

**RIKI – Research Institute for Key Indicators LLC**

*in strategic partnership with NARA –  
National Association for Regulatory  
Administration*

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**Author Archives: Dr Fiene****About Dr Fiene**

Dr. Rick Fiene has spent his professional career in improving the quality of child care in various states, nationally, and internationally. He has done extensive research and publishing on the key components in improving child care quality through an early childhood program quality indicator model of training, technical assistance, quality rating & improvement systems, professional development, mentoring, licensing, risk assessment, differential program monitoring, and accreditation. Dr. Fiene is a retired professor of human development & psychology (Penn State University) where he was department head and director of the Capital Area Early Childhood Research and Training Institute.

**Revision/Updating the Regulatory Compliance Key Indicator Metric (Fiene, 2023)**

Posted on [January 8, 2023](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Over the past decade in utilizing the Regulatory Compliance Key Indicator Metric (RCKIm) it has become very clear that false negatives needed to be controlled for because of their potential to increase morbidity and mortality. When dealing with regulatory compliance ... [Continue reading →](#)

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**The New Normal for Early Care and Education**

Posted on [January 1, 2023](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

As we begin a new year and reflect on where early care and education (ECE) is headed, we may need to acknowledge a new normal for the field. I am sure many of my colleagues in ECE will not be ... [Continue reading →](#)

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**Creating National Standards for Any Industry: An Example from the Human Services Sector**

Posted on [December 30, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Creating national standards for any industry based upon empirical evidence is possible in analyzing research over the past 50 years in human services. Research completed in human service regulatory science gives a pretty good blueprint in how this can be ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Licensing Measurement, Regulatory Compliance, Program Quality, Quality Initiatives, ECPQIM/DMLMA: The 200th Blog Post

Posted on [December 26, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

On the 200th RIKINotes Blog Post, I thought it would be useful to summarize the previous blog posts by the major areas of research because the research fits into neat overall buckets. The buckets build off the title of this ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Ways of Improving Compliance Measures and Implementation: The Case in Ukraine

Posted on [December 20, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

An interesting article about ways to improve compliance measures and implementation in Ukraine. The purpose of the article is to study relatively new phenomenon of compliance (Theory of Regulatory Compliance, Fiene, 2016, 2019) for Ukraine and to identify its priority ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Real Risk versus Potential Risk in Differential Monitoring Approaches

Posted on [December 14, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

There is the need to revise the risk assessment methodology that has been used in the differential monitoring approach. In the past risk assessment has always been listed along with the key indicator methodology as the two approaches for differential ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Quantum Relativity

Posted on [November 28, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Two previous posts introduced the Theory of Space as consisting of four states. This post applies the specific concept of time as empty space in motion from the Theory of Space and substitutes that concept within the General Theory of ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Our Expanding and Contracting Universe: Building off the Four States of Space

Posted on [November 26, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This post will follow up and build off a previous post on the four states of space. In the four states of space it is conjectured that the basic building blocks of the universe can be dealt with by only ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Letter to University Leadership from Concerned Faculty at Penn State

Posted on [November 18, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a letter from over 400 Penn State Faculty members concerned about a leadership decision to not follow through with its commitment to creating a Center for Racial Justice. Please see the following letter for the issues and the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## SSRN Top Ten Club for Authors and Papers

Posted on [November 13, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I learned today that I am in the top ten clubs: (top 10% of authors) and top 10,000 downloaded papers (Theory of Regulatory Compliance) on SSRN, the repository for new research in the social sciences. See the two notifications below:

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## Four States of Space Matrix

Posted on [November 4, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Presented here is a 2 x 2 matrix depicting the four state of space theory which has been posted on this blog previously. Here is how the above matrix fits into the original technical research papers on the same topic.

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## The Basic Tenets and Implications of the Theory of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [November 1, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The essence of the theory of regulatory compliance has to do with the law of diminishing returns as one approaches full 100% regulatory compliance. This effect related to diminishing returns applies to all industries and not just to the human ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NOAA Weather Ready Nation Aware Newsletters

Posted on [October 26, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are the most recent issues of the Aware Newsletter for the Weather Ready Nation initiative of the NOAA in chronological order. Must reading for anyone who is concerned about local weather events.

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## Origins of the Saskatchewan Early Childhood Program Quality Indicators Tool

Posted on [October 19, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Many of you have asked about the origins of the Saskatchewan Early Childhood Program Quality Indicators (SKECPQI) Tool. The tool originated based upon the extension of the key indicator methodology into more program quality initiatives that have sprung up in ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Province of Saskatchewan to Undertake New Study Piloting An Early Childhood Quality Indicators Tool

Posted on [October 18, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Starting this Fall-Winter 2022-2023, the Province of Saskatchewan, Ministry of Education will be conducting a study with the assistance of the National Association for Regulatory Administration on a Quality Indicators Tool (the Saskatchewan Early Childhood Quality Indicators Tool). The Ministry ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Nomination and Initiation into Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Honor Society

Posted on [October 1, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I received this email today: Congratulations on your nomination and initiation into Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society! More information about your membership will be sent to your email soon. If you have any questions concerning Sigma Xi, please ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NOAA Weather Ready Nation Aware September Newsletter

Posted on [September 30, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the September issue of the Aware Newsletter for the Weather Ready Nation initiative of the NOAA. This is particularly timely given Hurricane Ian moving up the east coast. Must reading for anyone who is concerned about local weather ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Minnesota Department of Human Services Child Care Regulation Modernization Project

Posted on [September 29, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a presentation done by NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration consultants regarding the Minnesota Department of Human Services Child Care Regulation Modernization Project, an innovative and cutting edge licensing and program monitoring initiative.

