

# Parenting Experiences and Outcomes Among Former Adolescent Mothers: A Mixed Methods Study Research Protocol

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## INTRODUCTION

- U.S. has highest adolescent (ages 15-19) birth rate among industrialized countries (Hamilton et al., 2020)
- Adverse outcomes associated with early parenting for both mother & child
- Few longitudinal studies with former adolescent mothers exist
- Early home visiting (EHV) is protective for positive parenting
- *Minding the Baby® (MTB)* – EHV intervention for first-time mothers ages 14-25
  - RCT pilot testing 2002-2008 & efficacy trial 2008-2016 (Sadler 2013; Slade 2019)
  - Participants who received intervention had more securely attached infants & more likely to have reflective parenting skills
  - Early school-age (ESA) follow-up study (child age 4-10) 2016-2018 (Londono Tobon, 2020)
  - Participants who received intervention had more favorable parenting outcomes

## RESEARCH QUESTION

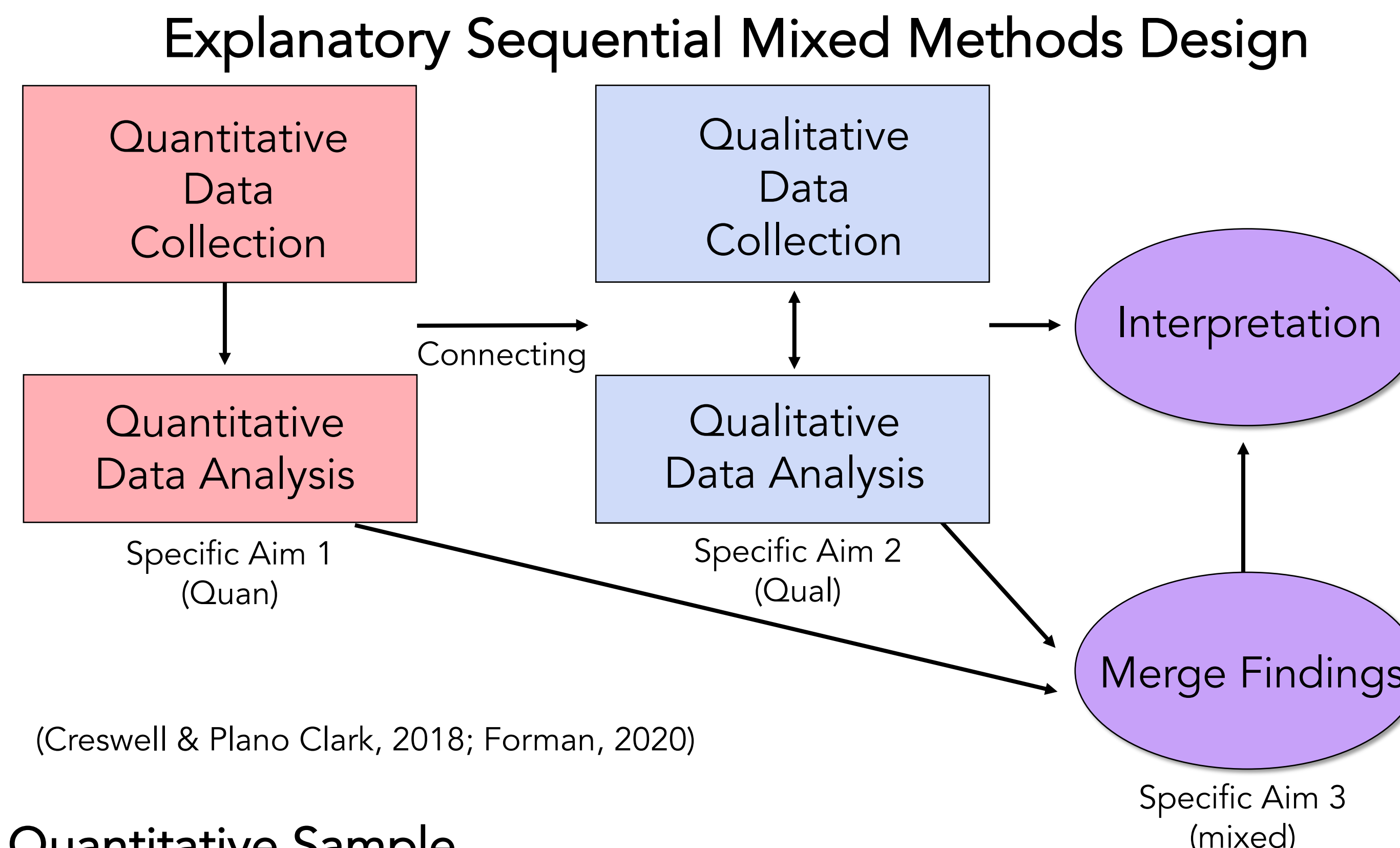
What are the parenting outcomes & experiences of parenting over time among former adolescent mothers who participated in an early home visiting RCT?

