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02. Family Science

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02. Family Science

02.02.01 Exploring the Dialectics in Latina Perceptions of Healthy Foods

Sims, Jeanetta University of Central Oklahoma

Shuff, Jalea University of Central Oklahoma

Dialectics are the tensions navigated in relationships (e.g., love/hate, joy/anger). Through 20 interviews with Latina Americans, this project explores dialectics negotiated by women concerning food and related behaviors, which is an approach that has not yet been employed to discern the health perceptions of minority women. Identification of the tensions associated with Latina American perceptions and relationships with food improves health education among Latina Americans, extends relational dialectics theory, and enhances cultural health interventions.
Generations Learning Together: Pilot Study for Creating an Intergenerational Center

Bertram, Dr. Glee University of Central Oklahoma

Atkins, Dr. LaDonna University of Central Oklahoma

Powers, Dr. Melissa University of Central Oklahoma

Burr, Brandon University of Central Oklahoma

Sears, Dr. Kaye University of Central Oklahoma

Holmes Ph. D., R.D., L.D., Tawni University of Central Oklahoma

Kambour, Tina University of Central Oklahoma

Kennedy, Ericka University of Central Oklahoma

Clear, Sherri University of Central Oklahoma

In this age segregated society, generations need to spend time in meaningful activities to bring them closer. Our interdisciplinary team from two colleges at UCO worked together to plan and implement an enriching, intergenerational project with 4 year olds and senior adults. The intergenerational component also included college age students from classes in child development, dance, gerontology, kinesiology, and nutrition. The students played an active role in planning and facilitating activities through service class assignments. The intergenerational programming utilized a local church that has an onsite child care and a program for older adults. The overall objectives of this research included assessing perceptual change between the generations. Also, to see if the process of intergenerational programming was acceptable to the child care staff and parents. Our hypothesis was that perceptions would be more positive of older adults from the children and college students and that older adults would also see the younger generations more positively. Assessment techniques included assessing change from pre/posttest with college students, parents of children, childcare staff; pre-post interviews with the older adults; and teacher led guiding questions with the children. The findings suggest that the older adults, college students, and children had improved perceptions of the other generations. The staff of the child care was very positive about the programming.
Comparing Men and Women's Attitudes Towards Incentives for Attending Relationship Education

Kuns, Brooke  
University of Central Oklahoma

Burr, Brandon  
University of Central Oklahoma

Research suggests that RE is effective with individuals and couples. RE can help build skills so couples can remain strong, however men and women’s attitudes about RE may vary. More investigation is needed to effectively shape recruitment and marketing based on different attitudes. This study seeks to expand the literature by assessing men and women’s views on preferred amounts of time and money spent on RE. The sample consisted of 2,349 individuals whose ages ranged from 18-75. This sample was a primarily Caucasian (75%) female (75%). 49% reported being married while 24% stated they were single. Over half (56.5%) had incomes up to $50,000. Participants completed an online survey comprised of statements regarding attitudes towards preferred time and money to spend on CRE. Preferred time spent on CRE was measured using a scale from 0 to 10+ hours and preferred cost was measured on a scale from $0 to $100+. The amount of payment expected to receive for attendance (incentive) was measured on a scale from under $25 to $450+. Results of this study indicate that men report they are more likely than women to spend less time and money on relationship education. While research shows the effectiveness of RE, the recruitment process needs to cater to the specific needs of the audience. And since time and cost are such large barriers, learning about preferences in men and women can help to create more effective recruitment messages.