

Category I: Teen Dating Violence

COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1993-2020

Table of Contents

CATEGORY I: TEEN DATING VIOLENCE II

2005-WT-BX-0002: *An Evaluation of Sexual Violence/Harassment Prevention Program in Middle Schools* 11

2008-MU-MU-0010: *Dating Violence/Harassment Prevention Programs: A Collaborative Multi-Level Randomized Experimental Evaluation* 11

2008-WG-BX-0003: *Dating Abuse Prevention in Teens of Moms With Domestic Violence Protection Orders* 21

2009-IJ-CX-0004: *Risky Relationships and Teen Dating Violence Among High-Risk Adolescents*..... 31

2009-IJ-CX-0503: *Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence*..... 41

2009-MU-MU-0025: *Preventing Revictimization in Teen Dating Relationships: A Randomized Control Trial With Adolescent Girls in Foster Care* 51

2009-W9-BX-0001: *Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA)*..... 61

2010-MU-FX-0005: *An Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy to Dating Violence*..... 71

2010-MU-MU-0008: *A Dating Violence Prevention Program for Each Grade in Middle School: A Longitudinal Multi-level Experiment* 81

2010-MU-MU-0012: *The Fourth R: A Randomized Trial of a Violence-Reduction Program in Bronx, New York*..... 91

2010-MU-MU-0031: *Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence*..... 101

2010-WG-BX-0003: *Understanding Youth’s Use of Technology to Perpetrate Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Harassment and Victimization*..... 121

2011-MU-FX-0022: *Bullying, Sexual and Dating Violence Trajectories from Early to Late Adolescence*. 131

2011-MU-MU-0023: *Integrating Prevention and Intervention: A School Health Center Program to Promote Healthy Adolescent Relationships*..... 141

2011-WG-BX-0020: *A National Probability-Based Household Survey on Teen Dating Violence*..... 141

2011-WG-BX-0021: *Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents–II (DAVILA-II)* 151

2012-IJ-CX-0014: *Mental Health Conditions as Antecedents and Outcomes of Teen Dating Violence*... 161

2012-IJ-CX-0015: *Patterns, Precursors and Consequences of Teen Dating Violence: Analyzing Gendered and Generic Pathways* 171

2012-W9-BX-0001: *Developmental Pathways of Teen Dating Violence in a High-Risk Sample*..... 181

2012-WG-BX-0005: *Continuation of Dating It Safe: A Longitudinal Study on Teen Dating Violence*..... 191

2013-VA-CX-0001: *A Brief Intervention to Prevent Adolescent Dating Aggression Perpetration*..... 201

2013-VA-CX-0002: *Long-Term Impact of a Positive Youth Development Program on Dating Violence Outcomes During the Transition to Adulthood*..... 201

2013-VA-CX-0003: *The Dynamic Context of Teen Dating Violence within Adolescent Relationships* 211

2013-VA-CX-0007: *Predicting Intimate Partner Violence for At-Risk Young Adults and Their Romantic Partners*..... 221

2013-VA-CX-0008: *Effects of a Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Program on Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence and Substance Use in High School* 231

2014-VA-CX-0065: *Longitudinal Follow-up in the National Survey for Teen Relationships and Violence (STRiV2)*..... 231

2014-MU-CX-0002: *Partner Violence Prevention for Middle School Boys: A Dyadic Web-Based Intervention* 241

2014-VA-CX-0066: *Relationship Processes in the Development of Teen Dating Violence* 251

2016-IJ-CX-0006: *Development of a New Measure of Adolescent Dating Aggression: National Norms with a Focus on Marginalized Youth* 251

2016-IJ-CX-0007: *The Next Generation in the Measurement of Adolescent Relationship Abuse* 261

2016-VF-GX-0007: *Research and Evaluation on Victims of Crime*..... 261

2017-VA-CX-0030: *The Healthy Adolescent Relationship Trajectories Study* 271

2017-MU-CX-0031: *Relationship Dynamics in the National Survey of Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (STRiV)*..... 281

2018-R2-CX-0022: Trauma-Informed Screening Approach for Teen Dating Violence Perpetration in Racially Diverse Adolescents: A Multi-Site Study.....281

Category I: TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

2005-WT-BX-0002:	An Evaluation of Sexual Violence/Harassment Prevention Program in Middle Schools
Amount:	\$425,210
PI:	Bruce Taylor, Nan Stein
Status:	Completed

Sexual violence and harassment (SV/H) can lead to serious injuries for victims, and particularly young women. Schools that do not address SV/H among students can become training grounds for future violence and sexual assault. The goals are to enhance the capacity of programs to prevent SV/H by increasing knowledge about the efficacy of prevention programs through the most rigorous and cost-effective evaluation methods available. Guided by the ‘Theory of Reasoned Action’, the researchers will employ an experimental, longitudinal design for the proposed two-year study. This study employed random assignment of one hundred 6th and 7th grade classrooms in the Cleveland area to one of three conditions: Treatment 1: a gender socialization-based curriculum that addresses SV/H by focusing on construction of gender roles, power and control in relationships, hyper masculinity, and compulsory heterosexuality and healthy relationships; Treatment 2: a criminal justice-based curriculum for SV/H prevention focusing on deterring aggressive behavior and teaching self-control; and Control group: this group will not receive any of the elements of Treatments 1 or 2. Quantitative surveys will be administered before, immediately after, and 6 months after treatment and a small number of key informant interviews with program staff and focus groups with teachers will be conducted. The objectives are to answer: (a) Whether SV/H prevention programs in middle schools reduce the probability of SV/H perpetration/victimization, have no effect, or lead to negative effects; (2) What are the effects of providing prevention programs compared to no prevention? (3) Are prevention programs that incorporate a gender socialization component (Treatment 1) more effective in changing knowledge, attitudes, and behavior than programs that are fact-based (Treatment 2) or have no programming at all (control group)? (4) Do moderator variables affect the relationship between treatment and outcomes? (5) How cost-effective are the two interventions?

Product: NCJ# 221892

Experimental Evaluation of Gender Violence/Harassment Prevention Programs in Middle Schools

Results show that the intervention appeared to reduce self-reported peer violence victimization and self-reported perpetration on some of the measures in these areas, though there was a conflicting finding regarding self-reported dating violence perpetration. The intervention seemed to increase self-reported dating violence perpetration for some of the measures in this area, but not self-reported dating violence victimization. Sexual harassment and gender violence, including interpersonal or dating violence, are serious problems in K-12 schools. Previous research shows that gender violence and harassment (GV/H) can lead to severe injuries for victims, poorer mental or physical health, more high-risk or deviant behavior, and increased school avoidance. Many schools that address GV/H do so by developing and implementing intervention programs. However, little is known about the effectiveness of these interventions. This report provides a detailed account of the results of an experimental evaluation, supported by the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice that used a randomized controlled trial of a GV/H prevention program for sixth and seventh grade students in three suburban school districts bordering Cleveland, OH. Approximately 100 sixth and seventh grade classrooms were assigned randomly to either receive 1 of 2 intervention curricula or a true no-treatment control condition. Through student surveys, the study assessed whether GV/H prevention programming reduced the probability of self-reported GV/H perpetration and victimization, had no effect, or led to negative effects. The study also explored the impact of the prevention curricula on student self-reports of attitudes, knowledge, and behavioral intentions as they related to GV/H and sexual harassment.

2008-MU-MU-0010:	Dating Violence/Harassment Prevention Programs: A Collaborative Multi-Level Randomized Experimental Evaluation
Amount	\$649,851
PI:	Bruce Taylor
Status:	Completed

The authors randomly assigned school-based interventions to 30 public middle schools in New York City, and identified 117 sixth and seventh grade classes to randomly receive additional classroom interventions. The classroom intervention was a six-session curriculum that emphasized the consequences of dating violence and harassment

(DV/H), laws and penalties for DV/H, the construction of gender roles, and healthy relationships. The building-based intervention included the use of temporary school-based restraining orders, higher levels of faculty and security presence in areas identified through student mapping of safe/unsafe "hot spots," and the use of posters to increase awareness and reporting of DV/H to school personnel. Quantitative surveys were implemented at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and 6 months post-intervention, and included measures of knowledge, attitudes, behavioral intentions, intentions to intervene as a bystander, peer and dating partner physical and sexual violence, sexual harassment, and other background items. Qualitative focus groups were conducted with interventionists and students to provide rich context for assessing intervention implementation and student change associated with the interventions.

Product: NCJ #236175

Shifting Boundaries: Final Report on an Experimental Evaluation of a Youth Dating Violence Prevention Program in New York City Middle Schools (2011) – B. Taylor, N. Stein, D. Woods, E. Mumford

Of the study participants, who ranged in age from 10 to 15 years old and of which 53 percent were female, 40 percent reported having prior experience with a violence prevention educational program, 50 percent reported being in at least one dating relationship, 20 percent reported having been the victim of dating violence, and 66 percent reported having been the victim of peer violence. The combination of the classroom and building interventions, and the "building only" intervention led to a 32- to 47-percent decrease in peer sexual violence victimization and perpetration up to 6 months after the intervention. The success of the "building only" intervention is particularly important because it can be implemented with very few extra costs to schools. Focus groups confirmed that the interventions were implemented as planned, teachers liked and were supportive of the interventions, and the positive survey results related to the interventions effectiveness were confirmed.