## OBJECTIVES

Enhance our understanding of parenting among former adolescent mothers through quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods specific aims:

1. Through secondary data analysis from MTB ESA follow-up study, describe maternal experiences & parenting outcomes among a subsample of former adolescent mothers (*quantitative*)
2. Explore experiences of parenting over time & experiences of control & intervention participation in EHV intervention RCT among former adolescent mothers through in-depth interviews (*qualitative*)
3. Generate a comprehensive understanding of relationships between maternal experiences, parenting outcomes, MTB experiences, & parenting experiences among former adolescent mothers (*mixed methods*)

## METHODS



### Quantitative Sample

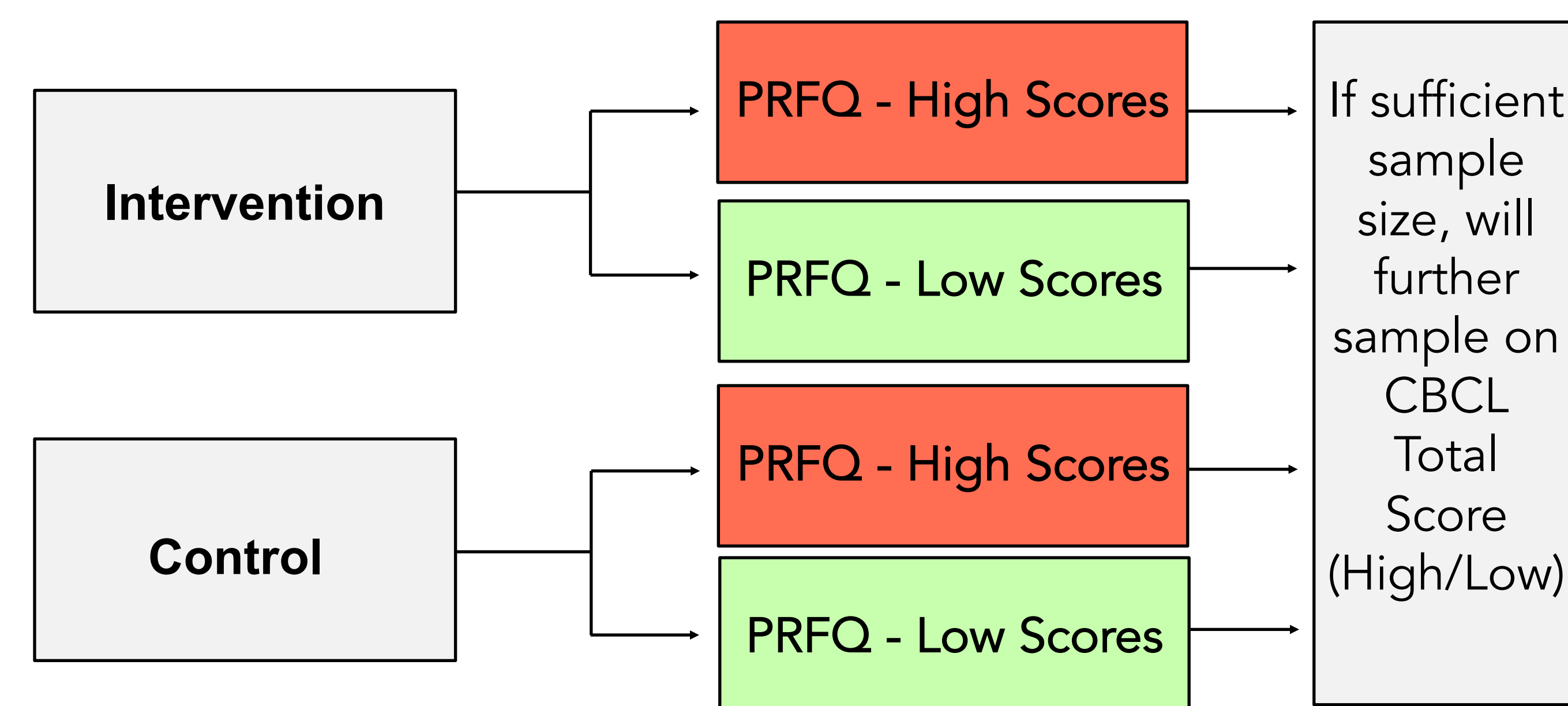
- MTB Early School Age (ESA) Follow-up Study
- Study Sample (n=71): Control (n=39), Intervention (n=32)

