

Neighborhood Quality, Parental Knowledge, and Parental Control of Children: Assessing Aspects of Parental Monitoring

PENNSSTATE



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Overview of Presentation

1. How do neighborhoods matter?
 - Neighborhood disadvantage, the well-being of children and families, and social policy.
2. Neighborhood safety and parenting
 - Assessing the relationship between neighborhood quality and two aspects of parental monitoring: knowledge & control
3. Neighborhoods & the transition to adulthood:
The Katrina Study

Neighborhood disadvantage



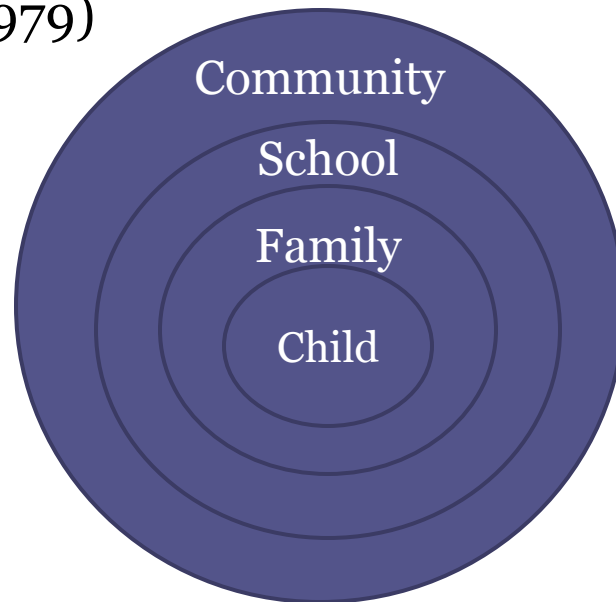
Garfield in Pittsburgh, PA
(photo courtesy of Michael Palazzolo)

Neighborhood Disadvantage, Children, & Social Policy

- HOPE VI Public Housing Transformation
 - Oak Hill, Bedford Hill, Garfield Commons...
- Studying neighborhoods is challenging
- Neighborhood safety and families
 - Safety as a barrier to children's activity use in public housing (Gautreaux Two Program)
 - Neighborhood safety influencing mothers' parenting strategies (MTO)

How do parents shape children's exposure to the neighborhood?

- Ecological model of human development (Bronfenbrenner 1979)



- The family is often marginalized in studies of neighborhood effects (Burton & Jarrett, 2000; Leventhal & Brooks-Gunn 2000)

Neighborhoods, Parents & Child Outcomes

- Neighborhood poverty and negative effects on children's education, behavior, and well-being. (Wilson 1987, 1996; Brooks-Gunn et al. 1997; Jencks & Mayer 1990)
- Positive effect of neighborhood affluence (Brooks-Gunn et al. 1993; Massey 1996; Sampson et al. 1999)
- Few studies of indirect neighborhood effects
 - Families matter more than the neighborhood (Klebanov et al. 1994; Furstenberg et al. 1999; Burton & Jarrett 2000; Rankin & Quane 2002)

Research Questions

1. What is the relationship between parents' perceptions of neighborhood quality and each of two aspects of parental monitoring: parental knowledge and parental control?
2. Are neighborhood structure and social organization driving these relationships?

Neighborhood Structure & Parenting

- Parenting is influenced by neighborhood poverty, danger, and quality (Klebanov et al. 2004; Leventhal & Brooks-Gunn 2005; Ceballo & McLoyd 2002; Furstenberg et al. 1999).
- Parenting in disadvantaged neighborhoods
 - Restrictive parenting (Furstenberg 1993; Furstenberg et al. 1999; Jarrett 1999; Pinderhughes et al. 2001; Kling et al. 2005)
 - Strategies to avoid danger (Carvalho & Lewis 2003; Warr & Ellison 2000; Kling et al. 2005; Elliott et al. 2006)
 - Emotional withdrawal or substance abuse (Klebanov et al. 1994; Elliott et al. 2006; Moiduddin & Massey 2008)

Neighborhood Social Organization & Parenting

- **Social Disorganization**

- **Collective inability of parents in a neighborhood to regulate delinquent behavior and crime** (Shaw & McKay 1942; Sampson et al. 1997)