2008-WG-BX-0003:	Dating Abuse Prevention in Teens of Moms With Domestic Violence Protection Orders
Amount:	\$375,125
PI:	Vangie Foshee
Status:	Completed

The purposes of the proposed research are to 1) revise an existing parent-based intervention to prevent dating abuse in 12 to 15 year old teens exposed to domestic violence (Aim 1) and 2) conduct a randomized trial to pilot test the procedures that would be used in a future larger randomized trial to test program efficacy (Aim 2). The intervention will be designed to be implemented by mothers who are victims of domestic violence and are identified through the North Carolina court system because they have obtained a domestic violence protection order. Development of Moms for Safe Dates, the proposed intervention, will involve formative research to adapt an already developed, theory-based, rigorously evaluated adolescent dating violence prevention program, Families for Safe Dates, for this highly vulnerable population of youth. Like Families for Safe Dates, Moms for Safe Dates will consist of six booklets mailed to study mothers, followed by health educator telephone calls two weeks after each mailing. To address Aim 1 the research team will recruit 32 women and their 12 to 15 year old adolescents through courthouse-recruitment procedures that were used in a recent study conducted by co-investigators to participate in three focus groups to provide feedback on program booklets. To address Aim 2, the research team will recruit 50 mothers and their 12 to 15 year old adolescents, through the same courthouse-recruitment procedures, to participate in a randomized trial. Mothers and adolescents will each complete a 25-minute baseline telephone interview, half the families will be randomly allocated to receive Moms for Safe Dates, and mothers and adolescents will complete another 25-minute telephone interview three months after treatment families complete the program. The conduct of the pilot randomized trial will allow for piloting of all the procedures that would be used in a future efficacy trial and to obtain estimates of participation and retention rates. The study is innovative in that it will be laying the groundwork for the first randomized trial of a family-based program for preventing dating abuse among adolescents exposed to domestic violence and it uses a unique approach to recruitment.

Product: NCJ # 240098

Dating Abuse Prevention in Teens of Moms with Domestic Violence Protection Orders (2012) – Vangie A. Foshee, Kim Dixon, Ling Yin-Chang, Susan Ennett, Beth Moracco, Michael Bowling, Jennifer L. Moss

Research was conducted to adapt an evidence-based family program for preventing teen dating abuse, "Families for Safe Dates (FSD)." FSD consists of six booklets of information and interactive activities mailed to study families for use at home at convenient times. This was followed by health-educator phone calls 2 weeks after each mailing. After

an initial adaptation of the booklets, 28 women who had been victims of domestic violence but no longer lived with their abusers and who had daughters ages 12 to 15 ($n = 35$) participated in a series of focus groups and interviews to obtain feedback on the adapted booklets. The current report describes the theoretical and conceptual framework of “Moms and Teens for Safe Dates,” along with results from the formative research called the “Program Adaptation Study.” These materials include 10 themes identified from the focus groups and interviews. The material may be useful for others who intervene to prevent dating abuse among teens exposed to domestic violence. It also reports results from piloting the recruitment procedures. In addition, this report presents lessons learned from the pilot program regarding recruitment, administration, data collection, and measures that will improve the randomized efficacy trial methodology. Further, findings from the baseline questionnaire characterize aspects of the teens’ exposure to domestic violence. The prevalence of multiple types of dating abuse, victimization, and perpetration among these teens is reported as well as bullying, sexual harassment, and peer aggression, victimization, and perpetration.

Additional NCJ citations: 228354, 228355

2009-IJ-CX-0004:	Risky Relationships and Teen Dating Violence Among High-Risk Adolescents
Amount:	\$447,381
PI:	N. Dickon Reppucci
Status:	Completed

This short-term longitudinal study will examine the prevalence rates and risk factors associated with dating violence among a sample of high-risk youth. The goal of this comprehensive, in-depth examination of dating violence is to develop a better understanding of how to promote positive relationships for youth most at risk for initiating, maintaining, and reengaging in unhealthy romantic relationships. Second, the research will explore risk factors associated with (a) remaining in relationships after abuse has occurred and (b) continued victimization and/or perpetration of violence as youth move between relationships. Third, the study will examine how relationship-level characteristics (e.g., unequal power dynamics, sexual activity) relate to dating violence among high risk youth. Finally, in response to calls for more research on the consequences of dating older partners, this project will investigate whether age differences between high-risk adolescents and their partners relate to relationship violence and explore potential mediators of this relationship to determine why partner age differences might matter in adolescent relationships.

Product: NCJ # 243170

A Review of the Findings from Project D.A.T.E.: Risky Relationships and Teen Dating Violence Among At-Risk Adolescents (2013)—N. Dickon Reppucci, Barbara Oudekerk, Lucy Guarnera, Alison Nagel, Cristina Reitz-Krueger, Tammi Walker, Todd Warner

Statement of Purpose: Teen dating violence is linked to numerous longstanding consequences, such as delinquency, risky sexual behavior, and adult partner violence. Thus, research exploring adolescents’ trajectories into and out of violent relationships is important for developing effective prevention and intervention programs to promote healthy teen relationships. Prior research has generally been restricted to normative, school-based samples that may not capture the unique experiences of youth who are already most likely to experience negative relationship outcomes. The purpose of Project D.A.T.E. (Demand Appreciation, Trust, and Equality) was to address gaps in current research by focusing on romantic relationship experiences among at-risk adolescents. *Goals and Objectives:* We investigated risk and protective factors related to teen dating violence and positive relationship outcomes within a single relationship and across multiple relationships. We also explored how early abusive relationships impact trajectories into later abusive relationships, and how age gaps between romantic partners might contribute to victimization and other negative outcomes.

Participants. Participants included 223 adolescents (58% female, 61% African American) who (1) were between 13 and 18 years old, (2) answered yes to “Have you ever ‘dated someone’ or been in a romantic relationship that lasted at least 1 month?” and (3) received community-based services (e.g., foster care, alternative schooling) or low-income services (e.g., free or reduced lunch, low-income housing). *Methods:* Participants completed two waves of two-hour, in-person self-report interviews that took place about a year apart. In each interview, participants answered questions about socio-demographics, family, and schooling. Most of the interview, however, addressed issues of abuse, intimacy, and health within up to three romantic relationships (thus, up to six relationships total across two waves of data collection). We used assessments shown to be valid and reliable for adolescents. *Results:* Teens in our at-risk sample reported high levels of dating abuse, risky sexual behavior, and deviance within their romantic relationships.

Abuse victimization and perpetration were highly correlated, with patterns largely the same for boys and girls, suggesting reciprocal or “common couple” violence rather than one-sided intimate terrorism. Risk factors for dating violence were similar whether considering single or multiple relationships. However, dynamic risk factors (e.g., depression, peer delinquency) appeared to be more powerful than historical factors (e.g., sexual debut, child maltreatment). Relationship-specific risk factors like dyadic deviancy and intimacy related significantly to dating violence, indicating that teens may view abusive relationships as serious and committed. In addition, dating abuse by partners and toward partners was relatively stable across time. For most teens, experiencing abuse in their first-ever romantic relationship placed them at great risk for a trajectory of future abuse. Finally, age gaps between partners were related to negative outcomes regardless of the younger partner’s age or gender. This link between partner age gaps and poor outcomes was best explained by older and younger partners’ risky lifestyles, not power inequalities within the relationship. *Conclusions:* Low-income, service-receiving adolescents showed high rates of abuse in their earliest relationships and then continued to be significantly at risk for abuse in subsequent relationships—despite describing these relationships as positive in many ways. Thus, there is a clear need for prevention and intervention efforts targeting such at-risk youth that focus more on relationship quality than simply the presence or absence of abuse. Initial Project D.A.T.E. results suggest that future research needs to investigate the context of teen dating violence (events before and after, whether a partner was frightened, etc.) to understand how youth perceive these relationships. A nuanced understanding of the context of abuse is crucial since youth are unlikely to seek help if their perceptions of “dating violence” diverge from definitions used by service providers and law enforcement.

2009-IJ-CX-0503:	Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$596,728
PI:	Peggy Giordano
Status:	Completed

This research builds upon a large, prospective longitudinal study of adolescent romantic and sexual relationships (The Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study-TARS). Planned analyses of quantitative and qualitative data collected across four waves of TARS interviews combined with new structured and in-depth interviews focused specifically on the youngest cohort of youths will provide a more comprehensive portrait of (a) the life course, (b) the relationship, and (c) situational contexts that foster teen dating violence. Of major interest is to specify how experiences associated with gender influence processes that result in violent outcomes, as well as youths’ own perceptions of the meanings of violent events in their lives and relationships. The following specific aims will be addressed: (1) Describe the incidence and prevalence of relationship abuse across the period of adolescence, and as young people navigate the transition to young adulthood. (2) Explore similarities and differences in the nature, qualities, and dynamics within violent and nonviolent teen dating relationships. (3) Investigate the situational contexts of violence by collecting new quantitative data from the youngest cohort of TARS respondents.

Product: NCJ# 248626

Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence: A Final Summary Overview (2015) – Peggy C. Giordano, Monica A. Longmore, Wendy D. Manning

Objectives: Intimate partner violence (IPV) necessarily occurs within the context of dyadic relationships, but knowledge of the character and dynamics of teen and young adult violent relationships is limited. Building on the earlier Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS) ($N = 1,305$), this research added quantitative and qualitative assessments of IPV with a focus on (a) developmental progressions, (b) relationship dynamics; and (c) situational factors associated with persistence/desistance in IPV with a subset of male and female respondents ($N = 102$) who varied in their levels of IPV experience. *Results:* Developmental progressions: Life course trajectories of perpetration and victimization were examined along with early risk factors and contemporaneous circumstances. Results indicated that IPV peaks during young adulthood and suggest a somewhat later age peak for young women who participate in the study. Findings indicate further that these 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, as indexed by reports of such dynamics as frequency of disagreements, feelings of jealousy and mistrust, and perceptions of a lack of partner validation.

