

*DRAFT • April 23, 2014*

PAXIS Institute encourages joint research projects on expanding the effectiveness of PAX GBG or related evidence-based kernels. Presently, the portfolio of research projects involve:

- Florida State University
- Johns Hopkins Center for Prevention and Early Intervention
- Pennsylvania State University
- The Manitoba Centre for Health Policy
- University of Alberta
- University of Arizona
- University of Calgary
- University of Maryland
- University of South Carolina
- University of Virginia
- Wright State University, Ohio

#### **O. Expand Population Level Targeting**

PAX GBG or its related evidence-based kernels can be used or adapted across stages of human development from prenatal through adulthood. Similarly, the kernels or PAX elements can be used across multiple settings (Schools, Families, Organizations such as after school or Sunday schools, and community settings), plus have different levels application by intensity. These applications involve separate discussions and recipes. Expanding the reach or intensity or developmental stages can have multiple benefits for prevention, early intervention and treatment— which is discussed in the original kernels paper (25). Other papers discuss how to use these tools to solve novel problems in communities (26).

#### **P. Recognition and Reinforcement of Successes**

With recognition and reinforcement of successes, those successes will decline or decay. People tire of toiling away without being recognized for their contributions, and a 25-year pin and coffee mug do not count for much.

Just as PAX GBG in the classroom builds in recognition and reinforcement of increasing PAX, so must your organizational implementation. This must be part of the monthly implementation and dissemination plan. These recognitions and reinforcements need not be costly, but they must be often enough to register on the public and the people who performing the miracle of PAX.

Community tours of schools using PAX can do this. Simple news stories, and newsletter info can help with this. Putting staff in a tootle chair to receive accolades from the students who adore PAX, and much more simple low cost ways to keeping people noticed for the PAX they do and promote.

*DRAFT • April 23, 2014*

## Q. Document Impact & Update Research

Impact is relative simple and understandable, which should promoted every few months to stakeholders. It might be that since the introduction of PAX that:

- Spleems (unwanted behaviors) have declined rapidly
- More teachers report being able to teach effectively
- Attendance or benchmark scores have gone up
- Nurses' office visits have gone down
- Etc.

If you are doing research on PAX GBG or kernels, please submit it for publication. Also please visit [www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov) at least once every six-months to find out the latest findings, which should also be noted at [www.GoodBehaviorGame.org](http://www.GoodBehaviorGame.org)

*DRAFT • April 23, 2014*



## **Attachment A: What is PAX?**

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The next two pages are a simple description of what PAX GBG is and how it works. This may be reproduced freely. A hyper-link for the PDF version is:

<http://bit.ly/What-IS-PAX-April-2014>



# pax | Good Behavior Game

# What Is It?

Visit [www.GoodBehavior.Game.org](http://www.GoodBehavior.Game.org)

**P**AX teaches students self-regulation, self-control, and self-management while collaborating with others for peace, productivity, health & happiness. PAX is not a classroom management program *per se* or about consequences and control, yet it does make classrooms joyful again for learning. PAX combines the science from PeaceBuilders®, Good Behavior Game (GBG) & other studies. How does PAX GBG work? PAX nurtures self-regulation in peer-contexts in order to improve attention and reduce impulsivity, thus wiring the brain during any school activity for long-term gain.

PeaceBuilders® is a trademark of PeacePartners, Inc., which was originally developed by Dr. Dennis D. Embry



1. With facilitation from adults, the children create a large, visual word-map of what they would see, hear, do and feel **more** of in a wonderful classroom. The children create a similar chart of what they would see, hear, do and feel **less** of. This task is done carefully, publicly posted, and refreshed or revised often to keep it alive.



The things happening **more** are called PAX™ (Peace, Productivity, Health and Happiness). The things that happen **less** (unwanted behaviors) are called SPLEEMS™. Very soon, children start to discriminate between PAX™ and SPLEEMS™ for learning sustainable self-regulation and attention—helped by these novel words in each new situation.

Unlike common school “rules” such as raise your hand, stay in your seat, etc., PAX and SPLEEMS are contextually based on the activity. So, PAX and Spleems are quite different during silent reading, cooperative learning, gym, working in groups, in computer lab, in the hallways, in the cafeteria, in the lunchroom, in art or music, etc. Remember, these contextual, lifeskill discriminations take time—just like reading or math skills take time to evolve.

