### STUDENTS' PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ACROSS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS

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# INTRODUCTION

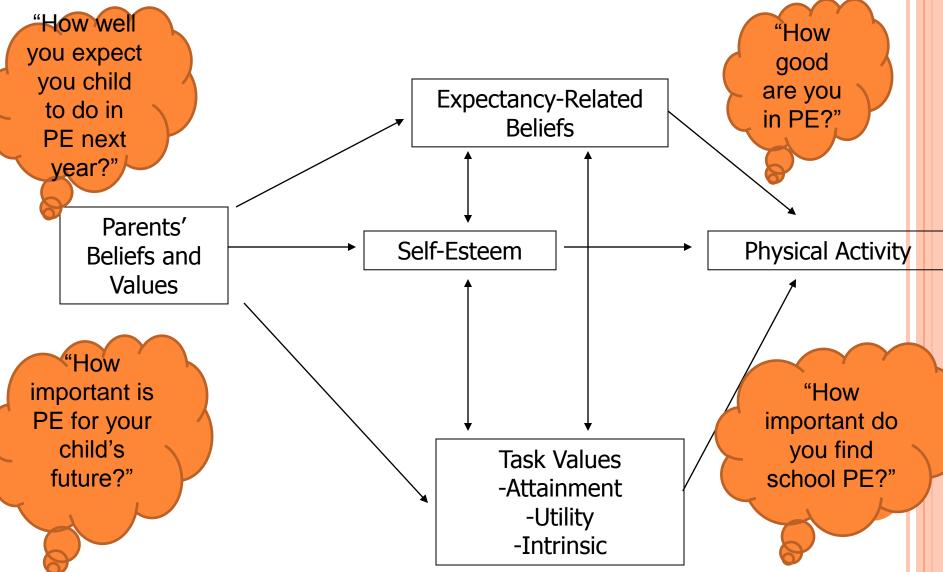
 Previous research has found adolescents' physical activity (PA) to decline during school years (Currie et al., 2008; Duncan et al., 2007; Trost et al., 2002).

 School physical education (PE) has been strongly recommended as a venue for increasing PA (Kahn et al., 2002; McKenzie, 2007; Morgan et al., 2007; Pate et al., 2010).

# INTRODUCTION

- Scholars has advocated field-based studies to examine how motivation related processes toward PE predict actual PA patterns (Cox et al., 2007; Ferrer-Caja & Weiss, 2002; Hagger et al., 2003; Shen et al., 2008; Standage et al., 2007).
- In addition, parental role in this development is yet to be determined (See review, Edwardson & Gorely, 2011).

# EXPECTANCY-VALUE THEORY (ECCLES ET AL., 1983; WIGFIELD ET AL., 2000)



### PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

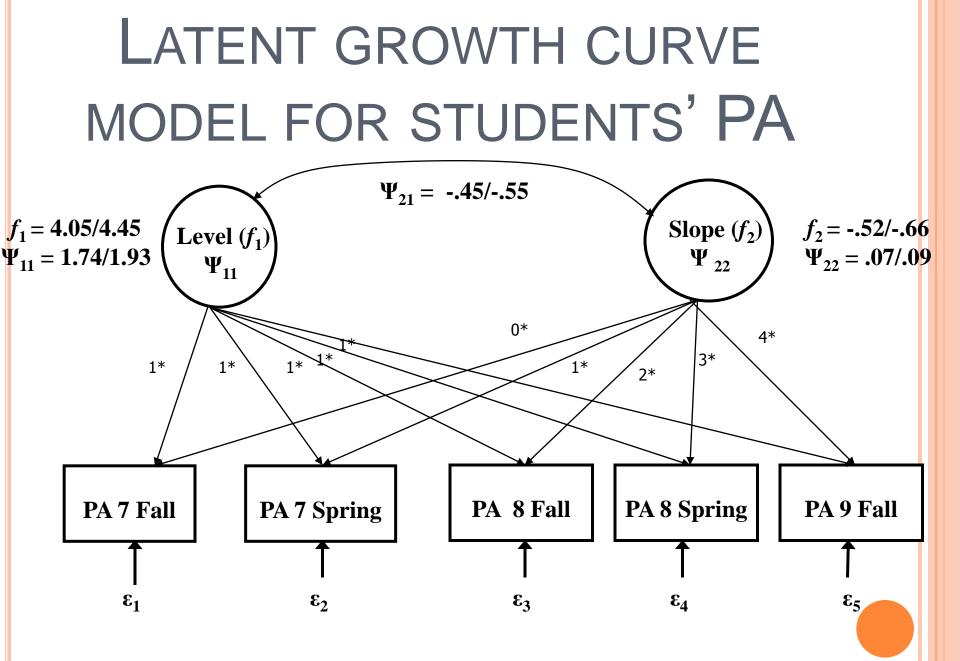
- 1. To examine the development of students' PA across the middle school years Grades 7 to 9.
- 2. To test the predictive strength of students' self-esteem and expectancy-related beliefs and task values toward PE in their development of PA.
- To investigate the role of parents' expectancy-related beliefs and values toward PE in students' PE motivation and PA.