Relationship and situational risk factors: A more focused analysis, relying on the wave 5 data, documented that concerns about time spent with friends, finances, and sexual exclusivity were “contested domains” that strongly related to IPV reports within this young adult sample. In addition, negative forms of communication appeared to amplify conflict and both partner and respondent use of these “verbal amplifiers” contributed to the odds of violence within a

focal relationship. These findings suggest specific areas that partners may be attempting to control or change, and indicate that risk is particularly elevated in relationships characterized by high levels of male and female partner control attempts. Relationship dynamics are also implicated in the process of moving away from violence or desisting. Results of analyses of narratives of “desisters” 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 (e.g., infidelity) were central adjustments that respondents associated with the cessation of physical violence. Although individual differences matter for understanding variability in IPV perpetration, the results of this longitudinal project suggest considerable variability in the experience of IPV across different relationships and the entire study period. Thus, few respondents experienced IPV in all of their relationships and, among respondents with some experience, most reported just one relationship that was characterized by IPV. Further, while anger is a reliable correlate of IPV, results pointed to some limitations of conceptualizing anger only as a stable personality trait. Findings indicated 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.

Implications of study: These findings suggest the utility of a dyadic or “relational” perspective on IPV, recognizing that these dynamics are potentially more malleable than either the features of personality or other elements of risk, such as poverty and family history. Within the realm of relationship dynamics, focusing more specifically on what partners are attempting to control, and what makes young people angry within the context of their relationships, may resonate more with adolescent and young adult audiences than relatively abstract concepts and overarching themes regarding men’s goals of achieving dominance within their relationships. This focus on contested domains, such as infidelity also provides a basis for understanding women’s feelings of anger, attempts to control their partners around these issues, and their resort to violence in certain circumstances. Results 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 and programming efforts serving the long-term goal of ameliorating this significant public health problem.

2009-MU-MU-0025:	Preventing Revictimization in Teen Dating Relationships: A Randomized Control Trial With Adolescent Girls in Foster Care
Amount:	\$777,813
PI:	Anne DePrince
Status:	Completed

This study will test two intervention programs designed to decrease revictimization (RV) in teen dating relationships in a sample of adolescent girls in foster care. The interventions arise from two different empirical and theoretical approaches to the problem of RV: (1) social learning and feminist theory (from the teen dating violence literature); and (2) risk detection (from the adult sexual RV literature). Incorporating recent cognitive neuroscience research, this study will expand the risk detection intervention to focus on improving teens’ executive function skills (EFs). EFs include a range of cognitive abilities that are (1) critical to detecting danger cues (e.g., noticing danger, planning and initiating responses) and (2) often impaired in youth and adults previously exposed to violence. A random sample of adolescent girls in foster care will be selected for participation. Teens will be randomly assigned to either waitlist control (WLC) or one of two intervention conditions; interventions will be administered in a group format and will be assessed four times. Researchers will test whether the respective interventions cause unique changes in the mechanisms they implicate. Thus, the current research will yield important findings on the relative effectiveness of two interventions.

Product: NCJ# 244086

Preventing Revictimization in Teen Dating Relationships (2013) – A. DePrince

Revictimization refers to the occurrence of two or more instances of violence and poses an enormous criminal justice problem. Adolescent girls in the child welfare system are at high risk of revictimization in adolescence. Most interventions with teens have focused on *primary* prevention (that is, prevention in teens not previously exposed to violence) of physical (usually *not* sexual) violence. In addition, interventions have frequently targeted youth in school settings, though youth in the child welfare system experience frequent transitions in housing/care that disrupt regular attendance at a single school. Thus, child welfare youth at high risk of revictimization may not receive prevention programming as consistently as their peers. Thus, the current study compared two active interventions designed to decrease revictimization in a diverse sample of adolescent girls in the child welfare system. The interventions targeted theoretically distinct risk factors for revictimization. The social learning/feminist (SL/F) intervention focused on concepts derived from social learning and feminist models of risk, such as sexism and beliefs about relationships. The

risk detection/executive function (RD/EF) intervention focused on potential disruptions in the ability to detect and respond to risky situations/people due to problems in executive function. Investigators enrolled 180 adolescent girls involved in the child welfare system. Participants were assessed four times: pre-, immediately post-, 2-months, and 6-months after the intervention ended. Assessment procedures included a comprehensive battery of self-report and behavioral tasks designed to assess the processes implicated by the two revictimization intervention approaches. We examined revictimization (the presence/absence of sexual or physical assault in any relationship) as well as a range of aggressive conflict tactics in current dating relationships. Participants were randomized to complete the RD/EF ($n = 67$) or SL/F intervention ($n = 67$). A group of youth ($n = 42$) emerged who engaged in the research assessments and not the interventions. This offered an opportunity for a post-hoc, nonrandomized comparison group. Teens in the three conditions (RD/EF, SL/F, assessment only) were comparable in terms of demographic variables examined. Adolescent girls in the RD/EF condition were nearly 5 times more likely to *not* report sexual revictimization over the course of the study period compared to girls in the assessment-only group. A trend suggested that girls who participated in the SL/F intervention were 2.5 times more likely to *not* report sexual revictimization relative to the comparison group. For physical revictimization, the odds of *not* being physically revictimized were 3 times greater in the SL/F condition and 2 times greater in the RD/EF condition compared to the assessment-only group. The active interventions did not differ from one another in rates of revictimization, suggesting that practitioners have at least two viable options for curricula to engage youth around revictimization prevention. Further, the groups did not differ in attendance. Adolescents attended an average of nearly 70% of sessions, suggesting both interventions were acceptable to youth. We also examined adolescent girls' ratings of physical, emotional, and sexual conflict tactics in dating relationships using a continuous measure of aggression. Across time, adolescents reported significant decreases in their own and their partners' aggressive conflict tactics; the groups did not differ from one another. As part of demonstrating that high-risk youth can be successfully engaged outside of school-based programs, we also examined participants' responses to taking part in violence-focused interviews. Drawing on systematic assessments of participants' responses to the research interviews, adolescents reported that the benefits of violence-focused interviews outweighed the costs. As evidence increasingly points to the need to screen for and address trauma as part of providing effective mental and physical healthcare, this study has implications for thinking about assessing violence exposure as a routine part of practice.

Additional NCJ Citation: 244086

2009-W9-BX-0001:	Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA)
Amount:	\$678,942
PIs:	Chiara Sabina, Carlos Cuevas
Status:	Completed

Latino adolescents are at risk for experiencing dating violence as well as other forms of victimization that have substantial negative effects. This study offers an analysis of their experiences and responses to dating violence while incorporating culturally-relevant components. Data will be collected via phone interviews with a targeted sample of approximately 1,500 Latino adolescents (between the ages of 12 and 18) and their caregiver living throughout the United States. The goals include (1) an examination of various forms of dating violence victimization, including physical, sexual, and verbal victimization; (2) an analysis of the other forms of victimization that adolescent victims of dating violence experience; (3) a thorough analysis of the help-seeking efforts of Latino youth that addresses both formal and informal help-seeking; (4) effectiveness of services, and help-seeking barriers; (5) measurement of particular cultural factors that impact Latino youth who are victims of dating violence; (6) an assessment of current psychosocial outcomes associated with victimization, including psychological factors and delinquency behaviors; and (7) an evaluation of protective factors that may moderate the relationship between victimization and negative outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 242775

Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA) Study (2013) – Chiara Sabina, Carlos Cuevas, Kristen Bell

The Dating Violence among Latino Adolescents (DAVILA) Study adds to the literature by using a national sample of Latino adolescents to examine various forms of dating violence victimization including physical, sexual, psychological, and stalking dating violence within the last year. The DAVILA study also provides an analysis of additional forms of victimization that adolescent victims of dating violence may experience, and analyzes the formal and informal help-seeking efforts of Latino youth, the effectiveness of services, barriers to help-seeking, and the importance of cultural factors for this population. This study also provides an assessment of psychosocial outcomes

associated with victimization, including both psychological consequences and delinquency behaviors, and an evaluation the moderating effect of protective factors on the relationship between victimization and negative outcomes. A national sample of 1,525 Latino adolescents primarily recruited using list-assisted random digit dialing was obtained. Trained professionals from an experienced survey research firm conducted interviews over the phone in either English or Spanish, from September 2011 through February 2012. Respondents were queried about dating violence and other forms of victimization, help-seeking efforts, social support, acculturation, familism, psychological symptomatology, delinquent behavior, and school performance and involvement. Respondents were on average 14.85 years of age and largely second-generation residents (60.2%). The past year rate of any dating violence victimization was 19.5%, with 6.6% of the sample having experienced physical dating violence, 5.6% having experienced sexual dating violence, 1.0% having experienced stalking by a dating partner, and 14.8% having experienced psychological dating violence. Most dating violence victims (70.8%) experienced another form of victimization (convention crime, child maltreatment, peer/sibling victimization, sexual victimization, and stalking victimization) in the past year. Dating violence victimization most commonly occurred with peer/sibling victimization (57.3%), followed by conventional crime (37.4%). The rate of formal help-seeking was 15.6% and the rate of informal help-seeking was 60.7% among those who had been victimized. The most common source of formal help was from school personnel (9.2%), followed by social services (4.7%). The most common sources of informal help were friends (42.9%). When examining cultural factors, being more Latino oriented was associated with decreased odds of experiencing any dating violence. In relation to help-seeking, a one-unit increase in familism was associated with higher odds of formal help-seeking than not seeking formal help. While depression, anxiety, and hostility were associated with various forms of dating violence victimization, they were best explained by the count of all victimizations. In regards to school outcomes, experiencing physical dating violence was related to receiving special education services. Experiencing victimization also generally increased the odds of engaging in delinquency. Social support was related to decreased odds of all types of dating violence. In some cases, it also moderated the effects of dating violence on certain outcomes (e.g., hostility). Overall, results suggest that Latino youth have significant comorbid victimization and are most likely to seek informal help from friends rather than formal outlets. However, when formal resources are used, schools appear to be the primary point of contact. The use of informal help-seeking as a gateway to formal help is recommended. In addition, the role of Latino orientation and social support appears to be important in diminishing victimization risk and the negative impact of interpersonal violence among these youth.

Additional NCJ Citation: 242775

2010-MU-FX-0005:	An Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy to Dating Violence
Amount:	\$300,009
PI:	Andy Klein
Status:	Completed

Although there is growing recognition of the prevalence of dating violence and its serious short- and long-term impacts, countermeasures 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 reabuse when they are used, and the factors related to their underutilization (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 reabuse reported to police as well as the victim, offender, incident, and order characteristics that are associated with reabuse up to 2 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 age 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 in assembling teen focus groups.

