

# Using Basic and Applied Social Science Methods to Develop a Self-Persuasion Intervention Promoting Adolescent HPV Vaccination



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# Goals

- Illustrate how we are bringing basic and applied social sciences methods to bear on HPV vaccination issues
- Highlight our team science and multiple principal investigator approach



# Dallas – 9<sup>th</sup> largest county in US

## Race/Ethnicity:

NH White 32%

Hispanic 42%

Black 20%

## Immigrants:

Foreign born 24%



## Among 13-17 year olds:

40% live below poverty threshold

15% uninsured

67% did NOT have a 11-12 yr old provider visit



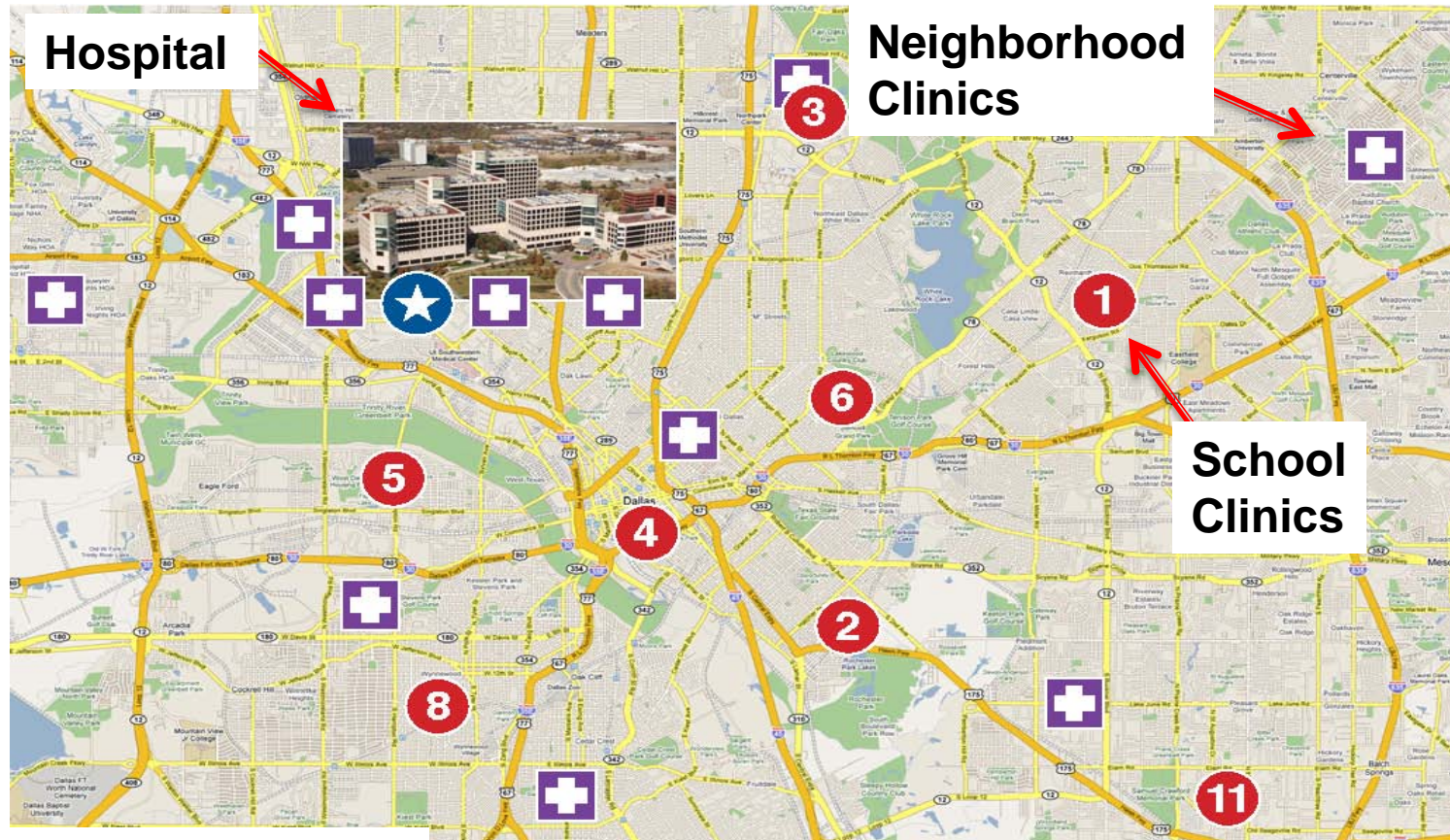
# Parkland - Dallas County's integrated safety-net system

