporting of minor victim trafficking by describing the number of trafficked minors identified by two of the systems most likely to encounter them law enforcement and child welfare and documenting lessons learned as the child welfare system builds capacity to meet the challenges of the only enacted statewide legislation in conformance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. Specific objectives include describing the number and characteristics of trafficked minors referred to the child welfare system by law enforcement or identified among current child welfare wards; statistically assessing the potential underreporting of trafficking within the child welfare system; describing the characteristics of sex and labor trafficked minors in terms of demographics, prior and current involvement with child welfare and juvenile justice, referral source, and geographic factors; and describing perspectives of leaders and organizations on the systems change process. Data for the study consist of de-identified administrative data from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for all minors referred to the agency by law enforcement and other sources over 1.5 years, with a separate sample representing all wards at a single point in time as a validation sample. Analytic methods include logistic regression, propensity score matching and latent class models, and systematic qualitative analysis. This study will yield data on minor victim trafficking that can be used by practitioners, policymakers, and researchers. It will generate statewide data that significantly improve on the estimates currently available, including the number and characteristics of minors identified as trafficked or as being at risk of trafficking. Findings will support empirically informed recommendations for service development, program planning, and policymaking within the fields of criminal justice, child welfare, and juvenile justice at federal, state, local, and tribal levels.

**2012-R2-CX-0028: Sex Trafficking and Gangs in the San Diego/Tijuana Border Region Area**  
**Grantee: University of San Diego**  
**Amount: \$478,806**  
**Status: Completed**

This project focuses specifically on one of the most under-studied aspects of human trafficking, the relationship between gangs and human trafficking. This project measures the nature and extent of gang involvement in human trafficking by gathering data from four sources: victims who get assistance in social service agencies in San Diego County, non-public law enforcement incidence and arrest records, persons identified as trafficking victims and perpetrators at San Diego middle and high schools, and traffickers themselves. Analysis of these data sets for congruencies and inconsistencies by comparison to a standardized screening tool will lead to recommendations for improvements in screening for human trafficking victims in both social service agencies and law enforcement. The researchers have gained access to key data from 115 schools in San Diego County. This project also builds on a years worth of fieldwork and relationships with gang members to collect ethnographic evidence of the scope of human

trafficking from the facilitators of human trafficking themselves. The project plans to include a snowball sample of a minimum of 30 facilitators of human trafficking to determine the relationship between gangs and trafficking. Data from these interviews will be used to inform the current profile of the scope of human trafficking in San Diego County as well as to determine avenues for future research. This project seeks to lay the foundation for a system of integrated data collection mechanisms across San Diego County and serve as a model for what other regions could put in place. The San Diego County Human Trafficking and CSEC Advisory Council will have the opportunity to use the projects data to create an informed response for which a future project can then assess the effectiveness of that response.

### **Supplemental Award:**

The objective of this project is to: build and pilot a methodology for a social-media based human terrain study of gangs operating in San Diego, Tijuana, Honduras and El Salvador designed to generate insights on to gang activities including, but not limited to, sex trafficking. The project has two goals. First, the project will produce a social media-based human terrain study examining gangs operating in San Diego, Tijuana, Honduras and El Salvador. The study will include enumerating communities, key communicators, key messages, and mapping boundary conditions including themes, memes, and criteria for a broader pattern of life analysis of gang and gang communities. Second, the project will identify key indicators that can be tracked over time and that can provide relevant insights on gang activity, membership, motivations, recruitment patterns, etc., and specifically those that can be identified or linked to sex trafficking. The project will build upon SecDev's previous work in large-scale social media collection, analysis, and modeling focused on high-risk actors. The overall project research design will employ a spiral approach in which each activity/phase will follow a sequence of plan, act and observe, and reflect. Collection and analysis of social media data will be accomplished through the use of two complementary methods: very large-scale conversation mapping and geotemporal monitoring. The project will inform policy through new insights on gangs, gang culture, and gang activity observable through large-scale social media analysis. Additionally, the project will enhance operational practice and effectiveness by developing relevant and trackable key indicators that complement existing intelligence on gang activity, and can enhance counter-gang activities including policing and early intervention with at-risk communities, with specific reference to sex trafficking. Key indicators will be built into web browser-based dashboards capturing relevant law enforcement PIR/CIRs.

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<b>2014-R2-CX-0005:</b>	<b>Evaluation of a Service Provision Program for Victims of Sex Trafficking</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Trustees of Boston University, BUMC</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$728,467</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The proposed research is an impact and cost effectiveness evaluation of the My Life My Choice (MLMC) program. MLMC provides services to approximately 40 unique survivors of domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST) each year. MLMC also provides 10-session Sexual Exploitation Prevention groups to youth at-risk for DMST (~400 youth per year). MLMC clients are 99% female, 80% are youth of color. All youth in this evaluation will be 14-17 years old. This research

is important because DMST is prevalent, consequential and costly, but the U.S. lacks sufficient evidence-based, cost-effective programs to provide DMST prevention and intervention services. We will investigate whether the MLMC program is effective, and if so, what aspects of the program appear to drive the success, and the cost of providing the program per participant. We will also explore whether the program benefits some youth (such as those who are highly engaged with MLMC services) more than for others. The relevance of the proposed research to human trafficking policy, practice and theory is that it will provide new evidence about whether it is possible to prevent at-risk youth from being trafficked domestically within a year of prevention group services, and whether the theoretical basis of MLMC (i.e., resilience theory, mentorship) produces successful results for minors who have been trafficked. The cost-effectiveness data will be particularly useful for determining if it is worthwhile for the U.S. to invest in such programs. The research design will be quasi-experimental, longitudinal, and mixed methods. We will compare outcomes for those who receive both a "high dose" and a "low dose" of MLMC services. We will also compare outcomes for youth who are in the survivor advocacy services group and for youth who are in the at-risk prevention group. We will follow all youth from baseline to 12 months with a six month interim assessment. We will also interview a randomly selected subset of MLMC participants in order to get qualitative information about DMST experiences and service needs. The proposed impact evaluation and cost-effectiveness study is novel because, to our knowledge, MLMC is the only agency in the U.S. that is currently providing both survivor advocacy and prevention programming for DMST. A cost-effectiveness evaluation of a DMST program has never been carried out previously. The research team is ideally prepared and highly qualified to carry out the proposed project, as they are experts in the conduct of research on highly sensitive topics with youth, in program evaluation, and violence-related program cost effectiveness analyses. In the first year, we will accomplish the following: (1) IRB approval and privacy certificate approval (2) Hiring of research assistant; research assistant training (3) Preliminary preparatory meeting with the New Jersey and Boston sites (to prepare for participant recruitment) (4) Establish tracking system and database for cost effectiveness analysis (5) Recruit and collect quantitative data from 180 participants (baseline); this breaks down to 165 from the secondary prevention group, and 15 from the tertiary prevention group (6) Collect six month follow-up data from an anticipated 120-180 participants (7) Collect qualitative data from 40 participants (8) Two Advisory Board meetings.

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<b>2015-MU-MU-0009:</b>	<b>Sex Trafficking of Minors: The Impact of Legislative Reform and Judicial Decision Making in Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Communities</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Kentucky Research Foundation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$570,150</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

There has been a growing push to pass state safe harbor laws to align governmental and community responses to the reframing of the issue of sex trafficking of minors (STM) that was ushered in with the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). Scant empirical research has been conducted to evaluate the impact of legislative responses to sex trafficking of minors. Moreover, the judiciary has been largely ignored in most of the research on STM. The proposed mixed-methods project has four aims: (1) Evaluate changes in key agency personnel's awareness, knowledge, and capacity for responding to STM, including trends in charges of human trafficking offenses involving victims who are minors, from pre-implementation to post-implementation of a safe harbor law in one jurisdictional condition; (2)

Examine the impact of immunity, protective, and rehabilitative provisions of a safe harbor law; (3) Provide guidance on how juvenile and family judges' knowledge and attitudes influence their responses to trafficking victims as witnesses and as defendants in crimes related to their trafficking victimization within metropolitan and non-metropolitan communities; and (4) Identify and disseminate policy, education, and practice strategies that support informed judicial decision-making in family and juvenile court cases involving youth exploited in commercial sex. A formal partnership with a survivor who serve as a consultant will inform all aspects of the study to maximize credibility, utility, and relevance of findings. Qualitative and quantitative data will be collected from multiple sources: (1) telephone-administered interviews with 375 professionals who work in agencies that serve at risk youth and/or crime victims/offenders, including secondary data analysis of interview data collected pre-implementation of the safe harbor law; (2) statewide secondary aggregate data on criminal charges of human trafficking and prostitution of juveniles from 2007-2018; and (3) face-to-face and telephone interviews with 50 family and juvenile court judges from metropolitan and non-metropolitan communities across the project state and the U.S. This study will provide recommendations for legislative reform and policy implementation based on evaluation of effectiveness of the immunity, protection, and rehabilitative elements a state safe harbor law. Further, the identification of and dissemination of policy, education, and practice strategies that support informed judicial decision-making in cases of sex trafficking of minors will make a substantial contribution to the court system. In addition to reports and scholarly journal articles, dissemination of major findings will target diverse practitioner, policy maker, and lay audiences with multiple research translational products. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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## **I: Teen Dating Violence**

<b>2010-MU-FX-0005:</b>	<b>An Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy to Dating Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Advocates for Human Potential, Inc.</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$300,009</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

While there is growing recognition of the prevalence of dating violence and its serious short- and long-term impacts, counter measures are still in their infancy. A number of states have, or are currently considering, expanding civil orders of protection (OPs), a helpful response to adult intimate partner violence, to allow juvenile victims to directly secure orders. Advocates and research both suggest that most juvenile victims of dating violence do not discuss their situation with their parents, and parents are therefore unlikely to secure OPs on a child's behalf even if state law allows them to do so. In July, 2008 the New York State Legislature enacted a juvenile-initiated OP reform statute, which provides an excellent opportunity to examine this cutting edge policy issue. The goal of the proposed research is to increase our understanding of juvenile OPs by developing a comprehensive portrait of their use in New York, the extent and patterns of re-abuse when they are used, and the factors related to their under-utilization (to date) by teen victims. The specific aims are: 1) to provide a detailed description of the use of

juvenile OPs, including who is securing them, against whom, and for what; 2) to determine the courts' response to these OPs, including the specific stipulations imposed; 3) to determine the rate of OP violations or other re-abuse reported to police as well as the victim, offender, incident, and order characteristics that are associated with re-abuse up to two years after the order was first obtained; and 4) to explore with young people across the state in greater depth their perspective about the use of civil OPs. The quantitative part of the study will be accomplished by merging state data on OPs initiated by petitioners aged 12-18 years across New York State in 2009 and 2010 (approximately 700) with data on order violations, new orders taken out by petitioners for new dating violence, and police incident reports filed across the state in 2011 for abuse involving the same parties. Qualitative research will include two samples: 1) a statewide sample of juveniles (N=120) representative of the broad diversity of New York's youth, to focus on why these orders are underutilized and how to improve awareness, access, and the details of the orders of protection available to juveniles to better meet their unique circumstances; and 2) a more targeted and opportunistic sample of juveniles (N=48) referred for, or seeking help for dating violence from the only New York City specialty legal services program addressing this issue (Day One) to focus on their actual experience accessing and utilizing protective orders. In completing the proposed research, the lead agency, Advocates for Human Potential, will partner with the New York Division of Criminal Justice Services, which will provide the quantitative data sets, and with the Cornell University Family Life Development Center and Day One, which have extensive experience assembling teen focus groups.

