



Center for Research on U.S. Latino HIV/AIDS and Drug Abuse

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

The Moderating Effect of Parental Attachment on Internet and Video Gaming Behaviors among Latino Youth

Tuesday, October 11th
11:30am

AHC-5, Room 300
Academic Health Center 5
Third Floor Conference Room

Stephanie L. Diez, MSW, CAP, ICADC



Doctoral Student,
Social Welfare;
PhD Fellow,
CRUSADA/C-SALUD

Presentation

How do familial factors such as family structure, household socioeconomic status (SES), family's immigration status, youth's positive future orientation, and parental attachment (maternal or paternal) influence Latino youth's problematic internet and/or video game use? Research has not yet linked parental attachment to the emergent behavioral health issues of youth problematic internet and video game use. The proposed study aims to address this gap in the research literature. The study will include a 20-month period of data collection and analysis, and a cross-sectional quantitative survey, which will be compiled, piloted, adapted, and administered to a sample of 150 Latino youth ages 12-18. The sample size was determined by conducting a prior power analysis using G*Power for an effect size of 0.15, which is a medium effect size, and alpha of .05. Using regression analysis, I will determine the moderating effect of parental attachment between the relationships of family characteristics, household SES, youth's positive future orientation, and family's immigration status on problematic internet/video game behavior among the study participants. This study is the first to examine the interaction effect of parental attachment (maternal and paternal) on the emerging child behavioral issues of problematic internet/video game usage. Results can aid in the future development of culturally-relevant interventions by identifying important underlying factors that can reduce problematic internet/video game usage among Latino youth.

About the Lecturer

Ms. Diez focuses her research on behavioral addictions, problematic internet use, and online gaming addiction; she aims to intervene in the physical, social, emotional and psychological damages that these addictions cause individuals, families, and society. She is a Florida State Certified Addiction Professional and an Internationally Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and she earned her MSW from FIU while continuing multifaceted community work and research in the addictions field. Ms. Diez founded Reboot & Recover, the nation's first nonprofit organization dedicated to providing universal prevention, education, treatment, and research on technology addictions to reduce the negative impacts caused by technology overuse. Her current focus is on health disparities between Latino and Non-Latino youth and adolescents with Internet Gaming Disorder or Internet Addiction and investigating culturally relevant social determinants for these addictions among Latinos.

