

Speaker: *Lacey Wallace*

Presentation title: Parental Monitoring and Child Delinquency: COVID-19 Impact

Many past studies found parental monitoring was associated with reductions in delinquency and substance use among teens. However, we do not yet know how the COVID-19 crisis has affected parental monitoring patterns, nor the corresponding effects for juvenile delinquency and related behaviors. In the United States, many parents lost jobs, started working from home, started new jobs, or changed patterns in daily behaviors like running errands or housework. As schools across the nation closed and explored remote learning options, the daily lives of juveniles also changed substantially. This presentation details the results of a study addressing two questions. First, how has COVID-19 impacted family practices, including parental monitoring, in the United States? Second, how are changes in family practices and circumstances (COVID-19 impact) associated with juvenile behavior and delinquency specifically? The study incorporated a repeated cross-sectional design. Respondents were two samples of parents with teenage children residing in the state of Pennsylvania. The first sample completed a web survey about parental monitoring in late 2019. The second completed a similar web survey with additional questions about COVID-19 in February of 2021. Practical implications and possible directions for further study will also be discussed.