

Kimberly Kopko

Web Bio

Information

Biography

Biographical Statement

Kimberly Kopko received her Ph.D. in Child Development from the Department of Human Development at Cornell University in May 2005 and joined the Department of Policy Analysis & Management in 2007 after spending a year as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Ithaca College. Her research and extension interests examine parenting and adolescent development. Specific research and extension interests include: teens being raised by custodial grandparents, the use of evidence-based programs to reduce teen risk-taking behaviors and strengthen families and parenting behaviors and adolescent development.

Teaching

Professional

Current Professional Activities

Current activities include:

1. Serving as Director of Parenting in Context and advancing the goals of this Initiative, including translating research related to parenting and adolescent development for Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) parent educators to use in their work with families, organizing professional development opportunities for CCE parent educators and advancing parent education programming efforts statewide.
2. Conducting original research on grandparents raising teenage grandchildren.
3. Participating in various projects as an Affiliate in the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR).
4. Developing international collaborations in the College of Human Ecology and the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR).

Research

Current Research Activities

Current research examines parenting behaviors of custodial grandparent caregivers who are raising teenage grandchildren (aged 12-18). Specifically, the nature and quality of the relationship between youth and their custodial

grandparents, with a focus on family processes, family communication, and grandparent-grandchild interactions related to discipline, rules and expectations for adolescent behavior.

Extension

Current Extension Activities

Promoting the work of the Parenting in Context Project including developing translational materials for parent educators and the families with whom they work, producing parent education reports at the program, county and statewide levels, organizing professional development opportunities for parent educators and promoting the expansion of evidence-based programs for parents and youth across New York State.

Integrating parenting education efforts with the work of translational and youth development researchers in the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR) and in 4-H Youth Development in an effort to expand the reach and impact of parenting education across New York State.

Incorporating research and extension activities in the area of relative care, specifically, grandparents raising their teenaged grandchildren, including producing a series of Research Briefs and Parent Pages on topics related to custodial grandparent families and providing assistance to a treatment and control evaluation of the *Parenting A Second Time Around (PASTA)* Program in New York City.

Co-chairing the Parent Education Program Work Team (PWT).

Heading a subcommittee on Adolescent Development for the Parent Education Program Work Team (PWT).

Education

Education

Ph.D., Child Development 2005-Cornell University Department of Human Development

M.Ed., Human Development and Psychology
2000-Harvard University Graduate School of Education

B.A., Psychology 1998-Brown University, Magna Cum Laude, With Honors

Courses

Websites

Related Websites

Parenting in Context: www.human.cornell.edu/pam/outreach/parenting/index.cfm

Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research: <http://www.bctr.cornell.edu/>

Administration

Administrative Responsibilities

Assistant Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension and Associate Director of Extension and Outreach in the College of Human Ecology

SUNY Faculty Senate representative for the College of Human Ecology

Policy Analysis and Management Department Extension Leader

Director of the Parenting In Context Initiative

Management of various project grants and supervision of project staff, research assistants and student internships

Publications

Selected Publications

Dunifon, R., Kopko, K., Chase-Lansdale, P.L. and Wakschlag, L. (forthcoming). Multigenerational relationships in families with custodial grandparents. In M. H. Meyer & Y. Abdul-Malak (Eds.), *Grandparenting in the U.S.* New York: Baywood Publishing.

Dunifon, R., Ziol-Guest, K., & Kopko, K. (2014). Grandparent co-residence and family well-being: Implications for research and policy. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 654(1), 110-126.

Kopko, K. (2013) The effects of the physical environment on children's development. *Montessori Leadership*, 15 (2), 27-29.

Kopko, K., & Dunifon, R. (2012). The Cornell Cooperative Extension Statewide Data Collection System: An online data collection tool for parent education programs. *Journal of Extension* [On-line], 50(3) Article 3TOT2. Available at: <http://www.joe.org/joe/2012june/tt2.php>

