

David S. Bickham

Children's Hospital Boston
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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, Austin, TX

Graduate Department of Human Ecology, Division of Human Development and Family Sciences

2004 Ph.D.

2000 M.A.

Dissertation title: *The Social Implications of Children's Media Use.*

- Used a nationally representative survey dataset to test the relationship between children's media use, and their social behaviors and social isolation. Findings showed that children's use of violent media, but not use of non-violent media, was related to more anti-social behaviors and less time spent with peers.
- Committee Chair: Elizabeth A. Vandewater, Ph.D.
- Committee Members: Ellen A. Wartella, Ph.D., Aletha C. Huston, Ph.D., Joanne Cantor, Ph.D., Edward Anderson, Ph.D.

Comprehensive paper: *From Interactions to Identities: Redefining Adolescent Social Relationships through the Internet Experience.*

Master's thesis: *Television Ratings and the Viewing Preferences of Children: A Comparison of Three Systems.*

Haverford College, Haverford, PA

1995 B.A. in Psychology

Senior research thesis: *No More Pencils, No More Books: A Study Concerning the Effects of Developmental Level and Individual Differences on Computer Ability in Elementary School.*

RESEARCH POSITIONS

2004-present **Post-Doctoral Research Scientist/Instructor of Pediatrics**

The Center on Media and Child Health (CMCH)

Children's Hospital Boston / Harvard Medical School

Conceptualize, design, implement, and seek funding for an independent research program. Collaborate with other institutions to seek external funding for jointly designed research and education projects. Advise and mentor graduate, undergraduate, and medical student interns in the area of media influences on child health. Center director: Michael Rich, M.D., M.P.H.

- **Selected CMCH Research Projects**

- **Connect with Kids, 2005-present**

- Designed a quasi-experimental study to determine the effectiveness of an in-school intervention that uses professionally produced video segments in combination with classroom training to encourage positive social behaviors in children and young adolescents.

- Washington, DC

- Funding source: Sprint

- **Internet Keep Safe, 2005-present**

- Designed an evaluation to determine the success of a web-based parental tool kit created to educate parents on strategies for keeping their children safe online.

- Washington, DC

- Funding source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

MediaSmart, 2005-2006

Conducted focus groups of elementary school students who participated in a media literacy program. Analyzed survey data from the same sample and prepared a final report combining qualitative and quantitative findings.

Manchester, NH

Funding source: Cabot Family Foundation

2001-2004 Project Manager

The Center for Research on Interactive Technology, Television and Children (CRITC)

The University of Texas at Austin

Managed data files used by a group of faculty and graduate researchers. Coordinated a team of graduate research assistants and trained incoming students in data management and analyses skills. Assisted the center director in the conception, preparation and submission of grant applications to federal and private sources.

Advisor/Center director: Elizabeth A. Vandewater, Ph.D.

2003-2004 Research Assistant

Children's Digital Media Center (CDMC)

The University of Texas at Austin

Contributed to the conceptualization and design of research projects and the preparation of presentations for this federally funded center. Participated in research through CDMC's affiliation with organizations and companies such as the Kaiser Family Foundation, NICHD, Fischer Price, and Kraft.

Advisors/Center directors: Ellan A. Wartella, Ph.D. & Elizabeth A. Vandewater, Ph.D.

1998-2001 Research Assistant

CRITC

The University of Texas at Austin

Worked as a member of a research team to manage data, develop multiple coding schemes, research and code television titles, analyze data, and prepare study findings for conference presentations and journal publications. Participated in every aspect of the research process from the conception of research questions and the integration of theory to the analysis of data and the interpretation of findings.

Advisors: John C. Wright, Ph.D., Aletha C. Huston, Ph.D., & Elizabeth A. Vandewater, Ph.D.

2001 Summer Research Intern

Nickelodeon Research Department

New York, NY

Coded television programs and performed initial data analyses for a research project investigating the prevalence of racial diversity in the most popular television shows for children. Participated in departmental and network wide development meetings and visited other research departments throughout the network.

