

The Use of Precursors of Dangerous Behaviors to Determine Operant Function

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ABA 2006 Atlanta

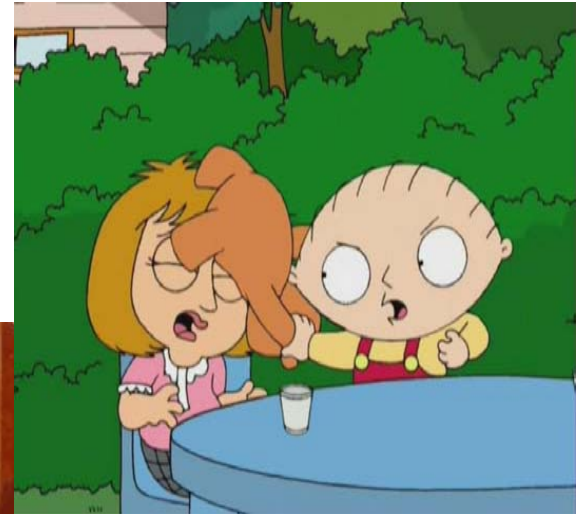


Functional Analysis



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Functional Analysis on Dangerous Behaviors



Functional Analysis on Response Classes

- Functional response class
(Johnston & Pennypacker, 1993)

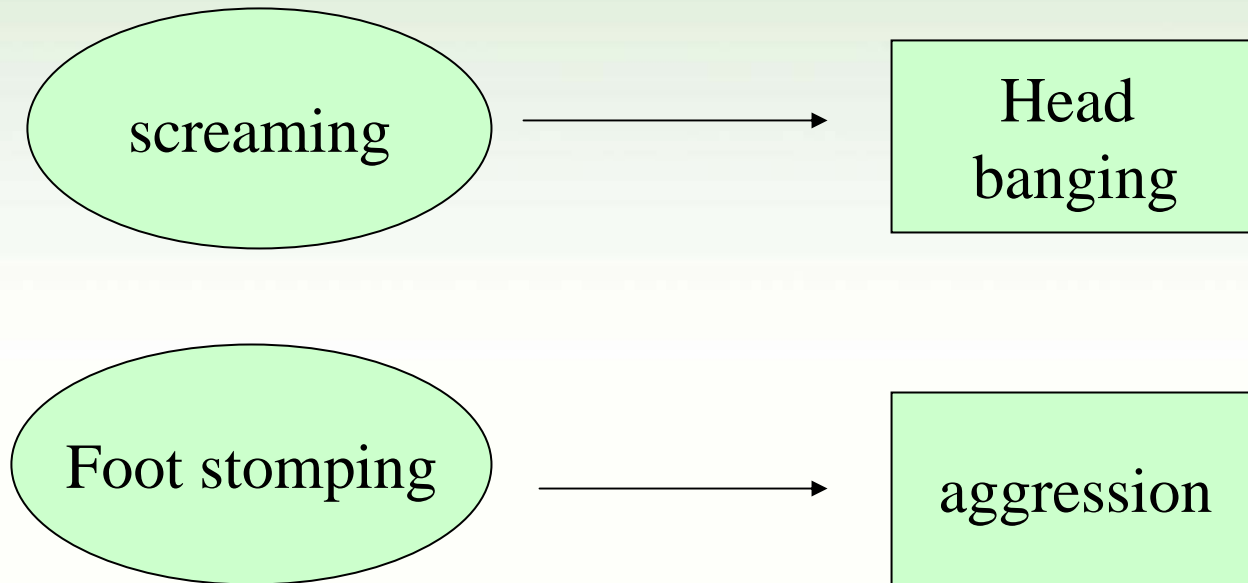


Functional Analysis on Response Classes

- Response class hierarchy
(Lalli, Mace, Wohn, and Livezey, 1995)



Functional Analysis on Precursors



Smith and Churchill, 2002



Functional Analysis on Precursors



Research Question

- Can the rate of a behavior that causes physical damage be reduced by developing an intervention based upon the function of a precursor to that behavior?