**Product: NCJ# 242131**

**Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy for Dating Violence**

The findings suggest that OPs potentially constitute an important tool for protection from perpetrators of dating violence; however, without an accompanying network of supportive adults, including parents and school personnel, the expanded use of OPs as a strategy for preventing teen dating violence will remain limited. The study found that the implementation of New York's 2008 law that allows teens to obtain OPs as a remedy for dating violence is a "work in progress." Even the lowest estimates of teen dating violence (9.4 percent involving physical abuse) far exceed the number of OPs (1,200) requested for dating violence in the 2 years of study. Focus groups of teens at risk for dating violence found that teens were unfamiliar with the expanded law. In addition, the user group (teens who obtained OPs to prevent dating violence) formed for this study reported substantial barriers in obtaining orders, including being called "snitches" by their peers, fears that OPs would not restrain perpetrators, and ambivalence about undermining the abusive relationship. Most teens received only one or two temporary orders that lasted a month or so. Likely due to this limited duration, few respondents were charged with violating the orders; however, an analysis of arrest and police incident reports, as well as new petitions obtained by study petitioners, indicated that just over 25 percent of the respondents re-abused their victims from 1 to 3 years after the initial petition. Risk for re-abuse was associated with respondents being male, having a prior criminal record, and being a year or more older than their victims.

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<b>2010-MU-MU-0008:</b>	<b>A Dating Violence Prevention Program for Each Grade in Middle School: A Longitudinal Multi-Level Experiment</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>National Opinion Research Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$807,256</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The goal of the proposed research is to reduce dating violence and sexual harassment (DV/H) among middle school students through the provision and rigorous scientific evaluation of developmentally appropriate DV/H curricula. In a sample of 7,200 middle school students in 240 randomly selected classrooms from 50 New York City (NYC) public schools, the research team will test the effectiveness of grade-differentiated DV/H prevention curricula, conducting a baseline and five follow-up surveys to assess short-term environmental impact; intermediate changes in knowledge, norms, attitudes, and intentions; and long term impact on rates of DV/H. These data will be supplemented with qualitative data from staff and student focus groups and key informant interviews with school administrators. The gender-balanced sample of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students represents NYC middle schools, the racial makeup of which is 37% Hispanic, 35% black, 14% Asian, and 14% white. Classrooms will be randomly assigned to one of four treatment conditions, with a fifth group of ten classrooms serving as the control group. Through a randomized control trial (RCT) over the course of nearly two years, the researchers will investigate (1) whether and how much of a difference it makes when all three middle school grades receive a set of DV/H interventions compared to when only two grades or only one grade receives it (a question of environmental saturation); and (2) the impact of multiple doses of grade-differentiated curricula, following 6th graders through the 8th grade with a complete three-year intervention program compared to 6th graders who receive it only once. The effects of new grade-differentiated curricula compared to generalized curricula will be examined through a quasi-experimental study design that uses the results of a current (2008-10) NIJ-funded project. Individual-level descriptives will inform hierarchical linear models reflecting the nested design of students in classrooms in schools. Qualitative data will be analyzed using an inductive process, allowing patterns and themes to emerge.

**Product: NCJ# 249587**

**Assessing Different Levels and Dosages of The Shifting Boundaries Intervention To Prevent Youth Dating Violence In New York City Middle Schools: A Randomized Control Trial**

Overall, the evaluation determined that the program - called "Shifting Boundaries" (SB) - was just as effective in reducing peer violence and dating violence when presented to only one grade level as when involving multiple grades; however, in the context of the authors' earlier work with the SB program, there is a rationale for considering saturated delivery school-wide. Earlier research showed effectiveness in reducing DV/H outcomes independent of the classroom curriculum. Because the program can be introduced to an entire middle school at low cost, results from both studies taken together tend to favor policy and administrative consideration of a saturated delivery in a school-wide program. The SB program consists of two components. One component is the delivery of a classroom curriculum that addresses the consequences for perpetrators of DV/H, laws and penalties for DV/H, and the features of respectful relationships. The second component includes the use of school-based restraining orders, higher levels of faculty and security presence in school areas at high risk for DV/H, and

the use of posters to increase awareness and reporting of DV/H. The evaluation focused on the effects of saturating a school environment by providing the program to all three middle school grades compared to only two grades or one grade. Effects were examined for two dosages of the program across 2 years compared to one dosage of the intervention for 1 year. 10 tables, 2 figures, 1 reference, and appended survey questionnaires

<b>2010-MU-MU-0012:</b>	<b>The Fourth R: A Randomized Trial of a Violence-Reduction Program in Bronx, NY</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Fund for the City of New York/ Center for Court Innovation</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$362,101</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

National estimates indicate that anywhere from one in ten to one in five teenagers experience physical dating violence and an even greater number experience verbal or psychological abuse. Victims face a number of associated risks, including risky sexual behavior, substance abuse, unhealthy dieting, attempted suicide, and future intimate partner violence. Accordingly, interest has grown in the development of evidence-based prevention models. One such model, the Fourth R, was previously shown to reduce physical dating violence among Canadian ninth-grade students. However, the program was found to be less effective with secondary target behaviors (e.g., physical peer violence, drug and alcohol use, and condom use), prompting the evaluators to recommend a younger target audience. The proposed project would expand our knowledge through a randomized controlled trial (RCT) of the Fourth R, conducted among younger seventh-grade students in a racially diverse, urban setting (Bronx, New York). The trial would test eight distinct hypotheses, spanning impacts on physical, sexual, verbal, and psychological abuse; sexist attitudes; safe sex behaviors; substance abuse; and peer violence. Through a secondary quasi-experimental design, the study would further test peer-to-peer dissemination effects. Approximately 40 teachers across seven public schools in the Bronx, New York would be randomly assigned either to implement the Fourth R curriculum with their seventh-grade students during the 2011-2012 academic year (Group 1) or to adhere to a standard curriculum (Group 2). A secondary quasi-experimental study would compare survey responses from all 800 experimental students to approximately 250 grade-matched students from middle schools where the curriculum was not implemented at all. Finally, a process evaluation would allow the researchers to document planning and implementation, fidelity to the program model, teacher and participant experiences, and costs associated with the Fourth R program. The proposed study would inform school administrators, city officials, and other policymakers nationwide regarding the effectiveness of the Fourth R curriculum with an urban, middle school population.

**Product: NCJ# 248486**

**Building Healthy Teen Relationships: An Evaluation of the Fourth R Curriculum with Middle School Students in the Bronx**

National estimates indicate that anywhere from 10-20% of adolescents experience physical dating violence and an even greater number experience verbal or psychological abuse. The Fourth R: Strategies for Healthy Youth Relationships is a dating violence prevention curriculum previously shown to reduce physical dating violence among Canadian ninth-grade students. The authors hypothesized that students who were exposed to the Fourth R would show

improvements in the following primary and secondary target attitudes and behaviors: teen dating violence, sexual harassment/assault, peer violence/bullying, sexual activity, drug and alcohol use, perceptions of school safety, acceptance of gender stereotypes and pro-violence beliefs, and pro-social responses to violence. A total of 570 incoming seventh-grade students in ten Bronx middle schools were assigned to class sections, which were then randomly assigned to receive either the Fourth R or a standard seventh-grade curriculum during the 2011-2012 academic year. Surveys were administered to students at three points: prior to program implementation, at the conclusion of the program year, and at the conclusion of the subsequent school year. Overall program results show little impact of the Fourth R curriculum on primary or secondary target behaviors. The program did not generally reduce dating violence, peer violence/bullying, or drug and alcohol use among the experimental sample. Students exposed to the Fourth R were more likely than control students to delay sexual activity; and students who received more of the curriculum experienced even greater delays. Students who received more of the curriculum also perpetrated less bullying and saw greater attitudinal changes than students who received lower dosages of the curriculum. The Fourth R was also found to reduce dating violence among those high-risk students who had already experienced or perpetrated dating violence at baseline. High risk students were especially likely to experience program benefits at follow-up.

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**2010-MU-MU-0031: Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence**

**Grantee:** Bowling Green State University  
**Amount:** \$346,275  
**Status:** Completed

Intimate partner violence necessarily occurs within the context of relationships, but knowledge of the character and dynamics of teen and young adult violent relationships is limited. The research builds on a large, prospective longitudinal study of adolescent romantic and sexual relationships (Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study-TARS). Currently the grantee has funding to interview the youngest cohort (one third of the existing sample). However, interviews with two additional cohorts (the entire TARS sample) will allow a complete age-graded portrait of teen and young adult dating violence, extending to the critical age period in which intimate partner violence increases exponentially in frequency and seriousness. Analyses of the four waves of existing TARS interviews, combined with new structured and in-depth qualitative interviews based on responses of the entire sample will provide a portrait of the: a) life stage, b) relationship, and c) situational contexts that foster teen and young adult intimate partner violence. Drawing on a symbolic interactionist perspective we focus on the respondents' perceptions of the meanings and impact of violent events in their lives and relationships. Of particular interest is to specify the universal and uniquely gendered aspects of intimate partner violence as individuals transition from early adolescence to young adulthood. The project includes three specific aims. 1) To analyze the incidence, prevalence, and patterns of relationship abuse from adolescence to young adulthood. TARS are innovative because it moves beyond school-based samples and include oversamples of African-American and Hispanic respondents, enabling analysis of the socio-demographic patterning of TDV (e.g., physical perpetration and victimization, psychological abuse, and sexual coercion). Further, the



long window of observation (over a ten year period) will establish patterns from age 13 to 25 and show how developmental life stage is related to relationship abuse. The project will also identify distinct trajectories of abuse and examine early risk factors and contemporaneous circumstances associated with these varying life course experiences of perpetration and victimization. It moves beyond the limited prior research on change processes by identifying factors linked to desistance, escalation and persistence in TDV. 2) To examine similarities and differences in violent and non-violent relationships. 3) To identify situational contexts within relationships that amplify risk for violence.

Product: NCJ# 248626

**Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence: A Final Summary Overview**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) occurs within the context of dyadic relationships, but knowledge of the character and dynamics of teen and young adult violent relationships is limited. This research adds quantitative and qualitative assessments of IPV with a focus on: 1) developmental progressions, 2) relationship dynamics, and 3) situational factors associated with IPV across a subset of male and female respondents. Findings indicate that: 1) Trajectories are linked to traditional risk factors, such as coercive parenting and parent-child relationship quality, but also to characteristics of the intimate relationships within which they occur, such as the frequency of disagreements, feelings of jealousy and mistrust, and perceptions of a lack of partner validation. 2) There are specific areas that partners may be attempting to control or change, and risk is particularly elevated in relationships characterized by high levels control attempts. Relationship dynamics are also implicated in the process of moving away from violence or desisting. Results of analyses of narratives indicate that changes in the form and content of communications, as well as in behaviors that had proven to be a source of continuing conflict, were central adjustments that respondents associated with the cessation of physical violence. And, 3) that both a traditional anger measure and a relationship-specific measure of negative emotions contributed significantly to the odds of perpetration, and the variability observed across different relationships suggest some limitations of the stable trait perspective. These findings suggest the utility of a dyadic or ‘relational’ perspective on IPV, recognizing that these dynamics are more malleable than either the features of personality or other elements of risk, such as poverty and family history. They do not support the idea of gender symmetry in IPV, but do suggest that conflicts involve a dyadic element that needs to be taken into account in future research.

<b>2010-WG-BX-0003:</b>	<b>Understanding Youth's Use of Technology to Perpetuate Dating Violence, Stalking and Sexual Harassment, and Victimization</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The Urban Institute</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$367,429</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The Urban Institute's (UI) Justice Policy Center will conduct an examination of youth's use of technology and new media to perpetrate psychologically abusive behaviors toward romantic partners, stalking behaviors, and sexually harassing and victimizing behaviors. The overall goal of the project is to expand knowledge about the types of victimizing experiences youth have in



romantic relationships, the prevalence of violence perpetration via technology and new media outlets (e.g., social networking sites, texting on cellular phones, etc.), and the prevalence of this type of victimization; thus contributing to the knowledge base on which policy and program developers, school administrators, victim advocates, and criminal justice personnel rely to develop evidence-based policies and strategies to address this problem. The specific objectives of this 21-month study are: (1) To confirm types of violence perpetrated via technology/new media and document the prevalence of it for both victims and perpetrators, including: psychological abuse from romantic partners; stalking behaviors of former romantic partners or non-partners; and sexually harassing and victimizing behaviors. (2) To identify the nature of these experiences, where the experiences take place, and if youth are seeking help when they experience victimization via technology/new media (from whom, the kinds of help they received, and the types of help they did not receive but wanted). And (3) To identify if experiencing these types of victimization is related to: reports of physical violence from dating partners; the likelihood of perpetrating the same behaviors in response to victimization; and other psychosocial measures, such as mental health and delinquency. To address these objectives, the research team will conduct an exploratory survey with 8,000 youths from high schools and middle schools in the Austin, TX and Albany, NY areas.

**Product: NCJ# 243296**

**Technology, Teen Dating Violence and Abuse, and Bullying**

The study found that 26 percent of youth in a dating relationship had experienced some form of cyber dating abuse in the previous year. Females were twice as likely as males to report being a victim of sexual cyber dating abuse in the previous year. Twelve percent of youth in a dating relationship said they had perpetrated cyber dating abuse in the previous year. Females reported greater levels of nonsexual cyber dating abuse perpetration than males. On the other hand, males were significantly more likely to report perpetrating sexual cyber dating abuse. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth reported significantly higher rates of cyber dating abuse and perpetration than heterosexual youth. Eighty-four percent of cyber dating abuse victims also reported psychological dating abuse; 52 percent who reported being physical cyber dating abuse perpetrators also reported perpetrating psychological dating abuse; 55 percent reported perpetrating physical dating violence; and 11 percent reported sexual coercion perpetration. Less than 1 out of 10 victims of dating abuse reported seeking help, with half as many male victims as female victims seeking help. Seventeen percent of youth reported being victims of cyber bullying, with females experiencing significantly higher victimization rates than males. LGBTQ youth reported significantly higher rates of cyber bullying victimization and perpetration than heterosexual youth. Recommendations focus on ways that schools and parents can assist in preventing and mitigating the harms caused by cyber dating abuse and bullying.

<b>2011-MU-FX-0022:</b>	<b>Bullying, Sexual and Dating Violence Trajectories from Early to Late Adolescence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Illinois</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$386,766</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This basic research project will fill a critical research gap, as no studies to date have simultaneously considered all three forms of violence using a developmentally-sensitive design. Approximately 1,200 students who were part of the University of Illinois Study of Bullying and Sexual Violence (funded by CDC) will be further assessed during Spring 2012 and 2013. Sixth and 7th grade students came from four public middle schools in one school district in Central Illinois, and the sample is both ethnically and economically diverse (31.5% White, 60.4% Black, 2.6% Asian, 5.1% Hispanic, .4% Native American; 69.3% considered low-income). These students have completed surveys over three years (with retention rates around 90-95%) that assessed bullying attitudes and behaviors, frequency of sexual harassment victimization and perpetration, and measures of proposed risk (e.g., anger, attitudes toward violence, substance use, family violence, neighborhood violence, peer support for violence, cyberbullying) and protective factors (e.g., school belonging, social support, parental monitoring, empathy, caring). Students will complete similar measures as they progress into high school, along with additional measures on dating violence attitudes and behaviors. Ultimately, these findings will identify early precursors to late adolescent sexual violence and dating violence and will significantly advance our understanding of the development of these behaviors to inform prevention programs.

**Product: NCJ# 246830**

**Bullying, Sexual, and Dating Violence Trajectories From Early to Late Adolescence**

Consistent with the proposed theoretical model, family conflict, sibling aggression, and having delinquent friends were significant predictors of bullying behavior during middle school for girls. In high school bullying behavior by girls predicted the perpetration of sexual harassment/violence; verbal emotional abuse; and dating violence, including sexual coercive behavior. Consistent with the proposed model, sibling aggression predicted bullying behavior for boys. Unlike girls, however, family conflict did not predict bullying or delinquent behavior. In contrast to the girls, sibling aggression and self-reported delinquency predicted sexually coercive dating, violent behavior, and verbal emotional abuse among boys. For boys, bullying behavior also predicted sexual harassment/violence, verbal emotional abuse, and physical violence in dating relationships. These findings suggest that interventions to counter the antisocial and delinquent behaviors identified should focus on family violence and conflict, with attention to learning healthy relationships and conflict-management skills. Prevention efforts should take into account the developmental timing of aggression and violence. Since bullying declines in high school, it may be necessary to shift the focus to aggression and violence in dating relationships. Further research should be conducted on sexual coercion in dating relationships in high school. Quantitative self-report survey data were collected from 1,162 high school students who were part of the University of Illinois Study of Bullying and Sexual Violence Study. Participants included in the results presented were from four Midwestern middle schools (grades five-seven, three cohorts), who were followed up at three high schools. The sample was 49 percent female, 58 percent Black, and 26 percent White.

<b>2011-MU-MU-0023:</b>	<b>Integrating Prevention and Intervention: A School Health Center Program to Promote Healthy Adolescent Relationships</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Public Health Institute</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$807,490</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The three-levels of integrated intervention that comprise the School Health Center Healthy Adolescent Relationships Program (SHARP) are: 1) Individual-level - a brief clinical intervention for SHC male and female clients delivered by SHC providers utilizing HEART (evaluated via client pre and post surveys and chart review); 2) Clinic-level -- development of an ARA-informed SHC staff and clinic environment utilizing HEART (evaluated via a clinic-level quality improvement tool and provider pre and post-training surveys); and 3) School-level -- SHC-based youth-led outreach activities within the school to promote healthy relationships and improve student safety (evaluated by baseline and follow-up assessments with youth leaders and measures of school climate). Evaluation of the intervention will involve random assignment of ten comparable SHCs in California that provide comprehensive health services, to either intervention or control conditions. In the intervention sites, providers located in SHCs will be trained to address ARA with adolescent clients via the use of HEART. The SHC-based intervention will be enhanced by SHC student outreach teams disseminating ARA educational materials in school and encouraging students to utilize the SHC for ARA related concerns. The control schools will provide standard of care in the SHCs. Multilevel regression analyses will be used to assess intervention effects on specified individual-level, clinic-level, and school-level outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 248640

### **Integrating Prevention and Intervention: A School Health Center Program to Promote Healthy Relationships**

The School Health Center Healthy Adolescent Relationship Program (SHARP) is a school health center (SHC) multi-level intervention to reduce adolescent relationship abuse (ARA) among adolescents ages 14-19. Intervention SHCs involve student outreach teams who conducted ARA educational events and encouraged students learn more about how to respond to ARA. SHCs offer the opportunity to reach adolescents experiencing ARA, identify at risk adolescents, and provide education about ARA and healthy relationships. During 2012-2013, 11 SHCs were randomized to SHARP or a standard-of-care control condition. Among 1,062 eligible students at 8 SHCs that participated after randomization, 1,011 completed computer-assisted surveys before a clinic visit, and 939 completed surveys 3 months later. Surveys in the intervention SHCs were conducted prior to training and six months after training. Focus groups with the student outreach teams were conducted at school to seek feedback on the SHARP intervention, the range of activities they included to raise awareness about ARA, and the SHC as a resource. Intervention versus control adjusted mean differences on changes in primary outcomes (recognition of abuse, intention to intervene, and knowledge of resources) were not statistically significant. Intervention participants had improved recognition of sexual coercion compared with controls, and exploratory analyses adjusting for intensity of intervention uptake/intervention effects were significant for increased knowledge of relationship abuse

resources and self-efficacy to use harm reduction behaviors. Among participants reporting relationship abuse at baseline, intervention participants were less likely to report such abuse at follow-up. Adolescents in intervention clinics who reported ever being in an unhealthy relationship were more likely to report disclosure during an SHC visit. At the six month post-training time point, 33% of providers reported increased counseling about harm reduction strategies with their clients and 65% reported more comfort working with a client to identify a safe adult with whom they can share sexual and violence-related concerns.