Product: NCJ# 242131

An Exploratory Study of Juvenile Orders of Protection as a Remedy for Dating Violence (2013) – Andrew Klein, Amy Salomon, Laura Elwyn, Amy Barasch, Jane Powers et al.

An increasing number of states, like New York, are expanding order of protection (OP) laws to allow teens to secure orders for dating violence without parental involvement. New York did so effective, July 2008.

While there has been extensive research in regard to civil OPs involving adults for intimate partner violence, this study of all OPs taken out by New York dating violence victims in 2009 and 2010 represents the first of its kind to examine OPs involving teens for dating violence. The goal of this research is to increase our understanding of OPs by teens as a remedy for dating violence by developing a comprehensive portrait of their use in New York State. The study is both quantitative and qualitative. The quantitative portion of the study features secondary data analysis of multiple data sets, including all appropriate OPs obtained from New York Family Courts and criminal histories and police incident files from the State’s Division of Criminal Justice Services. The qualitative research is based on focus groups and individual interviews with two populations of youth: (1) a statewide sample ($N = 122$), both boys and girls, likely to be dating and exposed to dating violence but who had not necessarily used OPs (At Risk Group) and (2) a small sample of New York City young women ($N = 13$) who have sought and/or secured Civil Orders of Protection (User Group). We find the New York law to be very much a work in progress. Even the lowest estimates of teen dating violence (9.4% physical abuse, CDC, 2012) far exceed the number of OPs (1,200) requested for dating violence in the two years of study. As the At Risk teen focus groups reveals, teens are unfamiliar with the expanded law. In addition, the User group reports substantial barriers facing teens in obtaining orders, including being labeled as “snitches” by their peers, fears that OPs would not work, and ambivalence about giving up on the abusive relationship.

The data reveals that more than 90% of the petitioners were female and respondents male. While all of the victims were teens, most of the abusers were not, averaging just short of 21 years old. The majority of respondents had prior criminal histories. Most victims alleged harassment, including cyberstalking, and assaults. The relatively few female respondents more closely resembled female petitioners, than male respondents, being younger and less likely to have prior arrest histories. Police were involved in only 10 percent of the incidents that prompted the study petitions. While the majority of the teen petitioners returned to court more than once, most received only one or two temporary orders, lasting a month or so. Likely as a result of this limited duration, few respondents were charged with violating the orders. However, analysis of arrest and police incident reports, as well as new petitions taken out by study petitioners, indicated that a little more than a quarter of the respondents reabused their victims from one to three years after the initial petition. Risk for reabuse was associated with gender (being male), respondents having a prior criminal history, respondents being year or more older than their victims, and couples with children in common.

The research suggests OPs potentially constitute an important tool for teen victims. However, given lack of police involvement, without an alternative network of supportive adults, including parents and school personnel, the expanded use of OPs for teen dating violence will remain limited. New York courts also face a challenge in accommodating teen petitioners.

Additional NCJ Citations: 242131

2010-MU-MU-0008:	A Dating Violence Prevention Program for Each Grade in Middle School: A Longitudinal Multi-level Experiment
Amount:	\$807,256
PI:	Taylor and Mumford
Status:	Completed

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. Classrooms will be randomly assigned to one of four treatment conditions, with a fifth group of 10 classrooms serving as the control group. Through a randomized control trial over the course of nearly 2 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 with 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 sixth- through eighth-graders with a complete 3-year intervention program, compared with sixth-graders who receive it only once.

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 (2015) – Bruce G. Taylor, Elizabeth M. Mumford, Weiwei Liu, Nan D. Stein

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 schoolwide. Earlier research showed effectiveness in reducing domestic violence and harassment (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, favor considering the policy and administration of a schoolwide saturated delivery of the SB program. The program consists of two components: (1) 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; and (2) 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.

Additional NCJ citations: 233612

2010-MU-MU-0012:	The Fourth R: A Randomized Trial of a Violence-Reduction Program in Bronx, New York
Amount:	\$362,101
PI:	Amanda Cissner
Status:	Completed

National estimates indicate that anywhere from 1-in-10 to 1-in-5 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 with 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 (2014) – Amanda B. Cissner, Lama H. Ayoub

National estimates indicate that anywhere from 1 in 10 to 1 in 5 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. Utilizing a randomized controlled trial design, this study tests the effectiveness of the Fourth R curriculum with a younger, diverse, urban population in the Bronx, New York. A secondary quasi-experimental study seeks to examine whether the Fourth R had any schoolwide benefits across the experimental schools, reaching even those students who did not directly receive the curriculum. We 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 prosocial responses to violence.

Methods: Incoming seventh-grade students in 10 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 (B), at the conclusion of the program year (T1), and at the conclusion of the subsequent school year (T2). A total of 570 students were available for main program impact analyses at T1, and 517 students were available for T2 analyses. The surveys were supplemented with a dosage measure of the Fourth R curriculum in each experimental school as well as with qualitative interviews with program participants and administrators.

Results: Consistent with previous literature, just over half of the students (57%) were already dating, and less than 1 in 10 students (8%) were sexually active at baseline. Nearly one-fifth of students reported experiencing dating violence (20%) or physical sexual harassment/assault (20%) or perpetrating sexual harassment/assault (21%) against peers. Twice as many students (41%) reported having been the victim of any sexual harassment/assault. The majority of students reported having experienced physical peer violence and/or emotional/psychological forms of bullying as either a perpetrator (56%) or victim (68%). Incidence of physical dating violence was lower (8%). A minority of students (14%) reported recent drug or alcohol use. In terms of overall program effects, the results generally 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.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates modest impacts of the Fourth R curriculum among an urban middle school target population in the Bronx, New York. The findings suggest that dosage and program delivery matter. In schools with higher fidelity to the program model, the Fourth R produced delays in sexual activity, decreased peer violence/bullying perpetration, and reduced acceptance of pro-violence beliefs and gender stereotypes. High-risk students were especially likely to experience program benefits at follow-up.

2010-MU-MU-0031:	Life Course, Relationship, and Situational Contexts of Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$346,275
PI:	Peggy Giordano
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 life stage, relationship, and situational contexts that foster teen and young adult intimate partner violence. Drawing on a symbolic, interactionist perspective, the focus is on the respondents' perceptions of the meanings and impact of violent events in their lives and relationships. Of particular interest are 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 is innovative because it moves beyond school-based samples and included 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). Furthermore, the long window of observation (over a 10-year period) will establish patterns from ages 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 nonviolent 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 (2015) – Peggy C. Giordano, Monica A. Longmore, Wendy D. Manning

Objectives: Intimate partner violence (IPV) necessarily occurs within the context of dyadic relationships, but knowledge of the character and dynamics of teen and young adult violent relationships is limited. Building on the earlier Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS) ($N = 1,305$), this research added quantitative and qualitative assessments of IPV, with a focus on (a) developmental progressions, (b) relationship dynamics, and (c) situational factors associated with persistence/desistance in IPV across this with a subset of male and female respondents ($N = 102$) who varied in their levels of IPV experience. *Results:* Developmental progressions: Life course trajectories of perpetration and victimization were examined along with early risk factors and contemporaneous circumstances. Results indicated that IPV peaks during young adulthood and suggested a somewhat later age peak for young women who participate in the study. Findings indicate further that these 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, as indexed by reports of such dynamics as frequency of disagreements, feelings of jealousy and mistrust, and perceptions of a lack of partner validation.

Relationship and situational risk factors. A more focused analysis, relying on the wave 5 data, documented that concerns about time spent with friends, finances, and sexual exclusivity were “contested domains” that strongly related to IPV reports within this young adult sample. In addition, negative forms of communication appeared to amplify conflict, and both partner and respondent use of these “verbal amplifiers” contributed to the odds of violence within a focal relationship. These findings suggest specific areas that partners may be attempting to control or change, and indicate that risk is particularly elevated in relationships characterized by high levels of male and female partner control attempts. Relationship dynamics are also implicated in the process of moving away from violence or desisting. Results of analyses of narratives of “desisters” 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 (e.g., infidelity) were central adjustments that respondents associated with the cessation of physical violence. Although individual differences matter for understanding variability in IPV perpetration, the results of this longitudinal project suggest considerable variability in the experience of IPV across different relationships and the entire study period. Thus, few respondents experienced IPV in all of their relationships and, among respondents with some experience, most reported just one relationship that was characterized by IPV. Further, while anger is a reliable correlate of IPV, results pointed to some limitations of conceptualizing anger only as a stable personality trait. Findings indicated 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.

Implications of study: These findings suggest the utility of a dyadic or “relational” perspective on IPV, recognizing that these dynamics are potentially more malleable than either the features of personality or other elements of risk, such as poverty and family history. Within the realm of relationship dynamics, focusing more specifically on what partners are attempting to control, and what makes young people angry within the context of their relationships, may

resonate more with adolescent and young adult audiences than relatively abstract concepts and overarching themes regarding men's goals of achieving dominance within their relationships. This focus on contested domains such as infidelity also provides a basis for understanding women's feelings of anger, attempts to control their partners around these issues, and resort to violence in certain circumstances. Results 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 and programming efforts serving the long-term goal of ameliorating this significant public health problem.

Additional Grant Reference: The final report for this project and 2009-IJ-CX-0503 are the same (two grants for one project).

2010-WG-BX-0003:	Understanding Youth's Use of Technology to Perpetrate Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Harassment and Victimization
Amount:	\$367,429
PI:	Janine Zweig, Meredith Dank
Status:	Completed

The goal of this project was to expand knowledge about the types of violence and abuse experiences youth have via technology (e.g., social networking sites, texting on cell phones), and how the experience of such cyber abuse within teen dating relationships or through bullying relates to other life factors. A total of 5,647 youth from 10 middle and high schools in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania participated in the study. Fifty-one percent of the sample was female, 26 percent identified as non-white, and 94 percent identified as heterosexual. The study employed a cross-sectional survey research design, collecting data via paper-pencil survey. The survey targeted all youth who attended school on a single day, and achieved an 84-percent response rate.