Subject and Setting



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Dependent Variables

Hand biting - placing any part of a finger, palm, or back of his hand in contact with his teeth



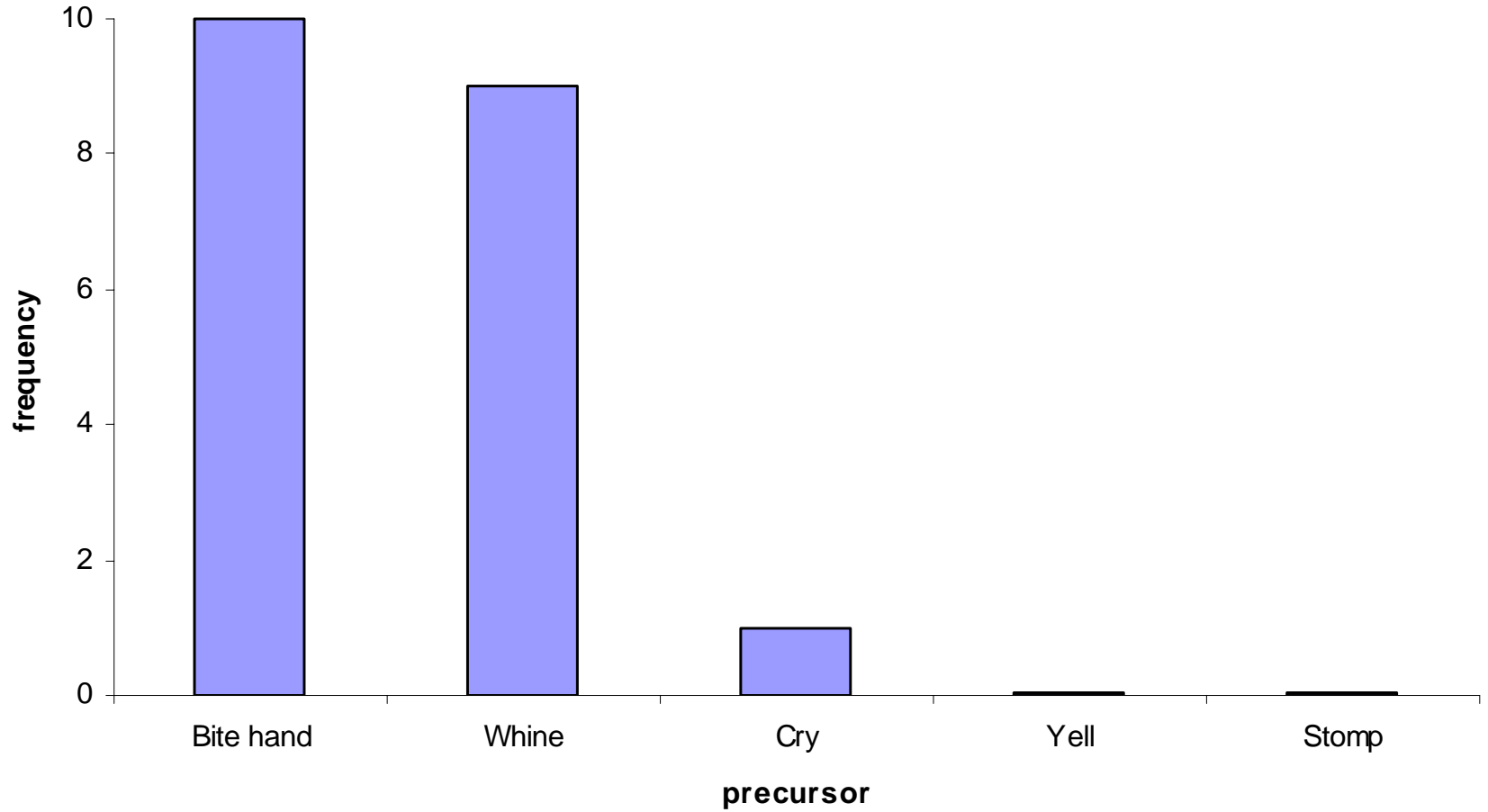
Aggression - pinching, squeezing, scratching, or grabbing any part of the body of another person



What are the Precursors?



