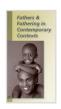


## Fathers and Fathering in Contemporary Contexts 2012 Research Conference Abstract



## PROMOTING FATHER ENGAGEMENT THROUGH ENHANCED COPARENTING

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The level of father involvement with children and the quality of fathers' parenting have been linked with the quality of the coparenting relationship. However, most research on these issues has been correlational, with little experimental research supporting links between coparenting and father-related outcomes. This presentation will describe a coparenting-focused prevention program designed for couples expecting a first child and describe randomized trial results regarding the impact on fathers and families. The program, Family Foundations (FF), has demonstrated efficacy in enhancing the short-term target of coparenting; findings also indicate the program resulted in reduced fathers' parental stress and psychological aggression toward the partner, and improved quality of fathers' parenting. Preliminary evidence in a second trial demonstrates reduced physical aggression to infants. The presentation will also describe current dissemination projects and program adaptation for specific populations and contexts.