Internship supervisor: Marsha Williams, Ph.D.

OTHER SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2004 January National Child Study (NCS) Workshop Participant, Media Effects on Child Health and Development

National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

Participated on a panel of researchers that suggested research questions, data collection methods, and measures related to children's media use for the NCS.

2003 May-August Research Assistant and Advisory Panelist

Kaiser Family Foundation; Zero to Six, Electronic Media in the Lives of Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers

Participated on a panel that assisted in the early stages of conceptualization and design of a nationally representative survey to document very young children's access to and use of electronic and print media.

Analyzed data collected from this study and contributed to the writing of the final report.

2001 July **Research Assistant**

Sesame Workshop

Aided in the collection of observational data of children's attention to a new format of *Sesame Street*. Assisted in the formation of data files and primary data analyses.

HONORS AND AWARDS

University Continuing Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, Graduate School. 2000-2001

- Granted in recognition of accomplishments during graduate school and plans proposed for the fellowship year.

Departmental Career Development Award, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Human Ecology. 2000-2004

- Awarded in recognition of research accepted for presentation at academic conferences.

Gertrude Heller Grant, Haverford College. 1993

- Awarded in recognition of dedicated service to children with mental disabilities.

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Bickham, D. S., & Rich, M. O. (2006). Is television viewing associated with social isolation? *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*, 160(4), 387-392.

Vandewater, E. A., **Bickham, D. S.**, & Lee, J. H. (2006). Time well spent? Relating television use to children's free-time activities. *Pediatrics*, 117(2), e181-191.

Vandewater, E. A., **Bickham, D. S.**, Lee, J. H., Cummings, Wartella, E., & Rideout, V. (2005). When the TV is always on: Heavy television exposure and young children's development. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 48, 562-577.

Vandewater, E. A. & **Bickham, D. S.** (2004). The impact of educational television on young children's reading in the context of family stress. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 25, 717-728.

Bickham, D. S., Vandewater, E. A., Huston, A. C., Lee, J. H., Gilman Caplovitz, A., & Wright, J.C. (2003). Media use within ethnic groups: Socio-demographic, family environment & parental well-being predictors. *Media Psychology*, 5, 107-137.

Wright, J. C., Huston, A. C., Vandewater, E. A., **Bickham, D. S.**, Scantlin, R. M., Kotler, J. A., Caplovitz, A. G., Lee, J. H., Hofferth, S., & Finkelstein, J. (2001). American children's use of electronic media in 1997: A national survey. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 22, 31-47.

Reprinted as: Wright, J. C., Huston, A. C., Vandewater, E. A., **Bickham, D. S.**, Scantlin, R. M., Kotler, J. A., Caplovitz, A. G., Lee, J. H., Hofferth, S., & Finkelstein, J. (2001). American children's use of electronic media in 1997: A national survey (pp. 35-54). In S. Calvert, A. B. Jordan, & R. R. Cocking (Eds.), *Children in the Digital Age: Influences of Electronic Media on Development*. Westport, CT: Praeger.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND REPORTS

Schmidt, M. E., **Bickham, D. S.**, Branner, A., & Rich, M. (in press). Media policies of health organizations and their effects. In S. L. Calvert & B. J. Wilson (Eds.), *Handbook of Child Development and the Media*. Blackwell.

Huston, A. C., **Bickham, D. S.**, Lee, J. H., & Wright, J. C. (in press). From attention to comprehension: How children watch and learn from television. In N. Pecora, J. Murray, & E. Wartella (Eds.), *Children and Television: 50 Years of Research*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

Schmidt, M. E., **Bickham, D. S.**, King, B. E., Slaby, R. G., Branner, A., & Rich, M. (2005). *The Effects of Electronic Media on Children Ages 0-6: A Review of Research and Funding* (Issue Brief Pub. # 7239). Menlo Park, CA: Kaiser Family Foundation.