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## Theory of Regulatory Compliance Utilized in Assisted Living Monitoring and Enforcement

Posted on [September 28, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a very interesting article utilizing the theory of regulatory compliance in assisted living monitoring and enforcement via a national survey: Promoting Quality of Life and Safety in Assisted Living: A Survey of State Monitoring and Enforcement Agents. Our ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## September is National Preparedness Month and the Start of the WRN Fall Safety Campaign

Posted on [September 11, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

With peak hurricane season approaching, extreme heat out West, and communities around the country ravaged by flood events this summer, now is always the right time to prepare. (1) WRN Fall Safety Campaign Three actions to stress include preparing on how ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Geometric Modeling for Predicting Severe Weather

Posted on [September 9, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have been doing a great deal of reading and discussing with others about severe weather predictions this summer. It is something I have been interested in for some time and an area that needs some major improvements since the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Gap Analysis Solution to an Identified World Meteorological Organization Problem

Posted on [September 3, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) published an important report (WMO Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes, 2021) recently which highlighted the need to increase the number of on-the-ground sensors for determining weather conditions, especially ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Few More Thoughts I Want to Work On

Posted on [August 29, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have been thinking a great deal lately about my new excursion into meteorology (RIKINotes Blog Post: August 8, 2022) and my other interests in the intersection between economics and psychology and lastly my theory of space which I have ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKI as a NOAA Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador

Posted on [August 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

A new designation for RIKI today, we are honored to be part of the Initiative: Welcome to the NOAA Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador™ initiative. Your organization has been accepted as a NOAA Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador.

<http://www.weather.gov/wrn/> The Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador initiative ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Meteorological Decision Matrix

Posted on [August 14, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a proposed Meteorological Decision Matrix that I thought would be helpful in looking at historical TDS: Tornadoic Debris Signature data or any severe storm data in general. This 2 x 2 Matrix is a common tool used within ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Royal Meteorological Society and the SkyWarn Spotter Certificates

Posted on [August 12, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I became a member of the Royal Meteorological Society recently and a SkyWarn Spotter by completing the NWS/NOAA Basic SkyWarn training.

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## Meteorological Correlation Coefficient and the Tornadic Debris Signature (TDS) Metrics

Posted on [August 8, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

As I promised in my earlier post, I said I would highlight some of my discussions and my research journey into meteorology. So here is the first such post dealing with a couple of very interesting discussions I have been ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## An Excursion into Meteorology

Posted on [August 8, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have always had a keen interest in meteorology but never had the time to really get into it because of my research work as a research psychologist and regulatory scientist. But now in retirement from Penn State and RIKI ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Random Thoughts About Life, Especially As We Age

Posted on [August 8, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Sometimes we have a tendency to push the envelope too far and the contents of the envelope gets lost in the process. You can tell that there is high inflation because the “money stealer wildflowers” are really bad this year. ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Fiene Key Indicator Coefficients

Posted on [July 14, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a graphic that depicts the key thresholds for the use of the Fiene Key Indicator Coefficients in a differential monitoring approach. The graphic provides an illustration of the Fiene Key Indicator (FKI) values and the number of compliant/non-compliant ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Organization of the NARA and RIKI Websites: What is Available and Where!

Posted on [July 7, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

For those of you who are interested in the NARA Licensing Measurement Course I wanted to provide a location map on where you can find all the resources for the course because they have grown a great deal over the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Key Indicators and Risk Assessment Rule Metrics Revisited (RIKINotes BlogPost #172)

Posted on [July 7, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have posted on licensing metrics in this blog several times and wanted to provide an update to the latest thinking related to the relationship between these two methodologies based upon a hypothetical risk assessment scale. This is provided for ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Three Theories of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [July 5, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

There are three theories of regulatory compliance that I would like to introduce and probably will spend some time describing in future blog posts but for the time being let me just introduce them. The three theories of regulatory compliance ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Kenya's Use of the Regulatory Compliance Theory of Diminishing Returns

Posted on [July 5, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have posted several blog-feeds previously on how Kenya has been very creatively utilizing the regulatory compliance theory of diminishing returns in several industries when it comes to regulatory development and analyses. It has become evident in theses



being produced ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Theses Utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [July 4, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Improving medical records documentation among the health workers remains a major challenge to achieving compliance to medical records documentation SOP in many developing countries. Compliance to medical records documentation SOP can be used to improve health care and protect people against catastrophic health ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Two Additional Studies Utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [July 4, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two additional studies utilizing the theory of regulatory compliance from Kenya published in International Journal of Human Capital in Urban Management and the Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs by Dr Wilfred Ochieng Omollo.

