

Introduction

- ❖ Inductive discipline involves reasoning, the communication of behavioral standards, emphasis on the intentions behind behaviors, and consequences [1]
- It promotes better perspective taking and more moral behavior [2]
- ❖ Children and adolescents perceive inductive discipline as an effective parental response to moral transgressions (harming others) [3][4][5]
- Its effectiveness for prudential issues (risky behaviors) is unknown
- ❖ Youth engagement in problem behavior is associated with the rejection of parental authority over risky behavior, and less positive evaluations of inductive discipline in bullying situations [4]

Purpose

To investigate how prior and current problem behaviors are associated with perceived effectiveness of inductive discipline in response to prudential transgressions.

Method

- ❖ $n = 85$ undergraduate students
- ❖ $M_{age} = 20$, 77.6% female
- ❖ Participants read 1 of 5 hypothetical vignettes and reflected on how effective inductive discipline would have been at reducing a similar behavior again (in high school); they also reported their prior and current levels of problem behavior.

Prudential Scenarios:

- ❖ 1.) Smoked weed (marijuana)
- ❖ 2.) Had unprotected sex
- ❖ 3.) Drove a friend's car without a license
- ❖ 4.) Drank alcohol at a party
- ❖ 5.) Tried vaping

Example of Parental Induction in Response to Vaping:

- ❖ Okay, but I'm really disappointed in your behavior. Vaping is just as addictive as cigarettes and can cause all sorts of health problems. Why would you risk forming such a bad habit? I know you can make better choices. Why did you try vaping?

Example of the Effectiveness Item:

- ❖ "Think about how that response would have made you ACT. Would it have made you more or less likely to...**vape again in the future?**"
- Rated from -2 (a lot less likely) to 2 (a lot more likely)
- Reverse scored so that higher scores equal greater effectiveness of induction

The Evaluation of Emerging Adults' Perceptions of the Effectiveness of Inductive Discipline in Response to Prudential Transgressions

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Prior problem behavior is significantly, and uniquely correlated with less perceived effectiveness of parental induction, even after current levels of problem behavior were controlled.

Correlations Between Problem Behavior and Outcome Variables

| | 1. | 2. | 3. |
|------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1. Prior PB | -- | -- | -- |
| 2. Current PB | .429** | -- | -- |
| 3. Effectiveness | -.354** | -.283* | .457** |

Note. * $p < .01$, ** $p < .001$; "PB" = "problem behavior"

Predicting Effectiveness from Problem Behavior

Model fit

| Model | dfs | F | Sig. | ΔR^2 |
|-------|---------|-------|------|--------------|
| 1 | (2, 81) | 6.943 | .002 | .146 |

a. Dependent Variable: Effectiveness

b. Predictors: (Constant), Prior PB, Current PB

Note. models present represent the regression model and not residuals.

Results

- ❖ Both current and prior problem behavior were significantly correlated with the effectiveness of inductive discipline, but only prior problem behavior was a significant predictor of the perceived effectiveness of induction when current and prior problem behavior were simultaneously entered into a linear regression.

Coefficients

| Model | | Unstandardized B | SE | t | Sig. | 95% CI | Partial Correlations |
|-------|------------|------------------|------|--------|-------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. | (Constant) | 2.444 | .468 | 5.221 | <.001 | [1.513, 3.376] | |
| | Prior PB | -.498 | .198 | -2.512 | .014 | [-.893, -.104] | -.269 |
| | Current PB | -.566 | .402 | -1.408 | .163 | [-1.367, .234] | .155 |

a. Dependent Variable: Effectiveness

Measures

- ❖ Current problem behavior was assessed by the CARE scale [6]
- 7 items, rated on a 5 point Likert scale, ($\alpha = .743$)
- ❖ Retrospective problem behavior in Highschool was assessed by the Problem Behavior Scale [7]
- 11 items, rated on a 5 point Likert scale, ($\alpha = .805$)

Discussion

Perceived effectiveness of inductive discipline can be predicted from prior problem behavior.

- ❖ Findings extend prior research on domain differentiated guilt induction by suggesting a significant association between participants' prior engagement in problem behavior, and perceived effectiveness of parental induction in response to issues pertaining to the prudential domain; previous findings indicated that youth perceive induction to be effective in response to issues pertaining to the moral domain [5]
- ❖ Results provide guidance for parents who are seeking to implement inductive discipline effectively in response to youth who engage in problem behaviors.
- ❖ Children and adolescents who engage in problem behavior may perceive inductive discipline to be an ineffective method alone.

References

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