

## **Annotated bibliography of unpublished evaluation reports by outside investigators**

Tompkins, S., Rosa, J., Henry, K., & Benavente, J. (2013). Long term impact of a marriage and relationship education program with a diverse population. Unpublished grant report, Colorado State University.

A non-experimental evaluation of Make Parenting A Pleasure by Colorado State University Extension was conducted with a subject group of 746 parents. All participants offered the parenting education program (Make Parenting a Pleasure) and/or the relationship education program Within My Reach (WMR; Pearson, Stanley, & Kline, 2005) either in Spanish or English. After completing programs (defined as completing 8 hours), participants were administered an immediate posttest and remained in contact with their family service coordinator for in-person six-month follow-ups over a two year period. Findings at the 24-month follow-up assessment show significant improvements in long term outcomes. Measures included Demographics; Family Function Style Scale (Trivette, Dunst, Deal, Hamby, & Sexton, 1994); Perceived Stress Scale (Cohen, Kamarck, & Mermelstein, 1983; Cohen & Williamson, 1988); Parenting Alliance Measure (Abidin & Brunner, 1995; Abidin & Konold, 1999).

Foney, D., Pacifici, C., Seeley, J., Eddy, M., Metzler, C., Jones, L., Measelle, J. (2012). A Controlled Evaluation of the Make Parenting A Pleasure Program. Unsubmitted paper.

Make Parenting A Pleasure (MPAP) is a group-based prevention program targeted to parents who want to address the stress and lack of adequate parenting information that many parents experience. The material and format used in MPAP has broad appeal to families from a wide spectrum of socioeconomic, educational, cultural and geographic conditions. The present study reports on the initial evaluation of MPAP, delivered to a group of 22 parents of young children. Program effectiveness was conducted using multivariate followed by univariate analyses, and results revealed that parents in the treatment group showed large overall gains when compared to parents in the control condition. Further, there was a significant treatment effect for parental stress (less parental stress and less stress between partners) and a trend-level effect for child abuse potential (distress, rigidity, unhappiness, problems with child and self, problems with family, and problems with others).

Rennekamp, D., Sektnan, M., & Bowman, S. (2010). Enhancing the skills of parents program II Final Report. Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University, Extension Family & Community Development.

Between 2006 and 2011 (four years) 1,170 families participated in *Make Parenting A Pleasure* groups in 18 Enhancing the Skills of Parents Program (ESPP II) sites. Participants were asked to complete the Parenting Skills Ladder as an evaluation tool.

Metzler, C., Measelle, J., & Jones, L. (2006). Evaluation of the First 3 Years program. Unpublished report.

A quasi-experimental investigation of the *Parenting: The First Three Years* was conducted across all 3 series (Infants, Ones, and Twos); 191 families were assessed at 2 timepoints. A comparison sample of 84 families was recruited from the community through a birth registry database maintained by the University of Oregon. Of these, 107 were recruited from Birth To 3 in advance of their already scheduled participation in an

F3Y group (intervention condition) and completed questionnaires before beginning and after completing the group (6 months later for Infants; 3 months later for Ones and Twos). A comparison sample of 84 families was recruited from the community through a University of Oregon birth registry database; they also completed the measures on 2 occasions separated by 6 or 3 months to coincide with the length of the parenting groups. Experimental and comparison families were matched on the children's ages. Measures include Parenting Scale (Arnold et al., 1993); Ideas About Parenting (Heming et al., 1991); Parental childrearing knowledge (measure derived from curriculum); Parenting Daily Hassles (Crnic & Greenberg, 1990); Parenting Stress Index (Abidin, 1995); Child-Rearing Disagreements Scale (Jouriles et al., 1991); Social Support for Parenting (Metzler & Jones, 2001; adaptation of Barrera, 1981 and Telleen, 1985); Brief-Infant Toddler Social & Emotional Assessment (BITSEA; Briggs-Gowan & Carter, 1998); Early Childhood Behavior Questionnaire (ECBQ; Putnam et al., in preparation).

Williams-Clark, E. (2002). Parental use of techniques taught in "Make Parenting a Pleasure" : a first phase study. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, The Union Institute.

Parents who participated in the Make Parenting a Pleasure(TM) parent education program were surveyed to determine: (1) the utilization over time of parenting techniques that are taught in the program, (2) if the participants developed a support network, and (3) if the program met its stated program goals as evaluated by the participants. Participants from selected counties of Washington, and Eugene, Oregon, who completed at least 80% of the classes, were mailed an Informed Consent letter and the survey, and asked to complete the survey and return it to the author in a self-addressed, stamped envelope. The survey asked participants which of the techniques taught in the Make Parenting A Pleasure program they used and how often they used them. The survey also asked participants if they were in contact with members of their class and how often. Of 82 surveys mailed to participants, 17 surveys were completed and returned. Results indicated that parenting techniques showing affection and attention to the child were ones most used by all participants. Participants reported using the techniques taught in the class. At least some of the participants made friends during the class. It appears that Make Parenting A Pleasure did help participants to develop a support network. Participants did not appear to perceive that the program met its stated goals in all areas. This was a very small sample. More research is needed for conclusions to be valid for a larger population.

Bamba, M. L. (2000). Evaluating the impact of parent education for parents of young children. Unpublished Doctoral dissertation, University of Oregon.

The purpose of this study was to empirically test the effectiveness of *Make Parenting a Pleasure* (MPAP), a 12 week program for at risk low-income parents to reduce the potential for child abuse. Seventy-four participant parents were randomly assigned to one of six MPAP treatment groups or one of six wait-list control groups. Each group consisted of approximately six parents. Two treatment and two control groups consisted of teenaged participants between the ages of 14 and 20. Pre- and post-tests used to test the effectiveness of the treatment included variables such as: stress, social support, parenting practices, and child behavior.

Pacifici, C. (1996). Program evaluation of *Make Parenting A Pleasure*. Unpublished grant report, Northwest Media.

A preliminary, small-scale, quasi-experimental evaluation of *MPAP* (29 parents in two *MPAP* groups and a wait-list comparison group of 23 parents) was conducted by as part a US West Foundation grant to develop the original *MPAP* curriculum. Parents completed a battery of questionnaires one week prior to beginning the program and again one week following the completion of the program. Measures included: Index of Self-Esteem (Hudson, 1982), Parenting Stress Index (Abidin, 1987), Child Abuse Potential Inventory (Milner, 1986), Eyberg Child Behavior Inventory (Eyberg, 1978), Parent-Child Communication Questionnaire, and Behavior Management Questionnaire.