- Parenting is a key component

- **Collective Efficacy**

- Community social cohesion and the willingness of neighbors to intervene for the good of the community (Sampson et al. 1997)

- Mediates the relationship between neighborhood disadvantage and crime (Morenoff et al. 2001; Sampson & Wikstrom 2007)

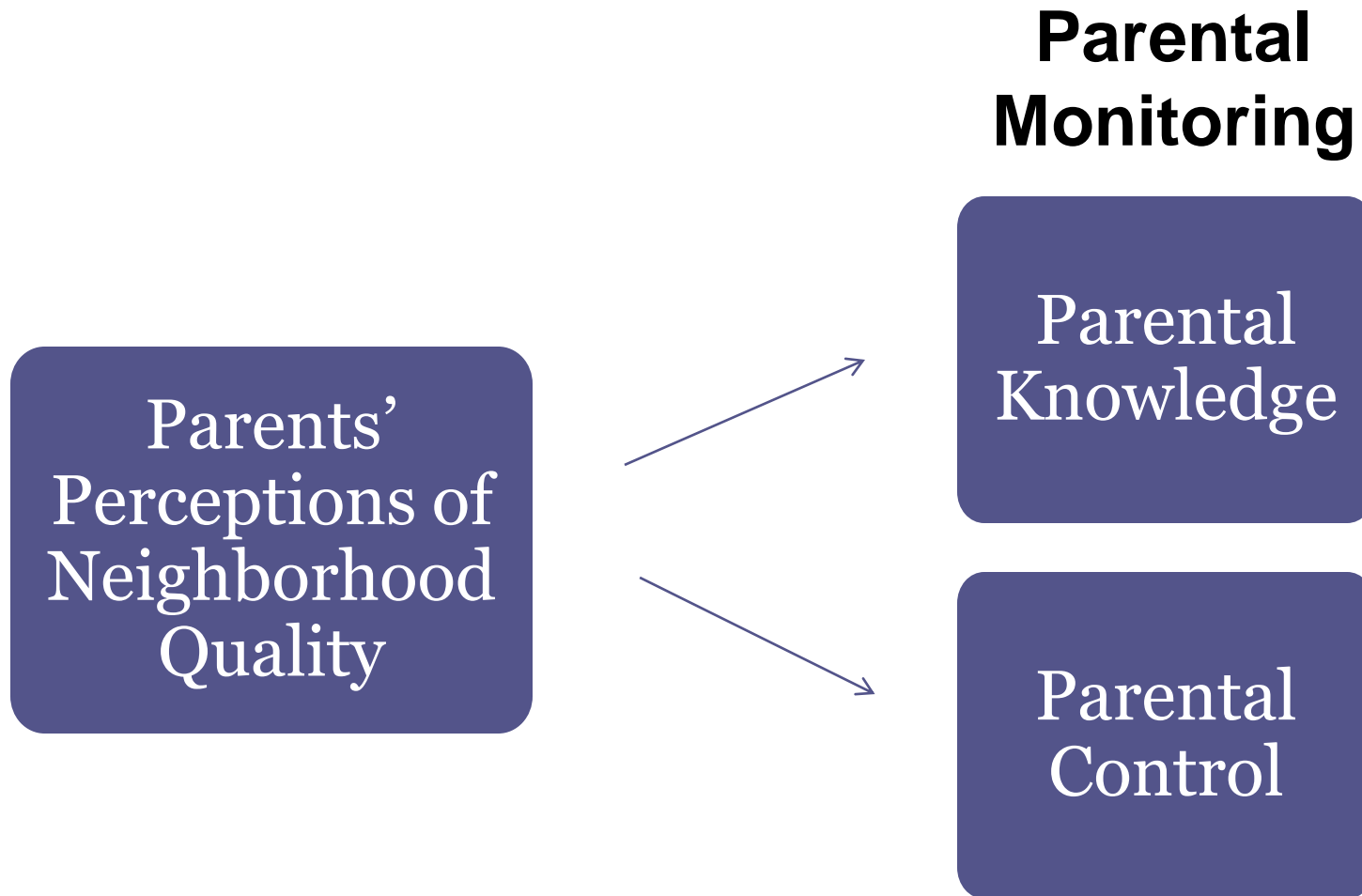
Parental Monitoring

“a set of correlated parenting behaviors involving attention to and tracking of the child’s whereabouts, activities, and adaptations”

