

Andrew O. Behnke, PhD, CFLE

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Dr. Behnke works in three program areas. 1) Parent involvement in the education and emotional lives of youth (e.g., Juntos dropout prevention program, Just In Time Parenting); 2) Effectively serving and engaging diverse communities (e.g., serving Latino audiences); 3) Fatherhood and Relationship Education (e.g., ELSMF programs for reservists).

Must Read:

Gottlob, B.J. (2007). *The high cost of low graduation rates in North Carolina*. Indianapolis, IN: Milton and Rose D. Friedman Foundation and Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina. Available at: <http://www.friedmanfoundation.org/friedman/downloadFile.do?id=256>

Bridgeland, J. M., Dilulio, J. J., & Burke Morison, K. (2006). *The Silent Epidemic: Perspectives of High School Dropouts*. Washington, DC: Civic Enterprise, LLC.

Behnke, A. O. (2008). Expanding the Latino market niche: Developing capacity and meeting critical needs. *Journal of Extension* [On-line], 46(5). Available at: <http://www.joe.org/joe/2008october/rb5.shtml>.

Kerpelman, J. (2004). Using a comprehensive model of positive youth development and problem prevention to enhance parent education, *Family Relations*, 53,16–19. Available at: <http://latinofamilies.files.wordpress.com/2008/05/kerpleman-2003.doc>

Programs and Tools:

- **Just in Time Parenting** (<http://www.parentinginfo.org/extension.php>) and **Parenting 24/7** (<http://parenting247.org>)- *Two sources of online newsletters and parenting information for parents of young children - English and Spanish versions available*
- **Juntos para una Mejor Educación (Together for a Better Education)** (www.latinofamilies.net/juntos)- *A dropout prevention program for youth and their parents run in schools with agents as lead players- English and Spanish versions available*
- **Essential Life Skills for Military Families** (www.militaryfamilylifeskills.org)- *An 8 or 12-hour workshop series designed for reserve component couples and individuals*
- **NERMEN (National Extension Relationship and Marriage Education Network)** (www.nermen.org)- *An online network of information for educators interested in building strong marriages and relationships*
- **Illuminando el Camino para un Futuro Mejor (Lighting the Way to a Better Future)** (www.latinofamilies.net/iluminando)- *A domestic violence prevention program to help religious leaders and community advocates work together*

- **Living in the United States: A guide to educational, health, residence, and law enforcement systems in the U.S. (Viviendo en los Estados Unidos).**

This all-new Spanish-language DVD and accompanying resource guide entitled Information by Extension (Informate con Extensión) contain brief information on subtopics new immigrant Latino need to live safely and securely in the United States.

Go to Websites:

- **SERA 37: The New Hispanic South** (www.sera37.wordpress.com) *A resource for educators and faculty interested in serving the Latino population. Also at:* (www.srdc.msstate.edu/opportunities/hispanic_south.htm)
- **Latino Partners Database** (www.latinofamilies.net/partners)- *List of over 300 organizations specifically serving Latinos in NC*
- **Latino Resources** www.latinofamilies.net/other-resources - resources for serving Latino audiences.

Credential Programs:

- **Certificate in Family Life Program Development**
Requirements - Students must have completed a baccalaureate degree; Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.75 in their undergraduate program; Students must complete the application, including a personal statement; Contact information: stephanie_jones@ncsu.edu
- **Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE).** Family life education (FLE) is the educational effort to strengthen individual and family life through a family perspective. The objective of family life education is to enrich and improve the quality of individual and family life by providing knowledge and skills needed for effective living. For more information contact: www.ncfr.org/cert or dawncassidy@ncfr.org