Analysis of Precursors to Aggression



Functional Analysis of Precursor

Attention

Demand/Escape

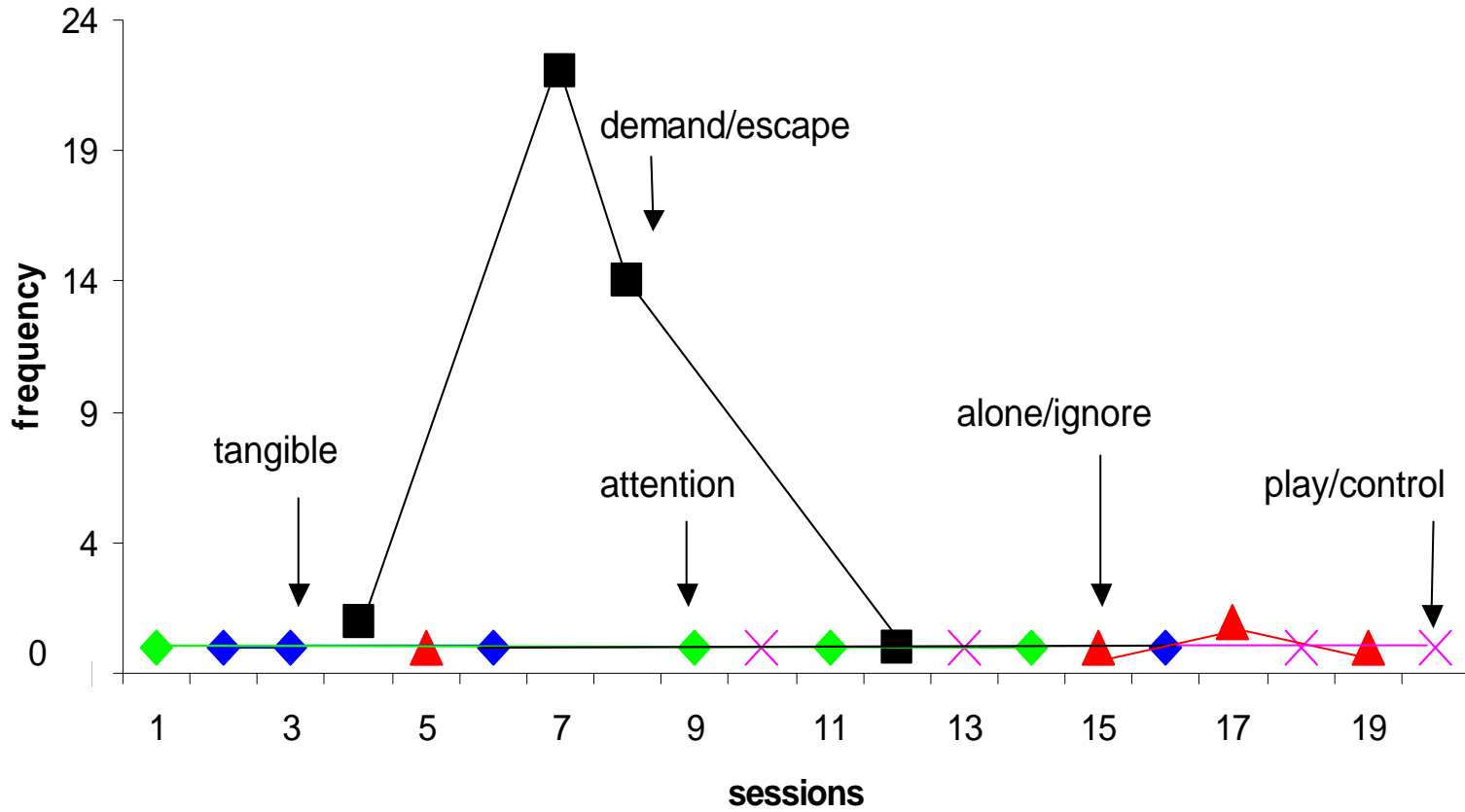
Tangible

Alone/Ignore

Play/Control



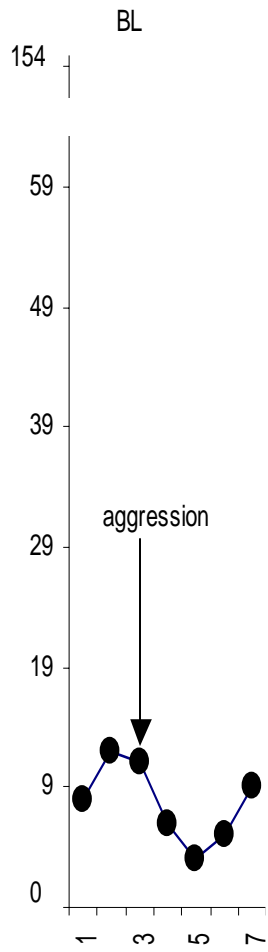
Functional Analysis of Precursor (SIB)



