

# Just Beginning “Baby Elmo” Program:



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# Creation and History

- YLC client story behind the creation
- Just Beginning Started in 2008 with three counties in California.
- Has expanded to 12 facilities, including facilities in Connecticut, Texas and Ohio.
- To date, over 200 youth have graduated from the program and over 30 staff have been trained.

# Overview of Just Beginning

- **Components of intervention:**
  - Making environment baby friendly
  - Parent-training sessions
  - Parent-child visits

# Make a Space for Visitation



**Before**



**After**

# Curriculum

- Session 1: Getting to know your baby
- Session 2: Follow your child's lead
- Session 3: Talk to your baby
- Session 4: Encourage and praise your baby
- Session 5: Use all the skills at once

# Parent Training Model

- “Sesame Beginnings” video provides modeling of appropriate parent-infant interaction styles





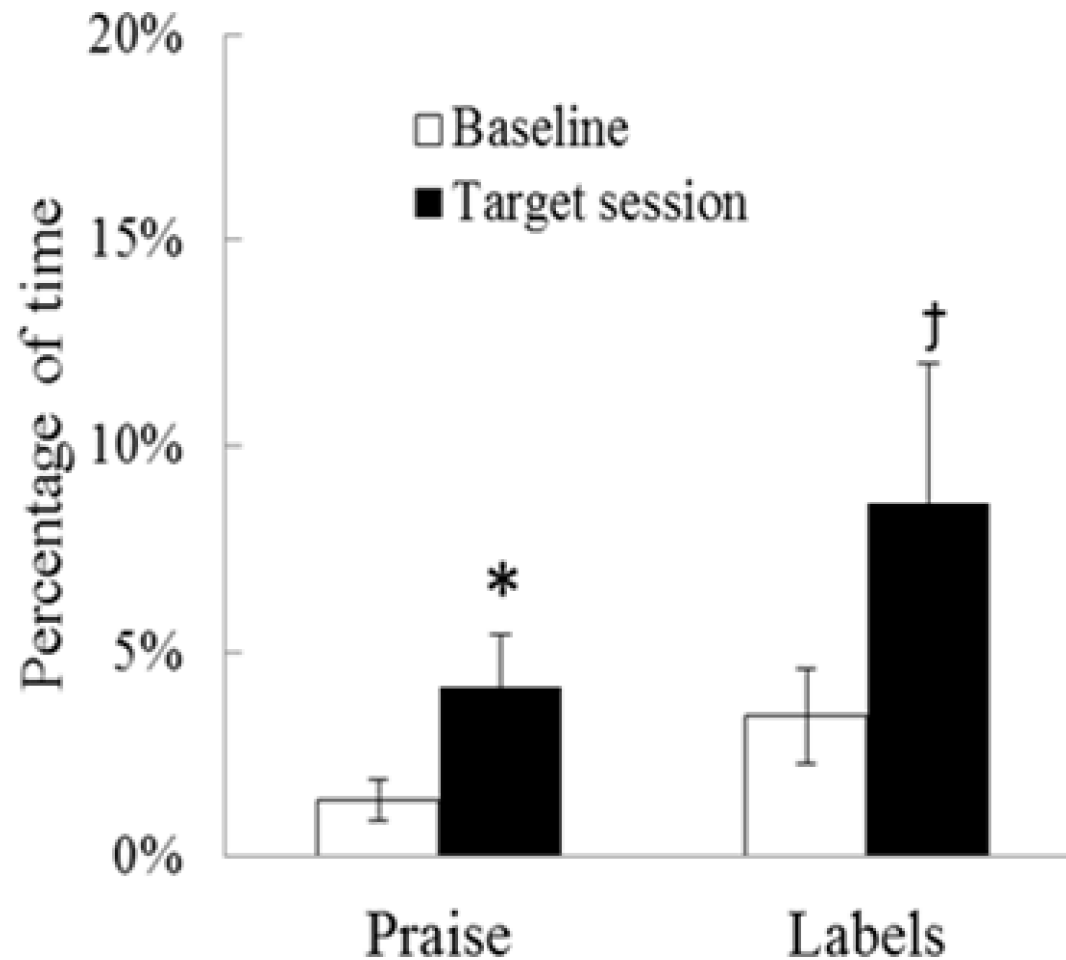






