



## Healthy Relationship News - January 2016

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### THE LATEST



## [“Every Student Succeeds” Act](#) Supports Relationship Education

On December 10, the [President signed the bi-partisan Every Student Succeeds Act, which replaces the No Child Left Behind law.](#)

Of particular interest to relationship educators is Title IV SEC. 4108 C-iv with **activities to support safe and healthy students**. It allowed **safety** through the recognition and prevention of coercion, violence, or abuse, including teen and dating violence, stalking, domestic abuse, and sexual violence and harassment.

**There is funding devoted specifically for “safe and healthy” initiatives in ESSA.** Districts that get more than \$30,000 will have to spend at least 20 percent of their funding on at least one activity that helps students be safe and healthy.”

For the entire text of the bill, click [here](#).

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### [Higher Parental Monitoring Linked to Safer Sex in Teens](#)

Adolescence is increasingly understood as a distinct stage in which behaviors, habits, and decisions have long-term effects on health outcomes. Evidence supports the strong, positive influence of parental monitoring on adolescent decisions and health behaviors.

Parental monitoring, the overall participation and knowledge of their teen’s social life and contacts, is a significantly influential behavior that can modify adolescents’ decisions regarding sexual behavior. It remains unclear, however, what type of monitoring is most effective and the overall relationship between monitoring and sexual behavior among teens.

This meta-analysis explores the effects of parental monitoring on teen sexual behavior. Overall, higher parental monitoring of teen behavior, rule enforcement, and knowledge of behaviors, locations, and companions (monitoring knowledge) were associated with delayed sexual intercourse in teens.

*(Ed. Note: Dibble programs have been found to increase communications between young people and their parents/guardians, which is an important protective factor.)*

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### [Romantic Partners are More Influential in Drinking Habits than Friends, Study Claims](#)

Findings published in *Developmental Psychology* show that those who are in relationships were more similar to their partners than to friends on measures of alcohol abuse. Similarity between friend reports of alcohol abuse declined after one or both of the adolescents, ages 12 to 19 years old, became involved in a romantic relationship, to the point where they became more similar to their romantic partners than to their friends.

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### [Myth: the young have turned their backs on marriage](#)

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Ready for the marriage apocalypse?” challenges [CNN](#). “Young couples shun marriage over divorce fears,” booms the [Telegraph](#). Headlines like these give the impression that marriage has all but died among millennials – but this isn’t the whole picture.

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## DIBBLE IN THE NEWS



### [Snapshot of Healthy Relationship Education Programs for Youth](#)

As part of the Youth Education and Relationship Education Services (YEARS) project, the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) and Child Trends, recently published a [fact sheet](#) on youth-serving Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HMRE) programs.

The fact sheet focuses on HMRE programs funded by the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) during the 2011-2015 grant cycle that served youth ages 14-24. It outlines the total number of youth served between October 2013 and September 2014; the age, gender and racial composition of these participants; and the most commonly used curricula, program goals and expected program outcomes.

For more information about the YEARS project [click here](#).

*(Ed Note: We are thrilled that Love Notes and Connections were among the most frequently used programs!)*

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*From Policy & Practice, a publication of the American Public Human Services Assembly*



### [Building Brighter Futures Helps Parents Meet Child Support Obligations](#)

No non-custodial parent going to Child Support Services is expecting a helping hand like Building Brighter Futures (BBF). For stressed parents, the smallest acts of kindness have enormous consequences; BBF, with its encouraging environment, works powerfully. Co-parenting, relationship communication skills, and understanding what children need to thrive are just some of the topics covered by BBF over eight weeks. **The Dibble Institute’s** relationship curriculum “**Love Notes**” by Marlene Pearson is the key intervention used in BBF.

*(Ed. Note: Approximately 24% of non-custodial parents participating in BBF started paying child support and all reported better communications with their children.)*

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## Tip Sheet - [How Workbooks Build Student Success](#)

Click [here](#) for our newest Tip Sheet with new ways to create greater student competence through the innovative use of workbooks.

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*Leveraging the Strengthening Families Act to Promote Normalcy*



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

## [What Young People Need to Thrive](#)

Young people in foster care often understand why they entered the system. They usually can make sense of the complexities that prevented them from remaining in their homes. But what may be hardest for these young people to understand is the lack of everyday experiences and relationships with families and friends readily available to peers who aren't in foster care — opportunities that are frequently difficult to ensure because of requirements imposed by child welfare systems. These young people need normal and healthy experiences, which include **positive relationships** and activities. Read [more](#).

*(Ed. Note: The Normalcy Activity Check-List (page 7) includes education about healthy relationships and sexuality. What an important addition!)*

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## Breaking Up - [Stable ambiguity and the rise of ghosting, icing and simmering](#)

Here's a great chart that illustrates the good and not-so-good ways to break up.

