Women’s and Children’s Health in the Border Region: Nursing Research

College of Health and Social Services
Randee Greenwald
Lori Saiki
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October 19th, 2017
Incarcerated Women and Family Planning

Randee Greenwald
Birth Control Use Among Women on Probation in Southern New Mexico and the U.S.-Mexico Border Region

An examination of the relationship between personal characteristics, prior behaviors, individual and interpersonal influences with current effective birth control use among women on probation living in the U.S.-Mexico border region
Reproductive characteristics of women in the criminal justice system

- Higher rates of unintended pregnancy than the general population (Clarke et al., 2006)
- Decreased use a consistent method of contraception (Clarke et al., 2006)
- Increased likelihood of having high-risk pregnancies with poor outcomes for mother and baby (Clarke & Adashi, 2011)
- Post-release, between 67-76% of jailed women are likely to have sex with a man (Clarke, Hebert, et al., 2006)
- One study found 43% of women returning to jail conceived within a year of release from incarceration. (Clarke et al., 2010)
Mean age- 32.13 (range: 18- 45)
Average number of incarcerations- 4.88 (range: 1-23)
Ethnicity: 65.4% Hispanic, non-Hispanic (all Whites)- 34.6%
   - Statewide 45.9% Hispanic and nationwide 10%
Education: < 12th grade- 32.7%; High School/GED- 23.1%, Some college or Associate Degree- 40.4%
Marital status: Never married- 32.7%; Divorced, widowed, separated-30.8%; Married- 19%; Living with partner- 17.3%
Employment- 50% were employed; Statewide 59.9% employed
Insurance- 100% were insured (Medicaid was noted by all who were asked specifically)
Annual income- 92.3% made less than $25,000 per year
Reproductive and Contraceptive Characteristics

- Number of pregnancies: 3.48 (range: 0-10)
  - Permanent method: 4.2 (range 0*-10)* partner vasectomy
  - Reversible method- effective: 3.7 (range 0-6)
  - Reversible method- less effective: 2.9 (0-7)
- Parity: 2.63 (range 0-7)
  - Permanent method: 3.5
  - Reversible method- effective: 2.6
  - Reversible method- less effective: 2.2
- Unplanned pregnancies: 75% responded yes
  - (Rates in the general population are 51% (Finer & Zolna, 2014) and 62% among one group of incarcerated women (Ramaswamy et al., 2015)
Reproductive and Contraceptive Characteristics

Birth control methods used:

- Permanent: Tubal ligation – 17; Partner vasectomy- 1
- Reversible, effective methods: Pill- 4; Depo- 5; IUD- 5; Implant- 2
- Reversible, less effective methods: Condoms- 12; No method- 6

Permanent contraception: Tubal Ligations- average age in this study: 26.3 (ranging from 21-33).
Research Question

Do:

- personal characteristics: contraceptive self-efficacy, age, ethnicity, and parity
- effective contraceptive use in the past
- individual influences (attitudes toward a potential pregnancy)
- interpersonal influences (reproductive autonomy)

predict current effective birth control use among women on probation in the U.S.- Mexico border region
Results of the hierarchical logistic regression

- Higher reproductive autonomy among women on probation, as measured by the Reproductive Autonomy Scale, was associated with more effective birth control use (OR= 1.3, \( p = .009 \)).
The Attitude Toward a Potential Pregnancy Scale

The following questions ask you about your feelings about having a pregnancy. Choose the number under the line below that most closely matches how you would feel about being pregnant now.
Implications for research

1- Higher sterilization rates and younger age at time of surgery among women in the criminal justice system compared to the general population. What factors influence this decision-making? What is women’s understanding of this procedure? How do we develop effective counseling?

2- What are the impacts of substance and alcohol abuse, physical and sexual abuse, and intimate partner violence on initiation and use of contraception among women probationers?
Possible interdisciplinary approaches to strengthen research

- **Family and Consumer Sciences, Social Work:** strategies to strengthen families and teach parenting skills; use of companion animals; health literacy
- **Education:** strategies to provide trauma-informed care including mental health and addictions counseling; health literacy
- **Women’s Studies:** women’s experiences related to incarceration and trauma
- **Business:** costs associated with incarceration
Possible interdisciplinary approaches to strengthen research

- Engineering, Criminal Justice, Public Health - social determinants/built environment of health - housing, crime, improving neighborhoods with limited resources
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Intimate Partners Living with Urinary Incontinence

Lori Saiki
Intimate Partners Living with Urinary Incontinence

Subtitle: Midlife Female Urinary Incontinence and the Intimate Dyad

An examination of the psychosocial effects of chronic incontinence symptom management on midlife women’s personal, intimate relationships.
Background

- Incidence rates of 15-56.9% among women aged 45 – 65
- Undisclosed to healthcare providers by 10 – 50% of affected women
- Women who eventually sought care reported living with symptoms for an average of more than 7 years
- Well documented effects on physical, economic, and psychosocial health
Pearson Product-Moment Correlations: Measures of Women’s Biographical Variables and Women’s Relationship Variables

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*p < .05; **p < .01; ***p < .001
Pearson Product-Moment Correlations among Measures of Women’s Biographical Variables and Partners’ Relationship Variables

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*p < .05; **p < .01; ***p < .001
Research Question

Do biographical and relationship variables significantly contribute to the variance in the Couples Satisfaction Index scores?