Bickham, D. S., Wright, J. C., & Huston, A. C. (2001). Attention, comprehension and the educational influences of television. In J. Singer & D. Singer (Eds.), *Handbook of Children and the Media*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Bickham, D. S. (May, 2005). Growing up in the constant presence of television: Characteristics of young children in heavy television families. In D. Bickham (Chair), *Young children and television: Implications for attention and cognitive development*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New York, NY.

Bickham, D. S. (April, 2005). *Linking television viewing and children's peer interactions: Rethinking displacement*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Atlanta, GA.

Bickham, D. S. (May, 2004). Children's media use and their social interactions. In D. Bickham (Chair), *Media use and children's activities: Issues concerning social, physical, and cognitive development*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, New Orleans, LA.

Bickham, D. S. (July, 2004). Differences in children's electronic game play across ethnic groups. In D. Oliver (Chair), *Views from the other side of the digital divide*. Paper presented in absentia at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.

Lee, J. H., **Bickham, D. S.,** & Huston, A. C. (May, 2003). From attention to comprehension: How children watch and learn from television. In N. Pecora (Chair), *A retrospective: An appraisal of 50 years of children's television research*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Communication Association, San Diego, CA.

Vandewater, E. A., **Bickham, D. S.,** & Lee, J. H. (April, 2003). Time well spent? The impact of electronic media use on children's free-time activities. In S. Calvert (Chair), *Children and media: A memorial to John C. Wright*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development, Tampa FL.

Bickham, D. S. & Vandewater, E. A. (November, 2002). Educational media as a parenting tool: Implications for children's intellectual development. In E. A. Vandewater (Chair), *The family ecology of children's media use: Evidence from the PSID Child Development Supplement*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Family Relations, Houston, TX.

Bickham, D.S. & Wright, J. C. (March, 2002). Media use by children in two ethnic groups. In E. A. Vandewater (Chair), *The family ecology of children's media use: Evidence from the Child Development Supplement*. Paper presented at the biennial meeting of the Southwest Society for Research in Human Development, Austin, TX.

Bickham, D. S. (April, 2001). *Television ratings and the viewing preferences of children: A comparison of three models*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.

Bickham, D. S., Gilman Caplovitz, A., Lee, J.H., Kotler, J. A., Scantlin, R. M., Vandewater, E. A., Wright, J. C., & Huston, A. C. (March, 2000). *A descriptive analysis of media use patterns among American children*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Southwest Society for Research on Human Development, Eureka Springs, AR.

Scantlin, R. M., Kotler, J. A., **Bickham, D. S.,** Wright, J. C., Vandewater, E. A., & Huston, A. C. (April, 1999). *An analysis of U.S. children's use of electronic media*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Albuquerque, NM.

INVITED TALKS

Forum panelist for the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

Forum title: The "Reality" of Health: Reality Television and the Public Health
Washington, DC
October 18, 2006

Keynote speaker to the Jump Up and Go Program of Blue Cross Blue Shield

Address title: *Television and Children's Physical and Academic Health*

Boston, MA

October 5, 2006

NIH workshop participant

Talk title: *Influence of Media on Children's Attention and Comprehension*

Workshop title: *The Effects of Electronic Media on the Cognitive, Social, and Emotional Development of Children and Adolescents*

Rockville, MD

May 15-16, 2006

Witness before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights

Hearing title: *What's in a Game? State Regulation of Violent Video Games and the First Amendment*

Washington, DC

March 29, 2006

Keynote speaker at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston staff development day

Address title: *From Media Violence to Media Literacy: Keeping Kids Safe and Healthy in the Information Age*

Wellesley, MA

February 24, 2006

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Teaching Assistantships**

Graduate Research Methods (structural equation modeling). Spring 2002

University of Texas at Austin

Primarily responsible for designing, coordinating, and teaching the lab component of a graduate level advanced methods course.

