

**The Effects of Parenting Classes on
Pregnant Women with Substance Abuse Issues**

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Introduction

- Assessing pregnant women's views on parenting aids in prediction of future parental behavior.
- Negative parental views can be detrimental to children.
- History of substance abuse may affect parental views of clients.

Research Question

Does participation in a parenting group affect the views of pregnant women with substance abuse issues?

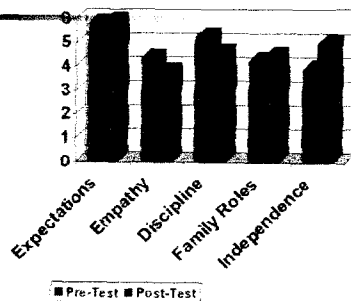
Sample and Methods

- N = 9 women
- Mean Age: 18.78 years (S.D. = 4.82)
- Ethnicity: 2 African-Americans (22.2%), 7 Caucasians (77.8%)
- All clients at one agency
- Pre-test/Post-test
- Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (5 constructs)
- Data analyzed using Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

Results of Pre-Test/Post-Test Comparisons

- I. Inappropriate vs. Appropriate Expectations Construct:
Z = -0.776; p = .438
- II. Low Level vs. Appropriate Levels of Empathy Construct:
Z = -0.106; p = .916
- III. Corporal Punishment vs. Disciplinary Alternatives Construct:
Z = -.632; p = .527
- IV. Reversal of Family Roles vs. Appropriate Families Construct:
Z = -0.702; p = .483
- V. Independence: Restricts vs. Values Power Construct:
Z = -1.913; p = .056

Mean Scores on Five Constructs



Main Findings

- There are no significant differences between pre-test and post-test scores.
- The graph shows positive improvement on expectations, family roles, and independence constructs.
- Graph shows negative change on empathy and discipline constructs.

Discussion/Implications

- Group might not impact clients' views on parenting.
- Increased post-test scores suggest group may have some positive effect on views about 3 out of 5 constructs.
- Group focus may be more general and less specific to measured constructs.
- Group may change clients' views in ways not measured in this study.

Limitations

- Agency serves limited number of clients.
- Small sample size
- Data collection problems, including incomplete surveys
- Inconsistent length of time among clients between the pretest and posttest.

[Future Research

- Improve sample size by using multiple sites.
- Assess more and varied constructs using multiple instruments.
- Look at possible differences between pregnant adolescents and adults.