2. The job of teachers and other adults is to notice PAX positively and often, plus record SPLEEMS very accurately during PAX Games. Teachers and adults also set up conditions of success among students to create PAX, and not to foster SPLEEMS either intentionally or unintentionally. Adults learn not to nag, scold, or lecture about SPLEEMS—lest students learn to play “Teacher Nintendo”—pushing buttons for attention.

3. Adults notice unwanted behaviors (Spleems) in a neutral way and use positive cues like the harmonica for quiet or hand signals for voices to reduce Spleems. These PAX strategies reduce accidental re-traumatization of children exposed to harsh faces, voices, coercion, and perceived threats from others. Thus, PAX prevents future trauma.
4. Children practice making more PAX and “sweeping away” SPLEEMS in *cooperative rotating* teams to “make their world a better place.” Teachers ask students to predict what PAX and Spleems would be for each specific activity and debrief after a PAX Game.

Ask students to **predict PAX and Spleems** for new activity and **debrief** after activity...



5. A classroom educator or other adult acts as a gentle “umpire” during PAX games, which happen several times a day during any normal classroom or broader school activity. PAX games might occur during math, reading or *any* academic task. The PAX Game can be played during transitions, in the library or going to bathroom breaks, on a field trip, in the gym, in cafeteria and even school buses as children gain PAX skills.
6. A classroom typically has 3-5 PAX teams at any given time. Teams can be ad hoc for hallways, etc. These can be structured in different ways to suit particular needs. PAX is designed to teach students how to cooperate and get along with all types of people—a critical lesson for life, the teams are “balanced”, including different types of children. The “problem” children should never be placed on one team, nor should they be excluded from playing. The teams are frequently rotated so that children learn how to help each other succeed. PAX is inclusive for all children, having many adaptations and supports.
7. *EVERY* team can win if it has three or fewer SPLEEMS during a PAX Game. The teacher or adult is the umpire of SPLEEMS. The game will not work well if the adults try to make it a winner-take-all situation, in which only the team with the fewest SPLEEMS wins. It will not work well if the adults have fits over SPLEEMS. Remember, just like everyone poops, everyone SPLEEMS—including adults.
8. The structure of PAX mimics successful anthropological, cultural practices around the world by using rotating teams of diverse children who work toward a common good for all. PAX helps teach students to avoid blaming others, and encourages them to try again when one or a group stumbles in achieving a goal. *(Please continue on the reverse side)*

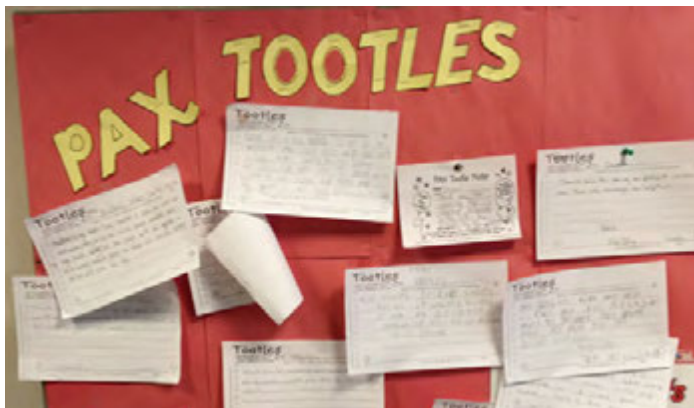
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Included in SAMSHA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices

**NREPP**  
 National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices

9. The PAX Game should be played at least three times a day during normal classroom activities. Students typically learn PAX skills quickly, though need practice to play longer. Wise teachers make a daily ritual of planning when to play the Games with their students.
10. PAX Games start very briefly—a minute or two, increasing in time as students win 12 out of 15 games (or 85%) each week. Eventually, First Graders can “play” the PAX Game for 30 to 45 minutes, vastly increasing fully engaged teaching and learning. Older children can learn to play longer.
11. Teams and the classroom accumulate PAX minutes by playing the game for longer times, while still only getting three or fewer SPLEEMS for any given game. The students love seeing themselves making more and more PAX, which brings them peace, productivity, health and happiness. The students and the adults also have a lot of good old-fashioned, fun—without any batteries.
12. When the kids win a PAX game, they earn a randomly selected, fun, and intrinsically motivating, play-based (“brain break”) for a few seconds or minutes. They might earn a 10-second giggle fest, or a 30-second dancing jig, or one minute to whisper to their friends. There are hundreds of these activities that the adult can choose to put in the “Granny’s Wacky Prize” bag, and the children will eagerly invent new suggestions that don’t involve material, extrinsic rewards. These active, fun intrinsic rewards teach children two related skills: how to self-regulate under conditions of excitement and how to self-regulate when one doesn’t “win” or achieve a desired goal immediately.