Instructor: Elizabeth Vandewater, Ph.D.

Personal Finance. 1997-1998

University of Texas at Austin

Responsible for holding office hours and aiding undergraduate students in their test and homework preparation as well as their understanding of course material. Graded class projects, managed grade book, wrote test questions and aided professors in determination of final grades.

Instructor: Karrol Kitt, Ph.D, Vicky Hampton, Ph.D.

Mentoring Experience

2006 Field Supervisor

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Field Experience Program

2006 Medical Student Intern Advisor

George Washington University, Summer Intern/Gill Fellowship Program

2005 Intern Supervisor

Brandeis University, Health, Science, Society and Policy Internship Program

Teaching Training

Teacher Training Spring 2003

Advanced College Teaching Methods

Participated in a class designed by the graduate school at the University of Texas to prepare graduate students for teaching in a university setting.

Guest Lectures at the University of Texas at Austin

Interactive media and media policy. Undergraduate class, Children and Public Policy; March, 2003.

Children's media use through the developmental process. Undergraduate class, Child Development; November, 2002.

Television ratings and the viewing preferences of children: A comparison of three systems. Invited address to the department of Human Development and Family Sciences; February, 2001.

Children's use of new media: Patterns of displacement. Undergraduate class, Research in Children and the Media; October, 2000.

Educational television: What is it and is it a right or a privilege? Undergraduate class, Children and Public Policy; April, 2000.

The current state of advertising to children on the Internet: A content analysis. Graduate class, Research in Communication Technologies; October, 1999.

Children's use of the television rating system. Undergraduate class, Research in Children and the Media; March, 1998.

SERVICE

National

Ad Hoc Reviewer-- *Pediatrics, Developmental Psychology, Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, Media Psychology, Journal of Marriage and the Family, Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, Merrill-Palmer Quarterly, Elsevier Inc.*

Community

Community Lectures--

Mastering media messages: Healthy bodies healthy minds

Assembly speaker to six and seventh grade boys about the representation of male bodies in the media

Violence in the media and you: Recognizing the effects of television violence in your own life

Visiting speaker to a high school class

Mediating the effects of media on children: Applying research to practice

Invited lecture to a group of professionals working with young children

What makes good TV fun?

Talk as a Visiting Scientist to a group of preschoolers

Graduate Department

Student Representative August 1998 to May 1999

Attended faculty meetings, reported minutes to graduate students and voiced student concerns.

Co-organized and mediated concerns meetings between students and faculty.

Member of the graduate admissions committee January 1999 to May 1999

Acted as one of two students who reviewed graduate student applications and participated in final admission decisions.

SELECTED PRESS COVERAGE

Newspaper Coverage:

Flamm, F. (2006, August 27). Carnal Knowledge -- Hazardous for kids? *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Associated Press. (2006, May 16). The News for Multimedia Babies is Good, and Bad. *USA Today*.

Boodman, S. G. (2006, April 11). Solo Viewing, Bad Endings. *The Washington Post*, p. HE01.

Bickham, D. S. (2001, April 27). Try this stunt: Turn off Jackass (invited op ed). *Newsday*, pp. A45-A46.

Radio Commentary:

Gary Doyle, host. (April, 2005). Television and Bullying. The Gary Doyle Show, 570 News, Ontario, Canada.

Brian Shaw, host. (June 26, 2006). Positive and Negative Aspects of the Media Environment. The News Journal with Brian Shaw, Success FM, Eugene OR.

Other Coverage:

DeNoon, D. (2006, April 4). Media Messages Harm Child, Teen Health. *WebMD Medical News*.

Totilo, S. (2006, March 30). Senators, Industry Pros Spar Over 'Barbaric' Games In Heated Hearing *MTV.com*.

Mallika Marshall, host. (February 2006) Television and Other Activities. Channel 4 News, Boston, MA.