

Eduardo De La Vega Taboada, M.S., M.A.

11200 SW 8th St
Department of Psychology
Florida International University
Miami, Florida, 33199
(305) 348-2000
Edela123@fiu.edu
<https://edela123.wixsite.com/my-site>

EDUCATION:

Ph.D.	Florida International University, Miami, FL Psychology	08/2024 (Exp)
M.S.	Florida International University, Miami, FL Psychology Master's Thesis: <i>Perceptions of Violence and Opportunities for Safe Spaces Among Adolescents in Rural Colombia</i>	08/2021
M.A.	Process Work Institute, Portland, OR Community Psychology	05/2017
B.S.	Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia Industrial Engineering	09/2006
B.S.	Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia Civil Engineering	05/2005

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Society for Peace and Conflict	2019-2020
Society for System Dynamics	2019-2021
Society for Social Issues	2019-2020
Society for men and masculinities	2020-2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Doctoral Student in Psychology/Developmental Sciences at Florida International University. Affiliated with the Health Disparities and Cultural Identity Laboratory.	2019-Present
Founder and director of the NGO Amor por Barú. Local partner for the ISBaru project founded by the National Institutes of Health.	2015-2019

Regional Director of Origen Leadership school. More than 40 students (Community leaders, public servers, corporate leaders) were part of the program.	2015-2017
Senior facilitator of Origen leadership school. More of 1000 hours of group dynamics facilitation, teaching, and coaching.	2013-2015
Founder and director of Kairos Human Development. A Consultant firm that provides services for NGOs , universities and corporations on human development and conflict resolution.	2008-2015
Founder and director of <i>Encuentro de los Mundos</i> Summer camp. Providing cultural interactions between historically distanced populations.	2011-2015
Founder and director of Piragua-Portonaito Summer camp. Providing positive youth development through adventure.	2004-2011

RESEARCH:

Projects:

ISbaru: The Importance of Social Networks Among Adolescents in Rural Colombia. Florida International University, Stanford University and Universidad de los Andes.

- The projects examine violence in adolescent social networks in the context of a rural and resource-limited community in the Caribbean region of Colombia. Utilizing mixed methods data (focus groups and surveys) from 242 school-enrolled adolescents.
- Functioned as Director of the NGO that was the local partner of the project. Organized meetings with relevant stakeholders, helped in the cultural adaptation process of the instruments, supported the logistic of the recruitment, the surveys, and the focus groups processes.
- Carried out a study on the perceptions of safety among adolescents in Rural Colombia.
- We identified that the only consistence safe space among those adolescents was the school. Further we identify that the presence of a responsible adult leading organized groups of adolescents can shift a space from unsafe to safe.
- Findings may inform stakeholders whose objective is to create safe spaces among adolescents in that region (Barú, Colombia) or in other regions whose habitants are facing poverty, exclusion, and illegal economies.

Parent's Perception of Soccer and Children's Development in South Florida. Florida International University.

- The project will examine parents' beliefs about sports as a tool for children and adolescents' positive development and the barriers they face - or may face - when enrolling their kids in different after-school sports programs.

- Designed the questioning route and will conduct the 16 interviews with parents of 6 to 16 years old children in South Florida.

Research Interests:

Dissemination and Implementation Sciences
 Resilience from a Developmental Systems perspective
 Applied cultural psychology
 Interventions with at-risk communities
 Teachable moments

TECHNIQUES:

Dynamic Systems Simulation
 Mixed Methods (Qualitative and quantitative)

COMPUTATIONAL EXPERTISE:

MS Office, Word, Excel - Advanced	ISEE Systems/Stella Architect - Intermediate
R - Intermediate	Max QDA - Intermediate

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Florida International University, Department of Psychology, Fall 2019 - Summer2021

Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Psychology (PSY 2012)
 Social Psychology (SOP 3004)
 Children’s Learning (DEP 4164)
 Psychology of Health and Illness (CLP 4314)
 Psychology of Women (SOP 3742)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS:

Introduction - System Dynamic Summer School. 5-day course at the conference of system dynamics (Bergen, Norway-Virtual).	2020
Intermediate - System Dynamic Summer School. 5-day course at the conference of system dynamics (Boston, USA-Virtual).	2021

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES ATTENDED:

Dynamic System International Conference. Bergen, Norway-Virtual.	2020
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Dynamic System International Conference. Boston, USA-Virtual.

2021

PRESENTATIONS:

Safe Spaces Among Adolescents in Rural Colombia. SPSSI conference (2020-Cancel due Covid)

Feedback Loop Building of the Perception of Violence and Opportunities for Safe Spaces Among Adolescents in Rural Colombia. Virtual, Dynamic System International Conference, July 2021 – Work in progress Presentation.

PUBLICATIONS:

Rodríguez, Stephens, **De la Vega-Taboada**, Maturana, Montes, Sarmiento. Adolescent Violence in Rural Colombia: A Social Complexity Approach. *Translational Issues in Psychological Science*. (Under revision)

De la Vega-Taboada, Rodríguez, Barton, Stephens, Eaton, Cano, Frazier. Perceptions of Violence and Opportunities for Safe Spaces Among Adolescents in Rural Colombia. (In preparation)

STUDENTS MENTORED:

Laura Ramirez

Mc Nair presentation/
Psychology

REFERENCES:

Dr. Dionne Stephens

stephens@fiu.edu

Principal Mentor, FIU

Dr. Asia Eaton

aeaton@fiu.edu

Academic Mentor, FIU

Dr. Stacy Frazier

slfrazi@fiu.edu

Academic Mentor, FIU