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## Rwanda Study Utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [July 4, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The study examined the relationship between procurement process compliance and procurement performance of public procuring entities in Rwanda. The objective of the study was to assess the effects of procurement planning on procurement performance; to assess the effects of procurement sourcing ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## National Research Conference on Early Childhood Poster Presentation

Posted on [June 23, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the link to a poster presentation with Dr Sonya Stevens, Daniel Blevins, and Amber Salzer entitled: Identifying Predictive Indicators: The State of Washington Foster Care Home Study. The poster presentation was at the National Research Conference on Early ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## The LMS eBook

Posted on [June 23, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is the LMS eBook containing the original handbook, the webinar slides with notes, the NARA reports, and the technical research notes all together in one volume rather than having them in different posts and in different sections of the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Research and Practice: Health and Safety of Child Care Centers

Posted on [June 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

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## NRCEC: National Research Conference on Early Childhood Virtual Venue

Posted on [June 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is the National Research Conference on Early Childhood Program Book which gives the details of the 2022 conference with all presenters and their sessions. The conference will be held June 27-29, 2022. NRCEC presents the latest research on early ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Licensing Measurement & Program Monitoring Systems eHandBook

Posted on [June 18, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a Licensing Measurement & Program Monitoring Systems eHandBook to accompany the NARA Licensing Measurement and Systems course. It is recommended to be read along with taking the NARA course but it can be read as a stand alone ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Using Research to Improve Child Care

Posted on [June 14, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The attached report is as relevant today as it was 25 years ago; it is a synthesis of major issues, policy questions, available research findings and information needs in child care policy, presented in a form that can provide a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Provision of Technical Assistance to States: Better Care for the Babies Project.

Posted on [June 11, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This is an older report but I thought it was still relevant today, so I wanted to post it for other ECE researchers and regulatory scientists to review and use. The Better Care for the Babies (BCTB) Project was initiated ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Compliance Validation Study Data Bases

Posted on [June 4, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Last month several regulatory compliance validation studies were posted (May 22nd). For regulatory science and licensing researchers who are interested, the SPSS databases are available through Mendeley Data (Fiene, Dr Richard (2022), “Regulatory Compliance Theory of Diminishing Returns”, Mendeley Data, ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## National and State/Provincial Presentations Involving Differential Monitoring and Key Indicators

Posted on [May 31, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below are several national and state/provincial (Massachusetts, Minnesota, Alberta) presentations involving differential monitoring and key indicators.

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## Using SAS to Generate Key Indicators

Posted on [May 31, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is an analysis performed by statisticians from the Province of British Columbia, Fraser Health, Population Health Observatory utilizing SAS rather than SPSS which is the best example of this approach. In this technical research note it outlines very nicely ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Science Paradigm Examples

Posted on [May 27, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a policy commentary article just published in the Journal of Regulatory Science, Volume 10, Issue 1 on regulatory science monitoring paradigms and the relationship between regulatory compliance and program quality. Eighteen key elements are introduced in a series ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Compliance Data Analysis Plan Example taken from Risk Assessment Indicators

Posted on [May 27, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a brief technical research note providing an example of a data analysis plan utilizing risk assessment indicators. It provides a means for thinking about how best to implement such a plan from initial design to validation of the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Compliance Validation Studies

Posted on [May 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are five studies that demonstrate validation of the Licensing Key Indicator (LKI), Risk Assessment Methodology (RAM), and Regulatory Compliance Theory (RCT). The studies were done in the states of Georgia (RAM, RCT), Washington (RAM, RCT) national with Head Start ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Comparison of Online Mandated Reporter Trainings

Posted on [May 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a recently published article on comparing online mandated reporter trainings which highlights the iLookOut Child Abuse Prevention Training program. Very interesting state by state comparisons.

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## Regulatory Science Metrics Matrix

Posted on [May 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The 2 x 2 matrix format has been used in many different contexts when it comes to decision making. I have found the 2 x 2 matrix very useful in regulatory science especially when it comes to measuring regulatory compliance ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Comparing the CLASS and ERS Program Quality Scales

Posted on [May 21, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Two of the most widely used early care and education program quality tools used in the field are the CLASS: Classroom Assessment Scoring System and ERS: Environmental Rating Scales. Is there an advantage to using one versus the other. In ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Key Indicators and Risk Assessment Applied to the Ten Commandments

Posted on [May 20, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I get asked all the time about what is the difference between the Key Indicator and the Risk Assessment methodologies. Generally I reply with a very academic type of response either explaining the difference given the research literature or the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RegalMetrics Introduction

Posted on [May 20, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have discussed licensing measurement a great deal in this blog. Today, I want to introduce a new term to basically describe what I have been discussing with licensing measurement, called Regulatory Metrics or RegalMetrics for short. The reason for ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Licensing Measurement/Regulatory Science Course Resources