(Dishion & McMahan 1998, p.61)

- Typically measured by parents’ knowledge, which is often gained through a child’s free disclosure. (Stattin & Kerr 2000; Kerr, Stattin, & Burke 2010)
- Measure misses parents’ efforts at regulating a child’s behavior. (Snyder & Patterson 1997)

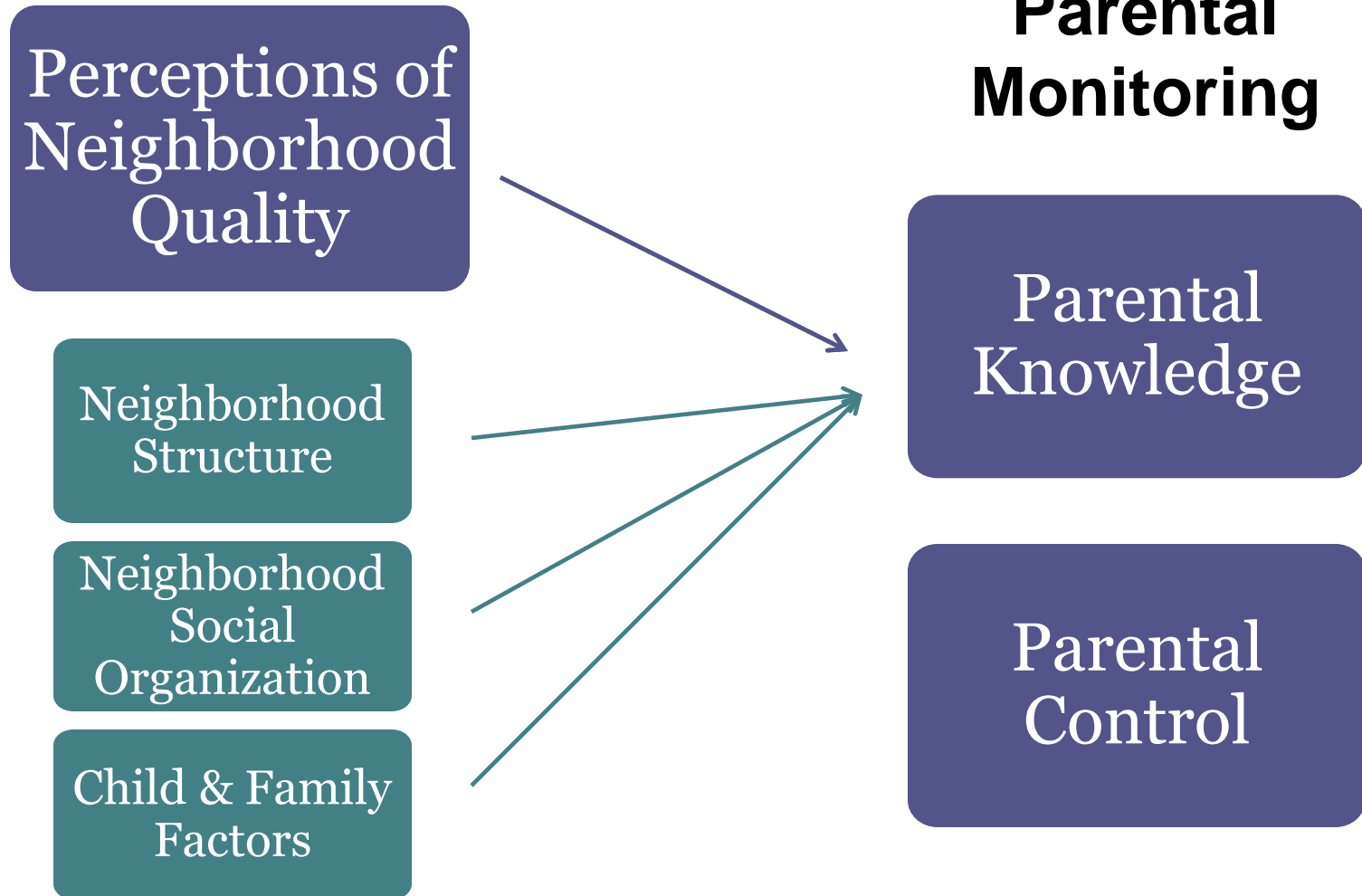
Conceptual Model (I)