10 neighborhood pediatric clinics

11 school-based clinics

Electronic medical record since 2008

Property taxes fund health care for uninsured residents



**Parkland 2007-2009:**

**30% 1-dose coverage**  
**6% 3-dose coverage**

Pickens et al. *Am J Public Health* 2002;92:1728-32

Tiro et al. *Vaccine* 2012; 30: 2368-75

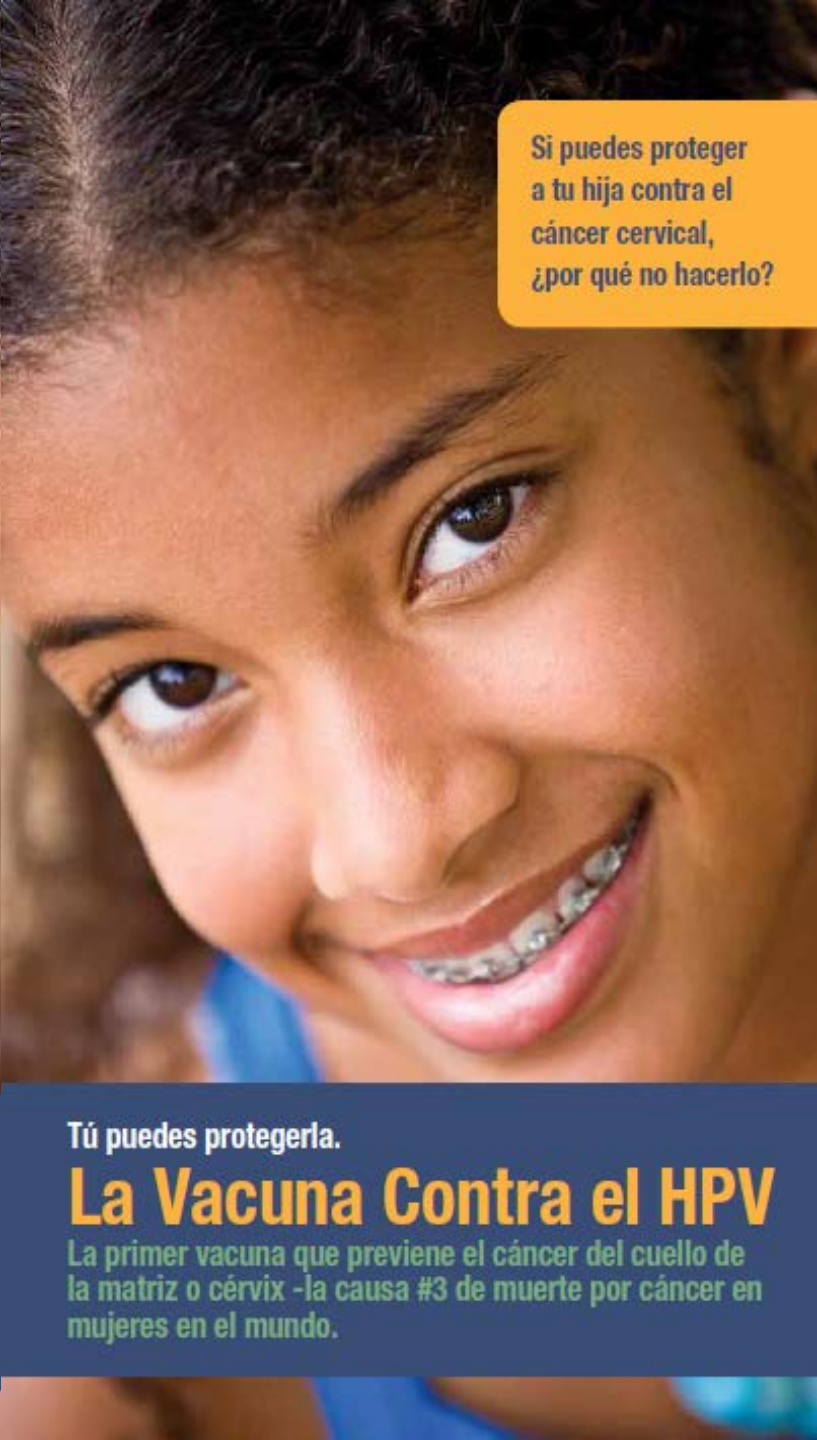
# CPRIT-funded Trial

Parent-targeted intervention strategies:

- Mailed HPV vaccine brochure
- Telephone recalls

Goal:

Increase adolescent 1- & 3-dose HPV vaccine coverage



Si puedes proteger  
a tu hija contra el  
cáncer cervical,  
¿por qué no hacerlo?

Tú puedes protegerla.

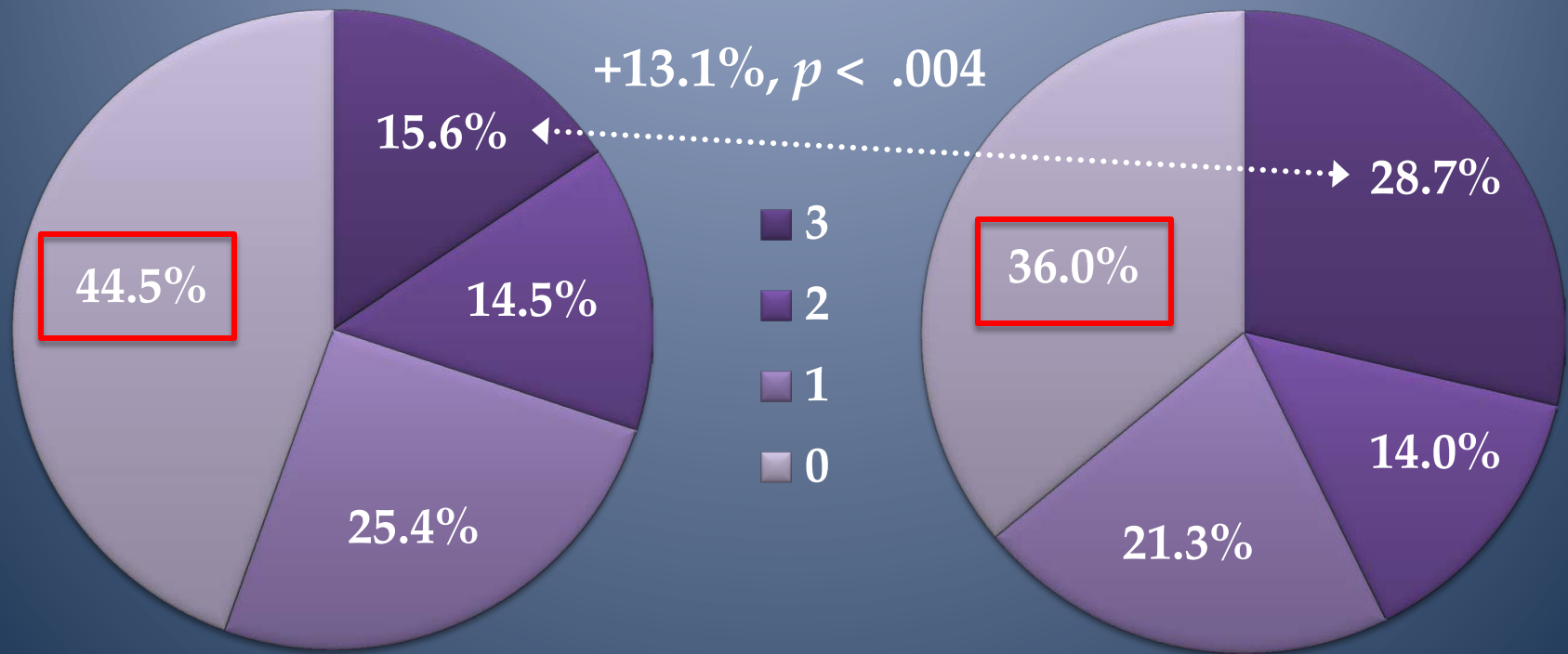
## La Vacuna Contra el HPV

La primer vacuna que previene el cáncer del cuello de la matriz o cérvix -la causa #3 de muerte por cáncer en mujeres en el mundo.



