

Research Objectives

There has been a longstanding concern about the consequences of youths' exposure to violence in the media, with particular concern about the effects of such exposure on violent behavior. Recent studies have documented the profusion of different types of media in United States homes¹ and the widespread presence of violence in these media outlets.^{4,5} The emergence and proliferation of new media (e.g., video games, music videos, Internet sites, and DVD) have increased opportunities for children and youth to be exposed to violence. Despite the fact that there has been extensive research on this subject, at least three key gaps remain in our understanding of the relationship between youth exposure to media violence and violent behavior. First, more information is needed about the effects of different types of new media and their content on violent behavior. Second, while substantial research has described associations between exposure to violent media on attitudes and measures of aggression, less is known about the extent to which exposure to violent media is associated with risk for more serious forms of violence, including victimization and perpetration resulting in injury. Third, a relatively small subset of youth may be particularly susceptible to the effects of exposure to violent media. Additional research is needed to understand the individual and contextual factors that influence the association between exposure to violent media and risk for violence.

The purpose of the current program announcement is to conduct methodologically sound research on how media influences youth susceptibility to violence. Project proposals should be designed to: (1) Examine the association between exposure to violent media and serious violent behavior, including victimization and perpetration resulting in injury; (2) include an assessment of the specific aspects of media (e.g., type and content) that are likely to contribute to risk for violence; and (3) identify individual and contextual factors that mediate or moderate the association between exposure to violent media and serious violent behavior, with particular attention to the potential moderating effects of gender and prior exposure to real-life violence.

Funding Priority

Priority will be given to research proposals that include a focus on (a) new forms of media; (b) serious forms of

violence, including victimization and perpetration resulting in injury; and (c) describing the individual and contextual factors that influence the association between exposure to violent media and risk for violence.

Activities

Awardee activities for this program are as follows:

1. In collaboration with CDC finalize the research design and methodology, data collection measures, analyses, and dissemination of the study results through publication and presentations.
2. In collaboration with CDC finalize a research protocol for Institutional Review Board (IRB) review by all cooperating institutions participating in the research project.
3. Conduct one reverse site visit to meet with CDC staff in Atlanta on an annual basis.
4. Complete all required reports as specified under "Reporting Requirements" of this program announcement.

In a cooperative agreement, CDC staff is substantially involved in the program activities, above and beyond routine grant monitoring.

CDC activities for this program are as follows:

1. Serve as co-investigator and provide scientific oversight. CDC will actively collaborate with project staff on decision-analyses, interpretation of findings, and dissemination of the study results through involvement in the production of publications and presentations.
2. Assist in finalizing the research protocol for IRB review by all cooperating institutions participating in the research project. The CDC IRB will review and approve the protocol initially and on at least an annual basis until the research project is finished.
3. Facilitate regular communication between CDC and the grantee to include, but not limited to site visits, conference calls, meetings, etc.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Cooperative Agreement. CDC involvement in this program is listed in the Activities Section above.

Fiscal Year Funds: 2004.

Approximate Total Funding: \$600,000.

Approximate Number of Awards: Two.

Approximate Average Award: \$300,000.

Floor of Award Range: None.

Ceiling of Award Range: \$300,000.

Anticipated Award Date: August 2, 2004.

Budget Period Length: 12 months.

Project Period Length: Three years.

Throughout the project period, CDC's commitment to continuation awards will be conditioned on the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports), and the determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal Government.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible applicants:* Applications may be submitted by public and private nonprofit organizations and by governments and their agencies, such as:

- Public nonprofit organizations
- Private nonprofit organizations
- Small, minority, women-owned businesses
- Universities
- Colleges
- Research institutions
- Hospitals
- Community-based organizations
- Faith-based organizations
- Federally recognized Indian tribal governments
- Indian tribes
- Indian tribal organizations
- State and local governments or their bona fide agents (this includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau)
- Political subdivisions of States (in consultation with States)

A Bona Fide Agent is an agency/organization identified by the state as eligible to submit an application under the state eligibility in lieu of a state application. If you are applying as a bona fide agent of a state or local government, you must provide a letter from the state as documentation of your status. Place this documentation behind the first page of your application form.

2. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* Matching funds are not required for this program.

3. *Other Eligibility Requirements:*

Applications that are incomplete or non-responsive to the below requirements will be returned to the applicant without further consideration. You will be notified that your application did not meet submission requirements.

The following are applicant requirements:

1. A principal investigator who has conducted research, published the