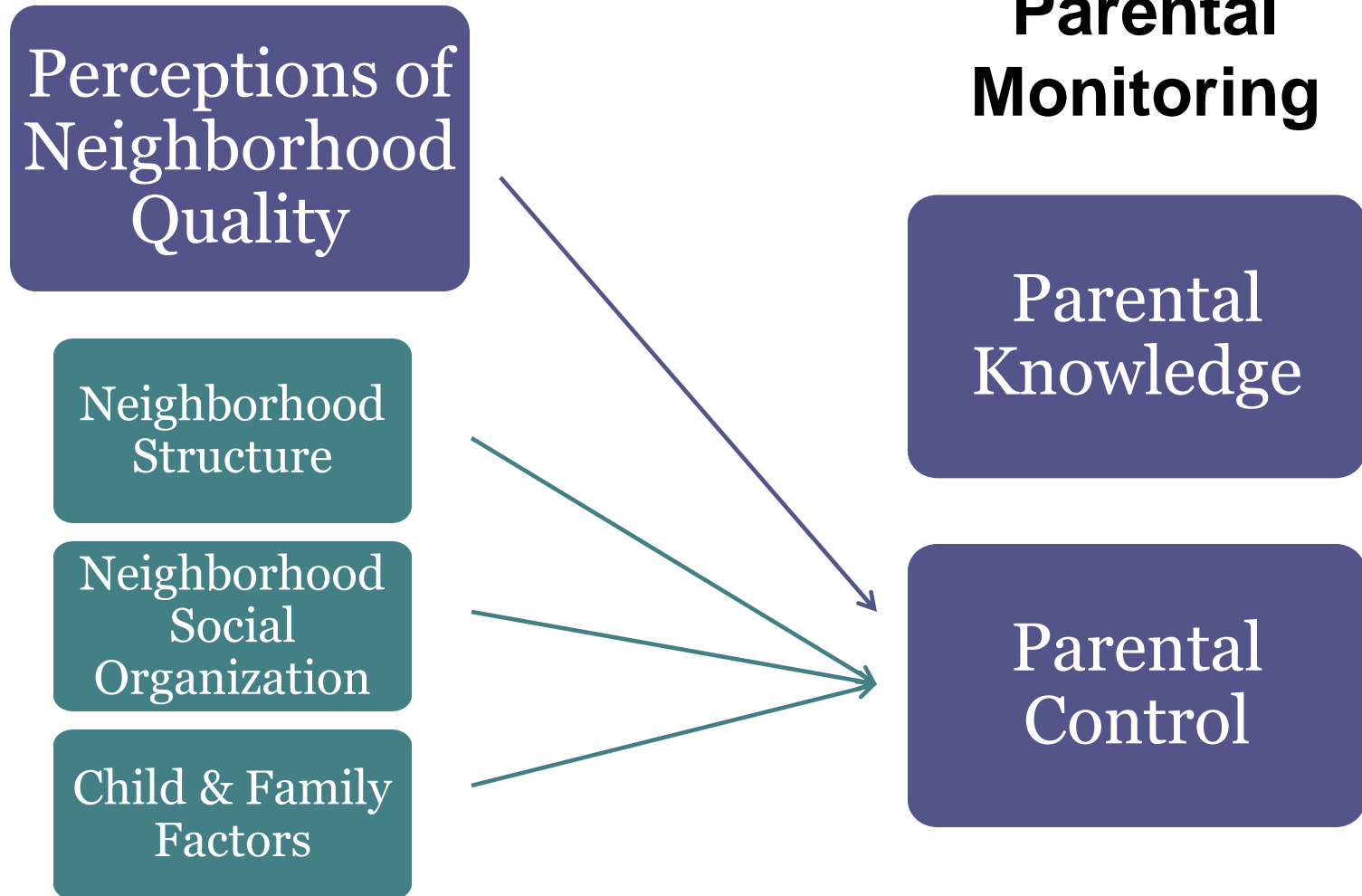
Neighborhoods & Parental Monitoring

- Neighborhoods & Parental Knowledge
 - More challenging to maintain knowledge of children in low quality neighborhoods
 - Collective efficacy increases knowledge
- Neighborhoods & Parental Control
 - Low quality neighborhoods demand more efforts at parental control
 - Restrictive parenting
 - Withdrawal or negative coping behaviors

