

Child Care Research Scholars: 2000 Grantees

Scholar:

Ajay Chaudry

Project Title:

Child Care Arrangements Among Low-Income Families: A Qualitative Approach

Mentor:

Mary Jo Bane

Project Funding Years:

2000-2002

University Affiliation:

Harvard University

Project Abstract:

An analysis of child care arrangements among urban low-income families, using qualitative research methods--including interviews with mothers over a twelve month period, and observations in child care settings--to explore the following questions: (a) What are the strategies working families in low income urban communities adopt for their young children's care and development?; (b) How do different strategies affect the way children spend their time during early childhood?; and (c) What comparisons, if any, can be made in the care offered families with young children in American inner-city communities that differ by racial and ethnic composition, and/or the types of services available in those neighborhoods? The goal is to better understand individual family decisions within the context of the choices available at the community level.

Project Publications and Resources:

<http://researchconnections.org/childcare/resources/12371/related>

Scholar:

Jessica Bigazzi Foster

Project Title:

The Effects of Child Care Disruptions on Working Parents: An Experience Sampling Approach

*Mentor:
Michelle R. Hebl*

*Project Funding Years:
2000-2002*

*University Affiliation:
Rice University*

Project Abstract:

An examination of the interaction between child care and parent workplace stress. The study follows ethnically and socioeconomically diverse parents, and randomly samples their behaviors and attitudes to measure the effects of child care disruptions as they occur. Hypotheses include: (a) Parents using workplace-site child care experience fewer negative consequences as a result of child care; (b) Women are more likely to experience the effects of child care problems spilling over and affecting outcomes at work than are men; and (c) Low-income families experience more negative outcomes as a result of child care problems.

*Scholar:
Ruth Harding Weaver*

Project Title:

The Habitat of Family Child Care Providers: The Influences of Caregiver, Contextual and Group Characteristics on Quality Care

*Mentor:
Inge Bretherton*

*Project Funding Years:
2000-2001*

*University Affiliation:
University of Wisconsin–Madison*

Project Abstract:

A study of 67 licensed family child care providers, examining the unique and combined influences of factors, including education and training, psychological well-being, adult attachment style, commitment to care, and social support, that may promote or undermine quality caregiving. Guided by an ecological model, the study explores links between determinants of caregiver behavior and quality of care, hypothesizing that quality is influenced not only by the process and structural components of child care

environments, but also by the personal and supportive characteristics of caregivers.

Project Publications and Resources:

<http://researchconnections.org/childcare/resources/12433/related>

Scholar:

Shannon Sparks

Project Title:

Informal Caregiving Among the White Mountain Apache and its Impact on Child Health and Well Being

Mentor:

Mark Nichter

Project Funding Years:

2000-2002

University Affiliation:

University of Arizona

Project Abstract:

An ethnographic study of informal kith and kin care among the White Mountain Apaches, and the effects of child care practices on child health, with an exploration of the implications of welfare reform for parent employment and child care. The project has three basic components: (a) patterns of caregiving; (b) the practice of alternative caregiving and health related behaviors; and (c) community attitudes.

Scholar:

Erdal Tekin

Project Title:

The Responses of Single Mothers to Welfare and Child Care Subsidy Programs under the New Welfare Reform Act

Mentor:

David M. Blau

Project Funding Years:

2000-2001

University Affiliation:

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Project Abstract:

A comprehensive analysis of single mothers' employment, child care payment, welfare, and child care subsidy decisions in the new welfare environment, using a data set from the National Survey of America's Families. The study models the effects of wages, child care prices, welfare program rules, subsidy benefit, and reimbursement rates on single mothers' welfare participation, use of child care subsidies, employment, and child care payment decisions. The goal of the research is to better understand the barriers that discourage mothers from participating in welfare and child care subsidy programs.

Project Publications and Resources:

<http://researchconnections.org/childcare/resources/12421/related>