<b>2011-WG-BX-0020:</b>	<b>A National Probability-Based Household Survey on Teen Dating Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>NORC at University of Chicago</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$899,908</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Despite the seriousness of the problem, there are widely varying estimates of the nature and scope of teen dating violence (TDV). The purpose of this study is to produce a nationally representative estimate of the prevalence of multiple forms of TDV among youth, to document specific characteristics of abusive relationships, to assess TDV risk factors, and to situate this estimate within the environment of adolescents' key social relationships and communications. The study objectives are to: 1. Provide a national portrait of the prevalence of varying categories of TDV victimization and perpetration, including levels of physical/emotional injury, and describe how exposure to these forms of TDV varies by gender, socio-economic status and other demographics. 2. Identify specific conditional attitudes, dating relationship characteristics, and peer network dynamics that are associated with TDV risk, and to determine whether these pathways are uniquely gendered. 3. Investigate specific consequences of TDV to dating relationships, whether the adolescent discloses information about TDV incidents to peers, and peer responses. Survey data will be based on a stratified random sample of 2,161 adolescents and parents/caregivers representative of all U.S. households using random-digit-dialing (RDD) and a dual-frame estimation methodology for national-level estimation of TDV rates. Two-thirds of the sample will be covered by a landline RDD sample while one third of the sample covered by cell phone RDD. First we will mail out pre-phone letters to increase our response rate by conducting address-matching from phone numbers. NORC's Computer Assisted-Telephone Interviewing (CATI) and related systems for screening and randomly selecting cases into the sample will be used, conducting a 15-minute Parent/Caregiver Survey and a 60-minute Adolescent Survey, overseeing interviewer performance, and monitoring sampling goals. The Parent/Caregiver survey will cover sociodemographic characteristics, the adolescent's mental health and family structure, parental monitoring, and exposure to violence in the household and community. The Adolescent Survey covers TDV, relationship characteristics, peer networks, shared and/or reported TDV experiences, and the consequences/results of TDV (including disclosure to peers and adults, and their subsequent responses, partner reaction, and relationship outcome). Descriptive analyses will be conducted to develop a national portrait of victims and perpetrators of TDV. The research team will use structural equation modeling to assess a theoretically-based Analytic Model. These data will comprise the first comprehensive national portrait of TDV along with detailed data on extra-familial risk factors amenable to intervention, with implications for refining existing and developing new school and community-based prevention programs. The sample is also



designed to become the basis for a follow-up longitudinal study to examine the trajectory of TDV as adolescents move into adulthood, and can be linked to neighborhood-level data to assess the role of neighborhood factors on TDV.

**Product: NCJ# 248630**

**National Descriptive Portrait of Adolescent Relationship Abuse: Results From the National Survey on Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence**

The National Survey on Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (STRiV) for 12 to 18-year-old youth provides the first nationally representative household survey (n = 1,804) focused on adolescent relationship abuse (ARA), covering perpetration and victimization. Among respondents (37%) reporting current- or past-year dating, 69% reported lifetime ARA victimization (63% lifetime ARA perpetration). Although psychological abuse was most common for these youth (more than 60%), the rates of sexual abuse (18%) and physical abuse victimization (18%), as well as 12% reporting perpetrating physical abuse and/or sexual abuse (12%) were substantial as well. Other than differences by age and gender, ARA rates were consistent by race/ethnicity, geographic region, urbanicity, and household characteristics, highlighting the importance of universal prevention programs. Compared with youth aged 15 to 18, those 12 to 14 years old reported lower rates of psychological and sexual ARA victimization. Similarly, we found lower ARA perpetration rates for those 12 to 14. We found no gender differences for ARA victimization but found that girls perpetrated more physical ARA than boys. Girls aged 15 to 18 reported perpetrating moderate threats/physical violence at more than twice the rate of younger girls and three times the rate compared with boys aged 15 to 18; girls aged 15 to 18 reported perpetrating more than four times the rate of serious psychological abuse than boys 15 to 18. Finally, these data document the significant positive correlation between ARA victimization and perpetration. Findings suggest that when working with youth in prevention services, interventions should not be designed for monolithic groups of “victims” or “perpetrators.”

<b>2011-WG-BX-0021:</b>	<b>Dating Violence among Latino Adolescents</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Northeastern University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$555,896</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This basic research study will build on the current NIJ-funded Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents(DAVILA) Study which examines dating violence, co-morbid victimization, psychosocial outcomes of dating violence, help-seeking efforts by Latino youth, and the impact of cultural factors on these associations. The goal of DAVILA - II is to collect a second wave of data from the participants in the original DAVILA study, resulting in longitudinal data that will allow the researchers to overcome many of the limitations associated with cross-sectional data and result in the first national longitudinal study to focus on dating violence among Latino youth. The main goals of this study include (1) an examination of dating violence among Latino adolescents over time, (2) evaluating the longitudinal patterns of co-occurring victimization (polyvictimization) for Latino victims of dating violence, (3) examining the predictors of victimization patterns to understand the influences on dating violence over time (4) examining formal and informal help-seeking among Latino adolescents who experienced dating violence,



and (5) determine the subsequent psychosocial impact of dating violence. The study will address significant gaps in the current literature by allowing for a longitudinal evaluation of dating violence within a relatively understudied group. The findings are also pertinent to shaping practice and policy, including school-based interventions and criminal justice institutions. Data will be collected via phone interviews (using a computer assisted telephone interview format) from the national sample of 1,500 Latino adolescents (ages 12-18) and their caregiver from the original DAVILA study. Participants will be asked about dating violence and other forms of victimization, formal and informal help-seeking efforts, psychological distress, delinquency, acculturation, familism, social support, and demographic information.

**Product: NCJ# 248625**

**Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents - II (DAVILA - II) Study**

The Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA) – II study collected a second wave of data from the participants in the original DAVILA study (NCJ 242775), resulting in a longitudinal sample of 574 Latino youth. The main goals of the study were to: 1) examine dating violence among Latino adolescents over time, 2) evaluate the longitudinal patterns of co-occurring victimization (polyvictimization) for Latino victims of dating violence, 3) examine the predictors of victimization patterns to understand the influences on dating violence over time, 4) examine formal and informal help-seeking among Latino adolescents who experienced dating violence, and 5) determine the subsequent psychosocial impact of dating violence. Data was collected via phone interviews from the national sample of 1,427 Latino adolescents and their caregiver from the original DAVILA study. Participants were asked about dating violence and other forms of victimization, formal and informal help-seeking, psychological distress, delinquency, acculturation, familism, social support, and demographic information. Results show that dating violence rates remained consistent across both waves. However, gender differences apparent in wave 1 were not present in wave 2, suggesting that gender differences in dating violence may be fluid along the developmental spectrum for Latino youth. As with other forms of victimization, dating violence at wave 1 was a risk factor for wave 2 dating violence. The results also show that social support, hostility, school connectedness, and the number of children in the household were predictive of dating violence; hostility being associated with decreased risk. Interestingly, cultural factors that have been seen to have an effect in other samples and with adults (i.e., acculturation, enculturation, immigrant status) did not influence revictimization risk. Exploratory analysis with help-seeking suggested that formal help may also be preventive of dating violence. Overall, the results point to a number of potential family- and school-based interventions and preventive efforts.

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0014:</b>	<b>Teen Dating Violence Victimization in an Urban Sample of Early Adolescents: Measurement, Prevalence, Trajectories, and Consequences</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Virginia Commonwealth University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$297,297</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

This project has five objectives: 1) to evaluate use of a measure of teen dating violence (TDV) perpetration and victimization with early adolescents, 2) to determine the prevalence of TDV victimization among urban early adolescents and compare rates by grade, gender and season,

3) to identify trajectories of TDV victimization during early adolescence across 14 waves of quarterly data, 4) to identify risk factors for TDV victimization (i.e., exposure to community violence, poly-victimization, aggression perpetration) by determining their relation to these trajectories, and 5) to determine the consequences of TDV victimization by investigating the relation between trajectory profiles and subsequent adjustment problems (i.e., substance use, antisocial behavior, post-traumatic stress symptoms). This project involves secondary analysis of an existing, longitudinal data set of urban early adolescents collected by the CDC-funded Academic Center of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU-ACE). The VCU-ACE project collects multiple waves of data on different forms of youth violence perpetration and victimization, including TDV, and on associated risk factors and adjustment as part of an evaluation of a community-level comprehensive prevention approach. This project will use data from seven cohorts of middle school students ages 10-16 (projected N = 1,470; 91% African Americans, 47% males) who participate in four assessments per year for up to 3-1/2 years. This project is unique in that it focuses on early adolescence, a critical period for the emergence of TDV victimization that has received little attention in the literature. This project involves five related studies. Study 1 will examine the psychometric properties of the Dating Violence Scale (DVS), a common measure of TDV for middle and late adolescents. Analyses will be conducted to determine the DVSs relevance for a sample of predominantly urban early adolescents. This study will also evaluate the measures discriminant validity by determining its relation to a more general measure of aggression. Study 2 will investigate prevalence rates for TDV victimization during early adolescence and determine their relation to individual characteristics (e.g., gender, grade) and time of year. Study 3 will use growth mixture modeling to identify trajectory profiles that reflect distinct patterns of change in TDV victimization during middle school. Study 4 will use class membership in these trajectory profiles as a context for examining risk factors for TDV including exposure to community violence, poly-victimization, and aggressive perpetration. Finally, Study 5 will examine the consequences of TDV victimization trajectory profiles by determining whether they predict adjustment at the end of the eighth grade, including substance use, antisocial behavior, and posttraumatic stress symptoms.

<b>2012-IJ-CX-0015:</b>	<b>Patterns, Precursors and Consequences of TDV: An Analysis of Gendered and Generic Pathways</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Bowling Green State University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$199,139</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The overarching goal of this basic research project is to support a postdoctoral research fellow to conduct longitudinal analyses that will specify gendered and generic (that is, applicable regardless of gender) patterns, precursors, and consequences of intimate partner violence (IPV) across the span from adolescence to young adulthood (ages 12 to 29). Relying on five waves of structured interview data from the Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS), this study has three specific aims: 1) to examine patterns of physical violence over time, and how gender shapes these patterns by focusing on patterns of escalation, persistence, and desistance in IPV experiences (perpetration and victimization) both within and across intimate relationships using latent class analysis to identify distinct trajectories; 2) to analyze the gender specificity of risk



factors across multiple social domains (e.g., neighborhood, parent, peer, partner) and their influence on trajectories of physical violence across adolescence and into young adulthood; 3) to examine the extent to which IPV outcomes such as depressed mood and overall physical health are gender-specific, and whether these outcomes vary by victimization or perpetration status utilizing linear mixed-effects models (LMEM). The original sample was derived from a total enumeration of youths enrolled in grades 7, 9, and 11 in a county in Ohio in 2001-2002. Youths did not have to attend school to be in the study. The stratified, random sample included over-samples of Black and Hispanic respondents and the sample mirrors similarly aged individuals nationally regarding race, family status, parents education, and income. This project will identify neighborhood, family, peer, and intimate relationship factors that may have applicability for understanding male and female IPV and/or those that may be uniquely gendered. This information could provide a useful knowledge base about the etiology and costs of IPV, and in turn for designing programs that resonate with the lived experiences of teens and young adults at risk of experiencing intimate partner violence in their dating relationships.