Baseline

- Reversal Design
- Escape-demand situation

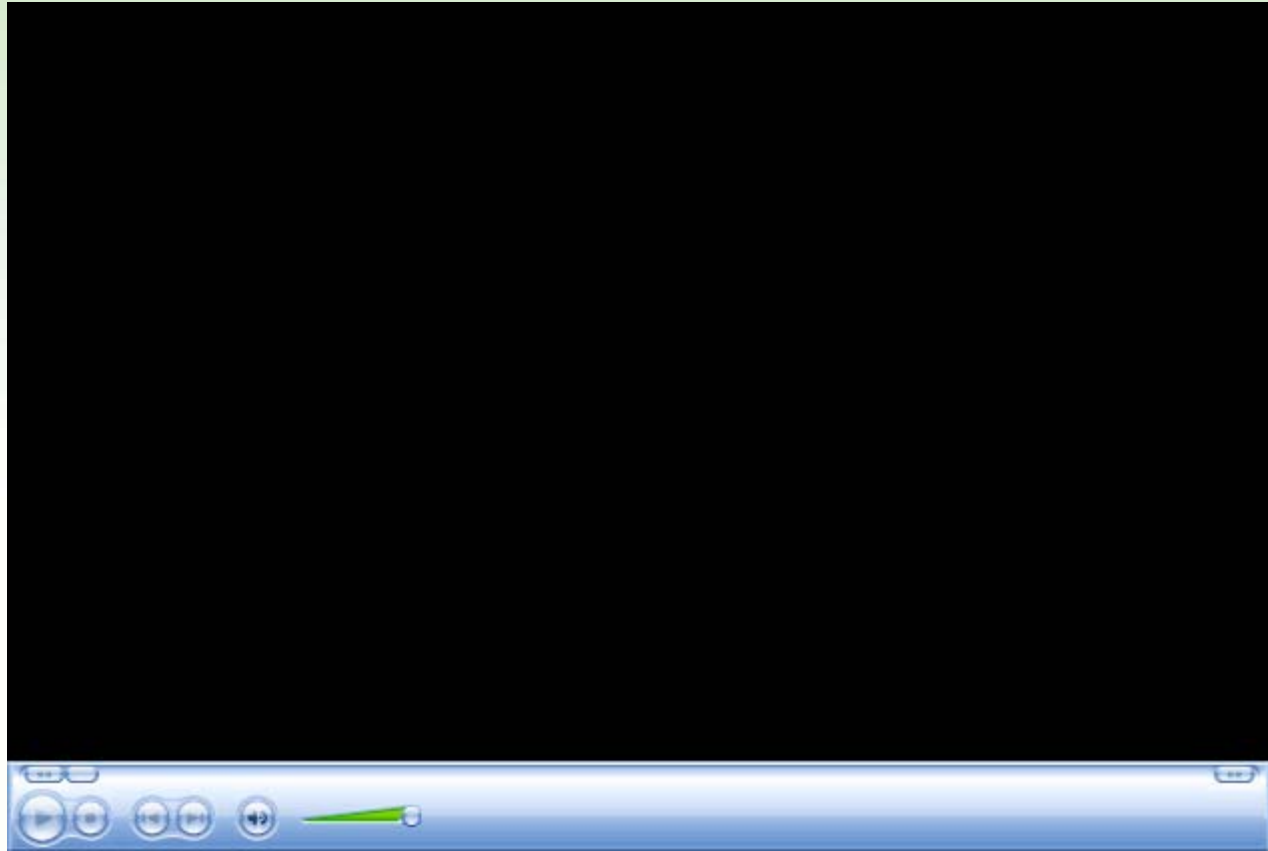




Intervention for Aggression

- Rate of aggression