13. Students and adults learn to write Tootle™ Notes (the Opposite of Tattles) to each other: student-to-student, student-to-adult, adult-to-adult, and adult-to-student. This helps sustain and build PAX. The procedure for Tootle Notes from peers reduces bullying and increases positive friendships as well as support for helping each other. Tootles also help spread PAX to families.
14. As both the adults and students become adept at PAX, the students develop an extraordinary ability to turn on their attention voluntarily; to go up and down in excitement with grace; to handle distractions and disappointments well; and to cooperate for common goals with other people of differing abilities and skills. Both adults and students start to savor the daily joys they created. In a word, the young people become “everyday scientists” to better their world and themselves.
15. PAX trained teachers and their PAX Partners (mentors) have access to special web-based supports to broaden benefits of PAX, for problem solving, and for monitoring results as well as implementation.

## Common Questions and Answers

**Does PAX take away time from teaching and learning? No,** after you and your students learn to use PAX well, you will gain 1-2 hours a day for high-quality teaching and learning. Students learn more with PAX.

**Does PAX work for children who come from very difficult or chaotic situations? Yes.** In fact, PAX has largest effects on the children with the most disadvantages or existing problems, but also benefits all children by reducing exposure to bullying, problem behavior, etc.

**Can PAX GBG work for children of many ages? Yes.** Empirical studies show benefits from Pre-K through High-School. The long-term studies focused on younger children. PAX has variations and adaptations for stages of development, from pre-k to grade 12.

**But We Have A Good School and Families? Bullying, mental illness, drug use and suicides are increasing and happening among families and schools from every walk of life. PAX can prevent those tragedies by early reduction in anxieties, impulsivity, poor peer relations, etc.**

**Do I have to give up what I am doing right now for classroom management? No,** though most teachers find that they no longer need all the negative consequences like the red, yellow and green cards. PAX teaches self-regulation and control so that you don’t have to be a cop, the judge, and detention monitor.

**Does PAX transfer to home situations? Yes,** and there are tools to help with that. The children will spread it. Prior studies shows it improves family life.

**Why is the special language of PAX, SPLEEMS, Granny’s Wacky Prizes, Tootles, etc. important? The language:** 1) is fresh and reduces automatic, conditioned negative behavior; 2) helps the students rapidly generalize their self-regulation skills; 3) unites children in a bigger purpose than “following the rules”; 4) appeals to children; and 5) provides a common language for the school community. This special language helps children generalize their skills.

**Can PAX be part of an IEP or Individual Educational Plan and/or Positive Behavioral Supports? Yes.** Special materials and training provide additional supports, using a simple “functional behavioral assessment” that sites can link to previously proven practices to support children with higher needs. In most jurisdictions, licensed professionals may bill health insurance for providing these additional services.

**If I am a good teacher and my students are doing well, will PAX still help? Yes!** This has been shown to be helpful in almost every case. It makes a great teacher even better, and makes good students better—too.

**How can I learn more about PAX? Vist our website.** Then, secure training, copyrighted materials, and web-based supports – only available from PAXIS Institute. Please read your manual, as it contains much wisdom from thousands of teachers who learned to use PAX before you. Our websites have additional supports, only for teachers and PAX Partners with licensed PAX Good Behavior Game® manuals and training.



To learn more about PAX GBG, visit [GoodBehaviorGame.org](http://GoodBehaviorGame.org) or call 1-877-GO-PAXIS, or send an inquiry email to [gbg@paxis.org](mailto:gbg@paxis.org). You may view videos about PAX GBG at: [GoodBehaviorGame.org](http://GoodBehaviorGame.org), [promoteprevent.org](http://promoteprevent.org), or [www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild/pax/](http://www.gov.mb.ca/healthychild/pax/). The scientific studies for the recipe for PAX GBG can be found at [www.pubmed.gov](http://www.pubmed.gov), search under “Good Behavior Game”; Peacebuilders, and “evidence-based kernels”.