**Product: NCJ# 249002**

**Patterns, Precursors, and Consequences of Teen Dating Violence: Analyzing Gendered and Generic Pathways**

The study's findings show that IPV peaks during young adulthood, with a later age peak for the young women involved in the Toledo study. These trajectories were found to be linked to the quality of the childhood relationship with parents and the characteristics of the intimate relationship in which the violence occurred. The salient factors in the intimate relationship were the frequency of disagreements, feelings of jealousy and mistrust, and perceptions of the partner's validation. Positive changes in these relationship factors over time resulted in a decline in IPV. The salient childhood factor in IPV was harsh parenting. Neighborhood-level analyses found that the neighborhood normative climate regarding dating and attitudes about the opposite sex were also related to the occurrence of IPV. This neighborhood effect was stronger in more disadvantaged contexts. Women victims of IPV generally reported higher levels of depression, and both men and women victims of IPV self-reported declines in physical health. These findings suggest that a focus on the dynamic features of the partners' interactions and perceptions of support from the other partner are important in addressing IPV. In addition, the link between IPV and a broad range of attitudes and beliefs suggests that future programs could benefit from targeting specific norms and attitudes linked to IPV.

<b>2012-W9-BX-0001:</b>	<b>Developmental Pathways of Teen Dating Violence in a High-Risk Sample</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Research Foundation of SUNY on behalf of University of Buffalo</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$798,376</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this basic research project is to study the etiology of teen dating violence (TDV) in a high-risk sample of adolescents who were recruited at 12-months of age, along with their

parents, for a multi-method, multi-wave study of the effects of parental alcoholism on infant and child development. A dynamic cascade model of development will provide an integrated theoretical framework of TDV to explain the progression of risk from infancy through adolescence and will help to identify critical points in development that may be amenable to intervention. The sample consists of 227 adolescents (49% girls) who are currently in 11th 12th grade who were last assessed in early adolescence (8th grade). Participants will be contacted to complete a survey on current risk behaviors (e.g., substance use, peer delinquency) and dating violence using an audio computer assisted self-interviewing program. Data collected at previous waves (e.g., parental risk factors, the parent-child relationship, family context, childhood self-regulation and social competence, and adolescent risky behaviors) will be used to test a dynamic cascade model of development for TDV, using structural equation modeling data analytic techniques. As a first step, the influence of early- and middle-childhood risk and protective factors on early adolescent risk behaviors that have been associated with TDV (e.g., Grade 8 substance use, early dating) will be explored. Next, risk behaviors occurring in early adolescence will be considered as proximal predictors (e.g., delinquency, peer TDV, deviant peer affiliation) of TDV in late adolescence. Gender differences will also be explored. A comprehensive understanding of the etiology of TDV, particularly understanding the role of parenting as a source of risk or protection can be used inform social and criminal justice policies and will aid in the development of effective intervention strategies.

<b>2012-WG-BX-0005:</b>	<b>Continuation of Dating It Safe: A Longitudinal Study on Teen Dating Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$746,181</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Completed</b>

The project team is currently conducting a longitudinal study of TDV in a large school-based sample of 1,042 ethnically and socioeconomically diverse adolescents from multiple school districts. Participants were recruited and assessed as Freshman/Sophomore high school students in 2010, with follow-up in 2011 and 2012. This study will follow the sample of over 1,000 adolescents/young adults for an additional 3 years (1 assessment per year for 3 years). The specific aims of this project are to 1) Examine the longitudinal course and associations among the different forms of teen dating violence (physical violence, psychological abuse, and sexual abuse) across multiple teen and young adult relationships; 2) Examine the predictors, contexts, and consequences of TDV perpetration and victimization, including the identification of different developmental trajectories of TDV; 3) Examine how gender, age, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity affect the association of predictors of TDV perpetration and victimization; and 4) Test the theory that distal and proximal risk and protective factors from multiple levels of social influence interact to predict TDV over time. By addressing the limitations of previous research, this comprehensive longitudinal study of TDV will be an invaluable addition to the field, and will make lasting contributions to the development of dating violence prevention and intervention programs. Specifically, this study will identify predictors and consequences of TDV, examine the mechanisms and conditions underlying the etiology and course of TDV, and examine TDV across multiple teen and young adult relationships.

**2013-VA-CX-0001: A Brief Intervention to Prevent Adolescent Dating Aggression Perpetration**  
**Grantee: Trustees of Boston University, BUMC**  
**Amount: \$741,630**  
**Status: Ongoing**

This research proposal will test a brief intervention designed to reduce adolescent dating abuse (ADA) perpetration in a healthcare setting used primarily by low income, Black, and Hispanic youth. The Project READY (Reducing Aggression in Dating Relationships for Youth) is a theory-driven, empirically supported, brief intervention. READY intercepts youth who utilize an urban emergency department for non-urgent health care (e.g., sprains), provides them with tailored feedback about their relationship behavior, and uses motivational interviewing to move them towards non-violence and respect. READY was designed to avoid victim-blaming and is responsive to the gendered dynamic of ADA. A small feasibility pilot test of READY was completed in 2013 (N=27). Participants will be 334 youth ages 16-18 years old who are patients of an urban pediatric emergency department; ~60% Black, 15% Hispanic, 15% White. Youth who have perpetrated at least 1 act of physical or sexual ADA 3 months prior to baseline will be eligible. The proposed experimental evaluation of READY will use a randomized controlled trial (RCT) design, with 3- and 6-month follow-ups to assess changes in knowledge, attitude and perpetration behavior (N=334). The research team will also conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis. The proposed hypotheses are: (1) Youth who participate in the brief intervention session and telephone booster call will report improved knowledge and attitudes, and less self-reported ADA perpetration up to 6 months post-intervention as compared to youth in the control group; and (2) the cost of providing the intervention will be less than the cost of the violence that occurs in its absence. Mixed effects linear and logistic models will be used to analyze longitudinal data.

**2013-VA-CX-0003: The Dynamic Context of Teen Dating Violence within Adolescent Relationships**  
**Grantee: Boston Medical Center Corporation**  
**Amount: \$787,595**  
**Status: Ongoing**

Reducing teen dating violence (TDV) is critical. Existing interventions fall short because they fail to consider the dynamic context of adolescent TDV relationships. Granular information about precisely why and when incidents of TDV occur is critical to design interventions and policies that will stop the violence. Adolescent females engaged in a dating relationship with TDV will be enrolled in this longitudinal cohort study and followed for 6 months. This innovative three-year study will collect data from 125 adolescent females using a baseline Audio Computer Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI) assessment and daily diaries using Smart Phones. Participants will report daily on TDV victimization and perpetration as well as relational context (feelings of intimacy, jealousy, and instrumental support) and situational context (use of alcohol or drugs). Objectives include determining: the type(s) and frequency of TDV victimization and perpetration within adolescent relationships; the daily associations between relational context measures and reports of TDV victimization and perpetration; and the daily associations between situational context measures and reports of TDV victimization and perpetration. Participants will be recruited from a health clinic and community venues in Baltimore identified in the research team's previous studies as locations where adolescent females congregate. Females, 15-19

years who disclose at screening past month TDV in a heterosexual dating relationship, will be recruited for the study. Eligible females with informed consent will complete the baseline ACASI survey including socio-demographic and background questions about the participant and her partner(s). Participants will complete six months of diaries continuously on their relationship by responding to daily text-based questions on their Smart Phone about TDV victimization and perpetration, intimacy, instrumental support, jealousy, and their own and their partners' alcohol and drug use. Daily data will be transmitted directly to an encrypted, password protected, secure database. Random effects mixed models will be used to examine the multilevel data. As the temporal associations may differ for victimization, perpetration and mutual aggression, the investigators will model these outcomes separately for each of the three objectives.

<b>2013-VA-CX-0007:</b>	<b>Predicting Intimate Partner Violence for At-Risk Young Adults and Their Romantic Partners</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Oregon Social Learning Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$406,257</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this research project is to advance the understanding of predictors of IPV through the utilization of a data set that combines exceptionally strong dynamic developmental and dyadic theory with multiagent/method longitudinal assessment of family, peer, youth adjustment factors, IPV perpetrated and received (including reports and observed couple interaction), and also antisocial talk (as an indicator of assortative partnering). The study will involve secondary analysis for 323 young adults (184 females 139 males; average age 21 years) and their romantic partners (146 females, 177 males; average age 22 years) from the Linking the Interests of Families and Teachers (LIFT) community sample. At enrollment, the LIFT participants were from at-risk neighborhoods and low socioeconomic backgrounds and in Grades 1 and 5 at local public schools. LIFT participants were attending schools that had been randomly assigned to either receive a short-term prevention program designed to reduce aggressive and other antisocial behaviors or a services-as-usual control condition. The LIFT data set contains over 15 waves of data collected between 1991 and 2009. The proposed study provides a uniquely strong foundation for examination of early childhood and adolescent predictors for males and females of couples' IPV in young adulthood. Using a prospective design, a mediational model will be tested of developmental risk factors (family, peer, youth adjustment) in childhood and adolescence to IPV in young adulthood, including physical, psychological and sexual IPV and injuries. Second, the long term intervention impacts of the LIFT program on IPV will be tested. Third, we will examine proximal associations in young adulthood, and how relationship factors (couple interaction and partner adjustment) are related to couples' IPV and injuries. Moderation by gender will be tested for each model. Identifying mediators and mechanisms by which young men and women who experience early risk may be susceptible to IPV will facilitate the development of timely, targeted interventions.

