

What do 'parental monitoring' and 'parental involvement' have to do with school absence?

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DET PSYKOLOGISKE FAKULTET



Parental monitoring, involvement and school absence

HOVEDOPPGAVE

profesjonsstudiet i psykologi

Hilde Anette Lysne Mathisen

Høst 2018

School absence

Reduced academic achievement

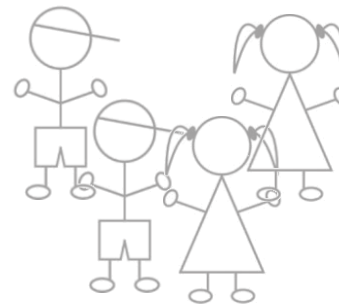
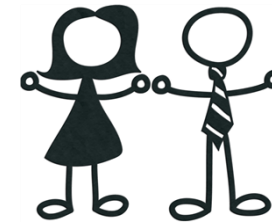
Lack of school completion

Unemployment

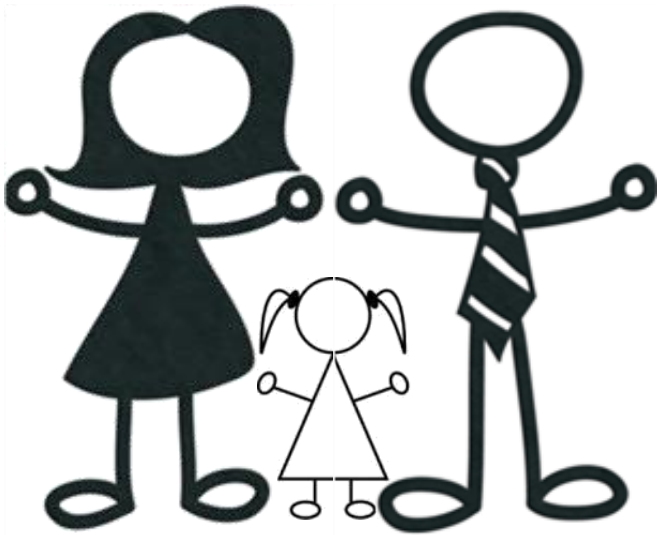
Health problems

Risk-taking

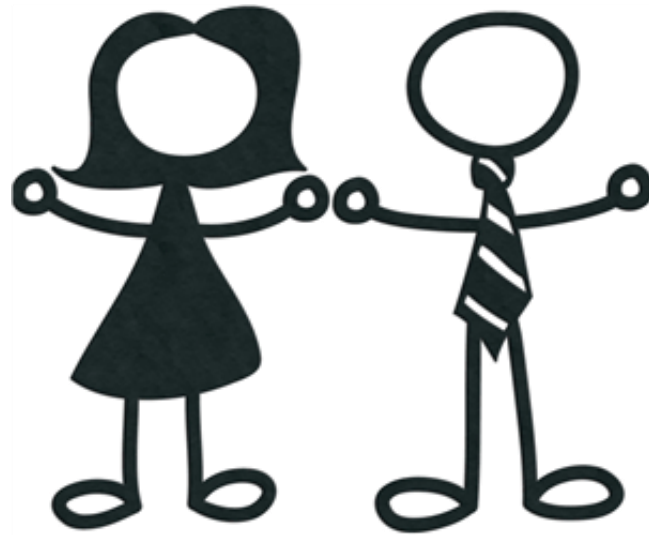
Negative consequences



Parenting adolescents



Childhood



Adolescence



Parenting practices

Parental monitoring

‘Parenting behavior that includes attention to and tracking of the child’s whereabouts, activities and adaptations’

- Dependent on the willingness to share information
 - Parental warmth



Parenting practices

Parental involvement

‘Parental participation in educational processes’

- Parental engagement
- Communication with teachers
- Attitudes towards schooling
- Engagement in homework





Aim

To investigate the association between parental monitoring and involvement and school absence in adolescence

- The importance of warmth in the parent-adolescent relationship
- Associations for different levels of absence



- The youth@hordaland-survey
 - Conducted spring 2012
- Web-based questionnaire
 - Mental health problems and service use in adolescence
- Participants
 - 10 257 (53%)
 - 16-19 years old





Official school registries



Parental responses

1252

Variables

School absence

Days and hours

- Recoded into days

Categorization

Low	<3% absent
Normal	3-15% absent
High	>15% absent

Parental variables

Parental monitoring

6 items

Parental involvement

5 items

Control variables

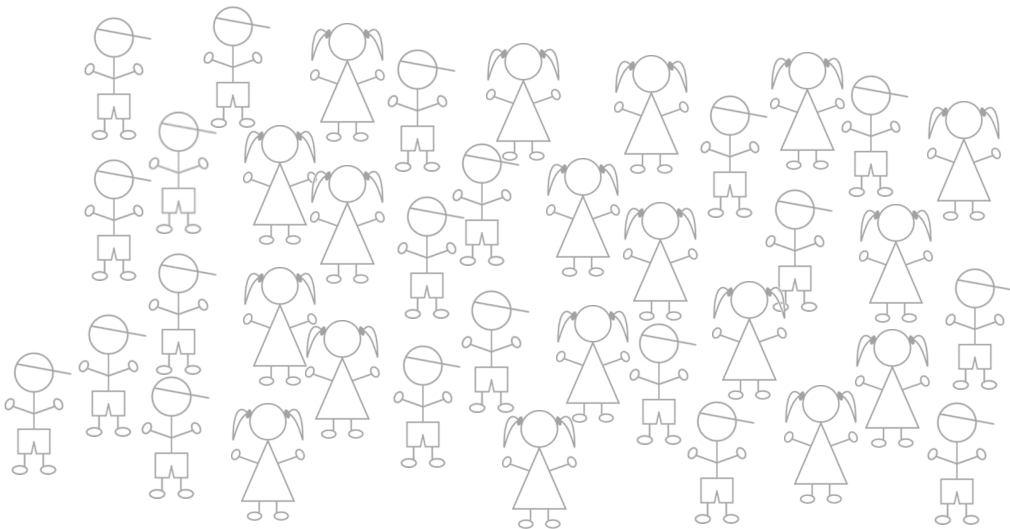
Parental warmth

Parental education

Strengths and limitations

Strengths

- Population-based survey
- Data on school absence from official registry



Limitations

- School-based questionnaire
- Few parental reports
- Parenting variables relies on self-report
- Cross-sectional design



Summary

- Parental monitoring and involvement are associated with school absence in adolescence

Monitoring — Normal levels of absence

Involvement — High levels of absence

- Parent responses to the questionnaire associated with lower absence
 - An indication of their knowledge and interest?



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Thank you!

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