Conceptual Model (IIa)



Conceptual Model (IIb)

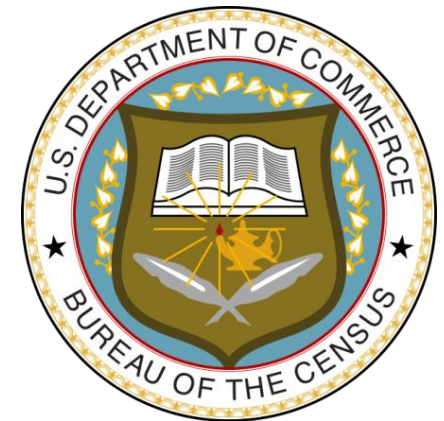


Research Questions

1. What is the relationship between parents' perceptions of neighborhood quality and each of two aspects of parental monitoring: parental knowledge and parental control?
2. Are neighborhood structure and social organization driving these relationships?

Data

- Child Development Supplement of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)
 - Nationally representative
 - Longitudinal
 - 0-12 years old in 1997
 - Primary Caregiver Survey
- PSID family files
- U.S. Census 2000



Study Sample

- Wave 1 (1997) & Wave 2 (2002)
- Children ages 10-18 years old
- 1,727 children in 1,245 families
- n=2338

	Mean	S.D.
Age	13.6 yrs	2.6
Female	.501	.500
White	.466	.499
Black	.432	.495
Hispanic	.060	.237
Other	.043	.203
Family Income	\$53,991	45,823

Dependent Variables

1. Parental Knowledge

- Knows child's friends
- Knows child's whereabouts
- Range 1-3; Mean = 2.36; SD = .56

2. Parental Control

- Has rules on child's friends
- Has rules on child's after-school activities
- Range 0 -1; Mean = .64; SD = .37

Independent Variables

- Parent's Perception of Neighborhood Quality
 - Neighborhood Rating
 - Neighborhood Safety
 - Range 1-4 ; Mean =2.72; SD = .88
- Neighborhood Structure
 - % Poverty: Mean = .15; SD = .12
 - % Affluent (\$100K+): Mean = .12; SD =.13
- Neighborhood Social Organization
 - Collective Efficacy: Mean = .78; SD=.27

Family & Child Control Variables

Family-Level

Head of HH's Education
Head of HH's Marital Status
Children in the HH
Average family income

Child-Level

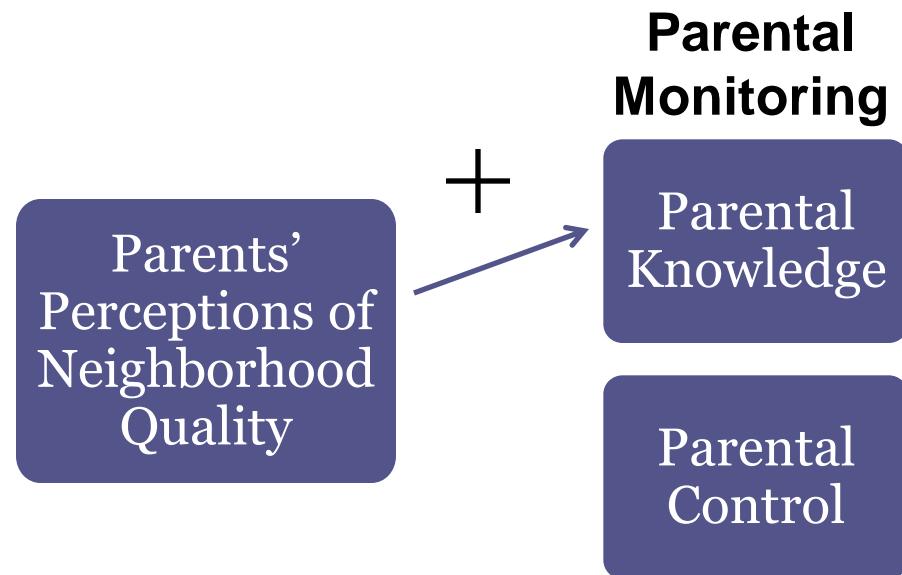
Age
Gender
Race/Ethnicity
Behavior (BPI)

