Associations Among Family Cultural Values, Parenting, Inhibitory Control, and ADHD Symptoms in Hispanic Preschool Children

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Background

Inhibitory Control (IC)
- Component of Executive Control (Weide et al., 2011)
- Rapidly develops from age 3-5 (Espy et al., 1999)
- Insufficient development in IC can lead to ADHD symptoms (Nigg, 2006)

Early Environment
- Consistent parenting promotes child IC (Gleitman, 2012)

Hispanic Population
- Fastest growing ethnic minority group in U.S.
- U.S. Census Bureau, 2010
- Cultural specific early socialization mechanisms may support IC development (Knight et al., 2010)
  - Respect
  - Familiarity

Purpose & Research Questions

Purpose: To examine the relevance of traditional Hispanic cultural values and early parenting for preschool IC, and also, for preschool ADHD symptoms.

Research Questions
- Is consistent parenting associated with IC in Hispanic preschool children?
- Is maternal endorsement of cultural values associated with consistent parenting?
  - Respect and Familiarity
- Is child IC associated with parent reported child ADHD symptoms?

Method

Participants
- 124 Hispanic 3-5 year olds and their parent/guardian
- 64 boys, 60 girls
- Average monthly income: $2,010 (SD = $1,052)
- Session Language
  - 61% Spanish
  - 39% English

Measures
- Shape School Task (Espy, 1997)
  - Inhibition Trials
- Parenting Dimension Inventory (PDI-S) (Powell, 2002)
  - Inconsistency, Nurturance & Follow Through on Discipline
- Mexican American Cultural Values Scale (MACVS) (Knight et al., 2010)
  - Respect & Familiarity
- Child Behavior Check List/ 1½-5 (CBCL) (Achenbach & Rescorla, 2000)
  - ADHD

Results

Table 1: Descriptive statistics for measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>t</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shape School Task</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inhibit Trials</td>
<td>0.80 (.37)</td>
<td>0.84 (.33)</td>
<td>0.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDI-S</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inconsistency</td>
<td>2.97 (1.17)</td>
<td>3.13 (1.23)</td>
<td>0.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurturance</td>
<td>5.34 (5.2)</td>
<td>5.22 (6.2)</td>
<td>-1.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow Through</td>
<td>4.63 (.96)</td>
<td>4.77 (.90)</td>
<td>0.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACVS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respect</td>
<td>4.43 (.42)</td>
<td>4.43 (.47)</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Familiarism</td>
<td>4.33 (.40)</td>
<td>4.33 (.44)</td>
<td>-0.02</td>
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<td>CBCL</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ADHD Dichotomous</td>
<td>3.25 (1.72)</td>
<td>3.53 (1.71)</td>
<td>0.89</td>
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</table>

Figure 2: Regression Values for Preliminary Path Model.

Discussion

Parenting & Inhibitory Control
- Positive association between Follow Through parenting and child IC
- Higher levels of Follow Through related to higher child IC

Cultural Values & Parenting
- Strong positive associations between all cultural values & Follow Through parenting
- Endorsements of respect & familiarity related to higher Follow Through parenting

Inhibitory Control & Parent Reported Child ADHD Symptoms
- Non-significant relationship

Conclusion

Implications
- Contributes to understanding social influences on child IC development
- Sets foundation for study of IC and ADHD symptoms in Hispanic children
- Contributes ideas to preventive interventions targeting school readiness & mental health

Limitations & Future Directions
- Findings limited to recent Hispanic immigrant families living in Nebraska
  - Need to study varied generational status
  - Cross-sectional; need longitudinal studies
  - Non-clinical sample

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References