<b>2013-VA-CX-0008:</b>	<b>Effects of a Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Program on Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence, and Substance Use in High School</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Board of Trustees of University of Illinois, Chicago</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$662,993</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of this research project is to follow an existing middle school sample (part of a bullying and sexual violence prevention RCT using the Second Step program) into 5 high schools in Illinois, allowing the assessment of correspondence between trajectories in youth aggression and substance use among teens. While research has documented that substance use is linked to other types of aggressive behavior, such as bullying, aggression, and sexual harassment, there remains a dearth of knowledge regarding the extent to which substance use facilitates or amplifies patterns of teen dating aggression. The proposed study will leverage an existing RCT of The Second Step anti-bullying program, which was implemented when the sample of students was in middle school, by measuring related aggressive behaviors (e.g., sexual aggression) during the high school years. Approximately 1,200 students from 5 high schools in Illinois (from 15 of the original 36 middle schools; approximately one third Hispanic, one fourth African American) will complete measures across the three year study. Specific aims are to determine whether students who were part of the intervention group in a randomized control trial of Second Step in middle school demonstrated reductions in youth aggression, sexual violence, and substance use, and teen dating violence when in high school; to evaluate Second Step program effects on (2a) trajectories of bullying, victimization, homophobic teasing, sexual harassment, and teen dating violence in high school, (2b) the relations among growth in aggression and substance use, and (2c) whether substance use moderates links in the Bully-Sexual Violence Pathway; to examine mediators of Second Step effects on reductions in aggression, bullying perpetration, victimization, sexual violence, dating violence and substance use. Hypotheses will be tested using nested random coefficients analysis (RCA).

<b>2014-MU-CX-0002:</b>	<b>Partner Violence Prevention for Middle School Boys: A Dyadic Web-Based Intervention</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Northeastern University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$791,846</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

This project is an AFA originated from award# 2014-MU-CX-0002: Goals and Objectives: The aim of the proposed study is to develop and refine a web-based intervention that reduces the risk of dating violence among middle-school aged males. The final intervention, to be used by parents and adolescents together, is based on the empirical literature linking emotion regulation deficits to violent behavior as well as studies showing that parental involvement is crucial to offset dating violence risk. Research has also shown that game playing is the most popular internet activity for early adolescent boys; thus interactive, web-based games and videos are ideal to engage young males in dating violence programming. The proposed intervention will be based on content delivered in efficacious, face-to-face interventions for relationship risk reduction among teens (K23MH086328; R01NR011906). Klein Buendel, Inc., a company with expertise in technology-based interventions, will partner with Rhode Island



Hospital to develop this program. The intervention will address gender-specific risk factors (e.g., peer aggression) for dating violence through delivery of six interactive modules that focus on emotion regulation and parent-teen communication. During development, Klein Buendel and RIH will oversee meetings with parent-son dyads (Community Advisory Panel) and experts in the field of prevention (Expert Panel) to solicit feedback on prototypes. Parent-son dyads will then take part in feasibility and acceptability testing. After program finalization, the intervention will be evaluated through a randomized clinical trial. Subjects: 146 8th grade boys and their parents will be enrolled (8 dyads for the Community Advisory Panel, 18 dyads for acceptability/feasibility testing, and 120 for the RCT). Research Design and Methods: 8th grade boys and their parents will be recruited from middle-schools in the Providence, RI area. Parents will be eligible to participate in the study and gender of parent will be balanced across conditions. Dyads will be randomly assigned to either the web-based intervention or waitlist control and will be assessed at baseline, 3- and 9- months post study. Analysis: We will test whether the proposed program promotes reductions in boys' attitudes supporting dating violence and frequency of aggressive acts (DV perpetration and victimization) as well as increases in emotion regulation skills and parent-adolescent communication. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: Findings will have important implications for developing and disseminating dating violence programming for adolescent boys nationwide. Upon study completion, we will produce a final substantive report for NIJ on the findings and disseminate the information as conferences, through scholarly publications, and through collaboration with key stakeholders.

<b>2014-VA-CX-0065:</b>	<b>Longitudinal Follow-up in the National Survey for Teen Relationships and Violence (STRiV2)</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>National Opinion Research Center</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$999,989</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose is to describe the changing nature of adolescent and young adult dating relationships, particularly those marked by adolescent and young adult relationship abuse (YARA), to inform the development of more effective prevention efforts. Our goal is to synthesize our results regarding ARA risk factors informing intervention efforts sensitive to gender, developmental, and contextual characteristics. Our objectives, with attention to gender differences, are to (1) Document national and subpopulation temporal shifts in various forms of ARA from 2013 to 2016, and investigate the longitudinal development of ARA/YARA victimization and perpetration, assessing escalation/desistance; (2) Examine the context of ARA experiences in terms of relationship stability and developments in and temporal impact of identified risk and protective factors; (3) Explore models of ARA that draw on key concepts derived from social learning theory, feminist theory, and social network theory. Subjects are youth respondents to the current national Survey of Teen Relationships and Violence (STRiV) study (n=2,354), drawn from the nationally representative Knowledge Networks panel. STRiV respondents (ages 10-18 at baseline in 2013) will reach ages 13-21 at the conclusion of STRiV2. We will collect two waves of data (2015, 2016). We will maintain cohort contact and field the secure web-based surveys through the Knowledge Networks mechanism. The study is designed to investigate the following hypotheses: (1) 2013-2016 age-specific ARA prevalence rates will not significantly change. Moreover, we expect the relationship between ARA risk and protective

factors to be stable over the study period. (2) As the STRiV cohort ages, respondents will report more ARA/YARA; the balance of personal and contextual factors will change as the cohort approaches young adulthood. (3) STRiV cohort reports of ARA/YARA will escalate over time within and across romantic partnerships. (4) Over time, gender and contextual impact on ARA/YARA outcomes will vary with implications for intervention design and practice. Descriptive analyses will document national trends over the period 2013-2016. We will conduct exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis on our proposed risk and protective factors. We will apply latent growth models and general growth mixture models to identify distinct developmental trajectories of our main outcomes and exploratory structural equation models to understand mechanisms of the proposed pathways. We will generate practitioner-focused publications in the education and criminal justice fields; conferences presentations; progress reports; an archived dataset; and a final report. We will also disseminate project results to practitioners, educators, policymakers, and researchers through online portals and peer-reviewed journals.

### **Supplemental Award:**

The purpose is to describe the changing nature of adolescent and young adult dating relationships, particularly those marked by adolescent and young adult relationship abuse (YARA), to inform the development of more effective prevention efforts. Our goal is to synthesize our results regarding ARA risk factors informing intervention efforts sensitive to gender, developmental, and contextual characteristics. Our objectives, with attention to gender differences, are to (1) Document national and subpopulation temporal shifts in various forms of ARA from 2013 to 2016, and investigate the longitudinal development of ARA/YARA victimization and perpetration, assessing escalation/desistance; (2) Examine the context of ARA experiences in terms of relationship stability and developments in and temporal impact of identified risk and protective factors; (3) Explore models of ARA that draw on key concepts derived from social learning theory, feminist theory, and social network theory. Subjects are youth respondents to the current national Survey of Teen Relationships and Violence (STRiV) study (n=2,354), drawn from the nationally representative Knowledge Networks panel. STRiV respondents (ages 10-18 at baseline in 2013) will reach ages 13-21 at the conclusion of STRiV2. We will collect two waves of data (2015, 2016). We will maintain cohort contact and field the secure web-based surveys through the Knowledge Networks mechanism. The study is designed to investigate the following hypotheses: (1) 2013-2016 age-specific ARA prevalence rates will not significantly change. Moreover, we expect the relationship between ARA risk and protective factors to be stable over the study period. (2) As the STRiV cohort ages, respondents will report more ARA/YARA; the balance of personal and contextual factors will change as the cohort approaches young adulthood. (3) STRiV cohort reports of ARA/YARA will escalate over time within and across romantic partnerships. (4) Over time, gender and contextual impact on ARA/YARA outcomes will vary with implications for intervention design and practice. Descriptive analyses will document national trends over the period 2013-2016. We will conduct exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis on our proposed risk and protective factors. We will apply latent growth models and general growth mixture models to identify distinct developmental trajectories of our main outcomes and exploratory structural equation models to understand mechanisms of the proposed pathways. We will generate practitioner-focused publications in the education and criminal justice fields; conferences presentations; progress reports; an

archived dataset; and a final report. We will also disseminate project results to practitioners, educators, policymakers, and researchers through online portals and peer-reviewed journals. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2014-VA-CX-0066:</b>	<b>Relationship Processes in the Development of Teen Dating Violence</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>New York University</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$795,457</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Teen dating violence (TDV) is alarmingly common and exacts a substantial toll on public health. It exhibits substantial stability and may become deeply entrenched by adulthood. Given these difficulties, the prevention of TDV has become a concern of federal research agencies and noted investigators. We, in concert with several colleagues, offer the following set of observations, which frame the problem at hand and the research that we believe needs to be done: (1) Clearly we have only just begun to learn how to prevent TDV. Rigorous efficacy trials have been rare and have produced sometimes promising but sometimes mixed results. We need to do better. (2) TDV prevention would be enhanced by the identification of changeable risk factors that can become new intervention targets. (3) There are clear indications in the research literature that teen couples relationship dynamics are important factors in TDV. However, the field is just beginning to understand what those dynamics are. (4) We believe it highly likely that the discovery of additional relationship dynamics that undergird TDV will ultimately lead to enhanced interventions to prevent it. We propose to apply our team's expertise in intimate violence, couples observation, and development to the execution of an intensive observational longitudinal study of 200 New York City 14 to 18 year-old dating couples. The proposed research extends our recently NICHD funded investigation (1 R21 HD077345) and will be organized around four overarching questions: Question #1: Are maladaptive interaction patterns in teen dating relationships associated with TDV? Question #2: Do the same maladaptive interaction patterns that predict current TDV (from Question 1) predict future TDV? Question #3: Do the effects of maladaptive interaction patterns on TDV transcend the relationship in which they were observed? Question #4: Do risk factors (e.g., antisociality, family violence) identified in prior research explain TDV via their impact on maladaptive interaction patterns? Evidence for each of the processes we intend to study is either limited or nonexistent. Accordingly, the proposed research represents a major advance in the search for highly specific behavioral targets for enhanced preventive interventions.

**Supplemental Award:**

Teen dating violence (TDV) is alarmingly common and exacts a substantial toll on public health. It exhibits substantial stability and may become deeply entrenched by adulthood. Given these difficulties, the prevention of TDV has become a concern of federal research agencies and noted investigators. We, in concert with several colleagues, offer the following set of observations, which frame the problem at hand and the research that we believe needs to be done: (1) Clearly we've only just begun to learn how to prevent TDV. Rigorous efficacy trials have been rare and have produced sometimes promising but sometimes mixed results. We need to do better. (2) TDV prevention would be enhanced by the identification of changeable risk factors that can become new intervention targets. (3) There are clear indications in the

research literature that teen couples' relationship dynamics are important factors in TDV. However, the field is just beginning to understand what those dynamics are. (4) We believe it highly likely that the discovery of additional relationship dynamics that undergird TDV will ultimately lead to enhanced interventions to prevent it. The supplemental funds we are seeking for our project (NIJ #2014-VA-CX-0066) will allow us to finish the activities we have planned for the final 2 years of the research, an intensive observational longitudinal study of 200 New York City 14- to 18-year-old dating couples. The study is organized around four overarching questions: Question #1: Are maladaptive interaction patterns in teen dating relationships associated with TDV? ¿ Question #2: Do the same maladaptive interaction patterns that predict current TDV (from Question 1) predict future TDV? ¿ Question #3: Do the effects of maladaptive interaction patterns on TDV transcend the relationship in which they were observed? ¿ Question #4: Do risk factors (e.g., antisociality, family violence) identified in prior research explain TDV via their impact on maladaptive interaction patterns? Evidence for each of the processes we intend to study is either limited or nonexistent. Accordingly, the proposed research represents a major advance in the search for highly specific behavioral targets for enhanced preventive interventions. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

## K: Cultural Context

<b>2013-VW-CX-0001:</b>	<b>An Innovative Response to an Intractable Problem: Using Village Public Safety Officers to Enhance the Criminal Justice Response to Violence Committed against Indian Women in Alaska's Tribal Communities</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Alaska Anchorage</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$294,317</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The purpose of the study is to contribute directly to NIJ's efforts to evaluate state and tribal responses to violence against Indian women in tribal communities. Through the use of detailed case file reviews and focus group discussions with Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO), as well as community and criminal justice stakeholders, this project will examine the contributions VPSOs make to the community and criminal justice responses to violence committed against Indian women in Alaska's tribal communities. Specific attention will be paid to the impact VPSOs have on the investigation of domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual abuse of a minor, and homicide cases, as well as the extent to which VPSOs facilitate the prosecution of those who commit violence against Indian women in Alaska's tribal communities. Finally, this research will assess the potential transferability of the VPSO model to other tribal communities. The overarching goal of the proposed project is to evaluate and document empirically the impact Alaska's VPSO initiative is having on the investigation and prosecution of those who commit acts of sexual and domestic violence, as well as homicide, against Indian women in Alaska's tribal communities. For the 2008-2011 study period, information pertaining to the case processing (investigation and prosecution) of an estimated 800 domestic violence, 750 sexual assault, 670 sexual abuse of a minor, and 25 homicide case files will be coded and analyzed. Case file coding will include the characteristics of suspects, victims, witnesses/third parties, as well as investigating officers. Focus groups will be conducted with groups of 10-20 individuals in

four (4) research sites, as well as with small groups (8-10 individuals) of VPSOs, VPSO Coordinators, Alaska State Trooper (AST) Oversight Staff, and state prosecutors. Analysis of the case file and case processing data will proceed through three stages: (1) descriptive univariate analyses, (2) comparative bivariate analyses, and (3) multivariate inferential (explanatory) analyses. Regression techniques appropriate for the modeling of categorical dependent variables will be used, such as binary, ordered, and multinomial logit/probit models. Sample selection bias will be addressed through the estimation of bivariate probit selection models. The data from focus groups and interviews will be analyzed for salient themes related to the role and impact of VPSOs in Alaska's tribal communities. These thematic analyses will be used to contextualize and interpret the findings of the quantitative analyses.

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**2014-MU-MU-K001: Effective Methods to Assess Exposure to Violence and Victimization among American Indian and Alaska Native Youth**

**Grantee:** American Indian Development Associates (AIDA) LLC  
**Amount:** \$1,325,843  
**Status:** Ongoing

This study is intended to improve the health and well-being of American Indian/Alaska Native (AN/AN) youth by developing a survey instrument and research design that can effectively assess exposure to violence and victimization. The project combines the extensive resources of two groups with considerable relevant experience. The American Indian Development Associates, LLC (AIDA) is a 100% Indian-owned organization that has led many studies and training programs related to crime and violence in tribal communities. They have close ties to tribal governments and service providers, and a deep understanding of how to engage in collaborative research in the AI/AN community. The Crimes against Children Research Center (CCRC) has a long history of developing instruments and conducting research to assess youth violence exposure. Their efforts have been responsible for two of the most important milestones in this field, the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire (JVQ) and the National Survey of Children Exposed to Violence, jointly funded by the USDOJ and the CDC. The project involves five stages: 1) Assembling and acquiring input from stakeholders; 2) Reviewing existing instruments; 3) Developing the instrument, design and implementation protocols; 4) Doing cognitive testing of the instrument to assure comprehension; 5) Pilot testing of the design of the instrument. The goal for the instrument is to be comprehensive and include exposure to abuse, neglect, sexual offenses, property crimes, hate crimes, bullying, peer and school assault, exposure to domestic and community violence. The instrument is also intended to be easy to understand, flexible in its utility, relevant to the AI/AN culture and environment and to the agencies involved. Although subject to reconsideration during the project, the initial target is to pilot the instrument and design with youth in 3 geographically and demographically different AI/AN communities, collecting a total of 200 to 500 interviews. At least two or three different modes of administration will be compared likely, face-to-face interviews, paper and pencil self-administered questionnaires, and computer assisted interviews. Among the key outcomes that will be examined are the response and refusal rates, missing data, interview length, willingness to disclose sensitive information, respondent comfort, cost, the ability to provide assistance to



respondents, and the ease and adequacy of the human subjects protocol. Results will be disseminated in presentations, USDOJ publications, journal articles and through a website dedicated to the project.

**Supplemental Award:**

This methods study is intended to improve the health and well-being of American Indian (AI) and Alaska Native (AN) youth by developing a survey instrument and research design that can effectively assess exposure to violence and victimization. The project involves five stages: 1) Assembling and acquiring input from stakeholders; 2) Reviewing existing instruments; 3) Developing the instrument, design, and implementation protocols; 4) Doing cognitive testing of the instrument to assure comprehension; and 5) Pilot testing of the design of the instrument. The goal for the instrument is to be comprehensive and include exposure to abuse, neglect, sexual offenses, property crimes, hate crimes, bullying, peer and school assault, exposure to domestic and community violence. The instrument also is intended to be easy to understand, flexible in its utility, relevant to the AI and AN cultures and environments and to the agencies involved. Although subject to reconsideration during the project, the initial target is to pilot the instrument and design with youth in three to four geographically and demographically different AI and AN communities, collecting a total of 375 interviews. At least two or three different modes of administration will be compared likely, face-to-face interviews, paper and pencil self-administered questionnaires, and computer assisted interviews. Among the key outcomes that will be examined are the response and refusal rates, missing data, interview length, willingness to disclose sensitive information, respondent comfort, cost, the ability to provide assistance to respondents, and the ease and adequacy of the human subjects protocol. Results will be disseminated in presentations, USDOJ publications, and journal articles. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-CK-BX-0022:</b>	<b>Peers Influence Response to Threat: Cultural Norms, Reciprocity and Self-Identity</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of Washington</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$638,040</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Problem Statement: Honor and dignity cultures each have effective within-culture strategies for containing aggression. People from different cultures or different regions of the US can be oblivious to each other’s strategies, leading to unintended conflict and aggression. Minority youth experience high levels of victimization, often from multiple sources. Ways in which cultural and peer norms may foster resilience, and help expand the range of acceptable responses to threat and victimization has not been adequately addressed in research or practice. This project will (1) test a culturally-informed theoretical model of peer helping, reciprocity and influence; (2) develop reliable and valid measures of honor and dignity norms; (3) obtain youth views on effective nonviolent responses to peer victimization; and (4) develop cultural competency units for student programs and professional development workshops. Subjects: 256 males and females in grades 9-11 (64 each Mexican-, African-, European-, and Indigenous Americans) from three locales: urban and rural WA and rural Idaho. Mixed Research Methods: Interviews and surveys conducted over two years (spring - summer of 2016, 2017)

ask students about times they have provided each of four types of help or advice to threatened friends, and times they have been the recipient of the same four types. Qualitative coding of interview responses follows immediately (fall - winter of 2016, 2017). Ratings of identity-relevant feelings (e.g., pride, guilt, connection, obligation) measure the perceived effectiveness, acceptability, and costs-benefits of each type of youth-generated helping response. Surveys measure cultural norms and experiences with discrimination and victimization. Hypotheses: (1) Based on prior work, calming a threatened friend and attempting reconciliation (but not encouraging or attempting retaliation) will affirm self-identity and social connection for both parties. (2) Honor norms demanding personal retaliation evolve when access to institutional protection and justice is limited. Therefore, perceived discrimination will predict honor norms and retaliation. Statistics: Repeated measures analyses of variance (fall, 2017) will determine how type of helping response predicts self-identity, connection, influence and obligation in both parties. Item-response theory analyses will assess reliability and validity of the cultural norms surveys. The use of rating scales and in-depth interviews provide complementary data that can be cross-checked to strengthen the validity of our interpretation. Products: Four peer-reviewed articles; reliable, valid measures of cultural norms; data coded and summarized by case; trade-press articles summarizing promising practices; and workshop units promoting cultural competency for teens and adults piloted and shared with Seattle City Youth Violence Initiative. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-R2-CX-K127:</b>	<b>Research on Bias Crime Victimization</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>University of New Hampshire</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$624,638</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Statement of the Problem: Bias victimization is widespread and has serious physical and emotional consequences for victims. Researchers have called for better bias victimization surveillance tools and research is particularly needed on the extent that youth suffer from bias crimes and victimization. To address this gap, the proposed study will use a mixed-methods approach to develop a comprehensive youth bias crime violence exposure instrument, the Youth Bias Victimization Questionnaire (Y-BVQ). Subjects: The Y-BVQ will be piloted using innovative community-based sampling strategies in three areas of the U.S.: Boston, Philadelphia, and rural Appalachia. Participants will include a sample of 900 racially and ethnically diverse groups of youth ages 10-21 living in urban and rural settings, and in communities with high immigrant populations. Partnerships: The research is a collaboration between the Crimes Against Children Research Center (CCRC) at the University of New Hampshire; the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Northeastern University; and the Life Paths Appalachian Research Center. Research Design and Methods: The study uses an intensive, mixed-methods approach to instrument development. Phase 1 involves a comprehensive conceptual and development process following procedures our research team has used to establish previous victimization surveys. The scale will be reviewed by youth violence specialists, focus groups of teens, and administered in cognitive interviews to determine the appropriateness of language and content. Phase 2 involves pilot administration of the instrument to a sample of 900 youth. A Y-BVQ toolkit for researchers, law enforcement

and prevention experts will be developed that will include the instrument, administration guidelines, scoring options, and interpretation of responses. Analysis: Instrument psychometrics will examine content validity and internal consistency. Construct validity will be examined with correlations with trauma symptoms, community disorder, and other indicators of distress and dysfunction. We will examine the factor structure of the scale using principal factors analysis with orthogonal and oblique rotations. Pilot data on bias victimization incidence and relationships between victimization and youth demographic and risk factors (peer victimization, adverse events, community safety, and mental health symptoms) will be analyzed using descriptive statistics, chi-square analyses, t-test and logistic regression analyses. Products, Reports, and Data Archiving: Project findings will be disseminated through manuscripts submitted to peer-reviewed journals; presentations at two national conferences; and a final summary report suitable for all audiences. The data will be archived at the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data Center. Note: This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