Product: NCJ# 243296

Technology, Teen Dating Violence and Abuse, and Bullying (2013) – J. M. Zweig, M. Dank, P. Lachman, J. Yahner

The study's findings show that more than a quarter (26 percent) of youth in a relationship said they experienced some form of cyber dating abuse victimization in the prior year. Females were twice as likely as males to report being a victim of sexual cyber dating abuse in the prior year. More than a tenth (12 percent) of youth in a relationship said they had perpetrated cyber dating abuse in the prior year. Females reported greater levels of non-sexual cyber dating abuse perpetration than males. By contrast, male youth 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 victimization and perpetration than heterosexual youth.

With regard to other forms of teen dating violence and abuse, 84 percent of cyber dating abuse victims also reported psychological dating abuse victimizations, 52 percent reported physical dating violence victimization, and 33 percent reported sexual coercion. Further, 73 percent of cyber dating abuse perpetrators also reported psychological dating abuse perpetration, 55 percent reported physical dating violence perpetration, and 11 percent reported sexual coercion perpetration. Overall, less than one out of ten victims of dating abuse reported seeking help, with half as many male victims as female victims seeking help.

Notably, cyber dating abuse victims and perpetrators were more than two and three times as likely, respectively, as non-victims and non-perpetrators to also report experiencing and/or perpetrating cyberbullying behaviors against non-intimates. Similarly, cyberbullying victims and perpetrators were almost three and four times as likely, respectively, as non-victims and non-perpetrators to also report experiencing and/or perpetrating cyber dating abuse against romantic partners.

With regard to other findings on bullying experiences, the study showed that 1 in 6 youth (17 percent) reported being victims of cyberbullying, with females experiencing significantly higher victimization rates with regard to cyberbullying than males. Fewer than one in ten youth reported perpetrating cyberbullying in the prior year. Female youth reported significantly higher perpetration rates with regard to cyberbullying than males. LGBTQ youth reported significantly higher rates of cyberbullying victimization and perpetration than heterosexual youth. Nine out of ten cyberbullying victims also experienced psychological bullying victimization, and the same portion of cyberbullying perpetrators also perpetrated psychological bullying. There was also a fairly high degree of overlap between cyberbullying and physical bullying, with two-thirds to three-quarters of cyberbullying victims/perpetrators also

reporting physical bullying victimization/perpetration. Despite this overlap, only one out of six bullying victims reported seeking help, with twice as many female victims as male victims seeking help.

PDF Link: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/243296.pdf>

2011-MU-FX-0022:	Bullying, Sexual and Dating Violence Trajectories from Early to Late Adolescence
Amount:	\$386,766
PI:	Dorothy Espelage and Sabina Low
Status:	Completed

Youth aggression and bullying, sexual harassment and dating violence are widespread public health concerns that create negative consequences for victims. This study included a longitudinal examination of the impact of family abuse and conflict, self-reported delinquency, and peer delinquency on the development of bullying perpetration, sexual harassment perpetration, and teen dating violence perpetration among a large sample of early adolescents. While a few studies have examined the co-occurrence of bullying, sexual harassment, and/or dating violence among high school students, there are no studies to date to simultaneously consider all three forms of violence using a comprehensive, developmentally-sensitive design.

Quantitative self-report survey data were collected from 1162 high school students who were part of the University of Illinois Study of Bullying and Sexual Violence Study funded by the Centers for Disease Control (1U49CE001268-01; 2007-2010). Participants included in the study results were from four Midwestern middle schools (grades 5–7; three cohorts) who were followed into three high schools; 49% female; 58% African American, and 26% White. At Wave 1, students ranged in age from 10 to 15 years of age ($M = 11.81$; $SD = 1.09$). Sixty-percent of the sample was eligible for free/reduced lunch. Participants were in middle school (waves 1–4) during the initial Bullying and Sexual Violence Study. At waves 6 and 7, youth were in high school; and sexual harassment and teen dating violence measures were added to the survey packet.

Product: NCJ# 246830

Bullying, Sexual, and Dating Violence Trajectories From Early to Late Adolescence (2014) – D. L. Espelage, S. K. Low, C. Anderson, L. De La Ru

Results show that boys reported more bully perpetration during middle school, whereas girls reported more family conflict and sibling aggression than boys. In high school, sexual harassment perpetration was higher for boys than girls. Verbal emotional abuse and physical teen dating violence perpetration was higher for girls than boys, but boys reported greater levels of sexual teen dating violence perpetration in high school. Boys reported a greater mean scale score than girls on self-reported sexual harassment perpetration during middle school. In high school, 68% of girls reported having at least one sexual harassment victimization experience compared to 55% of boys. Verbal emotional dating abuse was the most common experience for these youth, with 73% of girls versus 66% of boys reporting any verbal emotional abuse victimization. In addition, 64% of girls reported perpetrating verbal emotional abuse with a dating partner compared to 45% of boys. Physical teen dating violence behaviors were reported by fewer youth, but still at a high rate (35-36%). Sexual coercion victimization was reported by 23-25% of girls and 13-14% of boys.

Longitudinal path analyses were modeled separately for girls and boys. Consistent with the proposed theoretical model, family conflict, sibling aggression, and delinquent friends were significant predictors of bullying perpetration during middle school for girls. In high school, bully perpetration predicted sexual harassment/violence perpetration, verbal emotional abuse teen dating violence perpetration, and sexual coercive teen dating violence perpetration. Consistent with the proposed model, sibling aggression predicted bullying perpetration for boys, like the girls' model; however family conflict did not emerge as a significant predictor of bullying perpetration or delinquency. In contrast to the girls' model, sibling aggression and self-reported delinquency also predicted sexually coercive teen dating violence perpetration and verbal emotional abuse perpetration. Also, bully perpetration predicted sexual harassment/violence perpetration, verbal emotional abuse and physical teen dating violence perpetration.

Interventions should address exposure to family violence and include opportunities to learn healthy relationships and conflict management skills. Prevention efforts should consider developmental timing of aggression and violence. Given that bullying declines in high school, it may be necessary to shift the focus to aggression and violence as they manifest in dating and romantic relationships. Finally, there needs to be increased research attention given to sexual coercion in dating relationships in high school, especially when considering the experience of girls.

PDF Link: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/246830.pdf>

2011-MU-MU-0023:	Integrating Prevention and Intervention: A School Health Center Program to Promote Healthy Adolescent Relationships
Amount:	\$807,490
PIs:	Alison Chopel and Elizabeth Miller
Status:	Completed

The three levels of integrated intervention that comprise the School Health Center Healthy Adolescent Relationships Program (SHARP) are at the (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 10 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-, clinic-, and school-level outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 248640

Integrating Prevention and Intervention: A School Health Center Program to Promote Healthy Relationships (2015) –E. Miller, A. Chopel, K. Jones, R. Dick, H. McCauley, J. Jetton, J. Silverman, S. Blackburn, E. Monassterio, L. James, D. Tancredi

The School Health Center Healthy Adolescent Relationship Program (SHARP) is a multi-level intervention to reduce adolescent relationship abuse (ARA) among adolescents ages 14-19. Intervention school health centers (SHCs) involved student outreach teams who conducted ARA educational events and encouraged students to 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 randomly assigned to SHARP or a standard-of-care control condition. Among 1,062 eligible students at eight participating SHCs, 1,011 completed computer-assisted surveys before a clinic visit, and 939 completed surveys 3 months later. Surveys in the intervention SHCs were conducted before the training and 6 months after the training. Focus groups with student outreach teams were conducted at school to seek feedback about the SHARP intervention, the range of activities to raise awareness about ARA, and use of 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 6-month post-training 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.

2011-WG-BX-0020:	A National Probability-Based Household Survey on Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$899,908
PI:	Bruce Taylor
Status:	Completed

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, socioeconomic 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 extrafamilial 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# 248849

National Descriptive Portrait of Adolescent Relationship Abuse: Results From the National Survey on Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (2016) – Bruce G. Taylor, Elizabeth A. Mumford. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 31, 963-988.

STRiV provides the first nationally representative household survey focused on adolescent relationship abuse (ARA), covering perpetration and victimization. Among respondents (37 percent) reporting current- or past-year dating, 69 percent reported lifetime ARA victimization (63 percent reported lifetime ARA perpetration). Although psychological abuse was most common for these youth (more than 60 percent), the rates of sexual abuse (18 percent) and physical abuse victimization (18 percent), as well as 12 percent reporting perpetrating physical abuse and/or sexual abuse (12 percent) 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 ages 15-18, those 12 to 14 years old reported lower rates of psychological and sexual ARA victimization. Similarly, the study found lower ARA perpetration rates for youth ages 12-14. There were no gender differences for ARA victimization, but girls perpetrated more physical ARA than boys. Girls ages 15-18 reported perpetrating moderate threats/physical violence at more than twice the rate of younger girls and three times the rate compared with boys of ages 15-18; girls ages 15-18 reported perpetrating more than four times the rate of serious psychological abuse than boys 15-18. 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.”

2011-WG-BX-0021:	Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents–II (DAVILA-II)
Amount:	\$555,896
PIs:	Carlos Cuevas, Chiara Sabina
Status:	Completed

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

Summary Report: Dating Violence Among Latino Adolescents – II (DAVILA-II) Study (2015) – Carlos A. Cuevas, Chiara Sabina, Marc Swatt, Rebecca Cudmore

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 was 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. PDF Link: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/248625.pdf>

2012-IJ-CX-0014:	Mental Health Conditions as Antecedents and Outcomes of Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$297,297
PI:	Elizabeth Goncy
Status:	Completed

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, posttraumatic stress symptoms). This project involves secondary analysis of an existing, longitudinal dataset 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 percent African Americans, 47 percent 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 DVS’s 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.

