



THE NDACAN

UPDATE

Volume 16, Fall 2005

Family Life Development Center, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University

NDACAN Funding Renewed

By Elliott G. Smith
Associate Director

In October, the Children's Bureau in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services once again selected Cornell University to house the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. The five-year, \$2.6 million cooperative agreement was awarded to John Eckenrode and his staff at the Cornell Family Life Development Center in the College of Human Ecology.

With this award, Cornell begins its 18th year of consecutive funding for NDACAN. For the next five years, NDACAN will continue to expand its holdings, develop new ways to support users, and provide the field with opportunities for networking, training, and scholarly work.

NEW DATASETS

A major priority of NDACAN in the coming years will be to acquire interesting and

relevant datasets. Each year, NDACAN will continue to receive the NCANDS child protective services data, at the case and state levels. The adoption and foster care data of AFCARS will also be received each year.

Other data collections scheduled for archiving include the Wave 5 follow-up of the NSCAW, the NIS-4 prevalence data, and the Age 8 and 10 Assessments of the LONGSCAN. Numerous grantees, from the consortium of NIH Neglect Grantees will also be archived.

UNIFORM PROCEDURES FOR DATA ACCESS

To provide superior confidentiality protection for NDACAN datasets, the Archive is standardizing its procedures for data access. All researchers will be required to submit an application and data protection plan for each dataset they want to use.

They will also need to provide notifica-

tion that their institutional review board (IRB) has approved their project or has found it exempt from review. Researchers from institutions that do not have an IRB will need to provide detailed justification of their qualifications and experience working with confidential data.

Researchers and representatives from their institutions will need to sign a data licensing agreement that outlines license requirements, including proper use, protection, a list of individuals authorized for access, and annual contact with the Archive.

CHARGE FOR DATA DROPPED

While the administrative requirements to obtain data will increase, the charges for data are being dropped.

The only dataset that will have a charge associated with it will be the NSCAW Restricted Release data, which will cost \$500.

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A Selection of Data Collections Housed at NDACAN

NDACAN is the official repository for many important data collection efforts supported by the Children's Bureau.

Administrative data

- The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System of investigated child maltreatment reports (NCANDS)
- The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System of children in child welfare (AFCARS)

National surveys

- The National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW)
- The National Incidence Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS)

Research Studies and Program Evaluations (selected list)

- The Longitudinal Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect (LONGSCAN)
- Mark Chaffin's evaluation of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) to Physically Abusive Parents
- Dante Cicchetti's study of the longitudinal pathways to resilience in maltreated children

Other Resources for Child Abuse and Neglect Researchers

The National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information

The Clearinghouse is a national resource center for professionals seeking information on the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Among other things, the Clearinghouse maintains a database of publications, audiovisual materials, services, programs, excerpts of state statutes, and ongoing research projects relevant to child maltreatment. The Clearinghouse is a service of the Children's Bureau.
<http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov>

CWLA National Data Analysis System

The Child Welfare League of America, in cooperation with state child welfare agencies, has created the nation's first comprehensive, interactive child welfare database, the National Data Analysis System (NDAS). The NDAS puts child welfare statistics at the fingertips of Internet users, creating customized tables and graphs and providing information and links necessary to understand the data. Data are available in the areas of child abuse and neglect, adoption and foster care, fiscal expenditures, and child welfare administration.
<http://ndas.cwla.org>

ChildStats

The Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics (the Forum) is a collection of 20 Federal government agencies involved in research and activities related to children and families. The Forum's annual report, *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being*, summarizes national indicators of child well-being and monitors changes in these indicators over time.
www.childstats.gov

Child Trends DataBank

The Child Trends DataBank provides the latest trends on over 70 indicators of child and youth well-being. National estimates are provided and updated frequently. The indicators are presented with plain language summaries which cover the domains of health, social and emotional development, income and work, education, demographics, and family and community.
www.childtrendsdatabank.org

KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the U.S.. By providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being, KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions concerning ways to secure better futures for all children.
www.aecf.org/kidscount/

The Children's Bureau

The Children's Bureau is the oldest federal agency for children and is located within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families. The Bureau seeks to provide for the safety, permanency and well-being of children through leadership, support for necessary services, and productive partnerships with states, tribes and communities. The Bureau is a major funder of research examining the causes, treatment, and prevention of child maltreatment. The Web site provides a great deal of information regarding Bureau programs, federal laws, and major data collection efforts. *Child Maltreatment*, the *Child Welfare*

Outcomes Reports, and other federal reports can be accessed from the site.
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/

Chapin Hall Center for Children

Centered at the University of Chicago, the Chapin Hall Center studies and reports on economic programs for youth and families, child welfare services, community resources for child and youth development, community development strategies, and education. Chapin Hall has three publication series: *Chapin Hall Reports* lay the conceptual foundation for innovative thinking and action in child, family, and community policy or present results from large-scale documentation and evaluation projects; *Chapin Hall Discussion Papers* are timely and topical treatments of subjects on Chapin Hall's research agenda; *Chapin Hall Working Papers* provide access to early work in a line of inquiry and research designed for a highly targeted audience. All Chapin Hall publications are distributed in printed form and most are also available electronically free of charge.
www.chapinhall.org

Crimes Against Children Research Center (CCRC)

Based at the University of New Hampshire, CCRC provides research and statistics to the public, policy makers, law enforcement personnel, and other child welfare practitioners. CCRC is concerned with research about the nature of crimes including child abduction, homicide, rape, assault, and physical and sexual abuse as well as their impact.
www.unh.edu/ccrc/

NDACAN Funding Renewed

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This fee is substantially lower than the previous \$2,500 fee. This fee will be used to offset the expense of the compliance inspections that are required of NSCAW Restricted Release users.

NEW WEB SITE

The Archive will implement a major redesign of its Web site. The goals for the new site will be access to more user support content, improved navigation and search capability, and improved content management capability.

SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A hallmark activity of NDACAN is its annual Summer Research Institute. These institutes will continue to be an important opportunity for users over the next five years.

CMRL E-Mail List Information

Since 1993, NDACAN has operated the Child Maltreatment Research electronic mailing list (CMRL) to encourage information exchange and networking among researchers in the field of child abuse and neglect. It currently has about 900 subscribers from all over the world and is carefully moderated for appropriate content.

The scope of the discussion includes all areas of child maltreatment research (e.g., epidemiology, etiology, prevention, consequences, intervention, and treatment) and the full range of research issues (e.g., measurement, instrumentation, statistical analysis, and ethics). The list is not open to discussions of program or clinical issues except as they relate to research. All postings to the CMRL mailing list since its inception are available for public viewing on the NDACAN Web site.

To subscribe to the CMRL, send the following line to listproc@cornell.edu after replacing FName and LName with your first and last names:

subscribe Child-Maltreatment-Research-L FName LName

New Datasets Available from NDACAN

Study Title: Children's Eyewitness Reports after Exposure to Misinformation from Parents, 1994-1995

Principal Investigator: Poole, D.

NDACAN Dataset Number: 88

Description: There is a pressing need to develop interviewing procedures that enhance children's ability to discriminate, in their eyewitness reports, between events they remember experiencing versus events they remember hearing other people describe. This research builds on earlier work by these investigators that demonstrated that misinformation from parents often infiltrates the autobiographical reports of 3- to 8-year-old children, that errors appear even during the free-narrative portion of interviews, that asking explicit source-monitoring questions improves older children's ability to distinguish between events that actually occurred versus misinformation. The current project develops and tests interviewing techniques designed to help young witnesses escape the contaminating influence of prior exposure to misleading suggestions. In the first phase 1160 children play individually with an unfamiliar man (Mr. Science) and subsequently participate in an interview about the Mr. Science experience. Three months later, parents read a story to their children and the children are interviewed in three conditions: source-monitoring training (SMT) before or after the interview or no training control. Data analyses assess the efficacy of SMT for reducing false reports in free-narrative response without reducing accurate reports, the effects of SMT on accuracy of answers to leading questions, developmental trends in performance during SMT and the interview, and relations between individual difference variables and accuracy of testimony. This research answers basic questions about children's suggestibility and source-monitoring ability and practical issues of significance for forensic interviewing.