# RESULTS

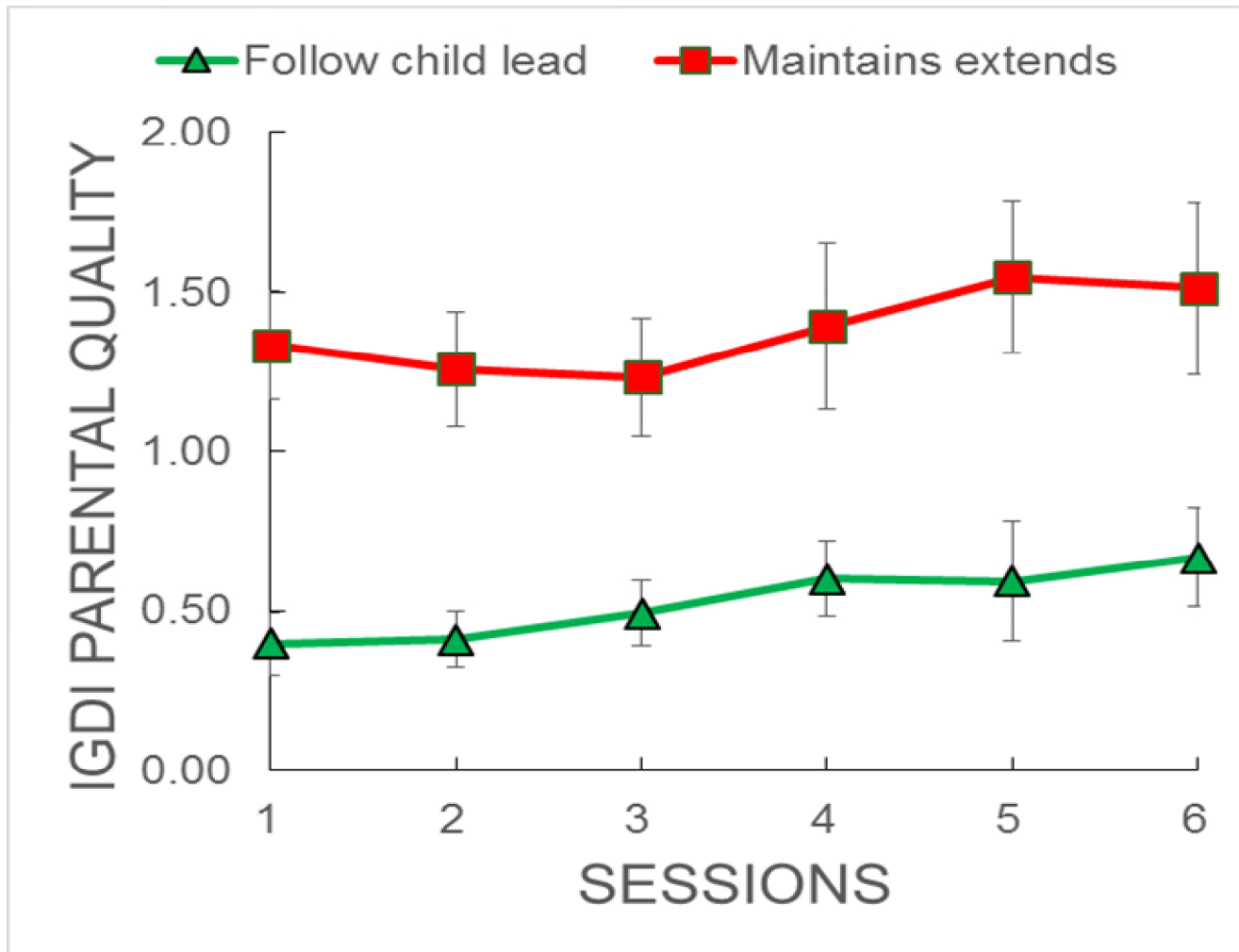
# Skills are Learned



# Infant Growth and Development Indicators—Parent Child Interaction (IGDI-PCI)

Parent Support Behaviors	
<b>Affection</b>	Smiling at child, making positive comment to or about child, providing gentle affectionate touch, agreeing with child, indicating child's behavior is correct, thanking the child, praising child's effort.
<b>Language</b>	Comments that both label and connect objects and actions or connect nouns and adjectives.
<b>Interest</b>	Noticing what interests the child and either commenting on the child's interest or joining in the same activity without interrupting the behavior.
<b>Play Skills</b>	Introducing materials or interacting in a novel manner to maintain and/or extend the child's focus without disrupting the child's attention.
<b>Care giving</b>	Using soothing behaviors such as providing a pacifier, cradling, or rocking with a distressed infant.