## L: Evaluations of Demonstration Projects

<b>2010-IJ-CX-0015:</b>	<b>Evaluation of the Attorney General's Children Exposed to Violence Demonstration Program</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>Fund for the City of New York</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The Attorney General has launched an ambitious program to test comprehensive, community-based efforts in eight sites nationwide. Each site will have to create a broad, multi-disciplinary partnership with the means to implement a wide range of responses across a given community or tribal setting. This project will provide for a Phase I evaluation of this demonstration program. Informed by a broad ecological framework, the goals are to: (1) implement a participatory research process at all eight sites; (2) conduct a formative evaluation of all eight demonstrations; (3) identify both universal outcomes and data and specific measures appropriate to individual sites; and (4) produce a comprehensive research design for a four-site Phase II process, impact, and cost evaluation. To address the four goals, site visits to each of the eight sites will be conducted. During these visits, the evaluator will engage the sites with information on the children exposed to violence (CEV) literature; probe them through interactive sessions concerning initiative goals, strategies, and outcomes; conduct thorough semi-structured interviews with all coalition representatives; and administer a formal (quantitative) communications and priorities survey. In addition, in the second site visit outcomes of interest will be finalized; data systems assessed; interviews of technology/systems staff members conducted; relevant data obtained; and interest and willingness to develop new data systems assessed. Additional work will include developing a comprehensive logic model by site and a universal logic model spanning all eight sites; developing a major performance indicators chart for each site and a universal, multi-site chart; assessing each site's strategic



planning process utilizing empirically based lessons from prior process evaluations; and devising feasible and appropriate quasi-experimental designs for a Phase II evaluation.

**Supplemental Award:**

In response to the problem of childhood exposure to violence, the Attorney General has launched an ambitious program to test comprehensive, community-based strategies in six sites nationwide. The sites are: Boston, MA; Cuyahoga County, OH; Grand Forks, ND; Shelby County, TN; and two tribal sites, the Chippewa Cree Tribe (MT) and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe (SD). Each site will implement a wide range of strategies across their target communities. The goals of this Phase II evaluation are: (1) to conduct a thorough process evaluation of all six demonstration sites; (2) to conduct a rigorous impact evaluation of all six demonstrations; and (3) to disseminate findings to appropriate federal, state, and local policymakers and practitioners across the country who might benefit from understanding the results of the six pilot demonstrations. Research Design and Methodology Annual site visits will be conducted to all six sites, with additional visits to the tribal sites. During these visits, steps will be taken to ensure that systems are in place to collect required data; semi-structured interviews will be conducted with site representatives to understand and assess the implementation of each strategy; and project obstacles and/or modifications to initial plans will be documented as lessons for future jurisdictions. Process evaluation activities will also include tracking quantitative implementation indicators, such as numbers of trainings or other events held, numbers of schools or children served through prevention programs, or numbers of parents or children participating in other prevention or intervention efforts. In addition to collecting common core indicators of children exposed to violence (CEV) from all sites (e.g., police data, social welfare data, and service usage), a two-wave, representative survey in each site's target community will be conducted to assess changes in awareness of CEV and local resources, violence-related attitudes and behaviors, and exposure to local awareness campaign messages and materials. The evaluators will also identify specific strategies in some sites on which to conduct additional impact evaluation activities. Finally, the design and methodology will vary for the tribal sites, given their extended planning period and additional technical assistance needs.

**Product: NCJ# 249236**

**Outcome Evaluation of the Defending Childhood Demonstration Program**

This program's objectives are to prevent children's exposure to violence; to mitigate the negative impact of such exposure when it occurs; and to develop knowledge and increase awareness of children's exposure to violence, both within and beyond the pilot sites. Overall, the outcome evaluations at the six demonstration sites did not find any changes in indicators for children's exposure to violence at school, home, and in the community based on measures examined before and after the implementation of the Defending Childhood Initiative; however, there was evidence of the program's positive impact. At the non-tribal sites, the evaluation's community survey found increased community understanding of what actions are considered violence; and at tribal sites, there was an increased awareness of the Defending Childhood Initiative and the services available through the program. The evaluation's professional practices survey indicated that after attending training sponsored by the Defending Childhood Initiative, professionals' knowledge about children's exposure to violence, evidence-based

practices, and vicarious trauma and self-care increased. In addition, agencies reported incorporating more trauma-informed practices in treating children who have been exposed to violence. All sites implemented strategies to reduce children’s exposure to violence or to reduce its potentially traumatic effect. All sites also implemented community awareness and education campaigns intended to increase the community’s knowledge and awareness of children’s exposure to violence, along with available resources and services. Some of the sites trained professionals who work with children on the nature and impact on children of their exposure to violence.

<b>2014-VF-GX-0001:</b>	<b>Evaluation of the Office for Victims of Crime Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth State Demonstration Project</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>ICF, International</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$499,994</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

The profound impact of child victimization provides compelling evidence of the need for a collaborative and multi-system response to identifying and serving child/youth victims. In response to this challenge, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has created a new demonstration grant program, the Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth (V21-SOC), to address these needs using a systems of care (SOC) approach. V21-SOC will award grants to two grantees for statewide implementation. ICF proposes to perform a 15-month project to assess the initial phase of this new demonstration and lay the groundwork for future evaluation activities. The evaluation team will design a comprehensive and rigorous methodology conducive to both a baseline study and a future process and impact evaluation; document the planning and any initial implementation of systems of care models; perform the initial baseline study; initiate a process evaluation of the training and technical assistance (TTA) Provider; and continuously advise grantees and the TTA Provider through conference calls and a series of Web meetings. The proposed baseline study will include (1) an initial assessment of the demonstration and ongoing implementation documentation, (2) collecting and analyzing survey data from SOC network partners, (3) collecting and analyzing stakeholder interview data, (4) collecting and analyzing survey data from a wide range of service providers in the state, (5) collecting and analyzing data from victims (either surveys or interviews), and (6) collecting and analyzing a variety of administrative data such as client services databases, quarterly reports, and court records. ICF will evaluate the TTA provided to grantees through quarterly surveys to those receiving TTA and stakeholder interviews. Analyses will include descriptive statistics, statistical comparison tests, regression, and social network analysis. At the end of the study, ICF will finalize the methodology, fidelity criteria, and instruments to be used for continued evaluation in Phase II. ICF will also produce a summary report for NIJ; Web meetings to inform grantees and the TTA Provider; and conference presentations, briefs, trade articles, and peer-reviewed journal articles to release preliminary findings to the field. A full-scale evaluation of the V21-SOC demonstration will raise awareness about the needs of this vulnerable victim population and assist practitioners, policymakers, and researchers in understanding whether and how SOC can effectively assist child/youth victims. The proposed team is exceptionally well-equipped to execute a rigorous project design to meet these goals, given its unique combination of relevant experience and expertise.

## Supplemental Award:

ICF is pleased to submit this proposal to the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to continue performing the process and impact evaluation of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth Demonstration Project. ICF proposes to continue evaluation activities during a 15-month period to assess the demonstration and provide more information to the field about the effectiveness of systems of care frameworks for serving the needs of child and youth victims. Proposed tasks include: (1) ongoing communication and management; (2) development of the impact research plan and instruments; (3) continued baseline study and implementation documentation activities (including reviews of programmatic materials, stakeholder interviews, administration of the Network Partner Survey, continued collection of administrative data, and any remaining work related to the baseline collections from service providers and victims); (4) process evaluation of TTA process (occurring through interviews and a quarterly administered survey); and (5) reporting and dissemination. Data will be analyzed with psychometric analyses, descriptive statistics, statistical comparison tests, multiple regression, and social network analysis. ICF will complete all required progress reports and summary reporting, as well as disseminate findings through webinars, conference presentations, and journal articles or briefs. Data, instruments, and other supporting materials will be archived for continued replication and research investigation. The ICF Team, led by co-Principal Investigators Sara Debus-Sherrill and Mary Spooner, is exceptionally well-equipped to meet the study's goals, with a unique combination of relevant experience in victim-centered research, vulnerable children and youth, and collaboration-based initiatives. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

<b>2015-VF-GX-K101:</b>	<b>Evaluation of the Supporting Male Survivors of Violence Demonstration Initiative</b>
<b>Grantee:</b>	<b>RTI International</b>
<b>Amount:</b>	<b>\$993,432</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>

Violence is one of the leading causes of death for people 15 to 44 years of age, with males and racial/ethnic minorities bearing the greatest burden of youth violence (Krug et al., 2002; David-Ferdon et al, 2015). The Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) is supporting the Male Survivors of Violence Demonstration Initiative designed to enhance the field's ability to recognize and improve services for male survivors of violence, particularly boys and young men of color. Boys and young men of color who fall victim to violence are underserved. Research suggests that one of the main barriers to male psychological help-seeking lies in men's attitudes about masculinity, and these attitudes are heavily influenced by race and culture (Yousaf, Popat, & Hunter, 2015). While demonstration projects provide opportunities to implement innovative solutions to critical needs like services for male survivors of violence, a carefully designed and competently implemented evaluation can lead to sustained changes in policy and practice. RTI International proposes to use a mixed methodology pre-post design to conduct (1) a site-level implementation evaluation to describe the strategies that each OVC-funded demonstration site has implemented and (2) a cross-site evaluation to determine if improvements in the response



to male survivors of violence, particularly boys and young men of color and their families, were achieved. Two goals guide the proposed work. We will: (1) design and implement a cross-site evaluation of the OVC's Supporting Male Survivors of Violence Demonstration Initiative and (2) assess the implementation of each demonstration site independently of all others, focusing on whether the project's selected strategy was implemented with fidelity. Site visits (key informant interviews and focus groups) and Web-based surveys will be the primary modes of data collection. We will use a combination of qualitative (social network analysis and qualitative comparative analysis) and quantitative analyses (descriptive analysis) to examine how constructs change post-baseline at the site and initiative level. Where feasible, we will conduct cross-sectional models using time (pre to post) as the primary predictor in linear or nonlinear regression models. RTI will disseminate information about the evaluation approach, the individual site and cross-site outcomes, and implications for replication through semiannual progress reports to the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), briefings to stakeholders, and wider dissemination through research and practitioner-oriented conference presentations, peer-reviewed journals, and policy forums. This project contains a research and/or development component, as defined in applicable law.

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