Study Titles: National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS); Child File 2000; Child File 2001; Child File 2002; Child File 2003;

Principal Investigator: Children's Bureau

NDACAN Dataset Numbers:

99 (Child File 2000); 109 (Child File 2001); 113 (Child File 2002); 114 (Child File 2003)

Description: The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) Child File dataset consists of child specific data of all investigated reports of maltreatment to State child protective service agencies. The NCANDS is a federally-sponsored annual national data collection effort created for the purpose of tracking the volume and nature of child maltreatment reporting. The Child File is the case-level component of the NCANDS. There is also an NCANDS State-level component, known as the Agency File, but those data are not part of this collection. States participate on a voluntary basis and submit their data after going through a process in which the state's administrative system is mapped to the NCANDS data structure. Submitted data consist of all investigations or assessments of alleged child maltreatment that received a disposition in the reporting year. Records are provided at the level of each child on a report, also known as the report-child pair. Data elements include the demographics of children and their perpetrators, types of maltreatment, investigation or assessment dispositions, risk factors, and services provided as a result of the investigation or assessment.

Study Title: Physical Abuse Treatment Outcome Project: Application of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) to Physically Abusive Parents

Principal Investigator: Chaffin, M.

NDACAN Dataset Number: 100

Description: This project was a randomized clinical trial designed to test the efficacy and sufficiency of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) in preventing re-reports of physical abuse among physically abusive parents entering the child welfare system. One hundred ten physically abusive parents and their abused children were randomly assigned to one of three intervention conditions: 1) A modified PCIT-based parenting program, 2) The same modified PCIT-based program plus individualized wrap-around services, and 3) a community parenting group program that is representative of current standard care in the field. Pre- and post-test measures of the family were taken. Areas of assessment included depression, severity of abuse and neglect, internalizing and externalizing problem behaviors, child abuse potential, parent drug and alcohol dis-

orders, parent-child interaction, parent and child intelligence, child's perception of parent behaviors, and parent's willingness to change behavior. A demographics questionnaire was also administered and a review of child maltreatment reports was conducted.

Study Title: Gallup Poll: Child Abuse Study, 1995

Principal Investigator: Gallup Organization

NDACAN Dataset Number: 106

Description: A nationwide random telephone survey of 1,000 households was conducted between August 15 and September 14, 1995. The survey assessed parental attitudes regarding methods of discipline; agreement on discipline; fights between partners; child rearing; and childhood experience of punishment, abuse between parents, and sexual abuse. This survey represents the first national study assessing the validity and reliability of the Parent-Child version of the Conflict Tactics Scale as developed by Straus et al. The maximum margin of error for the survey was +/- 3 percentage points.

Study Title: Longitudinal Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect

(LONGSCAN) Assessments 0-6

Principal Investigator: LONGSCAN Consortium

NDACAN Dataset Number: 108

Description: LONGSCAN is a consortium of research studies operating under common by-laws and procedures. It was initiated in 1991 with grants from the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect to a coordinating center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and five data collection sites. Each site is conducting a separate and unique research project on the etiology and impact of child maltreatment. While each project can stand on its own merits, through the use of common assessment measures, similar data collection methods and schedules, and pooled analyses, LONGSCAN is a collaborative effort that is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

The goal of LONGSCAN is to follow the 1300+ children and their families until the children themselves become young adults. Comprehensive assessments of children, their parents, and their teachers have been completed at child ages 4, 6, and 8. Data collection at