Posted on [May 13, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below are a series of resources for the licensing measurement/regulatory science course that are organized as anthologies and summarizing information from the RIKI Publications webpage. 1. Class Syllabus: Lists the 13 classes with a brief summary of what is to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Regulatory Science, Differential Monitoring, and Licensing Measurement Technical Research Notes Anthology**

Posted on [May 12, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached please find an anthology that contains technical research notes from the past decade on regulatory science, differential monitoring and licensing measurement. I thought it would be helpful to regulatory scientists and licensing researchers to have all these various research ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Regulatory Science's Search for a Program Monitoring Paradigm and Some Key Relationships Between Compliance and Quality in Early Care and Education: A Policy Commentary**

Posted on [May 11, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a policy commentary manuscript that delineates the key elements or alternate program quality paradigms and their subsequent implications for regulatory compliance measurement and program quality that has been submitted to the Journal of Regulatory Science. This manuscript is ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Improving Child Care Quality Through A Coaching Intervention**

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This article was published in 2002 in Child and Youth Care Forum. This article built off several studies in Pennsylvania which clearly demonstrated the lack of an effective professional development system, especially involving infant toddler caregivers. The mentoring/coaching intervention as ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## The Use of Contact Hours Rather than Group Size or Adult Child Ratios as a Licensing Metric for Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This article was published in 1980 in NARA News as a licensing measurement enhancement. It really grew out of the regulatory compliance need being addressed at the national level with the changes being made in the Federal Interagency Day Care ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Solution to the Child Care Trilemma

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This article appeared in the Child Care Information Exchange in the mid 1990s. In the early part of that decade, Gwen Morgan, one of the pioneers of early care and education (ECE) regulatory science and administration, proposed the child care ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## International Study of Child Care Regulations Comparing the USA with Several Other Countries

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This article published in the International Journal of Child Care and Educational Policy in 2013 compared the regulatory compliance within the USA with approximately 20 other countries to determine the emphasis placed upon rules and regulations in the respective countries. ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Compliance Diminishing Returns

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This article published in the Journal of Regulatory Science in 2019 has helped to create an interesting heuristic problematic for the regulatory science field. The essence of the treatise is moving regulatory policy from full compliance with all rules to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Instrument Based Program Monitoring

Posted on [May 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This is an article written back in 1985 that really tied licensing measurement together into a quantitative approach of instrument based program monitoring rather than case anecdotal records and proposed the use of key indicators/predictor rules, risk assessment/weighting of rules, ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Federal, National, and State Reports on Licensing and Differential Monitoring

Posted on [May 8, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached are several examples of Federal, national, and state reports on state of the art licensing and differential monitoring initiatives. These reports have helped to shape the research efforts as we move forward with licensing and differential monitoring in early ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Guide to the Regulatory Compliance Theory of Diminishing Returns and its Implications for Regulatory Science

Posted on [April 23, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This blog post will attempt to place the Regulatory Compliance Theory of Diminishing Returns into everyday terms addressing its potential implications beyond the human services and suggest how it can be applied anywhere in which standards/regulations/rules are utilized in the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Brief History of Licensing Measurement

Posted on [April 18, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The history of licensing measurement and regulatory compliance has actually a rather long lineage but is still in its infancy in terms of development. In the early stages most licensing visits and inspection results were recorded via anecdotal records/case records ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Key Indicator Model Statistics and Algorithms

Posted on [April 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)



A technical research note is provided for other licensing researchers and statisticians who are interested in replicating the methodology through the use of an alternate statistical software package, such as SPSS, Systat or SAS. The research note provides all the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **KIM (Key Indicator Matrix) and RAM (Risk Assessment Matrix) Matrices Integration Into One Platform**

Posted on [April 10, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This technical research note will integrate the Key Indicator Matrix (KIM) and the Risk Assessment Matrix (RAM) into one platform to clearly demonstrate their statistical modeling overlap. Key Indicators deal with the ability to predict overall compliance or performance based ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement/Indicator Model Version5 and the Latest Version of Licensing Measurement Slides**

Posted on [April 9, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two documents, one, a technical research note on the latest version of the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement/Indicator Model (V5)(ECPQIM5a) and two, a powerpoint slide presentation on Licensing Measurement (PPT189).

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## **New Land Use Study in Kenya utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance**

Posted on [February 22, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached to this post is a new land use study completed in Kenya utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance. It was published in the International Journal of Human Capital in Urban Management: Planning implication of universities growth on land use: ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **The Latest Controversy in ECE: Failure of Pre-K and We're Surprised?**

Posted on [February 12, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have been reading about the Tennessee Study regarding their Pre-K program and their lack of success. Unfortunately, the goals of the program to help very disadvantaged children gain and sustain those gains overtime did not come to fruition according ...

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## Introducing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance to Neoclassical Economic Theory: Moving from a Linear to a Non-Linear Paradigm

Posted on [January 18, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

In a previous RIKINote (4-8-2018), linear and non-linear models were discussed on a very broad scale. In this note, the Theory of Regulatory Compliance is being suggested as a non-linear paradigm to the dominant neoclassical economic theory and the linear ...