Additional Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	S.D.
Behavior (BPI)	8.480	6.481
Number in HH	4.320	1.431
HH Head Education (Yrs)	12.756	2.717
HH Head Married	.643	.479
HH Head Never Married	.132	.339
Long-term Resident (5+ yrs)	.621	.485
Based on n=2,388 observations		

Bivariate Relationships

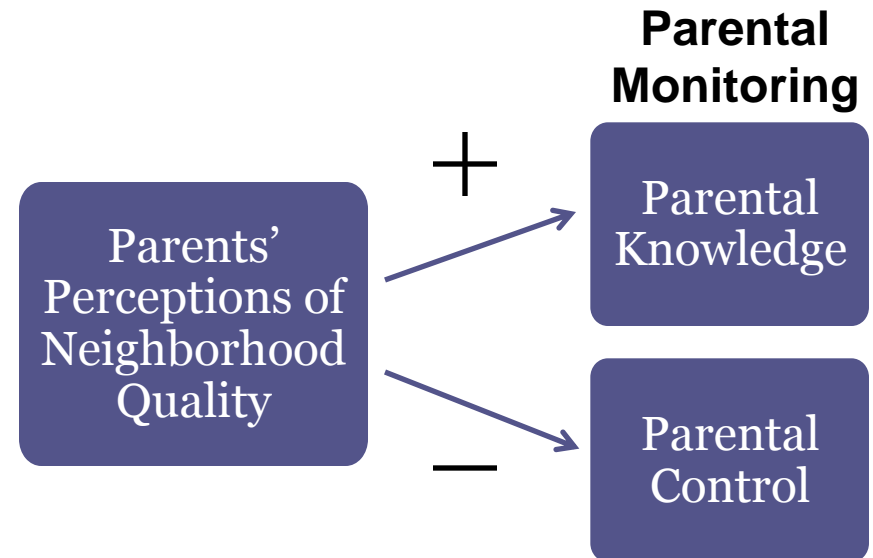
	Parental Knowledge
Neighborhood Quality	.0111***
n=2115	(.014)