### Quantitative Data Collection & Analysis - Aim 1

- Secondary analysis of ESA study variables
  - Maternal experiences
    - Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (CTQ)
    - PTSD Checklist-Civilian (PCL-C)
    - Developmental & demographic variables– maternal age, educational status, marital status, employment
  - Parenting Outcomes
    - Parental Reflective Functioning Questionnaire (PRFQ)
    - Parenting Behavior Inventory (PBI)
    - Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL)
- Descriptive statistics, Regression analyses

### Qualitative Sample

- 19-33 years; children ages 4-10 at time of ESA Study
- Maximal variation sampling; 30-40 participants
- Sampling strategy based on significant quantitative findings (PRFQ and CBCL Total Score) from Aim 1:



### Qualitative Data & Analysis - Aim 2

- Semi-structured interviews informed by quantitative findings
- Data collection until saturation
- Interpretive description; coding & analysis using ATLAS.ti

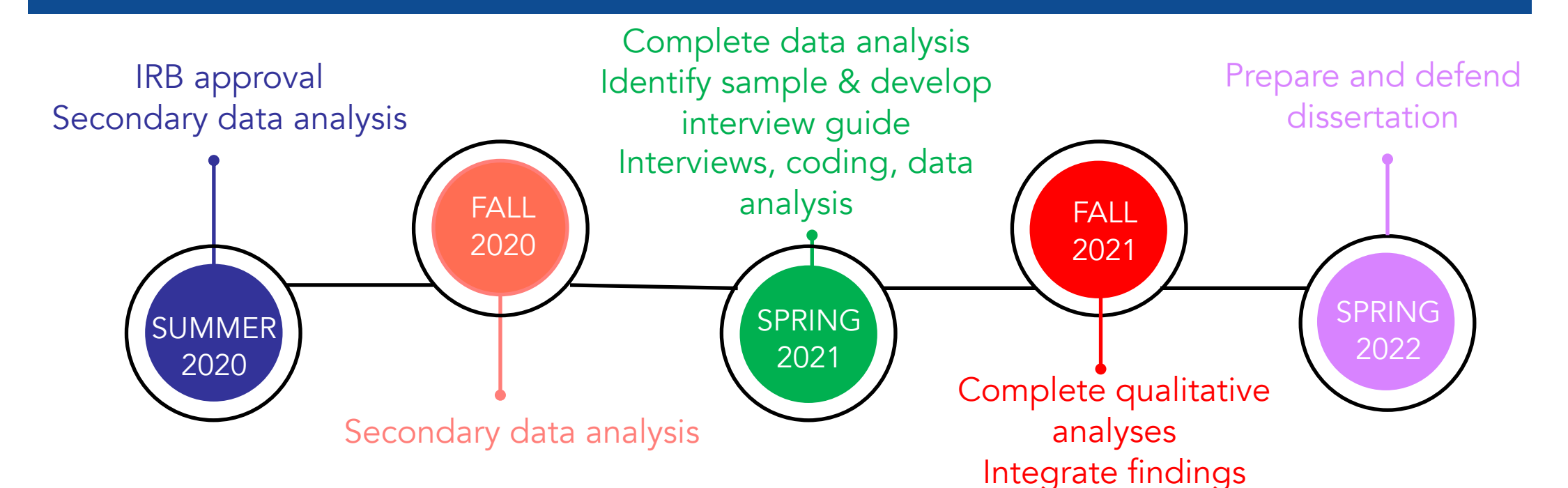
### Integration - Aim 3

1. After quantitative analysis (*connecting* quantitative findings to sampling and development of interview guide)
2. After qualitative analysis (*explaining* concordance and/or discordance of quantitative and qualitative findings)

## ANTICIPATED RESULTS

- Understanding long-term parenting experiences in former adolescent mothers in early adulthood; giving mothers a “voice”
- Research implications – future development & testing of tailored interventions & clinical approaches for adolescent parents
- Program & policy implications for EHV

## TIMELINE



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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