The Nurturing Parenting Program from the San Bernardino located organization, Reach Out, is a family-centered and trauma-informed curriculum that aims to give parents the skills to build on their parenting techniques and improve the family functioning. The program helps parents drive away from abusive and neglectful parenting and child-rearing practices by providing 16-week parenting classes, child-care, assessments, case management, and community outreach events, in addition to many other activities within the classes held. This evaluation is primarily focused on NPP’s ability to increase appropriate discipline strategies, specifically to replace the use of corporal punishment, among Latino parents with a history of child abuse within their family. Benefit in the use of corporal punishment was significantly decreased after program participation.

Type of Design:
- This evaluation required a one-group pretest/posttest design in which the treatment was the NPP curriculum.
- The organization Reach Out provided the data for their program which was deidentified and contained no private information.

Sampling Strategy:
- A subsample of 136 Latino participants were selected for this evaluation of which 25 of these participants were Latino parents who have had child abuse history within their family who also completed the NPP program
- Participants self-reported their ethnicity and whether they had history of child abuse during the intake process prior to starting NPP curriculum.

Operational Definitions:
- The independent variable is defined as the completion of the NPP program.
- The operational definition of the dependent variable is the parents’ belief of the use of corporal punishment as opposed to appropriate discipline strategies.
- The variables from the data set are defined as the pretest score for Construct C-Use of Corporal Punishment, and the posttest score for Construct C-Use of Corporal Punishment.
- The scores are measured from the Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2) (Bavolek & Keene, 2001). The scale in which they are categorized as different risk levels for child maltreatment: Low Risk, with a score of 8-10; Moderate Risk, with a score of 4-7; or High Risk, with a score of 1-3.
- Each score is determined from the AAPI-2 in Form A and Form B, each containing 40 items presented on a five-point Likert Scale ranging from answers of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, and Uncertain.
- The variable is measured by the AAPI-2 and the scores are compared once the participant exits the program after the post-testing is completed.
- The higher the score (between 8-10), the lower the risk of child maltreatment on behalf of the parent.

Data Collection Procedures:
- The Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI-2) was a self-administered questionnaire. The pretest AAPI-2 was filled out by each participant during the intake session with a program facilitator present.
- Demographic data were gathered during the first week of the program in the intake process.
- Similarly, the posttest was also self-administered upon the last class session of the program on the 16th week.

Results and Implications:
- The results indicated the belief in the use of corporal punishment was significantly decreased after program participation among the 25 Latino participants who reported having experienced abuse as a child.
- AAPI measures child maltreatment risk in three levels: low, moderate, and high. Participants between 8-10, moderate risk ranking participants score between 8-10, low risk ranking participants score between 4-7, or high-risk participants score between 1-3.
- Participants had a lower risk level after the completion of the program due to the higher Median scores (8-10 signifying lower risk of child maltreatment) compared to the beginning of the program.
- A significant characteristic is the high percentages of participants with less than $20,000 of family income, with 56% of participants with history of child abuse and 36% without, falling in this category. This factor is one of several that draws relevance from the underlying reason as to why this population may engage in corporal punishment resulting in these percentage values.

Reference:

