

Family Focused Prevention of Delinquency and Crime: It Works!

**Illinois Family Impact Seminar
Springfield, Illinois
February 23, 2006**

Patrick Tolan Ph.D. Director

Institute for Juvenile Research,

University of Illinois at Chicago

Phone: (312) 413-1893

E-mail: Tolan@uic.edu

Institute Website: <http://www.psych.uic.edu/news/ijr.htm>

Institute for Juvenile Research

For the Welfare of Every Child, since 1909



Family Focused Prevention Works

- Large effects
- Cost effective
- Roster of proven programs available
 - across age ranges
 - for different populations
 - for different service systems
- Programs for education, support, and treatment
- Programs effective with high-risk
- Natural fit with helping families be responsible for children, work with schools, etc.

Schools and Families Educating Children **SAFE Children**

Patrick H. Tolan, Deborah Gorman-Smith,
and David Henry, Investigators

Funded by:

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Services Administration

SAFE Children Intervention

Two Components:

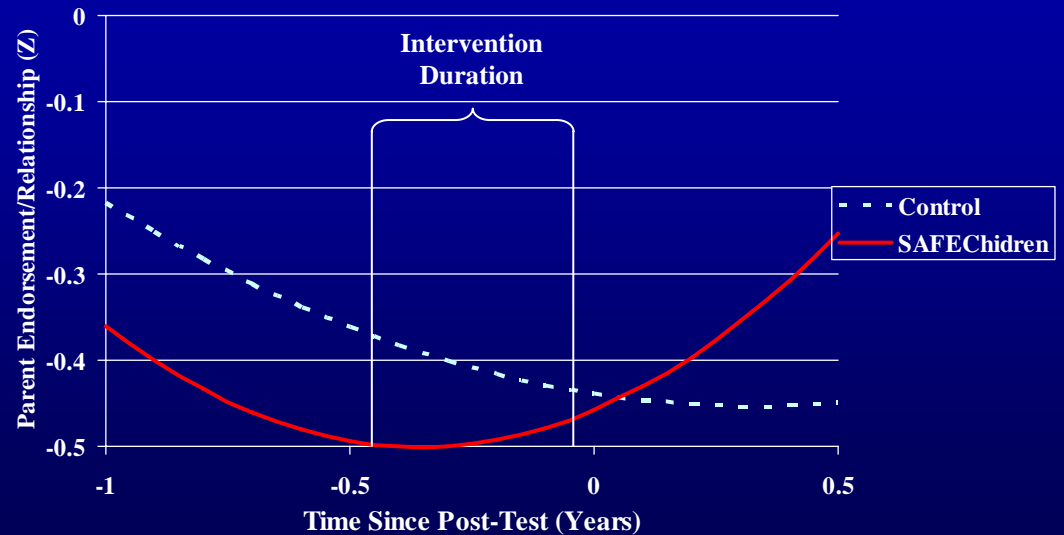
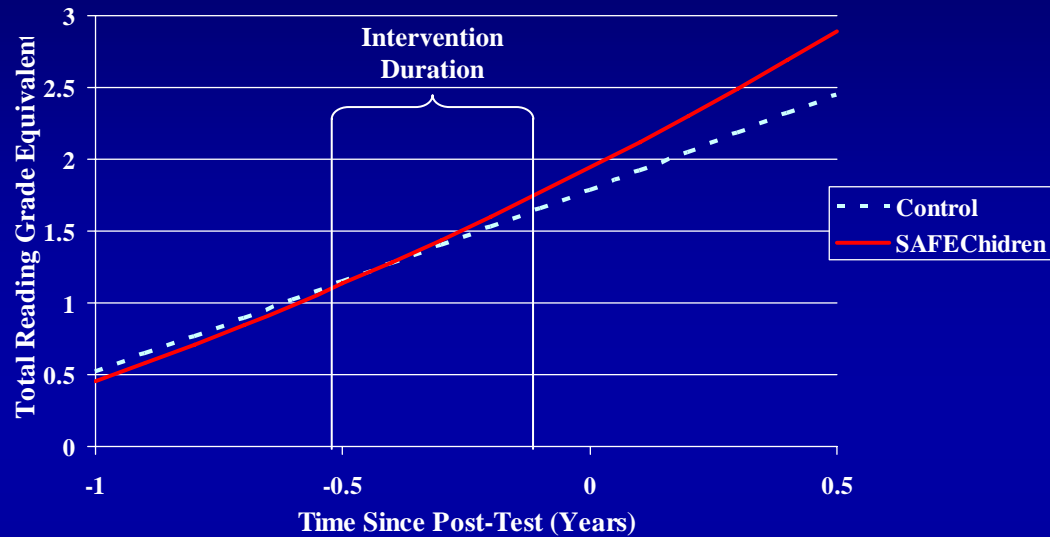
(1) Multiple-Family groups