# CPRIT Trial Results

NIS Teen 2011 Dallas County: 23.4%



Active Comparison (n = 173)

Intervention (n = 164)

# Self-Persuasion Intervention Strategy

- Self-persuasion – directing individuals to generate their own arguments for a health behavior
- Effective intervention strategy
- Hypothesized to increase motivation because parents will: (1) choose arguments that resonate with them and (2) cognitively process the arguments deeply
- May prime parent to engage in discussion with provider



# Self-Persuasion for Safety-Net Populations

- Many past interventions for other health behaviors encouraged well educated population to **write** their arguments
- Can you achieve the same intervention effect with safety-net populations who **verbalize** their arguments through a tablet application? What is the best way to elicit self-persuasion?



# Study Design

## Stage 1:

**Define intervention content**  
(formative research)

**Aim 1:** *Characterize parents' arguments and discussions with provider*

**Approach:** We will use cognitive interviewing methods to assess pro-vaccine arguments relevant to underserved populations (n=50) and analyze audiorecordings of parent-provider discussions (n=50 dyads) in Parkland.

## Stage 2:

**Optimize intervention's effects**  
(proof-of concept)

**Aim 2:** *Compare 4 intervention conditions on parents' intentions and experiences*

**Approach:** In a controlled experiment, we will use quantitative and qualitative methods to test basic mechanisms and identify the optimal intervention condition for undecided parents of unvaccinated Parkland adolescents (n = 160).

## Stage 3:

**Assess feasibility in clinic**  
(pilot study)

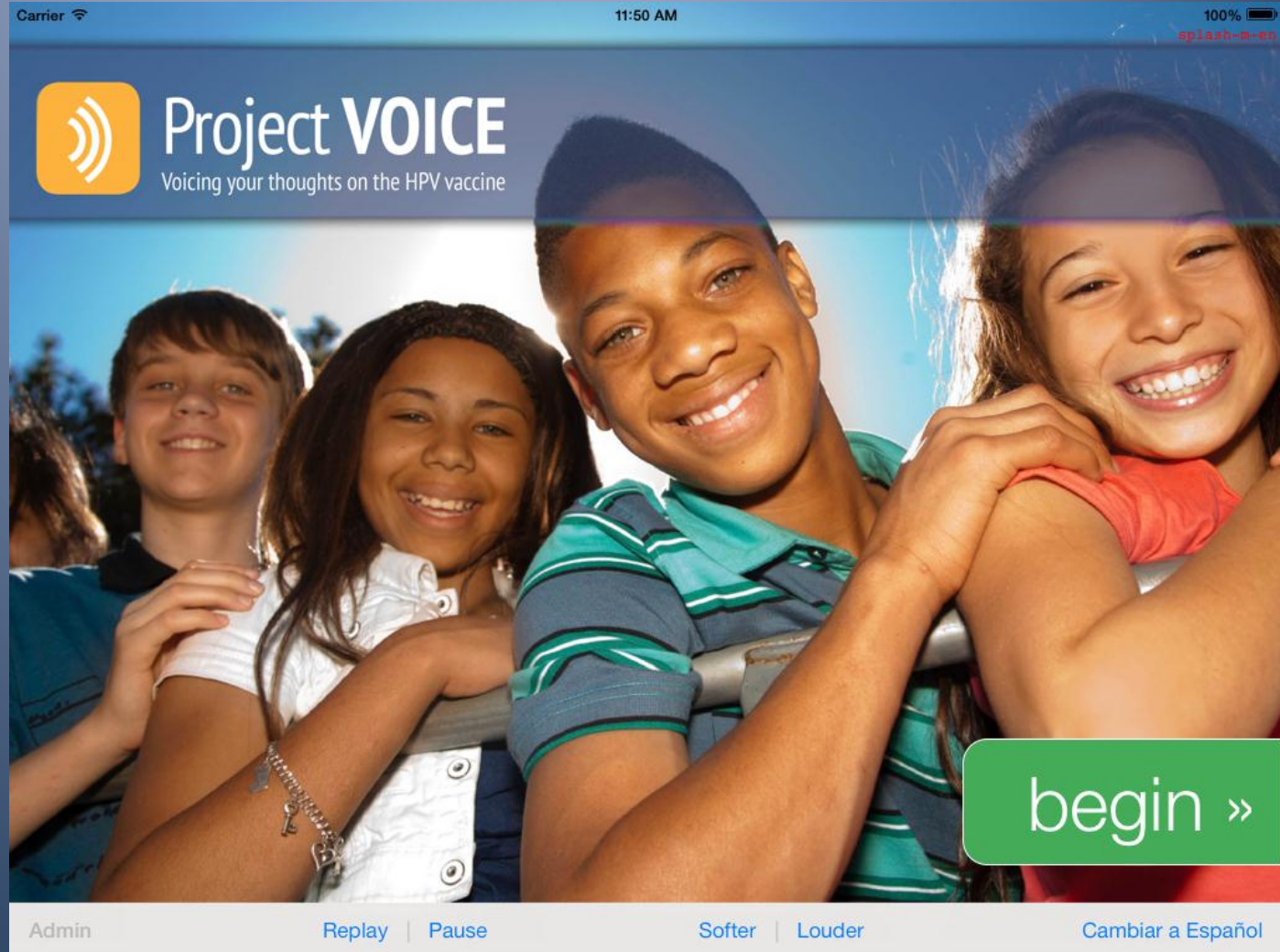
**Aim 3:** *Examine intervention's feasibility and acceptability in a clinic setting*