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Recent Research Published by NDACAN Data Users

Berger, L. M. (2005). Income, family characteristics, and physical violence toward children. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 29(2), 107-133. [Datasets 55 and 60]

Cross, T. P., Finkelhor, D., & Ormrod, R. (2005). Police involvement in child protective services investigations: Literature review and secondary data analysis. *Child Maltreatment: Journal of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children*, 10(3), 224-244. [NSCAW]

Dalberth, B., Gibbs, D., & Berkman, N. (2005, January). *Understanding adoption subsidies: An analysis of AFCARS data*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. [AFCARS]

Hansen, M. E., & Simon, R. J. (2005). Transracial placement in adoptions with public agency involvement: What can we learn from the AFCARS data. *Adoption Quarterly*, 8(2), 45-56. [AFCARS]

Jee, S. H., Antonucci, T. C., Aida, M.,

Szilagyi, M., & Szilagyi, P. C. (2005). Emergency department utilization by children in foster care. *Ambulatory Pediatrics*, 5, 102-106. [NSCAW]

King, G., Trocmé, N., & Thatte, N. (2003). Substantiation as a multitier process: The results of a NIS-3 analysis. *Child Maltreatment: Journal of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children*, 8(3), 173-182. [NIS-3]

Meyers, S. A., & Battistoni, J. (2003). Proximal and distal correlates of adolescent mothers' parenting attitudes. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 24(1), 33-39. [Dataset 67]

Palusci, V. J., Smith, E. G., & Paneth, N. (2005). Predicting and responding to physical abuse in young children using NCANDS. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 27, 667-682. [NCANDS Child File]

Rodenborg, N. A. (2004). Services to African American children in poverty: Institutional discrimination in child welfare? *Journal of Poverty*, 8(3), 109-130. [Dataset 71]

Rosenberg, S. A., & Robinson, C. C. (2004). Out-of-home placement for young children with developmental and medical conditions. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 26(8), 711-723. [AFCARS]

Smith, N. K. (2003, November). *International Adoption: Trends and Issues* (National Data Analysis System Issue Brief). Washington, DC: Child Welfare League of America. [AFCARS]

Tajima, E. A. (2004). Correlates of the co-occurrence of wife abuse and child abuse among a representative sample. *Journal of Family Violence*, 19(6), 399-410. [Datasets 55 and 60]

Testa, M., Salyers, N., Shaver, M., & Miller, J. (2004). *Family ties: Supporting permanence for children in safe and stable foster care with relatives and other caregivers*. Urbana-Champaign, IL: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, School of Social Work, Children and Family Research Center, Fostering Results. [AFCARS]

New Datasets Available from NDACAN

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child ages 12, 14, 16, and 18 is in progress. Maltreatment data are collected from multiple sources, including review of Child Protective Service records every two years. Yearly telephone interviews allow the sites to track families and assess yearly service utilization and important life events.

In addition to the specific focus of the individual studies, the coordinated LONGSCAN design permits a comprehensive exploration of many critical issues in child abuse and neglect on a combined sample of sufficient size for unprecedented statistical power and flexibility. Built into the LONGSCAN design is also the ability to replicate and extend findings across a variety of ethnic, social and economic subgroups.

The findings of LONGSCAN will provide a scientific basis for policy-

making, program planning, and targeting service delivery by increasing our understanding of the following:

- the child, family, and community factors which increase the risk for maltreatment in its different forms;
- the differential consequences of maltreatment, depending upon its timing, duration, severity, and nature, and upon the child's age and cultural environment;
- the child, family, and community factors (e.g., chronic exposure to violence, parental substance abuse) that increase the harm caused by different forms of maltreatment;
- the factors that increase the probability of positive child outcomes despite maltreatment and other adverse life circumstances;
- the strengths and weaknesses of various societal interventions such as child welfare programs, foster care, mental health services, parenting classes, etc. Some of the sites are involved in inter-

vention research and evaluation of services, expediting the integration of research findings into policy and practice.