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**SECOND WEDNESDAY WEBINAR**

**January 13**



## Generation Unbound:

### *Drifting into Sex and Parenthood without Marriage*

Over half of all births to young adults in the United States now occur outside of marriage, and many are unplanned. The result is increased poverty and inequality for children. The left argues for more social support for unmarried parents; the right argues for a return to traditional marriage.

In *Generation Unbound*, Isabel V. Sawhill offers a third approach: change “drifters” into “planners.” In a well-written and accessible survey of the impact of family structure on child well-being, Sawhill contrasts “planners,” who are delaying parenthood until after they marry, with “drifters,” who are having unplanned children early and outside of marriage. These two distinct patterns are contributing to an emerging class divide and threatening social mobility in the United States.

Sawhill draws on insights from the new field of behavioral economics, showing that it is possible, by changing the default, to move from a culture that accepts a high number of unplanned pregnancies to a culture in which adults only have children when they are ready to be a parent.

**Presenter:** Isabel V. Sawhill, Author and Senior Fellow in Economic Studies, The Brookings Institute

**Who should attend:** Researchers, policy makers, press, practitioners, program operators, advocates and others interested in trends related to pregnancy, marriage, and family formation among young adults.

**When:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 4:00 pm Eastern/1:00 pm Pacific

**Duration:** 60 minutes

**Cost:** Free!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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## FUNDING STREAMS



## [Funds for Measurement Research on Teen Dating Violence](#)

National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals for measurement research related to teen dating violence (a.k.a. adolescent relationship abuse). In particular, NIJ is seeking proposals that advance the accurate and developmentally appropriate measurement of dating violence perpetration and victimization among adolescents and young adults. The **deadline** for applications under this funding opportunity is **March 9, 2016**. [Download the solicitation](#).

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Silver Family Foundation

*Support for At-Risk Youth Programs in Oregon and Washington*

## [Silver Family Foundation](#)

The Silver Family Foundation supports nonprofit organizations in Oregon and Washington that work with **at-risk youth**. The Foundation's Transitional Youth Development Grant Program provides grants to organizations that offer in-depth, long-term investments and opportunities for motivated, low-income youth. Priority is given to organizations that work in the areas of mentorship, **high school completion**, college and post-secondary preparation, and experiential education. Letters of inquiry may be submitted throughout the year; invited **proposals are due March 31 and September 30, annually**. Visit the Foundation's website to review the grant guidelines.

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*Rural Initiatives in Idaho, Montana Funded*



THE STEELE-REESE FOUNDATION

## [The Steele-Reese Foundation](#)

The Steele-Reese Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations that serve rural communities in Idaho and Montana. For the 2016 funding cycle, the Foundation will be strengthening its focus on those programs operating in the more rural parts of the two states. Nonprofit organizations working in the areas of rural education, health, **human services**, the arts and humanities, and environmental conservation and historic preservation are eligible to apply. Online letters of inquiry from organizations in Idaho or Montana **must be submitted by January 15, 2016**.

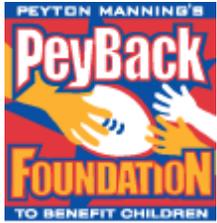
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*Grants Target Aboriginal Family Violence Programs and Shelters*

The goal of the Family Violence Prevention Program is to improve the safety and security of Aboriginal women, children, and families. Funding is provided for the day-to-day operations of a network of shelters that provide services for women and children living on reserve in provinces and in the Yukon, as well as for **community-driven prevention projects** such as public awareness campaigns, conferences, **workshops, stress and anger management seminars**, support groups, and community needs assessments on reserve. Eligibility varies by funding type. Applications may be submitted throughout the year to the nearest [Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada office](#).

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*Funds for Youth Programs in Colorado, Louisiana, and Tennessee*

## [PeyBack Foundation](#)

The PeyBack Foundation is dedicated to promoting the future success of economically disadvantaged youth by supporting programs that have a **direct benefit to children through relationships** and activities. In 2016, the Foundation will accept grant applications from nonprofit organizations in the states of Colorado, Louisiana, and Tennessee. The focus is on **youth development programs** addressing the following categories: Leadership and **Life Skills**, Mentoring, **After-School/Summer Programming**, and **Healthy Living**. Programs that are intended to enrich the lives of disadvantaged youth through activities conducted outside the typical school day are particularly favored. Grants may range up to \$15,000, although most grants funded are in the \$10,000 range. **The application deadline is February 10, 2016**. Visit the Foundation's website to download the application form.

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*Grants Enhance Quality of Life for Montanans*

## [Town Pump Charitable Foundation](#)

The Town Pump Charitable Foundation supports nonprofit organizations and government agencies that enhance the quality of life in Montana. The Foundation's priority is supporting education and meeting basic needs for Montana citizens. Specific areas of interest include children and **youth services, educational programs**, food banks and homeless shelters, health initiatives, and social services. Letters of request may be submitted throughout the year. Visit the Town Pump website to learn more about the application process.

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