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## Regulatory Compliance Scale

Posted on [January 9, 2022](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This blog post will propose a new Regulatory Compliance Scale (RCS)(Fiene, 2022) which should help in making comparisons between regulatory compliance and program quality systems, such as Environmental Rating Scales and Quality Rating & Improvement systems. The proposed scale builds ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Caring for Our Children

Posted on [December 27, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The major publications surrounding Caring for Our Children dealing with risk assessment and key indicators along with their respective checklists/tools. Each of the publications are listed here for your convenience.

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## NRCKids “A Parent’s Guide to Choosing Safe and Healthy Child Care”

Posted on [December 26, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the July 2019 National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education Guide for parents in choosing safe and healthy child care. It is a really nice checklist that should help parents in comparing ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Caring for Our Children Basics: A Brief History of Early Care and Education Standards and their Monitoring in the United States (USA)**

Posted on [October 29, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

It all started in and around 1965 when the Federal government got into early care and education (ECE) in earnest with Head Start and federally funded day care for low-income families. It started off slowly but began to pick up ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Program Monitoring Technical Research Notes related to Regulatory Compliance and Quality Key Elements**

Posted on [June 28, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Two technical research notes dealing with a paradigm shift related to program monitoring and its subsequent impact on regulatory compliance and quality. These research notes help to develop the key elements, principles, and dimensions when thinking about designing and implementing ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Saskatchewan and Florida Differential Monitoring Projects**

Posted on [June 28, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached below are two reports from Saskatchewan and Florida which delineate their respective experiences with developing differential monitoring systems.

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## **Key Regulatory Compliance, Early Care & Education, Licensing Measurement, Program Monitoring Publications**

Posted on [May 25, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

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## Licensing Measurement Paradigm Considerations: Performance Assessments, Regulatory Compliance Modeling, Risk Assessment and Weighting

Posted on [May 8, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below is a series of technical research notes dealing with licensing measurement paradigm considerations involving performance assessments, regulatory compliance modeling, risk assessment and weighting. It provides some of the latest thinking related to regulatory compliance and performance assessments as a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKI Technical Research Note on the Licensing Key Indicator Predictor Methodology Threshold Updates, Regulatory Compliance, False Positives & Negatives, Data Dichotomization, and Licensing Measurement

Posted on [April 4, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two papers dealing with the licensing key indicator predictor methodology, regulatory compliance and licensing management that help to round out some of the latest research in regulatory science utilizing an international database from the Early Childhood Program Quality ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA to Offer New Course on Licensing Measurement

Posted on [March 16, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Starting this Fall 2021, NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration in conjunction with the Research Institute for Key Indicators (RIKI) will be offering a new course, Licensing Measurement and Systems. The course is being developed by Dr Richard Fiene, ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKI and NARA Renew their Exclusive Licensing Key Indicator Agreement for another 5 Years

Posted on [March 16, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This past January 2021, the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) and the Research Institute for Key Indicators (RIKI) renewed their exclusive licensing key indicator agreement for 5 additional years. The new agreement has several interesting enhancements. Probably the most ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Academia Discussants Additional Papers

Posted on [February 13, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the series of regulatory compliance and performance papers organized into an anthology for easy reading. I included the original paper as reference but after that paper all the other papers support and add to this original paper. Also, ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Rule Compliance Versus Rule Performance

Posted on [January 23, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a short paper addressing the issue of rule compliance and rule performance which is being discussed a good deal in regulatory science circles. The paper addresses some of the major measurement principles of regulatory compliance, licensing and monitoring ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Child Care Aware of America's Licensing Benchmark Project

Posted on [January 15, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) has published a very significant new publication: The Child Care Licensing Benchmark Project building on the very important work they have been doing over the past 15-20 years related to child care center and ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Treatise on Essential Early Care and Education

Posted on [January 3, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a proposal for a new approach for reinventing early care and education in the post COVID19 Pandemic era. It is very controversial but one that needs to be put on our radar screen. After being in the early ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Using Science for Formulating ECE Public Policy

Posted on [January 3, 2021](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are three examples (all dealing with staff to child ratios) of using science in an innovative way to help formulate and guide early care and education (ECE) policy and standards/rules/regulations. -> The use of developmental play patterns in determining ...

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## Contact Hour COVID19 Infection Rate Threshold Grid

Posted on [December 25, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Several previous posts presented a new contact hour metric for measuring compliance with staff child ratios and for monitoring potential COVID19 infection rates. However, a conversion table had only been proposed for the staff child ratios but not for the ...

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## Mitigating the Limitations of the Regulatory Compliance Law of Diminishing Returns

Posted on [December 25, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

A program quality enhancement is presented in the following Technical Research Note which should help to mitigate the limitations of the regulatory compliance law of diminishing returns. It has been noted that there is a ceiling/plateau effect when comparing regulatory ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA Webinar this week on their Key Indicator Methodology

Posted on [October 24, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the link to register for NARA's Webinar on their Licensing Key Indicator Methodology which will be aired on October 28th:

<https://www.naralicensing.org/webinars>.