Study Title: Longitudinal Pathways to Resilience in Maltreated Children

Principal Investigator: Cicchetti, D.

NDACAN Dataset Numbers: 110

Description: The objectives of this study were as follows: (1) To investigate stability and change in the longitudinal course of adaptation and maladaptation in maltreated and nonmaltreated low-income youth. (2) To differentiate subgroups of maltreated children who evidence divergence in their longitudinal developmental course, including resilient children as well as children who show continuity of negative adaptation. (3) To examine child characteristics, maltreatment experiences, family features,

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New Datasets Available from NDACAN

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and aspects of the social ecology as mediators and moderators of individual differences in the developmental pathways exhibited longitudinally by maltreated and nonmaltreated youth. (4) To identify factors that may promote resilient adaptation in maltreated children. To address these critical concerns, this investigation built upon a prior one-year longitudinal study funded by NCCAN (Cicchetti, Manly, & Lynch, 1994). Prospective follow-up assessments of 300 six- to twelve-year-old low income, maltreated and nonmaltreated children were targeted at years three and four beyond the initial baseline assessments. A total of 300 school-aged children were included in the original study (Dataset #096). Of these, 263 were obtained at year three and 249 at year four. Data regarding children's adaptation and current symptomatology was collected in the context of a summer camp program that the children attended. In addition, home visits were conducted concurrently with the third year child camp assessments, during which time the parent or primary caregiver of each child in the study was interviewed. Finally, information regarding children's history of maltreatment was scored from updated DSS records according to our maltreatment classification system.

Study Title: The National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW), Waves 1-4

Principal Investigator: Research Triangle Institute

NDACAN Dataset Numbers: 111 and 111R

Description: The Administration on Children, Youth, and Families and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation have undertaken the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW). NSCAW makes available, for the first time, nationally representative longitudinal data drawn from first-hand reports of children and families or other caregivers who have had contact with the child welfare system. Data from service providers are also collected. NSCAW is the first national study to provide detailed information on the experiences of children and families with the child welfare system and to collect measures of well-being for this population.

The NSCAW is designed to address the following questions:

- What paths do children follow into and through the child welfare system?
- What factors affect investigation, services, placements, and length of involvement?
- What are the long- and short-term outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system in terms of safety, well-being, and permanence?

The target population for the NSCAW includes all children and families that enter the child welfare system. Two samples were drawn from the population in 92 participating county child welfare agencies throughout the nation. The CPS sample includes 5,501 children, who were between the ages of 0 and 14 years at the close of the investigation. All investigations for the sample were closed between October 1, 1999 and December 31, 2000. The second sample consists of an additional 727 children, who were in out-of-home care for about 12 months at the time of sampling. This second group, referred to as the One Year in Foster Care (OYFC) Sample, was selected to allow special analysis related to the experience of out-of-home care. Waves 2, 3, and 4 take place 12, 18, and 36 months after the close of the investigation. The NSCAW Restricted version, dataset number 111R, contains sensitive information that requires strict adherence to data security measures and a user fee of \$500.

Study Title: National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) Combined Aggregate File, CAF Federal Fiscal Year 2003

NDACAN Dataset Number: 115

Principal Investigator(s): Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Description: The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) Combined Aggregate File (CAF) dataset an Agency File, which collects State-level data for areas not covered in the Child File, such items as preventive services and screened-out referrals. Other States continued to submit NCANDS data using the SDC survey. Child File data are aggregated to the State-level by key variables and then combined with the data from the Agency file and the SDC to create the CAF. The number of children and families receiving preventive services, the number of reports and investigations of child abuse and neglect, the number of children who were the subjects of reports of abuse or neglect, the num-

ber of child victims of maltreatment, the number of child fatalities, the size of the State's CPS workforce, and other statistics are provided in the CAF. A variable crosswalk to the 1990-1999 SDC dataset is provided. Please note: In 2003, States began submitting their data according to the Federal Fiscal Year (October 1, 2002 - September 30, 2003) rather than the calendar year.

