Assessing Maternal Gatekeeping (PM Roundtable)

I will create a Box folder containing relevant papers and materials, and invite you to it. To the extent possible under copyright restrictions, I also plan to post relevant measures and papers to my coparenting measurement website, see: https://u.osu.edu/schoppesullivan/coparenting-measurement/

Overview of Parental Gatekeeping


Milestones in Conceptualizations of Gatekeeping

- **Allen and Hawkins’ (1999)** three-dimensional conceptualization (standards & responsibilities, maternal identity confirmation, differentiated family roles)
- Gateopening in addition to gateclosing behavior
  - **Adamsons (2010)** used identity theory to conceptualize gatekeeping at intersection of parent and gender roles
  - **Schoppe-Sullivan and colleagues (2008)** conceptualized and assessed maternal gatekeeping along two dimensions: encouragement and criticism
  - **Austin and colleagues (2013)** focused on child custody disputes and proposed a continuum from facilitative to restrictive gatekeeping
- **Puhlman and Pasley (2013)** added a distinct dimension capturing parental control
- **Fagan and Cherson (2017)** distinguished between encouragement and facilitation
- **Schoppe-Sullivan & Altenburger (see reverse)**

Measures of Gatekeeping (for research purposes)

**Parent Report**
- **Allen and Hawkins’ (1999)** Maternal Gatekeeping Measure
- Van Egeren’s (2000) Parental Regulation Inventory – item subsets used to assess gateopening and gateclosing
  - **Schoppe-Sullivan et al. (2015)** – used 9 items each – items published in article
  - **Lee, Schoppe-Sullivan, et al. (in press)** demonstrated measurement variance across time and reporter for 6 items each for gateopening and gateclosing -- In B. L. Volling & N. Cabrera (Eds.), Advancing research and measurement of on fathering and children’s development. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*.
- **Fagan and Barnett’s (2003)** maternal preferences regarding control over parental decision-making
- **Puhlman and Pasley (2017)** – three-dimensional measure – distinctiveness of three factors unclear – e.g., correlations between control and discouragement exceeded .80

**Observational Measures**
- **Cannon, Schoppe-Sullivan, et al. (2008)** – only study to utilize observations of maternal gatekeeping behavior – coding system available from me
  - Also used in Lee, Schoppe-Sullivan, et al. (in press). (see above). *Correlations between reports and observations of maternal gatekeeping are modest at best.*

**Secondary Data Sets**
- **Fagan & Cherson (2017)** – items from FFCWB to assess gatekeeping; very limited measurement
- **Holmes et al. (2013)** – items from A&H and Fagan & Barnett measures in *Flourishing Families*
Effects of Gatekeeping on Outcomes of Interest

- On fathers’ perceptions of coparenting and the couple relationship: Olsavsky et al. (2019)


Model of relations between maternal gatekeeping and father involvement with many possible moderators (also from Schoppe-Sullivan & Altenburger (2019).