

Using Technology to Help With Difficult Parent-Child Conversations



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Today's Outline

Conversation starter

Theory: Impression Management Model

Current research project

Polls

Intervention plans

Your feedback!

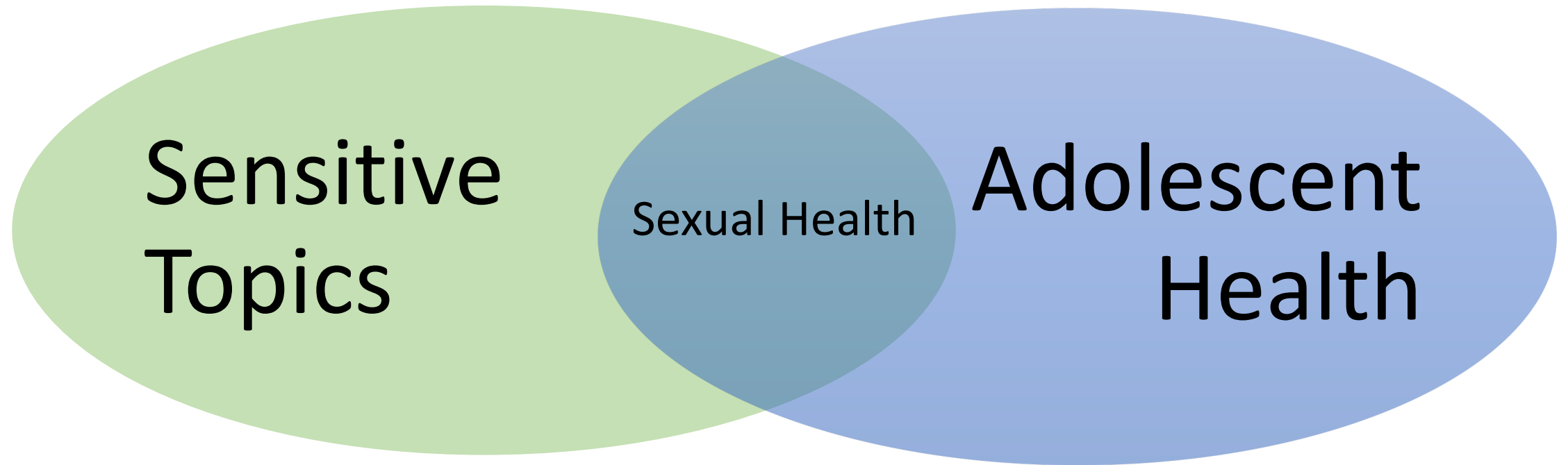
Conversation starter

Think about your first conversations with your parent or caregiver about sex.

- When did this happen? How old were you?
- Where were you?
- What (if any) resources were shared?
- What made this conversation awkward?
- What made this conversation more comfortable?

Discuss this in small groups (5 minutes)

Return to the large group to discuss (5 minutes)