Product: NCJ# 249413

Measurement of Dating Aggression During Middle School: Structure, Measurement Invariance, and Distinction From General Aggression (2015) – Elizabeth A. Gony, Albert D. Farrell, Terri N. Sullivan, Katherine A. Taylor. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*.

Analyses were conducted on a derivation sample of 3,894 adolescents from 37 schools (Study 1) and an independent cross-validation sample of 938 middle school youth (Study 2). Categorical confirmatory factor analyses supported a two-factor model (perpetration and victimization) over models differentiating psychological and physical forms of aggression. The model was invariant across time, sex, grade, and season. Study 2 also supported dating aggression as distinct from general aggression. Results supported measuring dating aggression perpetration and victimization as latent constructs represented by ordered categorical indicators that capture item severity and frequency.

2012-IJ-CX-0015:	Patterns, Precursors and Consequences of Teen Dating Violence: Analyzing Gendered and Generic Pathways
Amount:	\$199,139
PI:	Jennifer Copp
Status:	Completed

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 oversamples 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 (2015) – Jennifer Copp, Wendi Johnson

Objectives: Despite the general recognition of the seriousness of teen and young adult dating violence, existing research does not provide a comprehensive portrait of the ways in which gender influences the etiology and sequelae of teen dating violence and intimate partner violence in early adulthood. Using five waves of structured interview data from the Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS), this research examined gender-specific and generic (that is, applicable regardless of gender) IPV pathways to further develop both theory and applied efforts designed to have a positive impact on this serious social problem.

Results: Patterns of physical violence: Life course trajectories of perpetration and victimization were examined along with early risk factors and contemporaneous circumstances associated with different patterns. Results indicated that IPV peaks during young adulthood and suggested a somewhat later age peak for young women who participated in the study. Findings indicate further that these trajectories are linked to traditional risk factors, such as parent-child relationship quality, but also to characteristics of the intimate relationships within which they occur, as indexed by reports of such dynamics as frequency of disagreements, feelings of jealousy and mistrust, and perceptions of a lack of partner validation. Harsh parenting is also identified as a risk factor for subsequent involvement in violent relationships, although its effect is conditioned on the presence of relationship-specific precursors. Examination of the patterning of IPV across this developmental period revealed greater variability than stability in the experience of partner violence; furthermore, changes in the character and dynamics of relationships (i.e., developmental shifts in qualities of intimate relationships) corresponded to declines in IPV risk over time.

Gender mistrust and the neighborhood normative climate: Longitudinal analyses were conducted examining correlates of gender mistrust as well as the extent to which gender mistrust influenced the perpetration of relationship violence over time. The results indicated that feelings of mistrust have implications for the healthy functioning of intimate relationships by heightening the risk of IPV perpetration. Moreover, individual trajectories of gender mistrust were associated with parents' gender mistrust and a range of socioeconomic factors, but prior relationship experiences further contributed to within-individual changes in levels of mistrust across the transition to adulthood. In a separate but related investigation, neighborhood-level analyses assessed whether the neighborhood normative climate with respect to dating and attitudes about the opposite sex influenced the experience of IPV net of individual-level attitudes and beliefs. Findings revealed that neighborhood norms exert a positive influence on patterns of IPV perpetration over time and that this effect is stronger in more disadvantaged contexts.

IPV and physical and emotional well-being: Analyses of within-individual changes in emotional well-being across the study period suggest that, while young women generally report higher levels of depression, IPV victimization is similarly linked to variability in men's and women's self-reports of depressive symptoms. A similar pattern of findings emerged in our analyses of self-rated health; reports of IPV (both victimization and perpetration) were associated with declines in self-rated health among men and women. A more focused analysis, relying on waves 4 and 5 of the data, also found that self-reports of perpetration and victimization were associated with changes in levels of anxiety across these two points in time among both male and female respondents.

Implications of study: These findings suggest the utility of a longitudinal approach to partner violence, as they highlight sources of continuity as well as factors associated with variation in the experience of IPV over time. That relationship risk factors were particularly salient predictors of variation in IPV also suggests the utility of a dyadic or "relational" approach to partner violence. Further, the lack of differential effects of risk factors on IPV for men and women provides insight to future research and theorizing on the role of gender in partner violence. Finally, the link between IPV and a broad range of attitudes and beliefs suggests that future programs may benefit from approaches targeting specific norms and attitudes, as these appear to be related to the development of healthy relationships in adolescence and young adulthood.

2012-W9-BX-0001:	Developmental Pathways of Teen Dating Violence in a High-Risk Sample
Amount:	\$798,376
PI:	Jennifer Livingston
Status:	Completed

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 or 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.

Product: NCJ# 250213

Developmental Pathways of Teen Dating Violence in a High-Risk Sample (September 2016) – Jennifer Livingston, Rina Eiden, Kenneth Leonard

The study found that exposure to parental psychopathology and marital conflict in infancy were linked to a child’s subsequent aggression and teen dating violence (TDV) in late adolescence; however, parenting behaviors, particularly maternal warmth, can be protective against TDV by promoting self-regulation among adolescents exposed to other parental risk factors in childhood. Mothers with alcoholic partners tended to exhibit lower warmth and sensitivity toward their children compared to mothers with non-alcoholic partners. This suggests the need for children with alcoholic parents to receive support and intervention. Also, children with parents who have been involved in domestic violence and/or substance abuse should be referred for guidance in positive parenting and conflict management. The study sample consisted of 185 adolescents (median age of 17.68 years) who had been participants, along with their parents, in a longitudinal study of the effects of parental alcohol problems on child development. The adolescents completed an additional wave of survey data in 11th-12th grades. The 227 families were initially recruited from county birth records that showed they had a child 1 year old. After the initial assessment, families were assessed when the children were ages 18-, 24-, and 36-months and also when they were in kindergarten and fourth, sixth, and eighth grades. Data for the current study encompassed individual characteristics, family and peer relationships, substance use, dating behaviors, and involvement in TDV as a victim or perpetrator. 6 tables, 4 figures, and 15 references.

PDF Link: <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250213.pdf>

2012-WG-BX-0005:	Continuation of Dating It Safe: A Longitudinal Study on Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$761,181
PI:	Jeff Temple
Status:	Completed

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 (one 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, context 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.

Products: Scholarship from this project has addressed the relationships between teen dating violence and such topics as substance use, sexual orientation, borderline personality disorder, sexual behaviors, and parental behavior. Forty-two publications resulted from this project. Please see the PI’s faculty website for a list of publications: <https://www.utmb.edu/bhar/current-research/jeff-r-temple-phd-research-projects> and <https://utmb.influent.utsystem.edu/en/persons/jeffrey-temple-2/publications/>.

Example publications include:

Temple, J.R., Choi, H., Elmquist, J., Hecht, M., Miller-Day, M., Stuart, G.L., Brem, M., & Wolford-Clevenger, C. (2016). Psychological abuse, mental health, and acceptance of dating violence among adolescents. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 59*, 197-202.

Temple, J.R., Choi, H., Elmquist, J., Hecht, M., Miller-Day, M., Stuart, G.L., Brem, M., & Wolford-Clevenger, C. (2016). Psychological abuse, mental health, and acceptance of dating violence among adolescents. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 59*, 197-202.

Temple, J.R., Choi, H.J., Reuter, T., Wolfe, D., Taylor, C.A., Madigan, S., & Scott, L.E. (2018). Childhood corporal punishment and future perpetration of physical dating violence. *Journal of Pediatrics, 194*, 233-237.

2013-VA-CX-0001:	A Brief Intervention to Prevent Adolescent Dating Aggression Perpetration
Amount:	\$741,630
PI:	Emily Rothman
Status:	Completed

This research study 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.

Product: NCJ# 251205

A Brief Intervention To Prevent Adolescent Dating Aggression Perpetration (20XX) – E.F. Rothman, M. Bair-Merritt; P. Corso; J. Paruk, T. Heeren

Real Talk components are derived from two types of interventions, each of which has proven effective in promoting positive behaviors: (1) motivational interviewing, which pertains to a style of conversational interaction that motivates behavioral change; and (2) the methods of “Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment” (SBIRT) program, endorsed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. In addition to relying on these features in the design of the Real Talk intervention, input was also received from Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino, and multiracial youth. Before the Real Talk trial reviewed in this report, it was pilot-tested in 2012 in an urban, “Safety Net,” hospital emergency department to determine its feasibility and preliminary effectiveness. The current evaluation focused on testing the program’s effectiveness at three-month and six-month intervals, using a sample of Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino, and/or multiracial adolescents living in an urban area. Using an experimental, randomized controlled trial design, there were three main findings. First, youth in both the intervention and control groups improved in ADA-related knowledge and ADA perpetration from baseline to 6 months. Second, a subset in the intervention group showed statistically significant reductions in ADA. This did not happen with the control group in the perpetration ADA. Third, the low cost of the intervention suggests that it may be cost-effective in reducing ADA perpetration. More research is needed in developing effective programs for youth who are not in traditional school settings, such as justice-involved youth.

2013-VA-CX-0002:	Long-Term Impact of a Positive Youth Development Program on Dating Violence Outcomes During the Transition to Adulthood
Amount:	\$440,642

PI:	Heather Taussig
Status:	Completed

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.

Product: NCJ# 251206

Long-Term Impact of a Positive Youth Development Program on Dating Violence Outcomes During the Transition to Adulthood – H. Taussig, E. Garrido

This study—one of the first to examine an array of risk and protective factors over 10 years among a high-risk sample for dating violence—found that an overwhelming majority of youth in the study (N = 243) reported perpetrating, and also being the victim of, at least one incident of DV in the past year. Regarding risk factors, only exposure to “moral-legal maltreatment” was related to DV in young adulthood. This is defined as the caregiver exposing or involving the child in illegal activity or in other activities that may foster delinquency or antisocial behavior. The study found that emotional/verbal abuse was the most common type of abuse experienced and perpetrated, with physical and sexual abuse being the least reported type of abuse. Future research will examine gender differences and the contextual factors associated with dating violence.

