

5-15-2018

At-Risk Youth

Jeremy Hall

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, hallj9@unlv.nevada.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/educ_sys_202



Part of the [Education Commons](#), and the [Service Learning Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hall, Jeremy, "At-Risk Youth" (2018). *Second-Year Seminar Posters (COE 202)*. 39.
https://digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/educ_sys_202/39

This Book is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Scholarship@UNLV with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this Book in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/or on the work itself.

This Book has been accepted for inclusion in Second-Year Seminar Posters (COE 202) by an authorized administrator of Digital Scholarship@UNLV. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@unlv.edu.

At-Risk Youth



Could Video Games Be The Cause?

If a child starts playing video games at 15 they are more likely to be a delinquent by the age of 18. Video games also desensitize children to violence and can possibly create a taste for violence. Despite these numbers, if video games were such an epidemic then there would be more widespread news of panic and chaos left in the wake of youth

Ferguson, C.J. & Olson, C.K. J Youth Adolescence (2014) 43: 127. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10964-013-9986-5>

Service Learning:

I spent time with Save Our Sons, a newer program that started in 2013. Through sports, mentorship and an eye opening scared straight program. In my capacity I spoke to the kids ages 9-12 Mondays from 6:30pm-7:45pm. I used my life experiences to inspire the kids to do better and to not give up on their goals. I also was available in the group form to talk to the kids about any issues they are having growing as young men and obstacles in the classroom and outside of the classroom.

Thesis Statement:

By creating more upstanding citizens through youth programs, as well as increasing the amount of youth programs, the culture of crime can be reversed in Las Vegas.

Effects of Long-Term Mentorship:

An analysis of 55 mentoring programs showed that children that saw a mentor on a consistent basis improved for up to a year improved the most. Also, where the young person's interests and preferences are emphasized showed the largest increase in sociability and positive human interaction as well as stress relief.

Rhodes, J. E., & Dubois, D. L. (2008). Mentoring relationships and programs for youth. *Current Directions In Psychological Science*, 17(4), 254-258. doi:10.1037/e480762006-001

Do Public Schools Have An Obligation To At-Risk Youth?

In Nevada for grades K-12, 106,228 students are involved in after school programs, 135,210 are awaiting available programs, and 98,091 are alone and unsupervised after school. This means roughly only one third of k-12 students in Nevada are in solid after school programs.

Sports and The Positive Impact on At-Risk Youth:

Sports help teach life skills, such as realistic goal setting, strategies to address conflict, stress management and strategies to develop positive relationships. In one study, 445 at-risk children 6-11 and 546 at-risk adolescents 12-16 played basketball and football 40 mins, twice a week for 14 weeks. At the end of the program the youth experienced as much as a 44% increase in overall self esteem.

In another study, 16 children with social cognitive and disruptive behaviors ages 8-10 participated in a 10 month karate program. Throughout the duration they took lessons three times a week. Classes included no actual fighting but followed a framework including a warm-up, the practice of skills and mimicking of combat situations. The results showed significant improvements in intensity, adaptability and mood regulation

Lubans, D. R., Plotnikoff, R. C., & Lubans, N. J. (2012). A systematic review of the impact of physical activity programmes on social and emotional well-being in at-risk youth. *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 17(1), 2-13.



Urban Problem: Who Are At-Risk Youth?

One who is less likely to transition into adulthood successfully. This could be because of many factors: Growing up in a single parent environment, socio-economic status, and where the child lives for example.

Significance of Problem:

Here in Las Vegas crime is 32% higher than the national average. Juvenile crime is also above the national average with kids entering the justice system at the age of 16 if not younger. Rachel Cosby of the Las Vegas Review Journal says "Higher Crime in Las Vegas is the new normal

Conclusions:

In Las Vegas, a city with more dispensaries and lee's liquor stores than non-profit programs available for youth. A city where taxpayers will pay \$750 Million for a football stadium while 233,301 kids k-12 are alone unsupervised afterschool with no programs further increasing the crime rate. It's time to get our priorities in order in Las Vegas and focus on something else besides our entertainment.