Identifying Neurobiological Profiles of Adolescent Regulation During Family Conflict

Introduction
We are recruiting and working with families for the Texas Sibling Study, a longitudinal study that investigates how families influence one another across the adolescent years. Families, including an adolescent entering 8th grade, an older sibling within 4 years of age, and a parent visit us to complete brain scans, video-taped interaction tasks, and questionnaires. The goal of the study is to understand how family processes affect adolescent brain, behavior, and experiences, as well as to identify factors that promote positive youth development.

Student Voices
"Getting to contact and recruitment the families we get to work with is something I love the most! Connecting with and getting to know these families is such a valuable experience." - Annabelle

"Dr. Rogers has provided me with mentorship, guidance for graduate school, and the opportunity to work with adolescents." - Ashlinn

"My favorite experiences were interacting with families, helping them understand the impact of their participation, and learning the innerworkings and functions of fMRI technology." - Bailey

"My favorite experience during TSS this summer was listening to the sibling participants gossip about their families and joking around with each other!" - Laney

"I am so grateful to have been apart of the TSS from the ground up - from creating session materials to conducting elaborate sessions, this has been an invaluable experience!" - Tina

The SIBS Lab Crew
Back Row: Tina Greene, Tristan Herring, Triston Dees, Annabelle Hays, Derek Morgan, Connað Higgins
Front Row: Megan Keen, Bailey Faerber, Dr. Rogers, Ashlinn Peters, Laney Graham

Top 3 Transformative Priorities
1) Support undergraduate research
2) Students from underrepresented groups
3) Continuation post-grant

Progress Thus Far
We have collected data with 10 families, including questionnaires, video-taped family interaction tasks, adolescent brain scans, and adolescent psychological assessments. Our undergraduate researcher team has been involved in every aspect of the research process, including design and measurement, recruitment, data collection, and data management. Several undergraduate students plan to submit abstracts on preliminary data to the Society for Research on Adolescence, and the Society for Personality Assessment.

Faculty Voice
"It has been rewarding to engage undergraduate students in research spanning neuroscience, psychology, sociology, and developmental science. I am very proud of their work, and look forward to guiding them in their research journeys!" - Dr. Rogers