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**Examining the Effects of SAFECARE® On Positive Parenting Practices Among Parents At-Risk for Child Maltreatment**

Background**:** Child maltreatment is widespread, with more than half of all children worldwide exposed to violence each year. There is also evidence for the global prevalence of child sexual abuse. In the US, an estimated 1 in 8 children under the age of 18 are maltreated, and perpetrators of maltreatment are often the child’s parent(s). SafeCare® is an internationally recognized and empirically-supported home-based program designed to prevent child maltreatment through parent training in the areas of parent-child interactions, home safety, and child health. The purpose of the current study is to evaluate changes in attitudes of parents who participated in the SafeCare® curriculum offered through the Parent Child Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Sample**:** Surveys were obtained from parents participating in SafeCare® programming from an urban city located in the southern plains of the US. Fifty-two parents completed the positive parenting practices survey at both pretest and posttest.

Results**:** Increases in overall positive parenting practices and in each parenting practice category (actions, ability, confidence, and knowledge) were statistically significant. A paired-sample t-test was computed for each of the categories. The results from this evaluation contribute to the growing evidence for SafeCare® as an effective home-based program for the prevention of child maltreatment.

Key words: SafeCare®, child maltreatment, parent-child relationships

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