



Illinois Wesleyan University
Digital Commons @ IWU

John Wesley Powell Student Research
Conference

2001, 12th Annual JWP Conference

Apr 21st, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Psychosocial Experiences of College Students Who Have Siblings with ADHD

Bethany Schoenbeck, '01
Illinois Wesleyan University

Linda J. Kunce, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc>

Schoenbeck, '01, Bethany and Kunce, Faculty Advisor, Linda J., "Psychosocial Experiences of College Students Who Have Siblings with ADHD" (2001). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. 6.

<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2001/posters2/6>

This Event is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/ or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

Poster Presentation 20

**PSYCHOSOCIAL EXPERIENCES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO HAVE
SIBLINGS WITH ADHD**

Bethany Schoenbeck and Linda J. Kunce*

Department of Psychology, Illinois Wesleyan University

The daily lives of children may be altered in significant ways when they grow up with a sibling diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and those experiences may have important consequences for the children's well-being and development. For example, Kendall (1999) found that typically developing siblings of children with ADHD had significantly more psychosocial difficulties than did siblings in a matched control group. Most researchers in this area have studied children; therefore, the current study was designed to assess the psychosocial experiences of young adults. Over 150 college students completed five questionnaires concerning their sibling relationships and their own psychosocial experiences. The specific variables of interest were: quality of sibling relationship, specific sibling-related worries, caregiving styles, depression, and general anxiety. It was hypothesized, with regard to their relationship, that siblings of individuals with ADHD would report less warmth and closeness, more conflict and caregiving, as well as more specific worries than would siblings of individuals without ADHD. It was also hypothesized that depression and anxiety would be elevated in siblings of individuals with ADHD in comparison to the controls.