Study Title: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), 2003

NDACAN Dataset Number: 118

Investigator(s): Children's Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services

Description: The AFCARS, or Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, is a federal data collection effort that provides child-specific information on all children covered by the protections of Title IV-B and Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. On an annual basis, all states submit data to the U.S. Children's Bureau, concerning each child in foster care and each child who has been adopted under the authority of the state's child welfare agency. The AFCARS databases have been designed to address policy development and program management issues at both the state and federal levels. The data are also useful for researchers interested in analyzing aspects of the United States' foster care and adoption programs.

The Archive distributes two data files for each federal fiscal year since 1995, one file containing the adoption data and the other the foster care data. The adoption file contains 45 data elements concerning the adopted child's gender, race, birth date, ethnicity and prior relationship with the adoptive parents. The date the adoption was finalized, dates parental rights were terminated, characteristics of birth and adoptive parents, and whether the child was placed from within the United States or from another country are also captured. The foster care file contains 89 elements providing information on child demographics including gender, birth date, race, and ethnicity. Information about the number of previous stays in foster care, service goals, availability for adoption, dates of removal and discharge, funding sources, and the biological and foster parents is also included in the foster care files.

Forthcoming Datasets from NDACAN

Study Title: Social Relationships of Physically Abused Schoolchildren

NDACAN Dataset Number: 112

Principal Investigator: Salzinger, S.

Description: This study examined the social relationships and behavior of physically abused schoolchildren. Its emphasis on peer relationships was based on the fact that abused children's basic socializing and support system — their relationship with family — was expected to be damaged and give rise to internalizing and externalizing problems. Their peer networks therefore were expected to play a disproportionate role in their adaptive functioning in many domains of development. Family relationships, operating through social learning and social cognitive processes, were expected to influence children's social behavior, giving rise to aggressive and antisocial behavior. Such behavior was hypothesized to raise the risk for lowered social status with peers which in turn was expected to lead to internalizing and externalizing problem behaviors. For abused children who managed to establish good relationships with peers, such relationships might mitigate the effects of abuse on later functioning.

The sample consisted of 100 physically abused urban schoolchildren (65 boys, 35 girls) ages 9-12 years and in grades 4-6, and 100 non-abused classmates case-matched for gender, age, and as closely as possible, for race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. Control subjects were screened for abuse by interviews with their caretakers about the handling of disputes among household members, and by scanning the Abuse Register to ascertain that their names did not appear during the 4 years we were recruiting abuse cases.

Abused children were recruited from confirmed cases of physical abuse in consecutive entries onto the Abuse Register from 1992 to 1996. Children who were sexually abused were excluded, but children who were neglected as well as physically abused were not. The first 100 families meeting study criteria and agreeing to participate were enrolled. Practically all the children were of minority status.

Sociometric assessments were carried out in the 100 classrooms of the abuse/control pairs to determine subjects' so-

ciometric status among same-gender classmates; interviews were conducted with the children about their friends and understanding of social relationships; interviews were conducted with their parents about family and household demographics, family stressful life events, mental health of the child's major caretaker, and intra-family relationships; classmates rated the children's prosocial and antisocial behavior; and teachers and parents rated children's problem behavior.

The study proposed an ecological model that designated family stress as the principal exogenous factor, with effects on outcome mediated through caretaker distress, partner violence, and physical child abuse. Outcomes included parent-, teacher- and peer-rated child behavior. Results were consistent with the hypothesis that partner violence and caretaker distress, both associated with family stress, increase the risk for child abuse and thereby raise the child's risk for problem behaviors.

Study Title: Adolescent Outcome of Physically Abused School Children

NDACAN Dataset Number: 117

Principal Investigator: Salzinger, S.

