



Healthy Relationships and Engagement with Adolescent Fathers

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Are Teen Fathers Relevant?

Positive Co-parenting & Father Engagement

- Lower rates of poverty due to formal and informal child support
- Lower rates of domestic abuse
- Lower rates of child abuse
- Healthier birth outcomes
- Child's social and cognitive development



Selected references: Moore & Florsheim, 2008; Guterman et al., 2009; Ngui et al., 2009; Cabrera et al. 2007)

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The importance of young fathers in parenting programs

Young *fathers* are at risk for:

- school drop-out
- delinquency
- substance abuse
- aggression
- unemployment
- disengagement

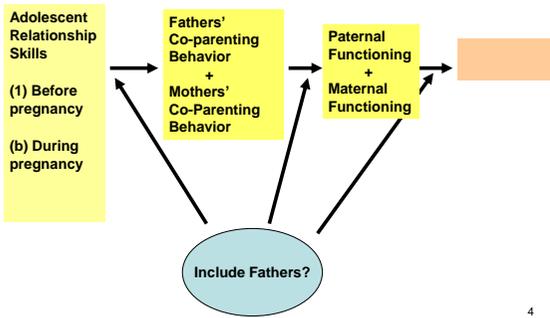


Young *couples* are at risk for conflict-ridden unstable relationships

Do parenting programs improve outcomes for fathers?

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When to Include Young Fathers?



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How to Include Young Fathers?

Mode

- Fathers Only Groups
- Couples Groups
- Individual (case management or mentoring)
- Parent-Child Play Groups

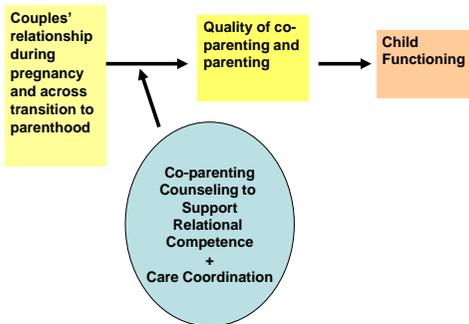


Focus

- Pre-natal Education and Nurturing Behavior
- Responsible Fathering
- Violence Prevention
- Job Training/Job placement
- School completion

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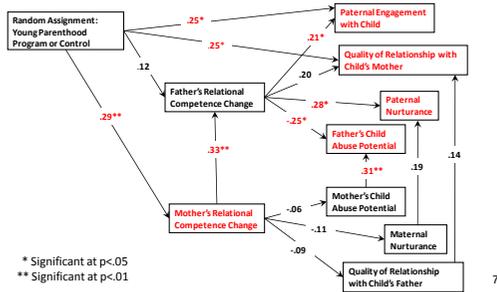
THE YOUNG PARENTHOOD PROGRAM: Prevention to Support Interpersonal Development



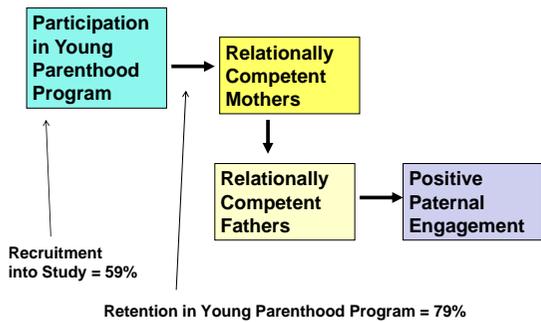
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Structural Equation Modeling Results from Salt Lake City Study: Fathers in the Young Parenthood Program more likely to remain positively engaged in co-parenting and parenting

Time 1: Prenatal Time 2: 12 Weeks Postnatal Time 3: 18 months Postnatal



Summary of Findings



Next Steps

- Adapt program for young couples in different social and cultural settings
- Compare different models for engaging young fathers
 - Group /Support
 - Job Training Focuses
- Continue to work on the program so it can better help young fathers support young mothers

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