# Interactional quality enhanced

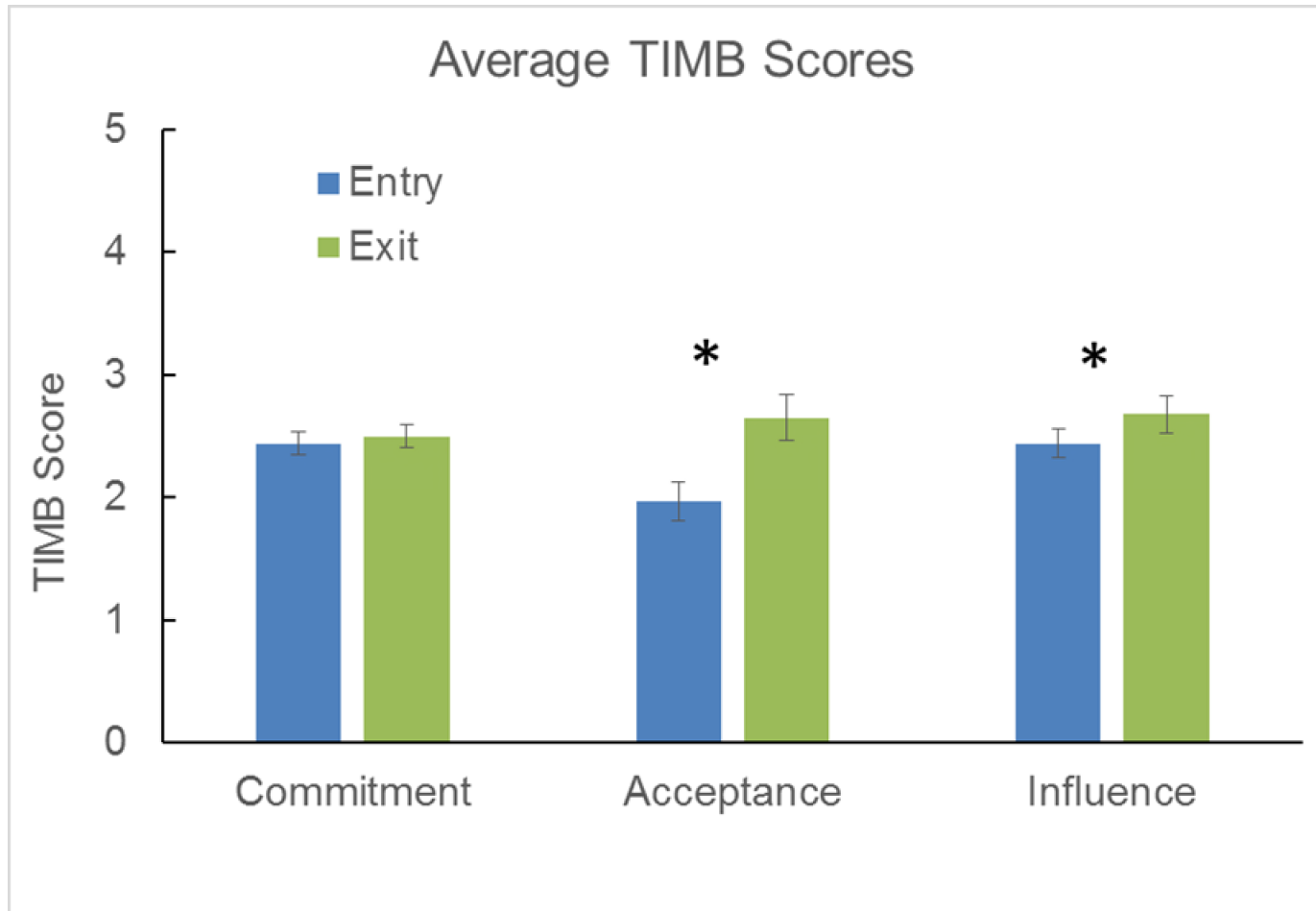


# “This Is My Baby” (TIMB)

Will parent attitude toward his/her parenting involvement improve?

- Semi-structured interview measuring:
  - Parent commitment to child
  - Parent acceptance of child
  - Parental influence on child

# Pre- to post- TIMB scores



# Future of Just Beginning Baby Elmo Reentry Program

## Collaborative Partners:

- Healthy Fathering Collaborative – Program Coordination, Administrative & Fiscal Agent
- Council of Neighborhood Leaders – Family Support and Wraparound Services
- Youth Law Center – Baby Elmo Program Support (facility based and refresher at CNL sites)
- Begun Center at CWRU and Georgetown University Early Learning Project– Evaluation



# Mission of BERP

- Ensure that the children of fathers in the Just Beginning Program (Baby Elmo) have two active involved parents that work cooperatively together to support and nurture the healthy development of their child.



# Acknowledgements



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- Detention facilities in the:
  - Fresno county, San Bernardino county, Orange county, Yolo county, Santa Barbara county, Ventura County & Sacramento county, Ohio