



**MARIA HERNANDEZ- REIF** : “Growing the Family through Positive Touch and Play”

Professor in Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Alabama, Dr. Hernandez –Reif, was formerly affiliated with the Touch Research Institute at the University of Miami in the Department of Pediatrics (1998-2006). She is currently Director of the Pediatric Development Research (PDR) lab at the University of Alabama and will be sharing results of the play studies she has done there, as well as her work in the area of Touch research.



**JAY MANCINI:** “Relational Leisure and Family Dynamics: On the Road to Resilience”

Dr. Mancini is currently Haltiwanger Distinguished Professor at the University of Georgia and directs the Family and Community Resilience Laboratory in the Department of Human Development and Family Science. His current theorizing and research focus is on Families and Communities including and international study of homeless Veterans an also the effects of multiple deployments on attachment among youth in military families.



**ERIN YELLAND:** “Over the Hill and Between the Sheets: Exploring Sex in Later Life”

Erin Yelland is an assistant professor and extension specialist in adult development and aging in the School of Family Studies and Human Services in the College of Human Ecology at Kansas State University. Yelland has a bachelor's degree in youth, adult and family services from Purdue University and a doctorate in family science from the University of Kentucky. She is a Certified Family Life Educator and holds a graduate certificate in gerontology, also from the University of Kentucky. Throughout her academic career, Erin has focused on various social aspects of aging, ranging from fall prevention, embracing age and sexuality to dying, death and grief. Yelland's focused research agenda is centered on sexual expression and sexuality among older adults. Her doctoral dissertation explored public attitudes toward sex, dementia and long-term care, and she will continue this research passion by collaborating with Kansas State University's Center on Aging. Joining K-State Research and Extension also provides Yelland the exciting opportunity to translate cutting edge research on aging into helpful community programming aimed at enriching the lives of older Kansans.