2013-VA-CX-0003:	The Dynamic Context of Teen Dating Violence within Adolescent Relationships
Amount:	\$787,595
PI:	Megan Bair-Merritt
Status:	Completed

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 smartphones. 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, between the ages of 15-19 years, who disclosed TDV in a heterosexual dating relationship at screening during the past month 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 smartphone 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.

Product: NCJ# 251207

The Dynamic Context of Teen Dating Violence within Adolescent Relationships (2017) – M.H. Bair-Merritt, P. Matson

A cohort of 184 college students involved in dating relationships used daily electronic diaries for 60 days to answer questions about dating violence perpetration and alcohol use.. This methodology was used in an effort to capture the dynamic nature of daily variations in relationship perceptions and self-reported risk behaviors. Preliminary analyses of the data produced several key findings. For TDV incidents perpetrated by the male partner, the largest associations with relationship characteristics occurred on the same day as the violence. The previous day's level of closeness, commitment, trust, jealousy, or instrumental support were less associated with a male-perpetrated TDV event than reports of these feelings on the same day as the TDV event. On the day of, and the day following, a male- perpetrated TDV incident, jealousy increased and positive relational qualities decreased. Similar patterns emerged for female-perpetrated TDV incidents, with the exception that participants reported trusting their partners more on the day following.

2013-VA-CX-0007:	Predicting Intimate Partner Violence for At-Risk Young Adults and Their Romantic Partners
Amount:	\$406,257
PI:	Joann Wu Shortt and Sabina Low
Status:	Completed

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.

Product: NCJ# 250668

Predicting Intimate Partner Violence for At-Risk Young Adults and Their Romantic Partners – J. Wu Shortt, S. Low, D.M. Capaldi, J.M. Eddy, S.S. Tiberio

Findings on developmental risk factors in childhood indicate that inter-parent IPV and experience of coercive parenting heightened the risk of IPV in young-adult romantic relationships. Pathways from family risk factors to IPV in young adulthood included the increased likelihood of adolescent antisocial behavior, particularly for young men.

Association with delinquent peers during adolescence was also a pathway to later IPV. Findings on contextual risk factors within young adulthood suggest important partner influences. Men and women within couples were similar in levels of substance use, and there were associations between substance use and IPV, particularly for men and for poly-substance users. The study used data collected over a 15-year period. The analyses involved 323 young adults (184 women and 139 men, average age 21 years old) and their romantic partners (145 women and 177 men, average age 22 years old). All of the couples were participants in the community-based program Linking the Interests of Families and Teachers (LIFT). The long-term impacts on IPV of the LIFT preventive intervention, which was intended to prevent aggression during and following elementary school, were also examined in this study. Although the LIFT program improved children's social and problem-solving skills while reducing physical aggression during childhood, LIFT did not prevent IPV during young adulthood. Implications of these findings for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States are discussed.

2013-VA-CX-0008:	Effects of a Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Program on Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence and Substance Use in High School
Amount:	\$662,993
PI:	Dorothy Espelage
Status:	Completed

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.

NCJ Product# 251740

Effects of a Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Program on Bullying, Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence, and Substance Use in High School, Final Report D.L. Espelage, K. Bub, M. Van Ryzin, M.K. Holt

Findings show that the middle school's social-emotional learning program improved students' sense of belonging across the middle-school years compared to students in the control schools. This increase in school belonging was associated with decreases in multiple forms of aggression and victimization as the Second-Step participants transitioned into high school. However, the Second Step program did not apparently prevent participants' involvement in teen dating violence (TDV) or substance use in high school. This report notes that TDV was not directly addressed in the middle-school program, which may have contributed to its emergence in high school. On the other hand, the middle-school program did address alcohol and drug use prevention, but without significant prevention effects in high school. This report recommends including countermeasures for TDV in the Second Step program. Study participants were 1,565 students from 15 middle schools in Illinois who were followed into six high schools. Schools had to agree to random assignment and to refrain from implementing other schoolwide bullying prevention programming during the three-year study. Males composed 53 percent of the sample, with 22 percent identifying as White, 21 percent as African American, 33 percent as Hispanic, and 11 percent as biracial. The effect of treatment was examined for the following longitudinal outcomes: bullying perpetration and victimization, sexual harassment perpetration and victimization, homophobic perpetration and victimization, and teen dating violence.

2014-VA-CX-0065:	Longitudinal Follow-up in the National Survey for Teen Relationships and Violence (STRiV2)
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Amount:	\$999,989
PI:	Bruce Taylor and Elizabeth Mumford
Status:	Ongoing

The purpose of this study 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. The objectives, with attention to gender differences, are to (1) document national and subpopulation temporal shifts in various forms of adult relationship abuse (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; and (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. Two waves of data (2015, 2016) will be collected. The study is designed to investigate the following hypotheses: (1) 2013–2016 age-specific ARA prevalence rates will not significantly change. Moreover, it is anticipated that the relationship between ARA risk and protective factors will 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. Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis will be conducted on the proposed risk and protective factors. Latent growth models and general growth mixture models will be used to identify distinct developmental trajectories of our main outcomes and exploratory structural equation models to understand mechanisms of the proposed pathways.

Supplemental award: 2016-VF-GX-0007

Products: This project has resulted in 10 peer-reviewed publications, with more forthcoming. Further information is available at www.norc.org/striv.

2014-MU-CX-0002:	Partner Violence Prevention for Middle School Boys: A Dyadic Web-Based Intervention
Amount:	\$791,846
PI:	Christine Rizzo
Status:	Completed

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 (RIH) 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, Inc., 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.

The study subjects are 146 eighth-grade boys and their parents (8 dyads for the Community Advisory Panel, 18 dyads for acceptability/feasibility testing, and 120 for the RCT). Eighth-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 parents 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 and at 3 and 9 months post-study.

The study will test whether the proposed program promotes reductions in boys' attitudes supporting dating violence and frequency of aggressive acts (domestic violence perpetration and victimization), as well as increases in emotion regulation skills and parent-adolescent communication. Findings will have important implications for developing and disseminating dating violence programming for adolescent boys nationwide. Upon study completion, a final substantive report on the findings will be produced for NIJ and information will be disseminated at conferences, through scholarly publications, and through collaboration with key stakeholders.

Product: NCJ# 252517

Partner Violence Prevention For Middle-School Boys: A Dyadic Web-Based Intervention Study (Project STRONG) – C.J. Rizzo, C. Houck

The project’s findings indicate that an interactive, online intervention that targets emotion regulation and parent-child communication skills reduces dating violence. STRONG was determined to show promise in reducing dating violence behaviors among early adolescent boys over a nine-month period. STRONG is based on the empirical literature that links deficits in emotion regulation to violent behavior, along with studies that indicate that parental involvement is critical in reducing the risk of dating violence. In Phase I of its development, an expert panel was consulted, and an iterative focus group had a series of meetings with, a community advisory panel composed of middle school boys and their parents. In Phase 2, STRONG was tested in a small randomized trial to assess feasibility and acceptability (Aim 1) as well as to detect preliminary between-groups effect sizes (Aim 2) for the purpose of supporting a future, large randomized efficacy trial of the program. Project design and methods are described in this report. The trial involved a sample of 59 parent-child dyads randomized to the STRONG intervention, and 60 parent-child dyads randomized to the control condition. Dating violence behaviors were measured with the Conflict in Adolescent Dating Relationships Inventory (CADRI; Wolfe et al., 2001), which was completed by dating teens, assessing verbal, emotional, physical, and sexual dating abuse perpetration and victimization with a current or recent dating partner. The report also addresses secondary outcomes, intervention mechanisms, procedures and intervention components, control condition, data analysis, and study limitations.

2014-VA-CX-0066:	Relationship Processes in the Development of Teen Dating Violence
Amount:	\$795,419
PI:	Michael Lorber
Status:	Completed

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. The investigators propose to execute an intensive observational longitudinal study of 200 New York City dating couples between the ages of 14 and 18 years old. The proposed research extends a recent investigation funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (1-R21-HD077345) and will be organized around four overarching questions: (1) Are maladaptive interaction patterns in teen dating relationships associated with TDV; (2) do the same maladaptive interaction patterns that predict current TDV (from question 1) predict *future* TDV; (3) do the effects of maladaptive interaction patterns on TDV transcend the relationship in which they were observed; and (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 investigated in this 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.

2016-IJ-CX-0006:	Development of a New Measure of Adolescent Dating Aggression: National Norms with a Focus on Marginalized Youth
Amount:	\$499,988
PI:	Emily Rothman and Carlos Cuevas
Status:	Ongoing

A serious problem with existing ADA research is that measures used to assess it are flawed. A new ADA measure is urgently needed. The ideal new measure will (a) reflect contemporary forms of abuse (e.g., cyber abuse) and

relationship styles (e.g., multiple concurrent partners); (b) reflect the input of youth historically underrepresented in ADA measurement development research (i.e., black, Hispanic, Native American, and LGBTQ youth); (c) embed context of abusive acts in items, in part to address the potential that gender-based differences might otherwise be masked (e.g., whether the act causes injury, fear, is experienced as fun horseplay); and (d) be appropriately tailored for different developmental stages of adolescence. Therefore, our goal is to modernize, expand, contextualize, and otherwise improve the quality of ADA measurement items, so that valid inferences about youth experiences of ADA can be made more easily. The proposed mixed methods study will generate a new measure of victimization and perpetration (available in versions for youth 11-14, 15-18, and 19-21 years old), tested with a large nationally-representative sample ($n = 1,400$), and short-form(s) of the measures that can be used for rapid screening in health care or other settings — six instruments in total. The work will be organized in four phases. *Phase 1*: Review of existing literature and previously collected qualitative data to generate a starting item pool; *Phase 2*: Collect qualitative data from black, Hispanic, LGBTQ, and Native American youth and refine item pool via a Delphi process with advocates and research experts; *Phase 3*: Pilot test and re-test instruments with a nationally representative sample of 1,400 youth via an online survey to establish psychometrics; *Phase 4*: Field test and validate short forms of the instruments with a healthcare sample ($n = 315$) to create developmentally appropriate screening tools for non-research settings. Phases 1 and 2 will take place in Year 1, Phase 3 in Year 2, and Phase 4 in Year 3. Classical Test Theory (CTT) and Item Response Theory (IRT) will be used to establish psychometrics. A content-based analysis approach will be used for qualitative analyses. Domestic violence advocates, and research experts, will participate in a Delphi process to strengthen the validity of the item pool prior to psychometric testing. In addition, the project will generate two quantitative data sets for archiving (the national data and clinical sample data). Multiple scholarly papers from this experienced and ideally prepared interdisciplinary team will also be published in peer-reviewed criminology, public health, pediatric, and psychology journals.