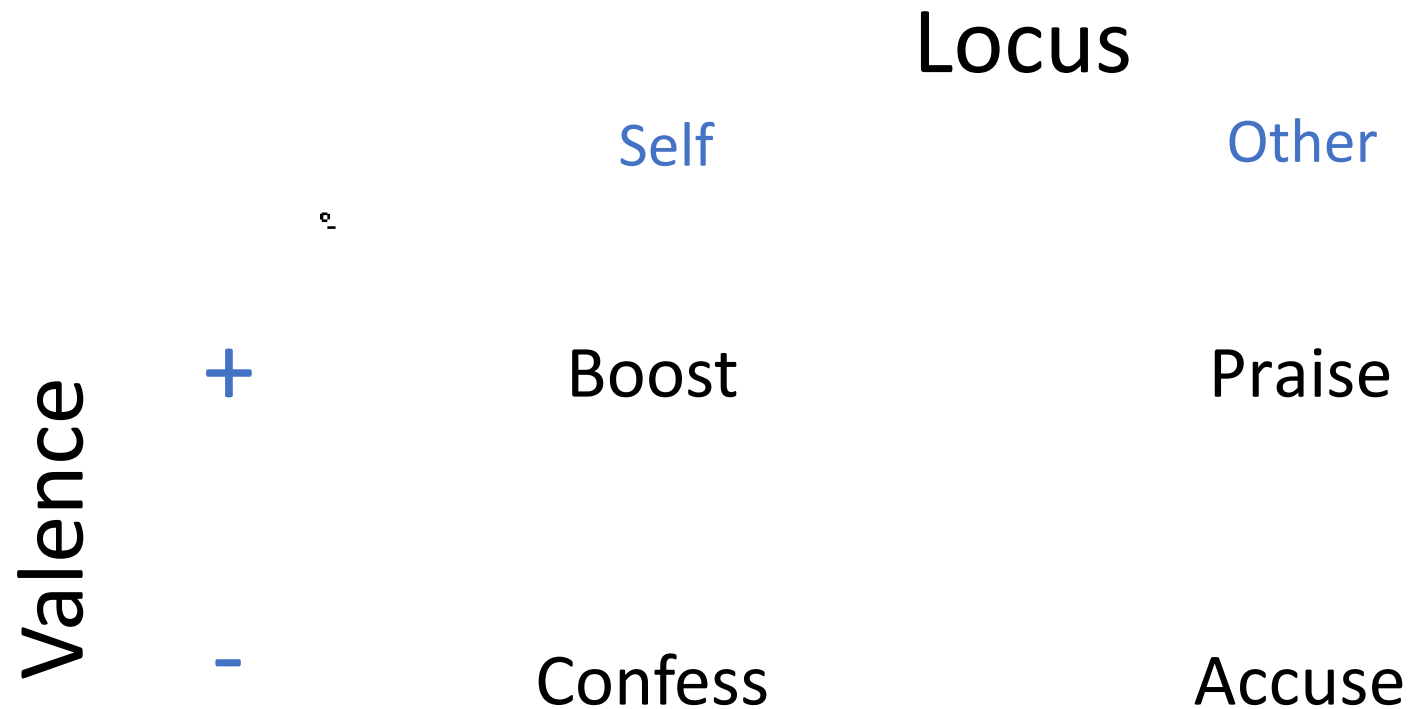
Parent-Child Communication



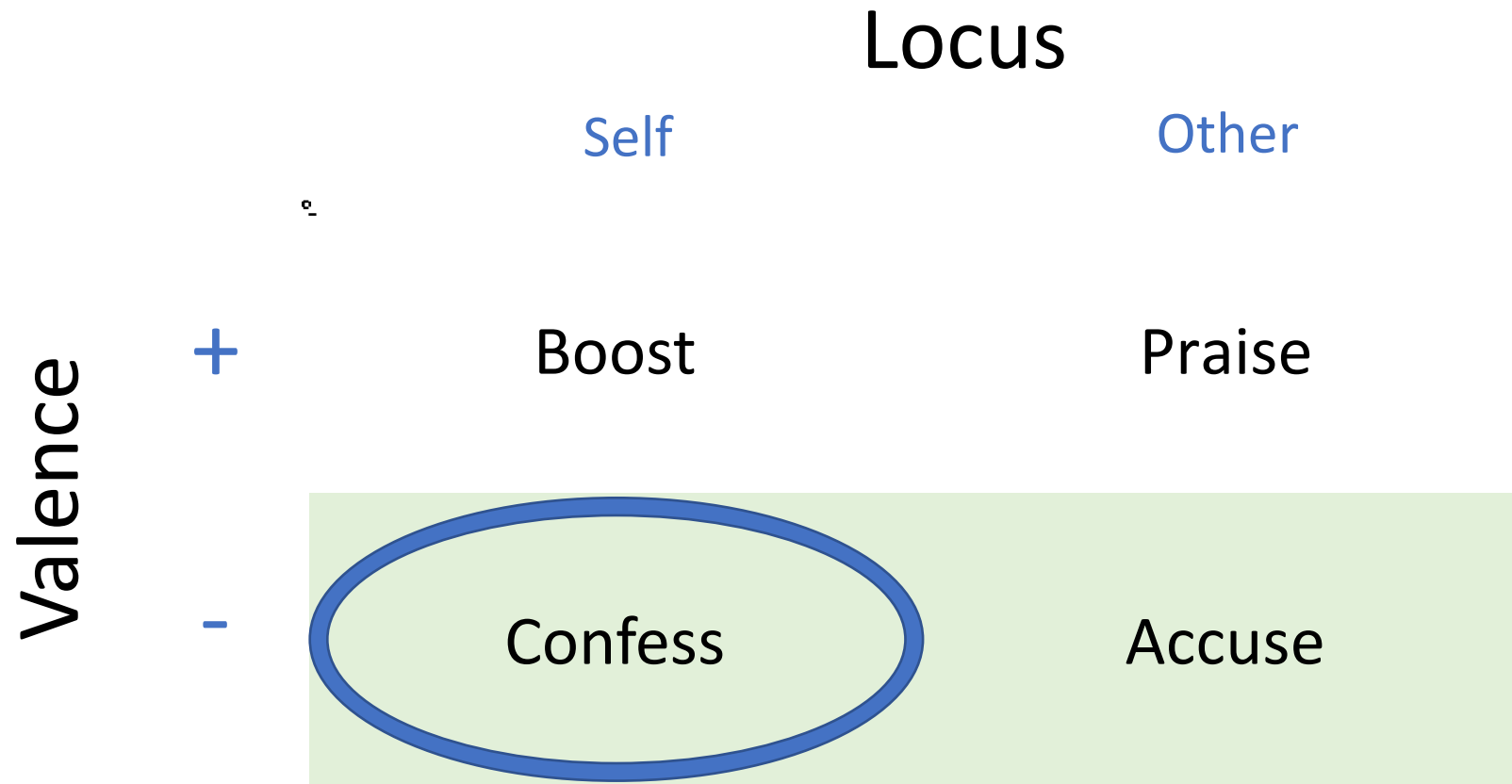
Cartoon by Glenn McCoy,
2013



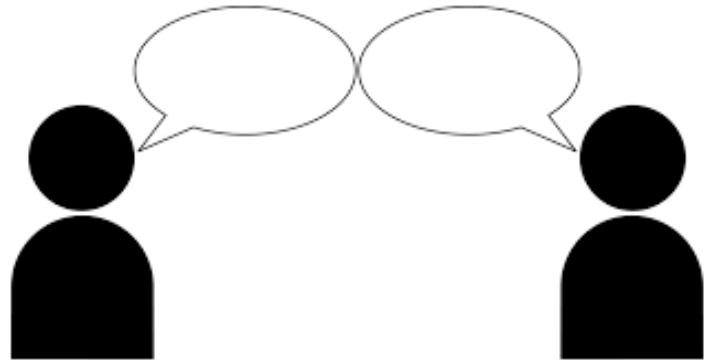
Impression Management Model



Impression Management Model



Technologically-Mediated Interpersonal Communication -



Fewer visual cues
Asynchronicity



#MeToo



Coming out

Hi dad

I want to tell you something

What's that kiddo?

You can tell me anything!

I'm Trans 🏳️‍🌈

Thank you for being honest with me

I love you so unconditionally

Love you

Is there anything different that I can do to make you feel comfortable or help you in any way?

It's totally ok to need time to think about that.

Ok thank you

Current Research Project

Questions:

1. How do teens and their parents use technology to communicate?
2. Do communication technologies increase parent-teen communication about sexuality?

Current
Research
Project

Youth focus
groups

(4-6 groups)

Parent
interviews

(up to 25)

Poll

What communication channels (technology) do parents use to talk with their teens?

- Text
- Phone calls
- Video calls
- Social media: TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook
- Not sure