- Rate of independent functional communication responses





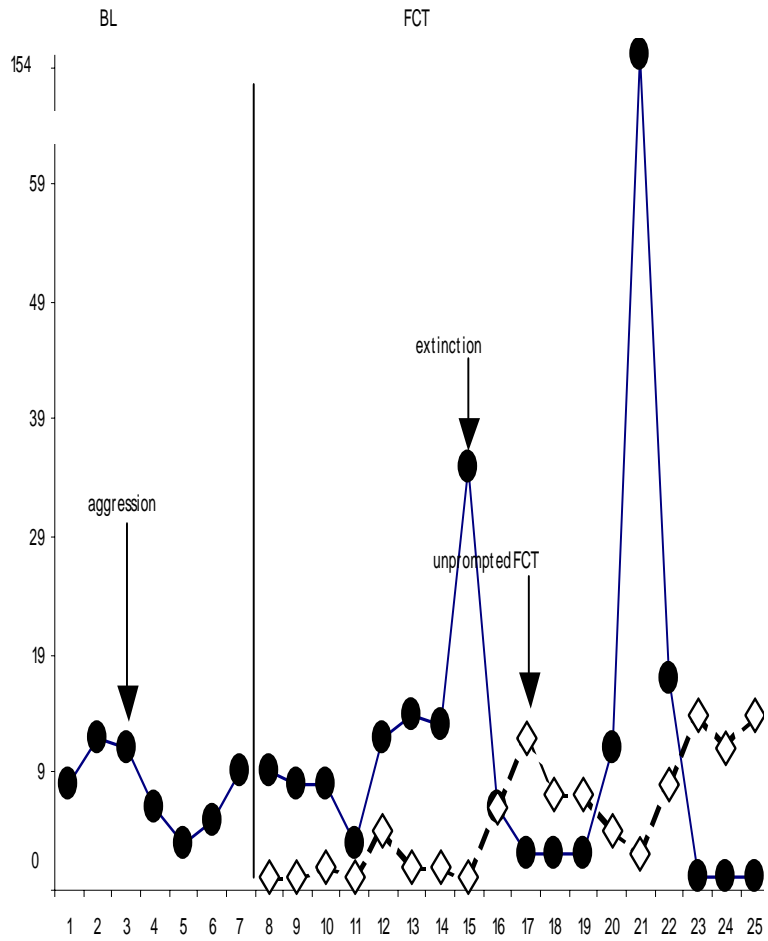
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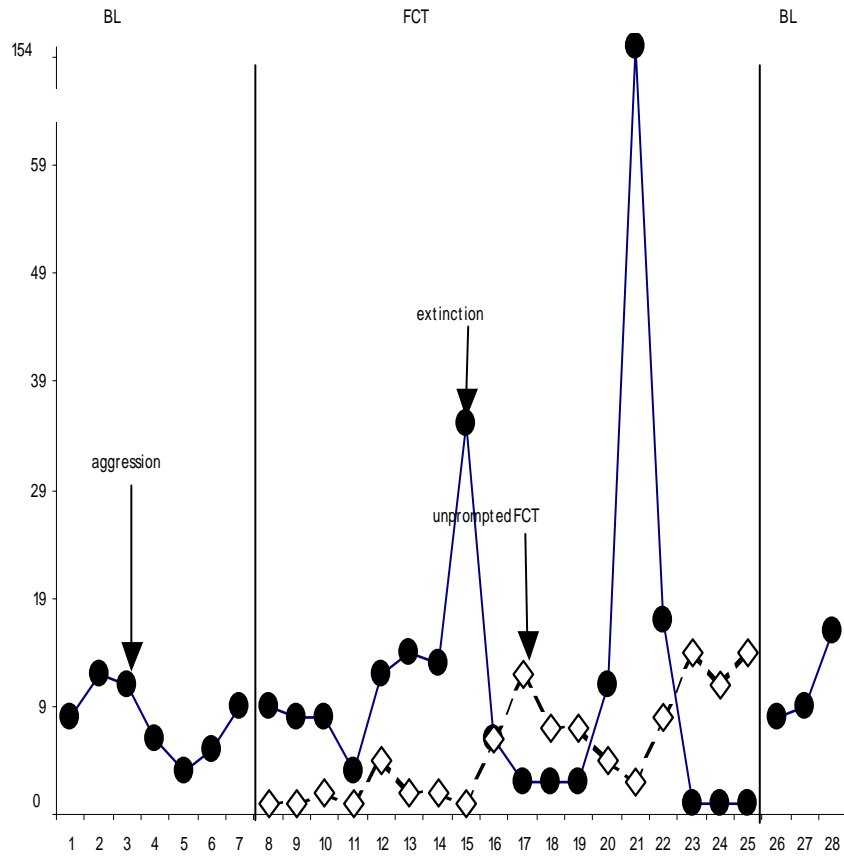