With the RES removed:

Women’s total variance in CIS scores explained was 55.9%

\( F(6, 47) = 9.930, \ p < .001 \) \( R^2 = .559, \ \text{adjusted} \ R^2 = .503 \)

Unique contributions from SQLF = 18.7% & HADS-D = 8.7%

Partners’ total variance in CIS scores explained was 43.8%

\( F(6, 33) = 4.286, \ p = .003 \) \( R^2 = .438, \ \text{adjusted} \ R^2 = .336 \)

Unique contributions from SQLM = 14% & women’s HADS-D = 10%
Word Choice: Distressed vs Non-Distressed Dyads

**Distressed Dyads**

- Significantly more often used words related to:
  - **activities and outings**
    
    \(z\)-score = 2.80, \(p = .005\), two-tailed
  
  - **sex and intimacy**
    
    \(z\)-score = 2.97, \(p = .003\), two-tailed

Distressed dyads also used words related to **spontaneity** and **avoidance**, whereas these words were not found in the responses of the non-distressed dyads.

**Non-Distressed Dyads**

- Significantly more often used words related to:
  - **communicating**
    
    \(z\)-score = -1.87, \(p = .06\), two-tailed

Non-distressed dyads also used words related to **humor**, **help**, and **healthy**, whereas these words were not found in the responses of the distressed dyads.
Continence Care Needs in the Border Region of New Mexico: Perspectives of Promotoras

- Exploratory, descriptive, qualitative design
- Community needs assessment on bladder health and continence care

**Goal:** Develop community-based educational program offering effective symptom management strategies for adults living with urinary incontinence and to promote healthy relationships between partners.
Possible interdisciplinary approaches to research

- **Education**: innovative education strategies to serve community-dwelling rural adults
- **Psychology, Sociology, Medical Anthropology**: navigating chronic illness in the context of self-concept, social processes, cultural/lifestyle considerations in rural border region
- **Engineering**: civil engineering and community design for accessibility and facilities
- **Business**: workplace factors, incontinence product and cost issues
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Exploring Perceptions on Obesity Prevention among Hispanics along the US-Mexico Border

Martha Morales
Purpose

This qualitative study aimed to discover, explore and describe the perceptions about obesity and how to maintain a healthy weight in preschoolers with Hispanic caretakers along the U.S.-Mexico border.
In the past 10 years, obesity rates have increased at an alarming rate among children ages 2-5. Rates are reported as high as 18% to 21% among Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native children respectively (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2009a)
Overarching Question:

What are the perceptions of Hispanic parents and caregivers related to promoting healthy weight and healthy eating practices among the children?
1. How would you describe the healthy preschooler in your care?

2. What kinds of things do you do as a caregiver to keep your children healthy?
3. How do you promote healthy eating and healthy bodies for your children?

¿Cómo promueve la alimentación saludable y cuerpo sana para sus hijos?

4. What information do you use to teach the children about healthy eating and healthy bodies?

¿Qué información utiliza para enseñarles a los niños sobre la alimentación sana y un cuerpo sano?
5. How does the community where you live help you promote healthy eating and healthy bodies for your children?

¿De qué manera la comunidad donde vive le ayuda a promover una alimentación sana y cuerpo sano para sus hijos?
Results of Qualitative Descriptive Study

- 5 Spanish and 8 English Focus Group Sessions
- Of the 42 participants, 37 met the criteria for ethnicity, age, and age of preschoolers cared for
- 34 (92%) women and 3 (8%) men
- Ages ranged from 20 to 61 (mean 38.39, SD 11.85)
Results (continued)

- Ethnicity resulted in 100% participants who self-identified as Hispanic or Latino
- 21 (57%) reported either some college education or college graduate
- 20 (54%) earned less than $15,000
- 7 (19%) earned $15,000 - $20,000
- 4 (11%) earned $21,000 - $30,000
- 6 (16%) were unemployed
The adults cared for 45 preschoolers who were two to five years of age and healthy.

The preschoolers were the child, grandchild, or niece of the participants.

The preschoolers also included children in day care.
Themes Identified from Transcriptions

- Balancing nutrition and physical activity
- Resources
- Urban and rural differences
**Possible interdisciplinary approaches to research**

- **Education**: involve undergraduate students in community oriented research to continue addressing obesity prevention among preschoolers, in particular, with grandparents.

- **Engineering**: involve undergraduate students in designing safe playground equipment for preschoolers living near parks in suburban and rural areas.
Possible interdisciplinary approaches to research

- **Music**: involve undergraduate students in creating a musical approach for media to stress importance of healthy weights in preschoolers among all caregivers

- **Psychology**: involve undergraduate students in establishing a support group for moms/families experiencing post-partum depression
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Future Collaborations?

- Arts & Sciences
- Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences: Family and Consumer Sciences
- Education: CEP
- Business
- Engineering