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## NARA Webinar on Licensing Key Indicator Rules

Posted on [October 9, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Dr Fiene will be doing a NARA Webinar on Licensing Key Indicator Rules on October 28th from 1:00 – 2:00pm. Here are some concepts that Dr Fiene will cover in the Webinar contained in the attached file below:

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## Key Indicator Webinar Will be Offered This Fall 2020

Posted on [September 16, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA will be doing a Licensing Key Indicator Webinar this Fall 2020. Many of the NARA Seminar participants were asking about this. A date has not been established, but it should be announced by NARA in the coming month or ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Some Takeaways from the NARA Licensing Seminar

Posted on [September 16, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

There have been several very interesting discussions at the NARA Licensing Seminar that are worth sharing. Here are some takeaways from the various sessions that need highlighting. These highlighted items are pertinent to all human services and not just to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## National Meetings and Panels During the Month of September

Posted on [September 16, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

During a two week time frame (Sept 7 – 21), Dr Fiene has had the opportunity to present and discuss pressing issues within early care and education related to COVID19. The Virtual NARA Licensing Seminar CCEPRC Use of Licensing Data ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Presentation at the NARA Licensing Seminar on Validation of Key Indicators and Risk Assessment in the State of Washington and the Province of Saskatchewan

Posted on [September 8, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Next week on November 14th, 2020 Dr Fiene will be joining Dr Sonya Stevens from the Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families; and Kim Taylor and Derek Parry from the Province of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Education to do a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Presentation Made in the State of Washington by Stevens & Fiene on New Contact Hour Metric for Tracking COVID19 Infections in Child Care Centers

Posted on [August 31, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a presentation that Drs Fiene and Stevens did last month to senior leadership in the Department of Children, Youth, and Families in the State of Washington. The presentation highlighted the encouraging results from a pilot study conducted in ...

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## Campus Tycoons Having A Positive Impact

Posted on [August 29, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a wonderful example of how students are making a positive impact. I have posted about Pandemic Analytics in a previous post after learning about their work with schools and businesses. But what really catches your attention in this ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## National Association for Regulatory Administration's 2020 Virtual Licensing Seminar, Sept 14-16, 2020

Posted on [August 27, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

2020 Virtual Licensing Seminar September 14-16 NARA presents this year's concurrent session schedule for the 2020 Virtual Licensing Seminar! This year we're featuring great conversations centered on the great work that you all do. Check out the sessions highlighted below and register ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Updated Health and Safety Briefs from the National Center for Early Childhood Quality Assurance

Posted on [August 18, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center) is pleased to share an updated series of briefs about the health and safety training topics required in the 2016 Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program Final Rule for all child care providers ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Re-Opening Your Facility and Keeping It Open Safely During A Pandemic

Posted on [August 8, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a creative model to deal with reopening schools, early care and education programs, large group settings, businesses, and then monitoring them over time. Ari Rosner provides us with a brilliant approach to setting up a defined space using ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Journal of Regulatory Science Article on a Mixed Method Program Evaluation of a Focused Child Care Monitoring Checklist

Posted on [July 22, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

A very important and significant study was reported in the Journal of Regulatory Science: A Mixed Method Program Evaluation of Annual Inspections Conducted in Childcare Programs in Washington State by Dr Sonya Stevens. This mixed method study used a program ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Virtual/Remote Inspections for Early Care and Education Programs

Posted on [July 20, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Licensing and Monitoring agencies are beginning to look more at doing “Virtual” or “Remote” inspections because of the COVID19 Pandemic. Attached below is a series of papers dealing with some key elements of this discussion: an introductory statement, NARA “Remote ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## ECPQIM: Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement & Indicator Model Tool and Validation

Posted on [July 16, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a draft of the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model Tool (ECPQIM Tool) based upon the key indicator methodology combining indicators from both research on regulatory compliance and program quality over the past 40 years. It ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Proposed COVID19 Mitigation Logic Model

Posted on [July 13, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

A week or two ago, I posted “A Tale of Two Trends” in which I attempted to show trends in daily COVID19 infection rates for countries that were successful and those that were not. This post deals with a proposed ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## COVID19 Daily Infection Rates: “The Tale of Two Trends”

Posted on [July 2, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

COVID19 Daily Infection Rates: The Top 25 Countries and Trends in the Data “The Tale of Two Trends” Richard Fiene, Ph.D. July 2020 I have been monitoring the COVID19 daily infection rates since the Johns Hopkins University site was established ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## The Washington State Foster Care Study

Posted on [June 21, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The state of Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families just published a significant foster care pilot study utilizing an innovative key predictive methodology. A mixed method correlational exploratory pilot was conducted in Washington State to determine items within the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## ECE Validation Studies Completed in Washington State and the Province of Saskatchewan

Posted on [May 27, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Two large scale early care and education validation studies were completed in the state of Washington and in the Province of Saskatchewan demonstrating the effectiveness and efficiency of the differential monitoring approaches of risk assessment and key indicators. Attached below ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Washington State Pilot Study Demonstrates Effectiveness of Contact Hours Metric in Determining COVID19 Potential Infections in Child Care

Posted on [May 26, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

An exciting development has occurred in a child care pilot study in the state of Washington in which a new monitoring methodology appears to be able to build a metric that is effective at determining potential COVID19 infection rates. The ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Ten Principles for Reopening Early Care and Education Programs

Posted on [May 12, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

1) It appears that “distancing” is a key element in the spread of the virus. Square footage, staff-child-ratio and group size are the three standards/regulations that probably have the most impact on “distancing”. Chances are the fewer staff and children ...