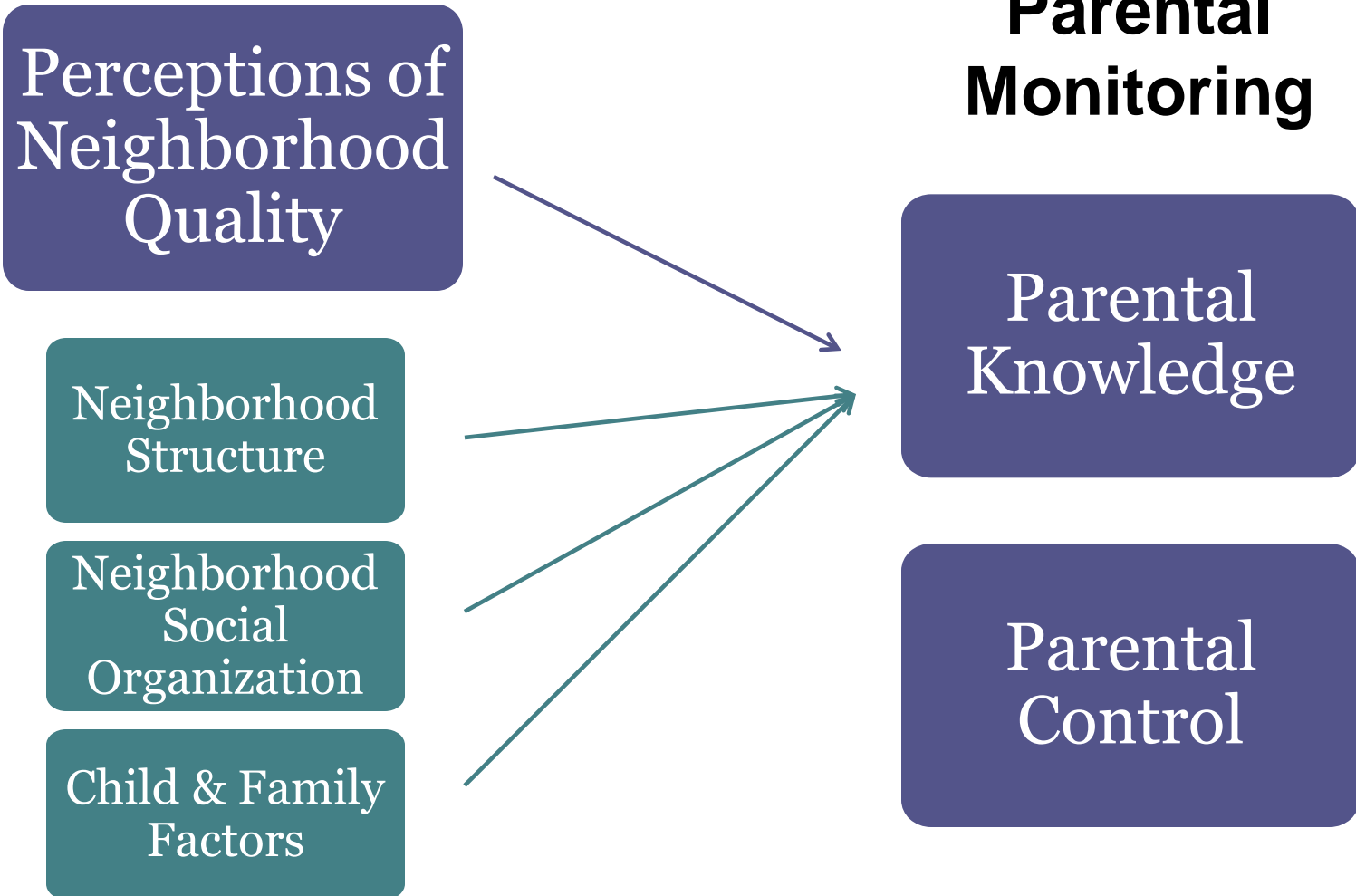
Bivariate Relationships

	Parental Knowledge
Neighborhood Quality	.0111***
(SE)	(.014)

	Parental Control
Neighborhood Quality	-.047***
(SE)	(.012)



What is driving this relationship?



Parental Knowledge & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Knowledge				
Neighborhood Quality	0.111*** (.014)				

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Knowledge & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Knowledge				
Neighborhood Quality	0.111*** (.014)	0.091*** (.016)			
% Poverty		-0.263* (.133)			
% Affluence		0.136 (.098)			

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Knowledge & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Knowledge				
Neighborhood Quality	0.111*** (.014)	0.091*** (.016)	0.093*** (.015)		
% Poverty		-0.263* (.133)			
% Affluence		0.136 (.098)			
Collective Efficacy			0.225*** (.047)		

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Knowledge & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Knowledge				
Neighborhood Quality	0.111*** (.014)	0.091*** (.016)	0.093*** (.015)	0.071*** (.016)	
% Poverty		-0.263* (.133)		-0.275* (.132)	
% Affluence		0.136 (.098)		.149 (.098)	
Collective Efficacy			0.225*** (.047)	.233*** (.047)	

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Knowledge & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Knowledge				
Neighborhood Quality	0.111*** (.014)	0.091*** (.016)	0.093*** (.015)	0.071*** (.016)	0.033* (.017)
% Poverty		-0.263* (.133)		-0.275* (.132)	0.022 (.137)
% Affluence		0.136 (.098)		.149 (.098)	-.156 (.109)
Collective Efficacy			0.225*** (.047)	.233*** (.047)	.182*** (.047)
Controls					√

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Significant Child & Family Controls

	Parental Knowledge
Neighborhood Quality	0.033* (.017)
Child age	-0.063*** (.005)
Female	0.058* (.024)
Black	-0.158*** (.031)
Hispanic	-0.307*** (.062)
Behavior (BPI)	-0.014*** (.002)

The model also includes the following control variables:

other race/ethnicity
 long-term residence
 number in the HH
 marriage status of head of HH
 education of head of HH
 average family income

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients.

