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Family Processes and Children’s Self-Regulation

Presentation Abstract

Children’s ability to regulate their emotional and behavioral responses is an important developmental achievement that occurs in early childhood. Recent research in the field has theorized that the development of self-regulation occurs at multiple levels. Specifically, it has been proposed that the development of early biological and attentional mechanisms provide a foundation that supports the development of regulatory skills in other domains, including emotional and behavioral regulation. In addition, research suggests that children’s emerging regulatory abilities are embedded within the family socialization context. This presentation explores multiple family characteristics, including maternal well-being and both mothers’ and fathers’ parenting behavior, which are linked with children’s self-regulation and socioemotional functioning.