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*DRAFT • April 23, 2014*

## **Attachment B: PAX Good Behavior Game Logic Models**

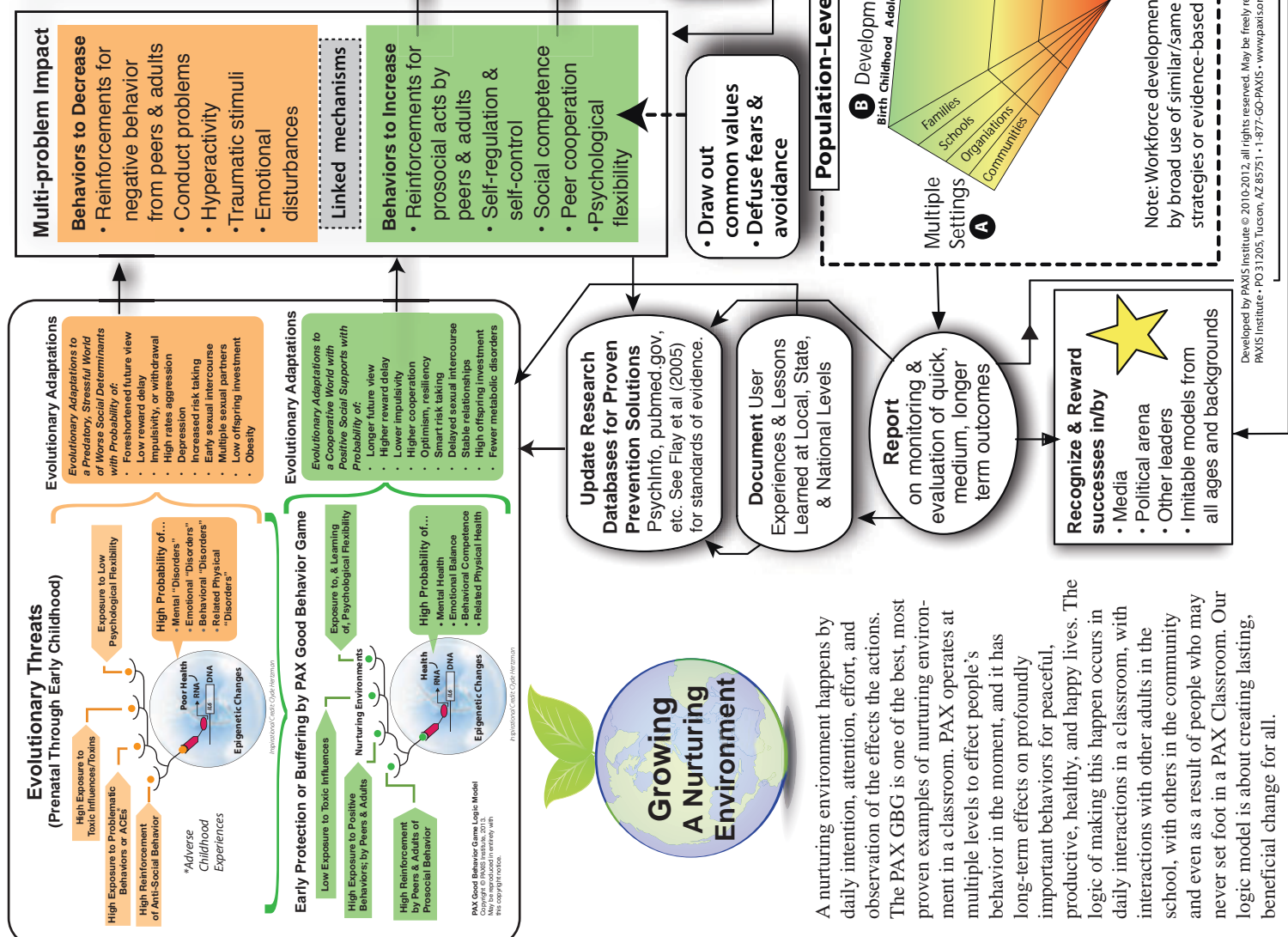
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The next three pages are the actual logic models related to PAX GBG.

