More than a playmate: Siblings and executive function

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Siblings, Parenting, and Executive Function (EF)
Current Study Aims and Hypotheses

Sibling Presence + Parenting + Executive Function

Diagram:
- Sibling Presence -> Parenting
- Parenting -> Executive Function
- Sibling Presence -> Executive Function

Symbols: + indicate positive influence.
Method

• Participants
  • N = 492, majority white (72%), 30-60 months

• Predictors
  • Sibling Presence: dichotomized (0=only child, 1=one or more siblings)
  • Revised Parenting Practices Subscale (Robinson et al., 1995)

• Outcome
  • Executive Function: Parent-reported Behavior Assessment System for Children (Reynolds & Kamphaus, 2004)

• Controls
  • Child’s gender, age, maternal education level, and language ability
Note. Coefficients are reported in unstandardized form, given that in Process standardized coefficients normally have no valuable substantive interpretation for dichotomous independent variables (Hayes, 2013).
Results cont.

Note. Coefficients are reported in unstandardized form (Hayes, 2013).
Discussion and Conclusions

Sibling Influence on Parenting

Parents

Siblings

Executive Function
Discussion Questions

• What are the potential impacts of sibling birth order and number of siblings in the home on these hypothesized associations?

• In this study we found differential effects when we used a global scale versus distinct parenting factors. What are the broader implications of this for the field or family research?