

## **Trajectories of social development during early childhood**

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Social development of children during the preschool years has generally been studied with small samples and over relatively brief periods of time. The Longitudinal Study of Child Development in Québec (LSCDQ/ÉLDEQ) will provide an opportunity to use a relatively large population sample in order to study yearly changes in social behavior from 5 months of age to at least school entry. The data available for the present paper covers the period from 5 to 42 months of age. We will first present results of semi-parametric analyses of the longitudinal data to identify the different developmental trajectories of prosocial behavior and physical aggression. The second part of the paper will present results from a semi-parametric analysis of the joint developmental trajectories of physical aggression and prosocial behavior to examine the developmental relationships between these two social dimensions. The final part of the paper will focus on the predictors of the different developmental trajectories identified in the second part of the paper. The predictors are selected from the first assessment which included parent's socio-demographic characteristics before and after birth, parent's life-style before conception, during pregnancy and after birth, medical records during pregnancy and at birth, parent's physical and mental health, sibling's behavioral characteristics, and neighborhood characteristics.