- Weekly, 20 sessions addressed issues
 - parenting,
 - family relationship characteristics,
 - parental involvement and investment in education
 - managing child development in the social ecology of the inner-city

(2) Tutoring

- phonics-based
- literacy education through reading of books

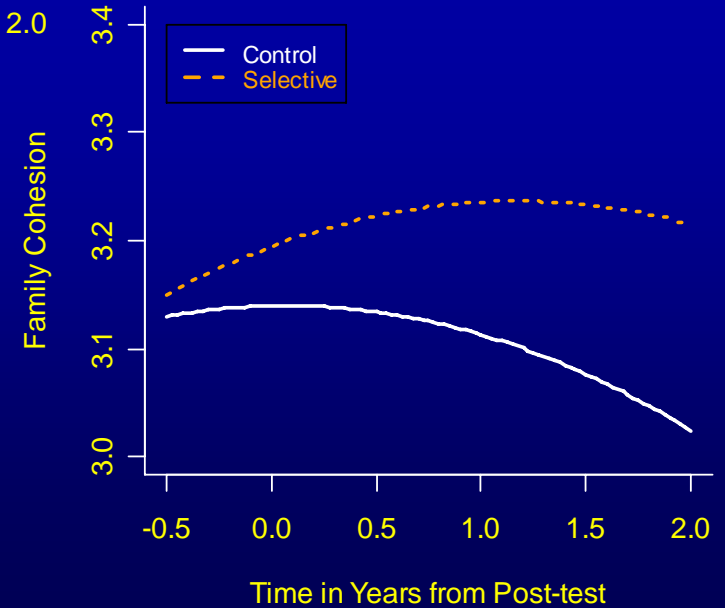
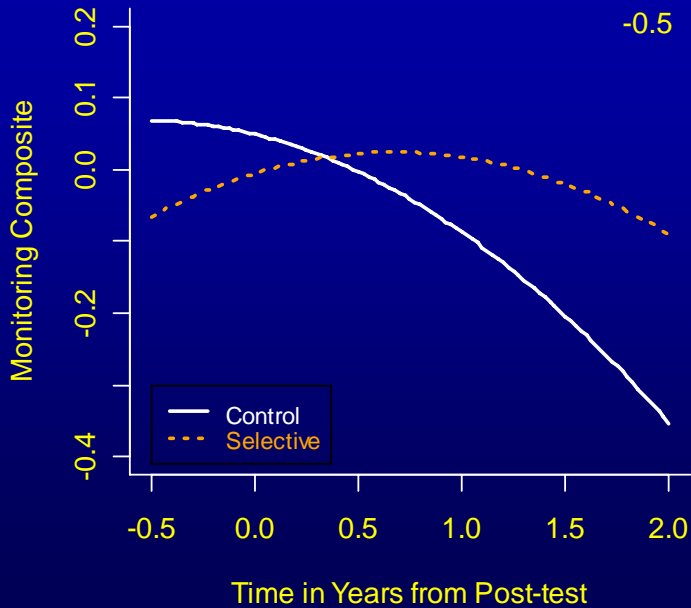
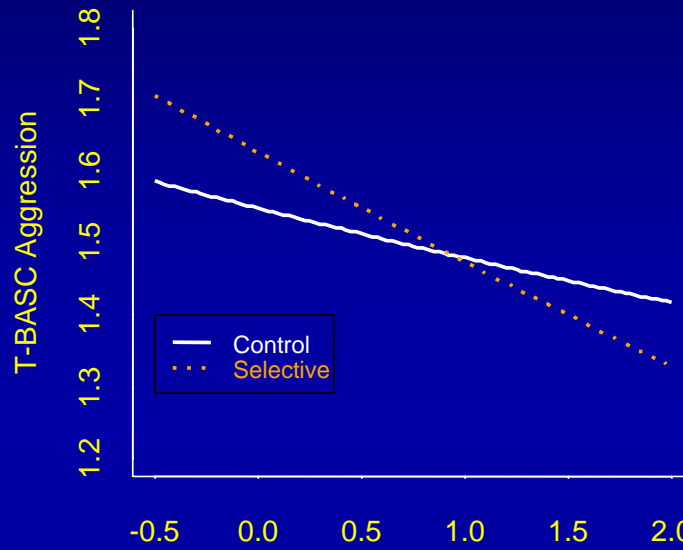
Helping Families Help Children Grow Toward Success



Focus of the GREAT Families Program

- Strengthen effective parenting
- Increase parent and child coping skills
- Strengthen communication and problem solving skills
- Promote strong family-school partnership

GREAT Schools and Families Effects



“Suppose, instead of theorizing, we study human beings and human lives and the causes of conduct, and the effectiveness of various forms of treatment for misconduct.... It means investigating the influences that mold the human individual when he is most plastic, the influences of childhood and youth

” (Healy, 1928, p. 762-767).

The Interdependence of Training, Service Systems, and Evaluation to Address Delinquency



Institute for Juvenile Research

For the Welfare of Every Child, since 1909