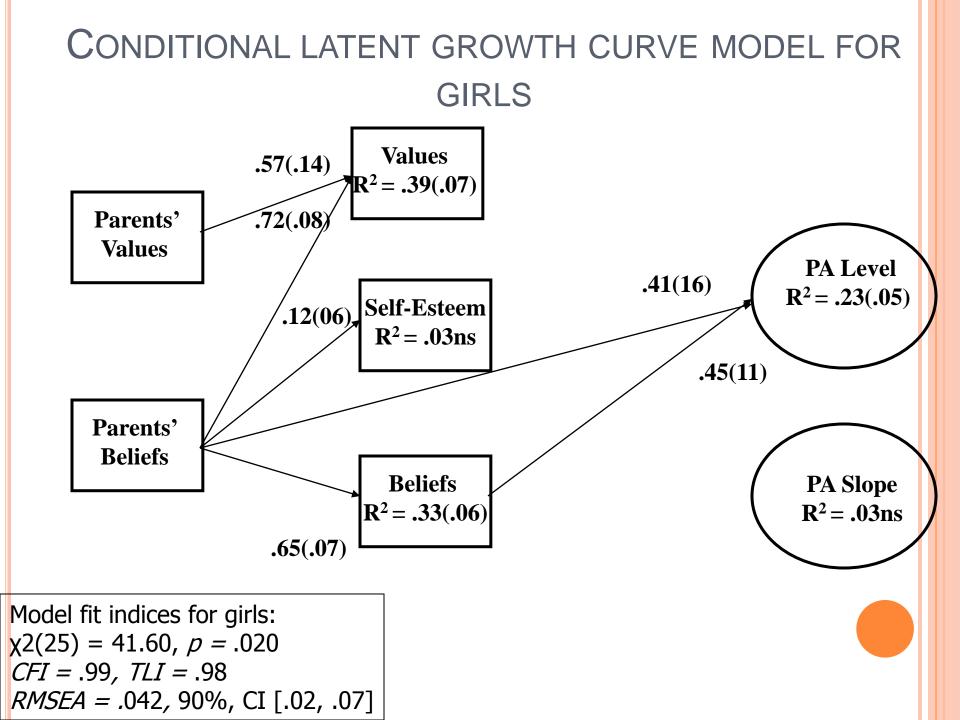
# Method

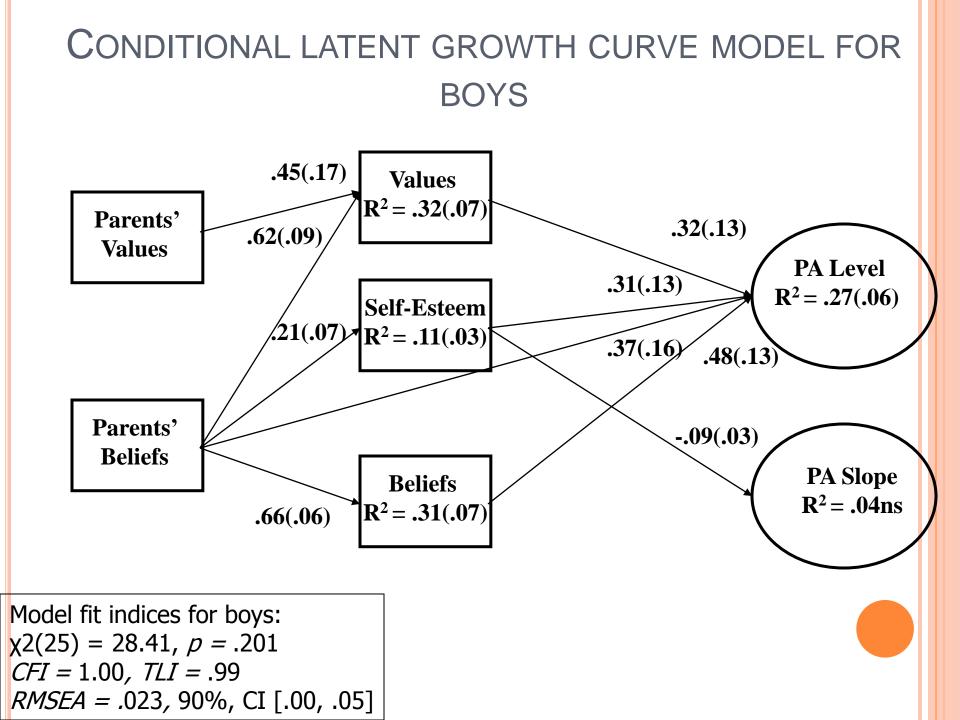
- A total of 812 (382 girls, 430 boys)
- 8 middle schools and 40 PE classes (girls' = 19, boys' = 20, mixed = 1)
- o 13-14 years old in the beginning of the study
- Parents (*n* = 925, mothers = 550, fathers = 375)
- PA was measured 5 times (T1-T5)
- Students' and their parents' beliefs and values as well as students' self-esteem were measured once (T1)
- In middle school (Grades 7-9) subject specific classes are widely used
- Single gender PE

# MEASURES

- Student Physical Activity Scale (World Health Organization Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children questionnaire; Currie et al., 2002: HBSC, 1996)
- Self-Perception Questionnaire (Eccles et al., 1983; Xiang et al., 2003)
- Task Value Scale (Niemivirta, 2002; Xiang et al., 2003)
- Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965)







#### **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

- Students' PA declined and students' individual differences diminished across middle school.
- Parents' beliefs and values toward PE has a role in students' PE motivation, while only parents' PE beliefs had a role in students' Level on PA.
- Only girls' expectancy-related beliefs in PE predicted their Level of PA, while boys' expectancyrelated beliefs and task values toward PE and general self-esteem predicted their Level of PA.
- However, neither parents' PE beliefs and values nor students' PE motivation and self-esteem in the beginning of middle school did not predict the longitudinal development of PA.

#### THANK YOU!!