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## Child Care Trilemma Out of Balance

Posted on [May 4, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The Child Care Trilemma of Affordability, Availability, and Quality had reached somewhat of a balance over the past 50 years since its original identification. However, recently in the quest to get child care programs back up and running, the balancing ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## New iLookOut Publication on Cognitive Mapping

Posted on [April 9, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The iLookOut Research Team from the College of Medicine, Penn State Hershey, Bloomsburg University, New York University, and the University of Oklahoma have recently had their research into cognitive mapping published in the Journal of Distance Education and e-Learning. Please ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Formulae for a Contact Hours Metric to be Used in Emergency Child Care Technical Research Note

Posted on [April 5, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

In an earlier email posted on emergency child care, there was mention about the need to develop a new metric dealing with contact hours. The attached short technical research note provides a methodology for developing such a metric: Since monitoring ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Licensing Principles for Emergency Child Care

Posted on [April 2, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Based upon conversations that have been occurring at the national level I wanted to share the following principles that I think apply to licensing of emergency child care: 1) We need to rethink the philosophy of “Do No Harm” and ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Emergency Child Care

Posted on [March 24, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a concept paper on the need for emergency child care because of the COVID-19 pandemic and how best to meet the need: CARING FOR OUR CHILDREN AND EMERGENCY CHILD CARE FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS The two papers mentioned in ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Developmental Time/Space Continuum Theory: The Dimensionality of Space, Time as Space in Motion, and the Spatial Acquisition Device (SAD)

Posted on [March 20, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I am going to make a very different post this time versus my past blogs in this column. What I am sharing: Developmental Time/Space Continuum (DT/SC) Theory (see attached technical research note below) is something I have been working on ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Fiene to Receive “VOICE for Children Distinguished Career Award”

Posted on [February 23, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Dr Richard Fiene will be receiving a Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children VOICE for Children Distinguished Career Award (PennAEYC Award Announcement) in April of this year. Dr Fiene’s career spans 5 decades from the early 1970’s until ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Public Library of Science PLOS One: The iLookOut Research Study

Posted on [January 11, 2020](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached is the latest research article detailing the iLookOut Study and Program, Penn State, College of Medicine, Center for the Protection of Children: Generalizing findings from a randomized controlled trial to a real-world study of the iLookOut, an online education program ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## CCDF Resource Manual and Differential Monitoring Algorithms

Posted on [September 27, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below please find links to the CCDF Resource Manual which is a tremendous resource to state agency administrators as they are busy complying with the standards of the Child Care Development Fund. The Office of Child Care has done a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA Annual Licensing Seminar

Posted on [September 20, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) annual licensing seminar is next week. It brings together key researchers, policy administrators, and licensing staff and administrators to discuss the latest developments in regulatory administration and science. Attached is an overview highlighting ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Three RIKI Technical Research Notes for Scientists, ECPQIM Data Distributions, and Principles of Regulatory Compliance Measurement

Posted on [August 9, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Listed in this RIKINotes blog are three RIKI Technical Research Notes for psychological scientists (geared for all scientists considering research with regulatory compliance data)(1), ECPQIM (Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model) data distributions(2), and proposed principles of regulatory ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Economic Application Utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [August 8, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is an article published in the Academic Journal of Economic Studies utilizing the Theory of Regulatory Compliance (Fiene, 2016; 2019). The study appraises the quality of compliance upheld by selected Nigerian and Ghanaian manufacturing companies to minimum disclosure requirements ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Exchange Leadership Initiative – New Exchange Leaders Announced

Posted on [July 18, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The July-August 2019 Issue of the Child Care Exchange Magazine was just published and I have the distinct honor to be included as one of the new Exchange Leaders announced in this edition of the magazine. I feel humbled to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Theory of Early Childhood Outcomes

Posted on [July 9, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached is a technical research note/abstract (RIKInote #75) on proposing a theory of early childhood outcomes based upon the combined impacts of professional development, program quality, and regulatory compliance. This is an attempt to combine these

major systems into a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Capital Area Early Childhood Training Institute Reunion

Posted on [June 27, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

We had a wonderful reunion of many of the staff and faculty from Penn State CAECTI – Capital Area Early Childhood Training Institute. It was wonderful seeing everyone again. Here is a picture from the reunion.

