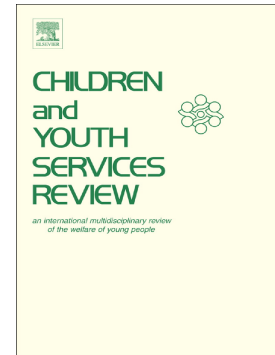


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The Influence of Child Care on the Behavior Problems of Children of Teenage Mothers

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1. Introduction

Early childhood education such as centre based care has been argued to be an effective policy in addressing disadvantage (Duncan, Ludwig, & Magnuson, 2007), and addressing disadvantage in early childhood has been argued to be an efficient and effective investment for governments (Heckman, 2006). One group of children who have been found to be consistently at risk of poorer developmental outcomes are children of teen parents (Bradbury, 2006; Hawkes & Joshi, 2012; Mollborn & Dennis, 2012). In this paper we test whether attendance at centre based child care is associated with lower levels of behavior problems of Australian children 1 to 3 years of age born to teenage mothers in receipt of

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