**Approach:** We will conduct a small pilot study (n = 90) in 6 Parkland clinics to refine intervention & measurement procedures and analyze audiorecordings of parent-provider discussions to assess intervention's impact.

Guided by PA 11-063: Translating Basic Behavioral and Social Science Discoveries into Interventions to Improve Health-Related Behaviors (R01)

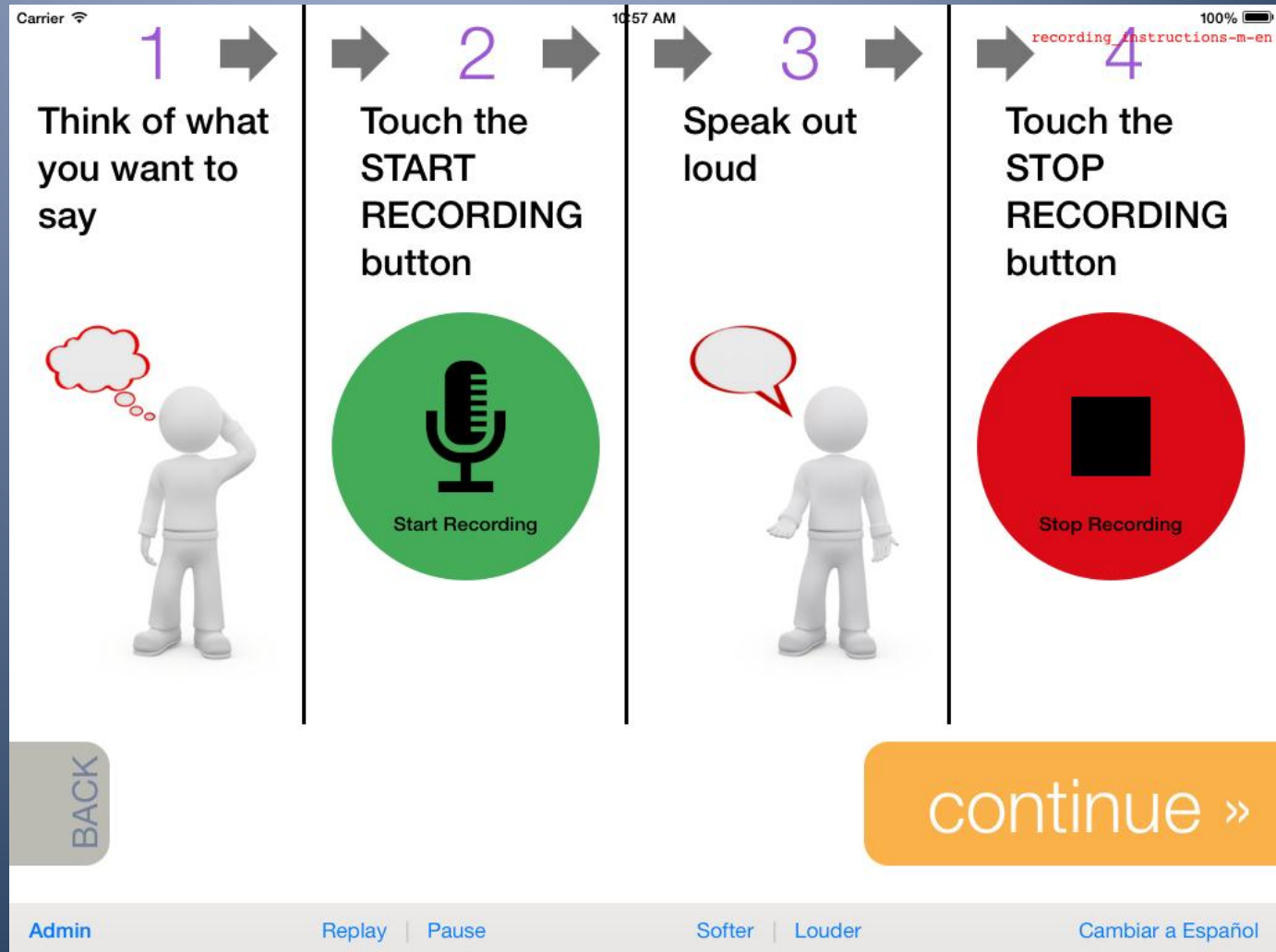
# Tablet Application Development

## Application Intro Screen



# Tablet Application Development

## Recording instructions





# Tablet Application Development

## Question prompts



The screenshot shows a tablet application interface. At the top, the status bar displays "Carrier", signal strength, "10:57 AM", and "100%" battery. The main content area is split: the left side features a photograph of a man and a young boy outdoors, with the man's hands on the boy's shoulders and the boy holding a basketball; a semi-transparent "BACK" button is overlaid on the bottom left of the photo. The right side contains a text prompt: "Why might the HPV vaccine be important for teens who are already sexually active?", with a small red text label "question\_i-m-en" above it. Below the text is a large green circular button with a microphone icon and the text "Start Recording". At the bottom right is a large orange button with the text "continue »". The bottom navigation bar includes links for "Admin", "Replay", "Pause", "Softer", "Louder", and "Cambiar a Español".

Carrier 10:57 AM 100%  
question\_i-m-en

Why might the HPV vaccine be important for teens who are already sexually active?

BACK

Start Recording

continue »

