

## **Research findings on mentoring and related topics. (Bigs in Blue Summit, July 2018)**

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### Q1: What is the long-term effect of mentoring on the child and on the mentor?

#### *Effect on the child*

In general mentoring is beneficial to all youth regardless of risk-status. (Van Dam, 2018) (Albright, Hurd, & Hussain, 2017) (Tolan et al., 2013).

Mentoring cultivates hope in children and youth (Yarcheski & Mahon, 2016) . (Sulimani-Aidan, Melkman, & Hellman, 2018).

Mentoring during adolescence is associated with better outcomes in:

- high-school completion and employment
- self-esteem and mental health
- less gang membership and risk taking
- more exercise
- birth control use

(Rhodes and DuBois, 2008; McMahon, Singh, Garner, & Benhorin, 2004) (Timpe & Lunkenheimer, 2015).

#### *Effect on mentor*

Young mentors develop stronger civic engagement attitudes. (Goldner & Golan, 2017)

Mentoring helps the mentor to better relate to and understand young children and disadvantaged populations (Goldner & Golan, 2017; Weiler et al., 2013).

Mentoring contributes towards a sense of meaning (goldner & Golan, 2017) (Weiler et al, 2013).

Q2: Tell us about the implications that can happen when a society has a lack of trust of law enforcement.

- In a democratic society trust of law enforcement is critical to maintain the balance between **freedom and safety**.
- The challenge is to simultaneously **promote social order and freedom** while **reducing crime**.
- Without trust in law enforcement this balance is compromised and the result is either **less freedom and justice or more crime and social disorganization**, or a combination of these consequences.

The involvement of **police** in side jobs for extra earnings in **Russia** in 2001 resulted in the semi-collapse of the state function and increased societal disorganization (Ryvkina & Kolennikova, 2001)

In the United States

- Overall confidence in the police returned to its 25-year average of 57%
- However, Hispanics, liberals and those younger than 35 have become less confident

<https://news.gallup.com/poll/213869/confidence-police-back-historical-average.aspx>

Contact with the police is a strong predictor of attitudes toward police.(Alberton, 2018)

- A procedurally just dialogue between police and the public result in a decrease in crime and disorder (Higginson, 2014).
- Being stopped by police or arrested tend to amplify deviant attitudes of youth and these youth also show more future delinquency than other youth (Wiley & Esbensen, 2016).
- Young people who view police as legitimate are more willing to assist police. (Hinds, 2009).

Q3: Share your research expertise as it relates to providing support for children and possible trends that happen when they don't have a caring environment beyond the household.

Ideally we want a safe, **caring**, and healthy **environment** that contributes to optimal growth and **development** of **children** from infancy to adulthood.

- We know how important the family environment is for children, but what about other relationships and community factors.
- Having a role model outside of the household makes a difference for at risk children (Shlafer, Poehlmann, Coffino, & Hanneman, 2009).
- Community factors contribute to child and adolescent development outcomes. (Letourneau, Duffett-Leger, Levac, Watson, & Young-Morris, 2013) (Akcinar & Baydar, 2016)

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