*p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Methods of Analysis (IIb)

Perceptions of
Neighborhood
Quality

Neighborhood
Structure

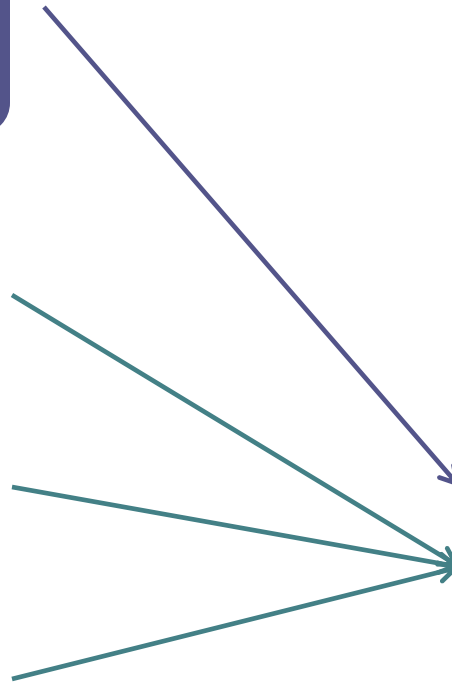
Neighborhood
Social
Organization

Child & Family
Factors

**Parental
Monitoring**

Parental
Knowledge

Parental
Control



Parental Control & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Control				
Neighborhood Quality	-0.047*** (.012)				

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Control & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Control				
Neighborhood Quality	-0.047*** (.012)	-0.015 (.013)			
% Poverty		0.390*** (.109)			
% Affluence		-0.125 (.098)			

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Control & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Control				
Neighborhood Quality	-0.047*** (.012)	-0.015 (.013)	-0.059*** (.012)		
% Poverty		0.390*** (.109)			
% Affluence		-0.125 (.098)			
Collective Efficacy			0.149*** (.039)		

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Control & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Control			
Neighborhood Quality	-0.047*** (.012)	-0.015 (.013)	-0.059*** (.012)	-0.027* (.013)
% Poverty		0.390*** (.109)		0.386*** (.107)
% Affluence		-0.125 (.098)		-0.116 (.099)
Collective Efficacy			0.149*** (.039)	0.150*** (.039)

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Parental Control & Neighborhood Quality

	Parental Control				
Neighborhood Quality	-0.047*** (.012)	-0.015 (.013)	-0.059*** (.012)	-0.027* (.013)	-0.009 (.014)
% Poverty		0.390*** (.109)		0.386*** (.107)	0.145 (.118)
% Affluence		-0.125 (.098)		-0.116 (.099)	-0.012 (.105)
Collective Efficacy			0.149*** (.039)	0.150*** (.039)	0.142*** (.040)
Controls					√

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients. *p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

Significant Control Variables

	Parental Control
Neighborhood Quality	-0.009 (.014)
Black	0.178*** (.027)
Hispanic	0.086 (.057)
Other race	0.146* (.059)
BPI total	0.003* (.001)

Standard Errors are in parentheses below coefficients.

*p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001

The model also includes the following control variables:

- child age
- child gender (female)
- long term-residence
- number in the HH
- marriage status of head of HH
- education of head of HH
- average family income
- % females in the HH
- age structure of kids in HH

Discussion

- Differential relationship between neighborhood quality and each aspect of parental monitoring.
 - Implications for parental monitoring
- Poverty, more than affluence, drives parents perceptions of neighborhood quality; accounts for the relationship with knowledge and control.
- Collective efficacy is a mediator for parental knowledge, but not parental control.

Discussion (continued)

- Implications for neighborhood effects on children: indirect effects
- Policy Implications

The Katrina Study

- Effects of neighborhood change on expectations and decisions at the transition to adulthood using the Hurricane Katrina disaster as a natural experiment
- Mixed-methods comparison of social support in the relocation decisions of low-income, African-American mothers affected by Hurricane Katrina

How do neighborhoods matter?

- Research design and econometric techniques to deal with selection bias in neighborhood effects
 - Residential mobility programs
 - Experimental design
 - Change Models & Fixed effects
- Incorporating Multiple Spatial Measures
 - Census data; Parents' perceptions; Local crime data
- Analyzing a mix of qualitative & quantitative data

Thank you!