The first is the biosocial model based on the nurturing environments how PAX GBG works at an individual level. That is different than the logical model to make it happen for school district, a community or a larger political division.

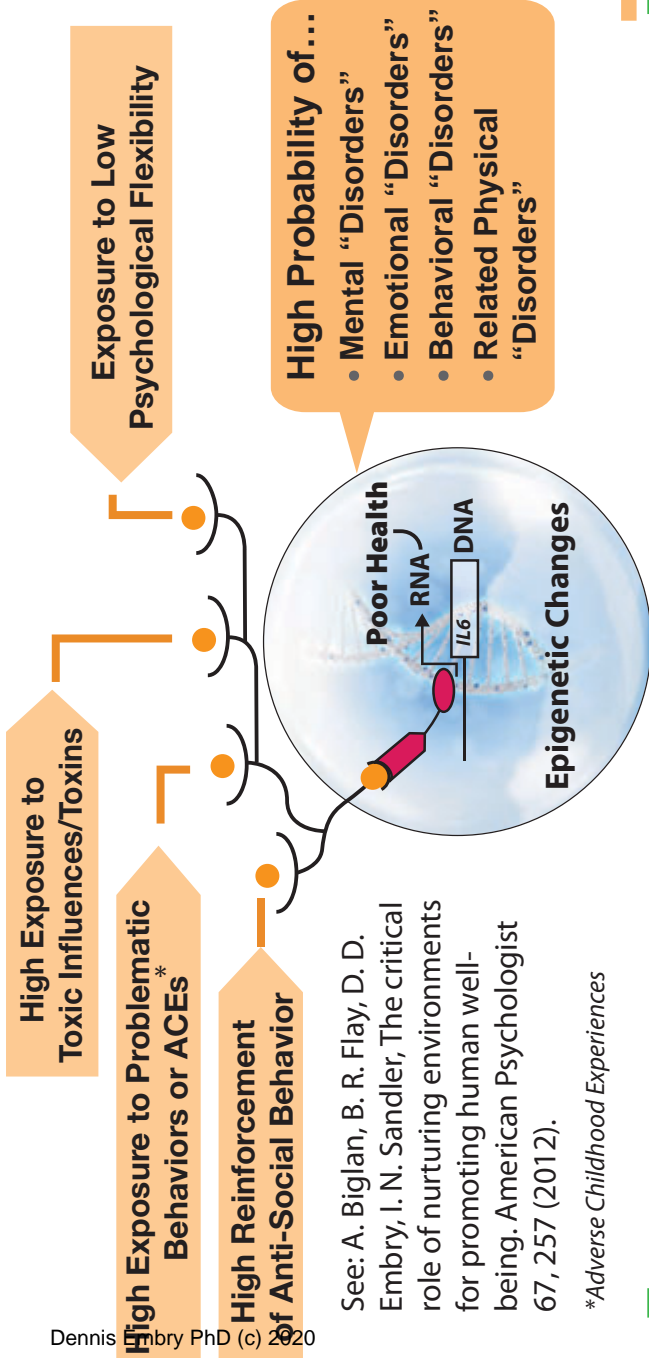
The second page is about the population-level change logic model, discussed in detail here.

The third page is an example of how the two logic models can be discussed or explained in the context of common, localized strategic prevention framework logic models.



See: Biglan, A., Flay, B. R., Embry, D. D., & Sandler, I. N. (2012). The critical role of nurturing environments for promoting human well-being. *American Psychologist*, 67(4), 257-271; Wilson, D. S., Hayes, S. C., Biglan, A., & Embry, D. D. (2013, in press). Evolving the Future: Toward a Science of Intentional Change. *Brain and Behavioral Sciences*.