2016-MU-CX-0007:	The Next Generation in the Measurement of Adolescent Relationship Abuse
Amount:	\$285,668
PI:	Michele Cascardi
Status:	Ongoing

For more than a decade, NIJ has been committed to improving measurement of adolescent relationship abuse (ARA). There is a general consensus that current ARA measures do not adequately evaluate this phenomenon. One major shortcoming of the most common ARA surveys is that behaviors are measured without regard to context, and as a result, typical adolescent behaviors cannot be easily differentiated from abusive ARA behaviors. Moreover, existing surveys do not effectively characterize variations in the nature and severity of ARA. The primary objective of the proposed research study is to demonstrate that two contextual features, intention of the perpetrator and the impact on the victim, are key to improving the precision of ARA measurement, and future ARA surveys must incorporate these attributes. Building on the NIJ Concept Mapping Study as well as recent survey innovations, the proposed research study will develop an ARA survey that can differentiate developmentally typical behaviors from ARA as well as identify different forms and severity of ARA across various dating contexts. 1230 adolescents and young adults aged 12-24 years will be recruited for the proposed study from three public middle schools, one public high school, and one public regional university in Northeastern United States. The sample will be 50% female, 45% White, and approximately 50% Black or Latino (school sample is 32% Black, 10% Latino; university sample is 16% Black, 32% Latino). An expert panel of 15 scholars and practitioners will give feedback on the preliminary survey. The methodology follows the National Institutes of Health Patient-Reported Outcome Measurement Information System (PROM IS) guidelines for instrument development. There are three objectives of the proposed project: (1) Item Development (Jan-Aug 2017) using focus groups (12 groups, $n = 10$ per group); (2) Item Testing (Sep 2017-Jun 2018) using a Q-sort ($n = 150$), expert panel review ($n = 15$), and cognitive interview survey pretest ($n = 90$); and (3) Pilot Test of ARA survey (Jun 2018-May 2019) with 900 participants to examine psychometric properties: reliability, factor structure, item discrimination, and validity. Qualitative analyses will be used to evaluate focus group, expert panel, and cognitive interview data. Q-sort data will be analyzed with factor analysis. Pilot test data will be analyzed with factor analysis, item response theory, and correlation analysis. Quarterly, semi-annual and final reports will be prepared along with scholarly papers for publication. All data collected will be archived with the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.

2016-VF-GX-0007:	Research and Evaluation on Victims of Crime
Amount:	\$225,000
PI:	Elizabeth Mumford

Status: Ongoing

The purpose of this study is to generate novel information among understudied at-risk populations regarding the prevalence and risk factors for adolescent relationship abuse (ARA) victimization and perpetration; and to investigate whether distal factors (e.g. neighborhood disadvantage and crime) in the social-ecological model are predictors of ARA — or mediated by proximal factors (e.g. compromised mental health, or CMH). Our goal is to investigate how factors across levels of the social ecology moderate and mediate the relationships between at-risk status and ARA over 4 years — where at-risk status is defined by (a) mental illness symptomology, (b) self-reported sexual orientation, (c) parental relationships, (d) parenting style, and (e) the characteristics of residential neighborhoods. Our objectives, with attention to gender differences, are to (1) Investigate baseline CMH status as a predictor of ARA victimization and perpetration trajectories; (2) Determine how neighborhood disadvantage and interpersonal crime affect ARA victimization trajectories; (3) Determine whether CMH mediates the relationship between neighborhood disadvantage and ARA trajectories; (4) Assess whether the associations between CMH and ARA trajectories, neighborhood disadvantage/interpersonal crime and ARA trajectories, and CMH, neighborhood disadvantage/interpersonal crime and ARA trajectories differ by (i) self-reported sexual orientation, (ii) parent-child relationship quality, and (iii) parenting style. Subjects are youth (*n* = 2,354, ages 10-18 at 2013 baseline) from four annual waves of the nationally representative Survey of Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (STRiV). Geocoded data on neighborhood economic disadvantage and crime will be merged from the American Community Survey and CrimeRisk. The study will investigate the following hypotheses: (H1) CMH and neighborhood characteristics will both increase ARA victimization and perpetration risk across data waves; (H2) CMH will partially mediate the relationship between neighborhood characteristics and ARA risk and trajectories; (H3) The associations described in H1 and H2 will be especially pronounced among youth who (a) are not heterosexual, (b) have poor relationships with their parents, and (c) have parents exhibiting critical or harsh parenting styles. We will apply latent growth models to: (a) assess how ARA risk changes over time (2013-2016), and (b) determine how our proposed risk factors — independently and as mediators or moderators — impact ARA trajectories. We will generate practitioner-focused publications in the public health and criminal justice fields; conferences and presentations; progress reports; an archived data set; and a final report. We will also disseminate project results to practitioners, educators, policymakers, and researchers through online portals and peer-reviewed journals.

2017-VA-CX-0030: The Healthy Adolescent Relationship Trajectories Study
Amount: \$1,052,638
PI: Pamela Matson & Megan Bair-Merritt
Status: Ongoing

The goal of the project is to facilitate the work of advocates and other adults who support youth and young adults, by understanding how positive feelings and behaviors intermingle with dating violence events within romantic relationships. The project’s objectives include examining the interplay between emotional connectedness, pro-relationship behaviors, jealousy, and dating violence victimization and perpetration. Specifically, the researchers will (1) determine the same-day and previous-day associations between females’ perceptions of emotional connectedness (love, communication, dyadic trust, intimate self-disclosure, commitment, and enmeshment), jealousy, and dating violence victimization and perpetration; (2) compare the frequency and patterns of emotional connectedness and jealousy across relationships that initiate, continue, and/or escalate dating violence victimization and perpetration; (3) determine the same-day and previous-day associations between females’ reports of pro-relationship behaviors and dating violence victimization and perpetration; and (4) compare the frequency and patterns of positive relationship behaviors across relationships that initiate, continue, and/or escalate dating violence victimization and perpetration. Participants will be recruited from community venues in Baltimore that have been identified as locations where adolescent and young adult females congregate. From baseline, participants will complete four months of diaries by responding to daily text-based questions on their smartphones about dating violence victimization and perpetration, emotional connectedness, and pro-relationship behaviors.

2017-MU-CX-0031: Relationship Dynamics in the National Survey of Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (STRiV)
Amount: \$998,574
PI: Elizabeth Mumford
Status: Ongoing

This study’s purpose is to provide reliable measurement of the complex balance of positive and negative relationship dynamics (RDs) within adolescent and young adult relationships over time to inform prevention efforts for dating violence. This project will generate a new set of measures of adolescent/young adult RDs in a pilot test with a sample of 1,000 daters ages 15-24 (1/3 ages 15-17; 2/3 ages 18-24). Subsequently, in two waves of parent/youth surveys with the nationally representative STRiV cohort (2013 baseline n = 2,354 dyads), the researchers will investigate the role of RDs and emotional regulation capacity in the longitudinal development of victimization and perpetration, assessing escalation/desistance at the individual level, and capturing dating violence patterns in the adolescent transition to young adulthood. In addition, they will investigate the direct effects of parent perspectives/behaviors on dating violence outcomes as well as the mediating effects of parent perspectives/behaviors on the association between RDs and dating violence outcomes. Information about disclosure of dating violence to law enforcement, friends, family, clergy, or counselor will be collected, along with perceptions of helpfulness for each disclosure.

2018-R2-CX-0022:	Trauma-Informed Screening Approach for Teen Dating Violence Perpetration in Racially Diverse Adolescents: A Multi-Site Study
Amount:	\$249,425
PI:	Joseph Cohen
Status:	Ongoing

Teen dating violence (TDV) is a growing criminal justice and public health issue. Risk algorithms have been recommended for violence screening, but do not exist for TDV perpetration. The primary aims of the study are to determine (1) whether risk algorithms based on a collection of modifiable risk/protective factors can estimate TDV perpetration, above and beyond past traumatic events; (2) whether prediction models vary as a function of race/ethnicity and sex; and (3) whether the risk algorithm generalizes across adolescent settings (school vs. juvenile justice), and other violent behaviors (e.g., physical fights, carrying a weapon). The sample will include 400 high school students in Texas, and 200 adolescents participating in a juvenile diversion program in Illinois. They will complete online surveys at baseline, 6 months, and 12 months. Participants’ ages range between 13-17, and the sample is balanced with regard to sex and race (White, African-American, and Hispanic). The surveys measure TDV perpetration and other violent behavior, childhood adversities, individual risk factors for TDV perpetration, and interpersonal and culturally relevant protective factors. A novel analytic plan, using latent growth curve modeling, receiver operating characteristic (ROC), and reclassification analyses, will properly contextualize each risk factor’s relation to TDV perpetration and then translate these findings into an empiricallybased decision-making tool.

For an index of all grants, go to ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh241/files/archives/ncjrs/223572-grants-index.pdf.