

Rowan University

Rowan Digital Works

Faculty Scholarship for the College of Science & Mathematics

College of Science & Mathematics

3-30-2022

Dating Violence and Sexual Risk Prevention for Young Mothers

Meredith Jones

Rowan University, jonesme@rowan.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://rdw.rowan.edu/csm_facpub



Part of the [Psychology Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Jones, Meredith, "Dating Violence and Sexual Risk Prevention for Young Mothers" (2022). *Faculty Scholarship for the College of Science & Mathematics*. 255.

https://rdw.rowan.edu/csm_facpub/255

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Science & Mathematics at Rowan Digital Works. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Scholarship for the College of Science & Mathematics by an authorized administrator of Rowan Digital Works.

Dating Violence and Sexual Risk Prevention for Young Mothers

Meredith Jones, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Psychology, Rowan University



@RowanASSERT

@RowanYMsTeam

Dating Violence and Sexual Risk Prevention for Young Mothers

- Adolescent mothers are at elevated risk for dating violence (DV), rapid repeat pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.
 - DV perpetration and victimization and sexual risk behavior (SRB) are common
- Birth rates for Latinx and Black teens are twice as high as those for white, non-Latinx adolescents
 - Education and income deficits, stigma and discrimination in healthcare disrupt young mothers' engagement in prevention
- Prevention needs to address the unique needs of minoritized young mothers living in low-income urban environments.
 - Little is known about how best to recruit and engage young mothers for prevention in healthcare settings.



NIH Grant R15HD094195: Project Date SMART- Young Moms

- Date SMART (DS) is an evidence-based DV and sexual risk prevention intervention for teen girls (Rizzo et al., 2018).
 - Designed for underserved adolescent girls by members of our research team
 - Reduces DV and sexual risk
 - Particularly effective for adolescent girls with elevated depressive symptoms
- While some HIV/STI prevention interventions exist for young parents, only DS also targets DV as a primary outcome.
- DS uses cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) skills to improve socioemotional functioning
 - Specifically designed to reduce depressive symptoms
- Adapt and test DS with young women (ages 15-19) who are already parents
 - Facilitate skill uptake in context of lived experience
 - Not all young mothers are currently in a relationship

NIH Grant: Specific Aims

- Goal: to work with adolescent mothers (15-19) to adapt DS, then test the adapted Date Smart-Young Mothers (DS-YM) intervention in a pilot randomized controlled trial (RCT) with a waitlist control group.
- 3 specific aims:
 - 1. Recruitment and engagement
 - Provider and young mom interviews and focus groups
 - 2. DS intervention adaptation
 - Focus groups review content and format
 - Feasibility and acceptability
 - 3. DS-YM Pilot RCT
 - 32 participants
 - Outcomes: Dating violence and condom use