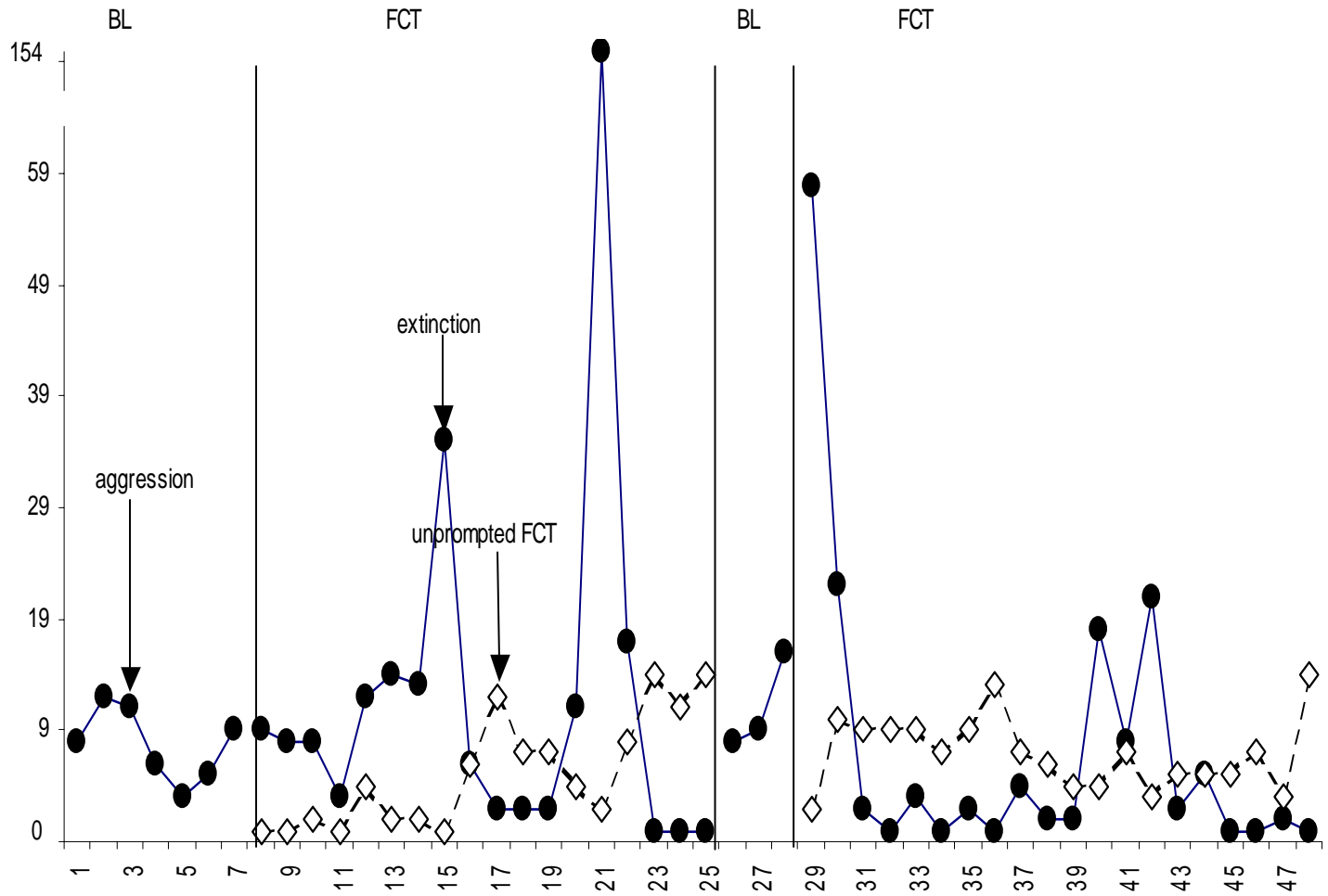
Redirection During FCT

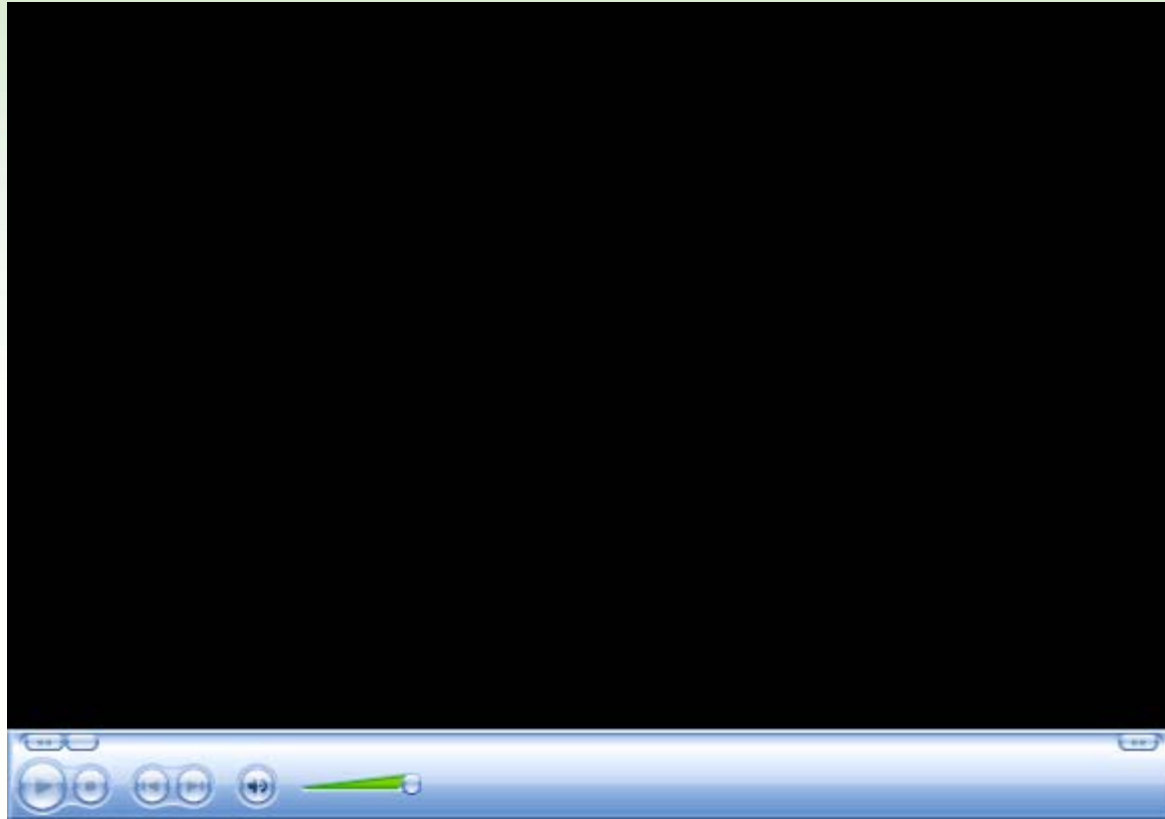
- aggressive behavior occurs
 - Physically prompt hand to card
 - Immediately remove work materials
 - Step away for 30 seconds











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Discussion

- Clinical Implication
- Limitations
- Future Research



- Tara's first slide goes here

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