Send this to you by Friday. Next week, Kim is available at the beginning of the week.

Write 1 ocar paragraph.

OCAR Paragraph.

The measurement of social networks has become a powerful technique in the social science literature. Often study participants are asked to self-report relationships and friendships within a particular setting. A problem with this method is trying to understand the trustworthiness of the data. Although validity and reliability are an important aspect in the social science realm, no such measures exist in social network analyses. This study aims to create an analogous set of measures for social network data as those that exist in psychometric testing. Creating analogous validity and reliability checks for network data may help ensure data is trustworthy. Therefore, researchers can make more informed conclusions regarding outcomes when using social network data.

1. **Opening:** SN data collection has become more frequent in recent literature. Therefore, it is worthy of investigation of its validity in the research world.
   1. Accessibility to better programming techniques has led to this commonality in sn data collection and analyses.
   2. Due to its commonality there needs to be accountability in the network itself.
   3. As this technique becomes more popular in the literature, it has an impact on programs, communities and policy.
   4. Therefore, understanding if the Social Network Data is actually valid is a concern.
      1. This does not seem to be as highly as a concern in the literature (As far as I can tell right now)
   5. There is no excuse for social network data collectors to make assumptions that the data is good.
2. **Challenge:** We need methods to ensure SN data is meaningful and trustworthy. How can we be sure that the data is trustworthy?
   1. When reading the methods sections of SNA literature, a check on the data never is mentioned.
   2. The social science literature already has a standard practice of reporting reliability to ensure proper research and conclusions are drawn.
      1. Unfortunately, there is no similar measure for this in SNA.
   3. Because there is no standardized system, the validity of results in SNA research may be unclear.
3. **Action**: I will create the analog methods of psychometric data that will fit in the context of network data.
   1. Several different methods to create these analog measures will be tested
   2. In the end, there will be separate measurement techniques created to ensure social network data is valid.
   3. These measures can be used individually or in a composite form to create and overall “trustworthiness” check of collected SN data
   4. To determine the true effects of the network on outcomes, this is an essential step.
   5. This will be tested on 3 years of longitudinal CC network data collected as part of the WTG grant.
4. **Resolution:** If I am able to develop them, then we can generalize it to other networks.
   1. If the action is successfully, then we can develop a measure(s) that is relevant to other researchers.
   2. This Provides a first step towards figuring out validity and reliability of the social network.
   3. On a local level, it will help the development of the CC program as we continue understanding the impact of mentor families on youth outcomes.
   4. Make sure you are focused on the network neighborhood. Not the egocentric
   5. This is a focus on friendship networks.

**Introduction:**

1. Importance these programs to develop positive relationships
   * 1. A lot of these programs exist to help the at-risk kids (CC, BBBS)
     2. Understanding the methods measuring relationships on these programs is important
     3. It is very specific to this setting
        1. We have a want to look at both staff and youth. Unlike man.y school related studies just looking at youth relationships.
     4. Why its advantageous to collect sn data
        1. Networks can inform us of lots of things
   1. **~~Explain the importance of studying at-risk adolescence~~**
      1. ~~The changing, influential and plastic adolescent brain (Many references in steinberg book; Costa-Robles, Caspi)~~
         1. ~~Highest risk for risky health behaviors (drugs, unprotected sex, pregnancy, etc.)~~
      2. ~~Adolescent behaviors serve as a good indicator of adult behaviors.~~ 
         1. ~~Therefore, intervention is key (Dubois)~~
         2. ~~Theory of life course persistence (Moffit)~~
      3. ~~Importance of positive influence in adolescence (Erdem)~~
         1. ~~Mentorship is a strategy to provide positive influences (Rhodes, DuBois)~~
         2. ~~Rhodes Model of Youth mentorship (Rhodes, Dubois, et al.)~~
      4. ~~Theories regarding adolescent research~~

~~Talk about why adavanya~~

* 1. **The troubles of self-report from youth/adolescents**
     1. How much can we trust adolescent self-report of relationships?
     2. This has been studied for quite some time and is a question of validity within adolescent reported data. (Asers, Massey, Clarke, & Lauer, 1983)
        1. This study actually found that deviancy reports were relatively honest and did *not* affect results much.
     3. Literally evidence of the “jokester affect” within Add Health data (Fan et al., 2006)
        1. This causes extremity of scores within datasets
        2. Although this does not affect large samples… smaller samples (such as ours) may be seriously affected. They were referring to subpopulations in AddHealth
  2. **Analog measures of reliability and validity in SN data (How they don’t exist)** 
     1. Specifically in social network data the data is limited
        1. There is no analog for validating SN data like a psychometric scale.
  3. Talk about the importance psychometric validity reliability in current literature
     1. Creating a sort of analog to reliability and validity
  4. **Social Network Analyses**
     1. A general description
        1. Key terms: Density, inbound relationships, outward bound, reciprocity
     2. It’s usefulness in social science research
        1. Group influences have been studied in past research (Peer contagion, Latene’s social impact theory)
     3. It’s usefulness in health research and an indicator of health outcomes (Valente)
        1. Importance from a public health perspective
     4. The complexity of gathering data and analyzing
     5. Veenstra (2013) that the combo of incoming and outgoing ties is a sign of social status.
     6. It has a heavy reliance on *self-report* data
        1. Eagle, Pentland & Lazer (2009) suggest cell phone data may be a great indicator though.
  5. **Adolescents and the influence of their network: Why it’s important**
     1. Adolescent peers’ behaviors are a good indicator of their own behaviors (Dishion, Tipsord)
     2. The evolution of adolescent networks is not widely understood.
        1. Most studies take a cross sectional approach to understanding the network (Dubois)
        2. However, there are studies out there that support it being an applicable methodology: RSIENA models (snijders, valente, Veenstra)
     3. Peer contagion, deviancy training (Dishion)
  6. **Bringing it all together: Measuring the validity of SN data**
     1. Research questions:
        1. Can we create measures of trustworthiness data?
        2. To what degree is the data trustworthy?
        3. What Social Network measures are the most effective for identifying non-trustworthy data
           1. I have been identifying many methods of SN papers and really don’t see much input of the validity of the SN data they collect.
  7. **Why is this important?** 
     1. The literature is lacking self-report validity of SN in Adolescents
        1. Even though many studies utilize the data… No systemized checks are in place
        2. The cell phone study did create a “probability score” of where college students were on or off campus though (Eagle, Pentland & Lazer, 2009)
           1. More specific methods noted in (Boonstra, Larsen, Townsend & Christensen, 2017)
     2. This is a necessary component before we can perform other analyses utilizing the adolescent social network.
     3. The ability to create a standardized (and easily utilizable) check of this may has great implications