**Special Topics in Parenting**

In this module we will examine a number of special topics related to parenting today. As you glance through the list it will become immediately apparent that most of the topics are a direct result of societal changes in the United States: intergenerational relationships, single parenting, divorce, stepparenting, parenting children with special needs, parents putting children at risk, and working parents and child care.

Many of you will find a number of these special topics directly relevant to you or to someone close to you. Some of the issues are at the family level, others are at the community or national level. But most of these issues affect all of us in some way.

<https://umuc.equella.ecollege.com/file/fddc5747-fbb6-4558-a12c-afd59344ec71/2/BEHS343-1109.zip/Modules/M3-Module_3/S3-Commentary.html>

**Parenting: Adolescents**

Read chapter 9 in Parenting: A Dynamic Perspective to learn about adolescent development, problems often faced by teens and their parents, as well as suggestions for parents on helping their child navigate the teenage years.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/umuc/reader.action?ppg=224&docID=10581305&tm=1415296384071>

**Parenting Concerns with Adolescent Children**

Risk Behaviors is a compilation of articles on high risk behaviors, such as:

* Drug Use Among Teens
* HIV/AIDS and its Impact on Adolescents
* Sexual Activity Among Teens and Teen Pregnancy Trends
* Sexually Transmitted Diseases
* Smoking and its Effect on Children’s Health
* Suicide
* Teen Pregnancy

Each article discusses the problem, the impact on teens, and prevention strategies.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3403200528&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=f9a8611ce68441004ba7862e44cf8e80>

**Bullying**

This resource defines bullying, describes the many forms of bullying in both children and adults. The authors of the article discuss ways to identify, diagnose, and prevent bullying

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX2699900071&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=310ad3e0686845aca067ca6dfeb1a61e>

**Peer Pressure**

The authors of this article define peer pressure as “the influence of the social group on an individual.” This article discusses the positive and negative influences of peers and its relation to the family’s influence on the individual.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3406000486&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=4b368a0d60c92ff51074a742d6ed9f09>

**Multigenerational Issues in Parenting**

The term sandwich generation refers to middle-aged people who provide support (caregiving) to their children as well as their parents. This article defines the term, compares caregiving internationally, and summarizes research on the impact on the family.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3406900370&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=3ebb4a76178e157d405da87444f03328>

**Grandparenthood**

This article differentiates between becoming a grandparent and being a grandparent and discusses the social position and roles of grandparents in different cultures.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3273000295&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=ae73b2ce2659fba7ca80e332e2c04957>

**Grandchildren**

This article summarizes research about the relationships between grandchildren and grandparents within multigenerational families. Read about the influence of grandparents on grandchildren, even after the grandchildren become adults.

<http://ezproxy.umuc.edu/login?url=http://go.galegroup.com.ezproxy.umuc.edu/ps/i.do?id=GALE%7CCX3273000063&v=2.1&u=umd_umuc&it=r&p=GVRL&sw=w&asid=5bbbfdf1750139471959b5c4c9601d24>

**Week 5 Discussions: Bullying and Middle Generation Issues**

Respond to the following discussion items:

1. Explain what bullying means to you? How would you describe a bully and a victim of bullying? What treatment options or prevention methods are available for bullying?

2. Discuss the impact on a family when a middle generation parent is caring for a child and an aging parent.