# Evolutionary Threats (Prenatal Through Early Childhood)



Inspirational Credit: Clyde Hertzman

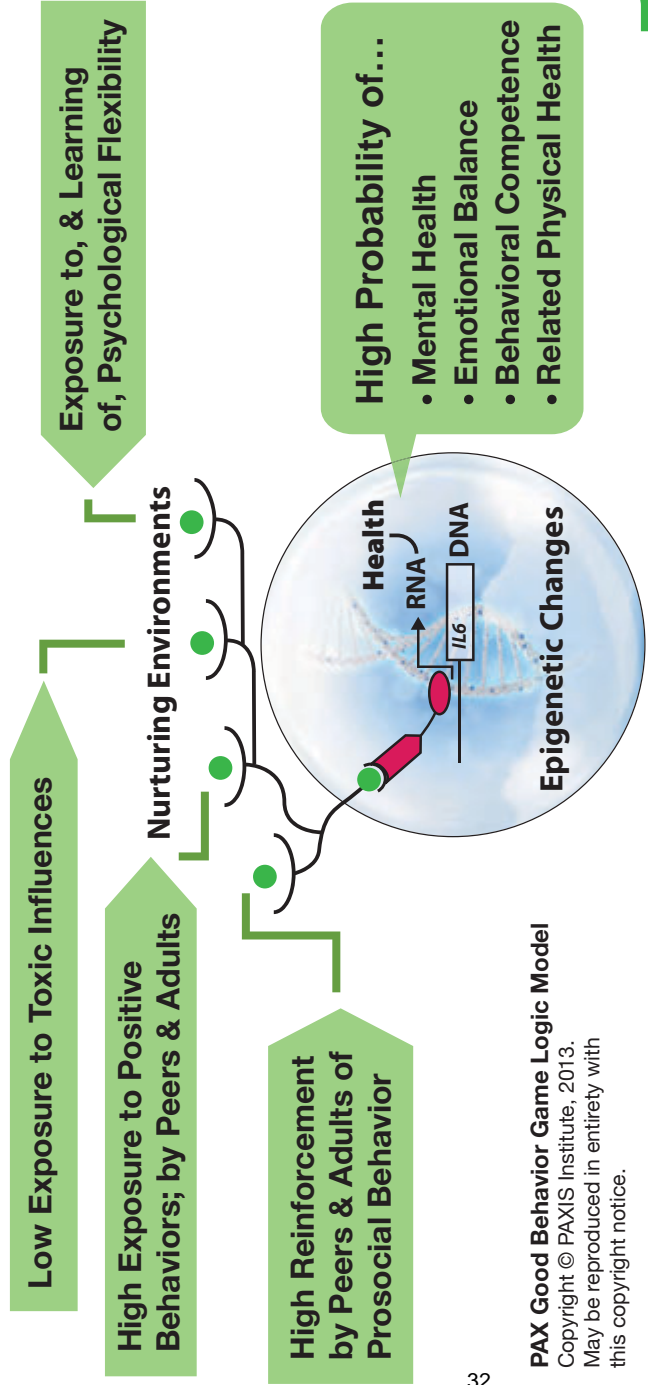
# Evolutionary Adaptations

- Evolutionary Adaptations to a Predatory, Stressful World of Worse Social Determinants with Probability of:**
- Foreshortened future view
  - Low reward delay
  - Impulsivity, or withdrawal
  - High rates aggression
  - Depression
  - Increased risk taking
  - Early sexual intercourse
  - Multiple sexual partners
  - Low offspring investment
  - Obesity

# Evolutionary Adaptations

- Evolutionary Adaptations to a Cooperative World with Positive Social Supports with Probability of:**
- Longer future view
  - Higher reward delay
  - Lower impulsivity
  - Higher cooperation
  - Optimism, resiliency
  - Smart risk taking
  - Delayed sexual intercourse
  - Stable relationships
  - High offspring investment
  - Fewer metabolic disorders

# Early Protection or Buffering by PAX Good Behavior Game



**PAX Good Behavior Game Logic Model**  
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Inspirational Credit: Clyde Hertzman



Application Name

Multi-Addiction Prevention Model

Theory of Change

On May 28, The 2009 Institute of Medicine Report on the Prevention of Mental, Emotional, & Behavioral Disorders<sup>1</sup> (funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration) proves that lifetime multiple addictions (Tobacco, Alcohol, Illegal Drugs and Prescription Drug Abuse) are predicted by early behaviors of peers in primary grades, which can be prevented, averted, or reduced by a classroom/school environmental strategies that immediately alter environmental risk factors and increases environmental protective factors against lifetime ATOD addictions.

