

The Application of Effect Sizes in Research on Children and Families: Understanding Impacts on Academic, Emotional Behavioral and Economic Outcomes

Monday, March 5, 2007

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Louis Stokes Laboratories (Building 50), First Floor, Room 1227
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

Opening Remarks and Introductions

Naomi Goldstein, Director of the Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) in the Administration of Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), opened the meeting by thanking the federal staff members who were responsible for the vision and planning of the meeting and the federal agencies co-sponsoring the meeting. She also welcomed the panelists and the federal agencies and research organizations present.

Dr. Goldstein also discussed a few of her thoughts on Effect Sizes. She noted that Effect Sizes can be a powerful tool, but cautioned listeners that they can be hazardous when used in conjunction with adjectives. Effect Sizes are powerful because they provide a lot of information in a condensed form, but this is also what makes them so potentially controversial. It was her hope that the discussion would generate light on these issues.

Lauren Supplee, Research Analyst for OPRE also extended her thanks to the panelists and the organizations represented in the audience.

Panel 1: Effect Sizes and Their Calculation (and Miscalculation)

James Griffin, Director of the Early Learning and School Readiness Program at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) served as the moderator for Panel 1. He introduced the three speakers: Larry Hedges, Howard Bloom, and Rebecca Maynard.