Description: This study is designed to assess the outcomes in mid to late adolescence of preadolescent physically abused and matched non-maltreated children who are currently being studied at ages 9-12 years. The outcome domains to be assessed are (1) Global adjustment, and the more specific do-

mains of (2) Mental health, (3) Academic functioning, (4) Risk behavior, (5) Aggression/Delinquency, and (6) Personal relationships. For each, the path from pre-adolescent physical abuse to adolescent outcome is examined with respect to a variety of mediating factors hypothesized to protect against or exacerbate the effects of the abuse. These mediators, chosen on the basis of the previous studies of abused children and on other data in the child development literature, are all measured prior to adolescence. They are conceptualized as individual (e.g., the child's mental health, social behavior, social understanding), transactional (e.g., social status among peers, attachment, parenting), and contextual (e.g., family adversity, maternal psychopathology). Each of the models is retested as well with preadolescent exposure to family violence and community violence added to child abuse (as the causal variable). The children that are being proposed for study when they are adolescents consist of 100-confirmed cases of physical abuse recruited from the NYC Child Welfare Administrator Register and 100 non-maltreated classmates matched case by case for gender, age, ethnicity, and SES. They are being assessed now in preadolescence by means of classroom sociometry and peer behavior ratings, by individual child interviews, by teacher and parent ratings of behavior, and

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Call for Datasets

The Archive is continually looking for datasets that would be valuable additions to its holdings. Criteria for selection include methodological rigor, scope, relevance and technical quality. If you have data or know of data that would be particularly beneficial to other child maltreatment researchers, please contact us.

Forthcoming Datasets from NDACAN

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by parent interviews and questionnaires on family demographics, adversity, family conflict, including domestic violence, and on parenting discipline practices. The proposed assessments of outcome, as close as possible to age 17, will be carried out by means of adolescent interviews and questionnaires, teacher and parent interviews and questionnaires, and an interview and questionnaire administered to a best friend of each adolescent. Not all abused children have poor outcomes, but as a group, they are demonstrably

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at risk. The study's main purpose is to identify some important factors influencing the path from abuse to outcome and thereby to target possible points where intervention in childhood might avert some of abuse's costly individual and societal consequences.

Study Title: Child Neglect - Cross Sector Service Paths and Outcomes (CSSPO)

NDACAN Dataset Number: 116

Principal Investigator: Jonson-Reid, M.

Description: Despite consensus about the need to coordinate services for neglected children and their families due to the co-morbidity of neglect with other social problems, we lack even a basic understanding of the cross-sector service patterns of this population. CSSPO will address this knowledge gap through a large-scale longitudinal analysis of cross-sector utilization by neglected children and their families which is linked to outcomes at the family (e.g. family reunification, etc.) and child (e.g. death, incarceration) levels. Using administrative data drawn from education, health, juvenile justice and social service, agencies, this accelerated panel study compares the cross sector service paths and outcomes of children in families receiving AFDC and reported to child welfare agencies for (1) neglect (n=4,880), (2) physical abuse (n=1,394), (3) sexual abuse (n=358); and, (4) more than one type of maltreatment (n=1,242). These groups will be compared to a matched group of children in families receiving AFDC in 1993, but not reported to child welfare agencies (n=8,000) Within each sample group, children aged birth to 12 years will be grouped into four age cohorts (birth to 3 years, 3 to 6 years, 6 to 9 years, and 9 to 11 years) and followed for eight years (1993-2001). The accelerated panel designs allows for the statistical analysis of 19 years of development in only eight years. This proposal addresses several gaps in the research as identified by the current RFA, combining a focus on service delivery with consideration of consequences (our outcomes) related to neglect. The study will examine: (1) Cross-sector

service use consideration of consequences (our outcomes) related to neglect. The study will examine: (1) Cross-sector service use consideration of consequences (our outcomes) related to neglect. The study will examine: (1) Cross-sector service use (sequence, frequency, co-occurrence & duration) in the five study groups. (2) The relationship of service patterns to later child and adolescent outcomes (e.g. mortality, foster care entry, entry into Special Education, etc.). (3) The later child and adolescent outcomes (e.g. mortality, foster care entry, entry into Special Education, etc.) (3) The association between positive family outcomes in child welfare and income maintenance programs (e.g. employment reunification, etc.) with child and adolescent outcomes. Analyses will be conducted within an ecodevelopmental framework, examining the influence of neglect while controlling for child, family, service sector use and community level factors.

