

Youth Assets, Aggression, and Delinquency Within the Context of Family Structure

Roy F. Oman, PhD; Sara K. Vesely, PhD; Cheryl B. Aspy, PhD

Objective: To identify youth assets associated with reduced aggressive and delinquent behavior of youth residing in 1-parent households but not of youth residing in 2-parent households. **Methods:** Data were collected from inner-city youth and their parents (N = 1277 youth-parent pairs) using in-home, in-person interviews. Logistic regression analyses, stratifying by 1- and 2-parent household status, were conducted. **Results:** Several assets

were significantly associated with reduced risk behavior only for youth residing in 1-parent households. **Conclusions:** There appear to be specific assets (eg, Family Communication, Responsible Choices) that are more important for youth living in 1- versus 2-parent households.

Key words: youth assets, youth aggression and delinquency, youth risk behaviors, family structure, family communication

Am J Health Behav. 2005;29(6):557-568