Admin Replay | Pause Softer | Louder Cambiar a Español



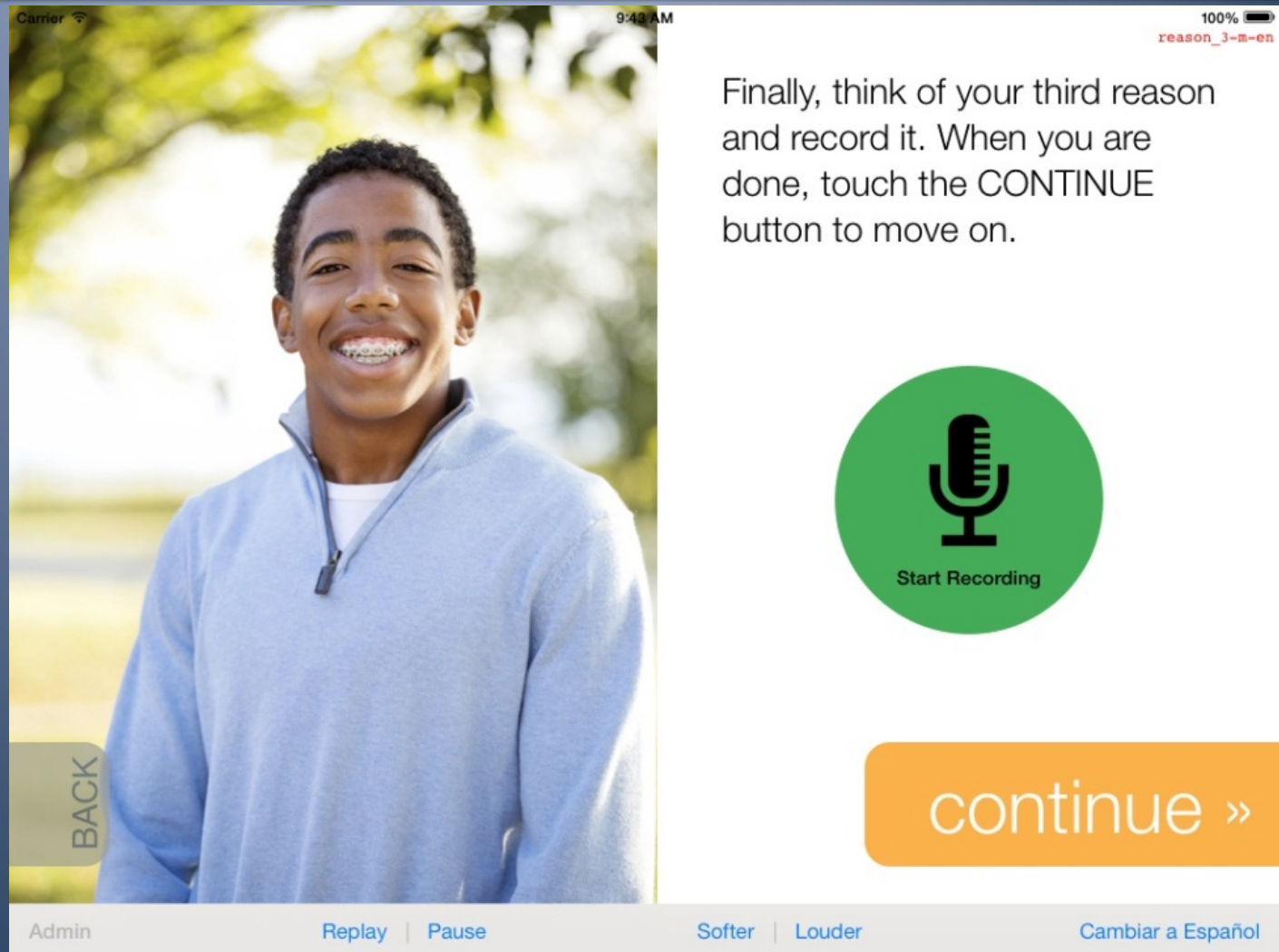
# Tablet Application Development

Messages  
targeted  
based on  
child's sex  
&  
parent's  
preferred  
language



# Tablet Application Development

Parents are asked to summarize their top 3 reasons



# Analyses Integrate Quantitative and Qualitative Data

## Quantitative outcomes:

- Did each intervention condition affect vaccine intentions?
- Motivation for vaccination? Influence recall of pro-vaccine arguments?

## Qualitative outcomes:

- Experience with intervention tasks (likeable, useful, difficult, relevant)?
- Did it raise new concerns?

Synthesize data to create summary profiles for each intervention condition & select optimal one  
+ effect on intentions AND no/minimal negative reactions

# Multiple PI Plan – Systematic collaboration between basic & applied behavioral scientists

- Capitalizing on complementary training, skills, experience, and institutional resources
- Building on a successful history of collaboration (articles, grant preparation)
- Clearly designating who will lead each specific aim
- Establishing a communication plan (method & frequency)
- Documenting the strategy for resolving conflicts



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# Questions?

# Self-Persuasion Intervention Protocol Steps

Step	Approx. Time	Intervention Condition			
		High Choice, Deep Processing	Low Choice, Deep Processing	High Choice, Shallow Processing	Low Choice, Shallow Processing
<b>A: Listen to information about HPV and the vaccine</b>	~5 min	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>B: Choose which argument topics they prefer</b>	~2 min	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>C: Generate answers to a set of question prompts</b>	~10 min	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>D: Verbalize arguments that are recorded on the tablet</b>	~5 min	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>E: Listen to pro-vaccine arguments</b>	~2 min			<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Total Time</b>		<b>22 min</b>	<b>20 min</b>	<b>9 min</b>	<b>7 min</b>