Environmental Problem Statement		Environ. Strategies			Activities			Population-Level, Public Health Outcomes	
Problem	But why?	But why here?	Examples:	Examples:	Short Term	Intermediate	Long-Term (3-5 years)		
US K-12 school children have had rising rates of early predictors of serious lifetime mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders that then predict lifetime serious ATOD addiction disorders, <sup>2-6</sup> and these predictors are increasing every two years. <sup>7-9</sup>	Multiple environmental factors have increased early disruptive, & disturbing, & inattentive behaviors that predict lifetime ATOD and related risks. <sup>1, 10-13</sup>	Proximity to 911 worsened these trends; More children identified in preschool years; Rising bullying; CDC shows rising rates in NJ	Decrease disturbing, disruptive, destructive and inattentive behaviors in elementary grades & after school settings, 50% to 80% to avert lifetime ATOD Increase positive peer reinforcement for non-deviant behavior predicting lifetime ATOD	Create powerful demonstration of early wins using IOM strategies (e.g., PAX Good Behavior Game); Train 25% or more primary grade classrooms to implement behavioral vaccine	45% to 85% reduction in the proximal environmental risk factors within primary grade classrooms, with in 3-9 months following implementation	20% to 30% reduction within 9 to 24 months of serious, intermediate risk factors at school, home or community for later lifetime ATOD; 10% to 20% increase in protective factors like attendance & reading achievement	Better morale by teachers & staff related to early prevention strategies; 40% to 60% reduced bullying, acts of violence, delinquency, and indicators of DSM-IV disorders; <sup>14-20</sup> 50% to 75% reduction in environments factors of classrooms predicting lifetime student ATOD; <sup>20-25</sup> 10% to 20% more children at grade level reading by 4 <sup>th</sup> grade; <sup>17, 26-29</sup> 30% reduction in referrals for special services including psychotropic meds; <sup>30-32</sup> Near zero first use of tobacco at 6 <sup>th</sup> grade; <sup>33-37</sup> Lifetime alcohol use <10% at 6 <sup>th</sup> grade; <sup>30, 31, 33, 37, 44</sup> 30% reduction in service use for problems with behavior, emotions, drugs, or alcohol; <sup>29, 31</sup> 40% to 50% reduction in suicidal thoughts and attempts. <sup>38</sup>		
	Marketing of psychotropic medications <sup>45-47</sup> for treatment of pediatric patients swamps out non-drug prevention strategies. (Note: many of these drugs are frequently abused).	NJ School nurses report higher rates of disorders associated with psychiatric and behavioral problems; NJ's economy is significantly predicated on seeing these problems as biological disorders	Promote early evidence-based prevention strategies from the 2009 IOM report that health-care organizations, doctors, nurses, schools, and other clinicians can bill for instead of psychotropic meds. Promote similar solutions to policy makers and families to adopt	Presentations to insurance underwriters, & ground round presentations, pediatric, family practice an other organization presentations about adopting polices for behavioral vaccines	Requests by local medical, psychiatric, & social service agencies to receive training in implementing IOM behavioral vaccines for ATOD and related mental disorders	Adoption of policies for reimbursement and funding for sustainable IOM identified behavioral vaccines proven to prevent or reduce lifetime ATOD; Behavior vaccines appear in IEPs for children with DSM-IV diagnoses	Local data indicators of cost savings or averted such as better school attendance, fewer IEPs, less absenteeism by staffs, lower vandalism costs		
	Fiscal crises & cutbacks have increased teacher and family stress, which worsens risk factors	The financial crises hit NJ worse, and those stressors affect children's risk factors significantly	Promote the adoption universal access policies to IOM prevention strategies that show high-levels of return on investment for state, local and businesses.	Presentations to state & local policy makers, local funders & businesses on fast fiscal benefits of behavioral vaccines	Local individuals, organizations, & businesses contributing resources for sustainable actions	Local data indicators of cost savings or averted such as better school attendance, fewer IEPs, less absenteeism by staffs, lower vandalism costs			
	Federal, state, & local policies focused ATOD prevention on adolescents, well after early hi risk	NJ has not implemented SAMHSA's policy on the 2009 IOM Report and early ages in 2010	Educate stakeholders, policy makers, local funders, & organizations about implementing IOM report for faster, more cost efficient prevention.	Media and civic promotions for adopting and spreading behavioral vaccines for major benefits	Increase in local news stories & reports about behavioral effect of the efforts for early prevention.	Written polices, regulations and funding announcements for universal access to behavioral vaccines.			

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DRAFT • April 23, 2014

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DRAFT • April 23, 2014

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