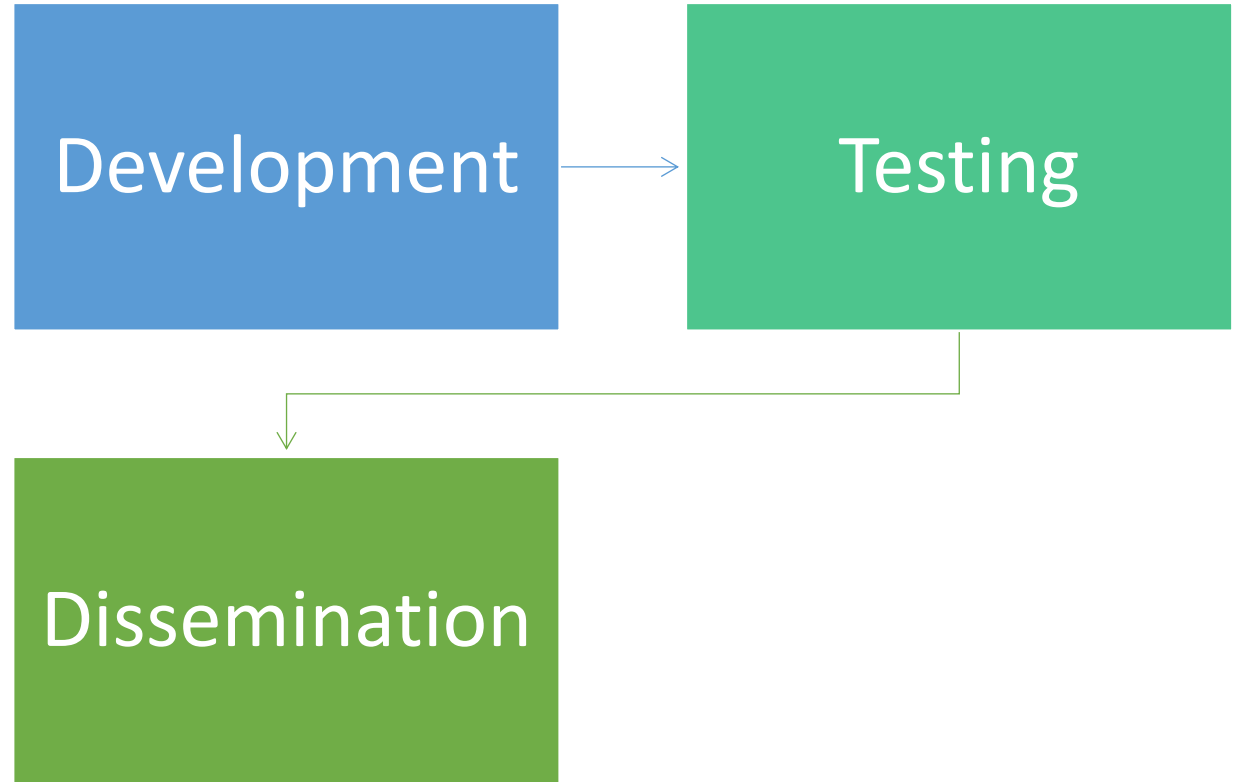


Poll

Do parents use technology to talk with their teens about **sensitive topics**, such as sexuality, alcohol, drug use?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Intervention Phases



Intervention: Content Ideas

Resources for building parent sexual health knowledge

Resources for building general parent-child communication skills

Demonstration of how technology can facilitate these conversations

Demonstration of platform agnostic technology training: Common features

Intervention:
Structure

Online

Asynchronous, self-
paced

Videos, narrated
presentations, brief text

Intervention Feedback

General reactions

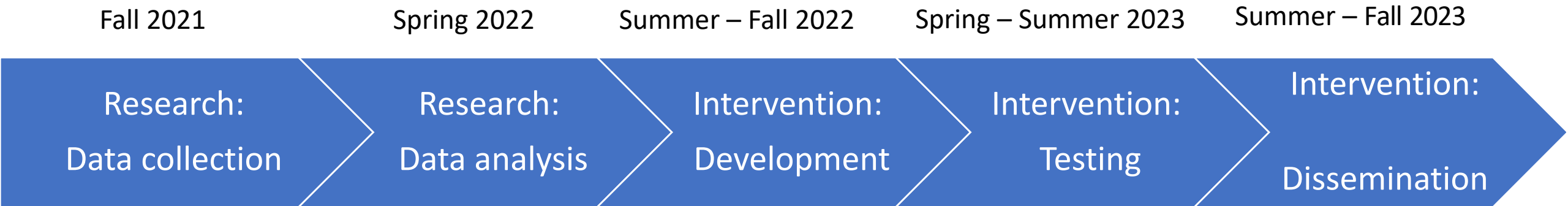
Would this be useful to parents?

What other topics should be addressed?

What are the best ways to format these resources?

How do we reach parents?

Timeline



Let us know if you can help
recruit parents or teens!



Thank You!

www.actforyouth.net

Amanda Purington

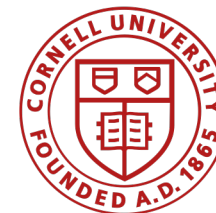
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