# Factors Promoting Safe and Effective Use of OTC Drugs by Adolescents: The Role of Parents and Parent-Adolescent Communication

James Jaccard
Department of Psychology
Florida International University, Miami

• Legal/policy based strategies

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  - School-based approaches

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  - School-based approaches
  - Clinic-based approaches
  - PSAs
  - Internet/web-based approaches

Disadvantages

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• Won't work in dysfunctional families

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- Parents lack knowledge
- Adolescents are peer oriented, not parent oriented

**Advantages** 

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- Can tailor information to the needs and characteristics of the adolescent
- Flexible timing
- Can implement in the context of the values of the family

• Parent-adolescent communication

- Parent-adolescent communication
- Parental monitoring and supervision

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- Parent-adolescent relationship satisfaction

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- Parental discipline strategies

**Cognitive Processes Involved in Communication** 

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**Attention** 

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**Attention** 

Comprehension

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**Attention** 

Comprehension

Acceptance

**Cognitive Processes Involved in Communication** 

**Attention** 

Comprehension

Acceptance

Retention

#### **Cognitive Processes Involved in Communication**

**Attention** 

Comprehension

Acceptance

Retention

**Retrieval** 

Source of the Message – Who says it

Source of the Message – Who says it

Timing of the Message – When it is said and how often

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Context of the Message – Where it is said

Source of the Message – Who says it

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**Context of the Message – Where it is said** 

Content of the Message – What is said

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Timing of the Message – When it is said and how often

**Context of the Message – Where it is said** 

**Content of the Message – What is said** 

Message Style – How it is said

Source of the Message – Who says it

Timing of the Message – When it is said and how often

**Context of the Message – Where it is said** 

Content of the Message – What is said

Message Style – How it is said

Audience – Who the message is directed at

## **The Communication Matrix**

	Source	Content	Timing	Context	Style	Audience
Attention						
Comprehension						
Acceptance						
Retention						
Retrieval						

## **Audience Characteristics**

#### **Audience Characteristics**

Early adolescence (Middle school)

Middle adolescence (High school)

Late adolescence (College/vocational school)

**Cognitive development** 

**Cognitive development** 

**Emotional development** 

**Cognitive development** 

**Emotional development** 

**Social development** 

**Cognitive development** 

**Emotional development** 

**Social development** 

Moral development

**Cognitive development** 

**Emotional development** 

**Social development** 

Moral development

**Physical development** 

# The Developmental Matrix

	Cognitive	Emotional	Social	Moral	Physical
Early Adolescence					
Middle Adolescence					
Late Adolescence					

**Three Key Dimensions** 

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**Expertise** 

**Three Key Dimensions** 

**Expertise** 

**Trustworthiness** 

**Three Key Dimensions** 

**Expertise** 

**Trustworthiness** 

Accessibility

**OTC Drug Abuse: Theories of Risk Behavior** 

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Perceived advantages/disadvantages

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Perceived advantages/disadvantages

Norms and peer influence

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Self concept, images, social prototypes

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Self efficacy

**High risk situations** 

**Medicating Conditions** 

**Indications** 

How to use properly

Warnings and what to do if experience

When to stop

Joint monitoring plans

# **Message Timing and Context**

The myth of the "big talk"

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Looking for "teachable moments"

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The need for conversation starters

# **How You Say It**

Listen don't lecture: Use of the Socratic method

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Eight factor theory of communication styles

#### **Other Communication Models**

**Channels of Communication** 

**Internet/webpage communication theory** 

Media based communication theories

# The Importance of Building Partnerships

**Parents** 

**Schools** 

Universities

**Clinics/Physicians** 

That's It!