Study Title: Factors that Influence the Decision Not to Substantiate a CPS Referral

NDACAN Dataset Number: 107

Principal Investigator: English, D.

Description: The State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services will examine the characteristics of child protective services (CPS) referrals that are more likely to be unsubstantiated compared to referrals classified as inconclusive (indicated) or substantiated. The objectives of the study are to 1) identify the factors that influence the decision not to substantiate a CPS referral; 2) identify the characteristics of CPS referrals that are more likely to be unsubstantiated or inconclusive compared to those that will be substantiated; and 3) determine if families reported to CPS but unsubstantiated differ significantly in their potential for abuse, subsequent re-referral, and perceptions of the impact of CPS investigations from families reported and found indicated or unsubstantiated. The study will include analysis of administrative data, as well as interviews with a sample of 200 CPs caseworkers and 300 families that have been referred to CPS.

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The mission of the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect is to facilitate the secondary analysis of research data relevant to the study of child abuse and neglect. By making data available to a larger number of researchers, NDACAN seeks to provide a relatively inexpensive and scientifically productive means for researchers to explore important issues in the child maltreatment field.

Summer Research Institute Another Success!

The highlight of the staff's year is the Summer Research Institute. After a year of working with bits and bytes, User Guides and Progress Reports, the staff get to meet some of the Archive users face-to-face. The Institute provides an opportunity to learn what projects are underway, and to help stimulate the use of our datasets in research.

The 2005 Summer Research Institute was no exception. It was a dynamic and diverse group of people, consisting of tenured research professors, medical researchers, and graduate students. The group was geographically diverse as well, with participants coming from California, Texas, Missouri, and New York City. After a meet-and-greet at Cornell's Statler Hotel, the group was excited about the program and eager to get to work.

Participants used several of our most popular, extensive, and acronymic datasets - AFCARS, LONGSCAN, NCANDS, and NSCAW. A coterie of users congealed around NSCAW, discussing how to pull from the complex design the variables that would flesh-

out their hypotheses. Strategies were discussed and developed, and collaborations were initiated. This what the Institute is a about - a mutually beneficial and stimulating experience for participants.

The SRI included several lunch-time teaching sessions. Most popular was John Eckenrode's presentation about his research. It gave participants a direct example of how the data could be used to address real-world problems. Karen Grace-Martin, of Cornell's Office of Statistical Consulting, gave a helpful review of the theory and application of logistic regression.

Also attending were Chris Wiesen and Sharon Christ, statistical and research-design experts from the University of North Carolina. Chris and Sharon gave a presentation about the sampling design of NSCAW and also provided direct help to participants during the lab sessions. Participants reported that these Sharon and Chris were extremely helpful in getting them started with their NSCAW research.

Time was also set aside for participants to get to know Ithaca, enjoying

lunch-break walks around the beautiful Cornell campus, including a wild-flower tour and a trek on a suspension bridge across one of Ithaca's many gorges, and seeing several of our lovely waterfalls. Evenings included dining at several of Ithaca's eclectic restaurants.

Summer Research Institute 2006

The next NDACAN Summer Research Institute (SRI) is scheduled for May 31 - June 4, 2006. Twelve individuals will be selected from the pool of applicants. Except for the cost of travel, most expenses will be paid by NDACAN. Diversity scholarships will be available to pay the travel expenses of a small number of participants. To download or review the application, please visit the Archive Web site: www.ndacan.cornell.edu.