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## Preparation for Washington State's Validation Study Kick Off Meetings Next Week

Posted on [June 17, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I am in the midst of preparing to fly to Seattle next week to be part of the Washington State's Validation Study Kick Off (NARA WA Validation) meetings in Olympia. This is a really big deal in early care and ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## iLookOut to appear in the Journal of Early Child Development and Care

Posted on [June 8, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

A description of the iLookOut Program for Child Abuse Prevention will appear in the Journal of Early Child Development and Care. It was published online yesterday, June 7, 2019. Below is the journal eprint. Ilookout for child abuse conceptual and ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## News from the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center at Penn State

Posted on [May 23, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the latest news (May 23, 2019) from the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center at Penn State University highlighting events, faculty, staff, students, and affiliates. News and Updates from PRC Faculty, Staff, Students and Affiliates

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## Exchange Leadership Initiative

Posted on [May 20, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I got this wonderful news today, it is truly an honor to be included: Dear Rick, Congratulations – you have been chosen to be an Exchange Leader. You will be included in the article featuring our newest Exchange Leaders in the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Journal of Regulatory Science: A Treatise on Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [May 13, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The Journal of Regulatory Science is publishing “A Treatise on the Theory of Regulatory Compliance (Fiene TRC JRS 7 2019)” this month (Volume 7)([doi.org/10.21423/jrs-vo7fiene](https://doi.org/10.21423/jrs-vo7fiene)). This article presents the latest research and thinking in how this theory impacts regulatory science and ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## iLookOut Child Abuse Prevention Program: An Online Learning Program for Protecting Children

Posted on [April 26, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The iLookOut Child Abuse Prevention program has clearly demonstrated that it significantly improves knowledge about abuse, and attitudes regarding what is needed to protect children from harm and has resulted in individuals feeling better prepared to respond to child maltreatment. ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Dr. Philip Zimbardo gives talk at Penn State Harrisburg

Posted on [April 20, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Dr. Philip Zimbardo is an influential psychologist best-known for his 1971 Stanford prison experiment. Many psychology students may also be familiar with his psychology textbooks and the Discovering Psychology video series often used in high school and psychology classrooms. Zimbardo is also ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## New Saskatchewan and NARA Project Demonstrating the Efficacy of ECPQIM and Differential Monitoring

Posted on [April 5, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

It is exciting to announce a new differential monitoring project in the Province of Saskatchewan, Canada being done by NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration. This project will assist the Ministry of Education in developing a full blown differential ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Effectiveness and Efficiency Relationship

Posted on [March 21, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

RIKI Technical Research Note #70 – Effectiveness and Efficiency Relationship with resultant Cost Benefit Analysis modeling based upon data from the Theory of Regulatory Compliance. This technical research note depicts a graphic display of the relationship between effectiveness and efficiency ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Child Care Aware of America's Child Care Licensing Database Report

Posted on [March 4, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Child Care Aware published a very significant report (Child Care Aware of America's Child Care Licensing Database: Initial Findings) on state licensing throughout the USA. It builds upon their innovative reports "We Can Do Better". This new report series utilizes ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Updating the Theory of Compliance with Big Data Analysis via the Key Indicator Methodology

Posted on [February 25, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

There is a major movement within the human services involving big data where rather than selecting samples to do analyses state/provincial agencies have the capability to provide basically population data. For the Theory of Regulatory Compliance as it involves the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA Presentation in Indiana on Differential Monitoring and Key Indicators

Posted on [February 15, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration conducted a presentation in Indiana on differential monitoring and key indicators (February 14, 2019). Please go to the following Facebook Live link to see the presentation: [Facebook Live Link](#)

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## The Relationship between Regulatory Compliance and Quality Initiatives: RIKI Technical Research Note #67

Posted on [February 1, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The Relationship between Early Care & Education Quality Initiatives and Regulatory Compliance: RIKI Technical Research Note #67 Richard Fiene, Ph.D. February 2019 Over the past couple of decades there has been many early care and education initiatives, such as Quality ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Dissertation on the Effectiveness CCR&R Services Using a Coaching Model on Licensing Compliance

Posted on [January 29, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is an interesting Early Care and Education Dissertation completed by a doctoral student at the University of South Carolina, Wenjia Wang. “The purposes of this study were to investigate the significance of the impact of CCR&R services using a coaching ...

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## Boston Globe Article

Posted on [January 21, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The following article appeared in the Boston Globe this morning: With New Day-Care Inspection System, High Caseloads and Shorter Visits – The Boston Globe

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## Some Technical Considerations in Using Complaint Data and Regulatory Compliance Data: RIKIllc Technical Research Note #66

Posted on [January 14, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Some Technical Considerations in Using Complaint Data and Regulatory Compliance Data: RIKIllc Technical Research Note #66  
Richard Fiene, Ph.D. January 2019 As promised in RIKIllc Technical Research Note #65, this Note will provide details on the and analytical considerations ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Relationship between Regulatory Compliance and Complaints in a Human Services Licensing System: RIKIllc Technical Research Note #65

Posted on [January 14, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

What is the Relationship between Regulatory Compliance and Complaints Richard Fiene, Ph.D. January 2019 Within licensing measurement and the validation of licensing systems it is particularly difficult to have specific outcome metrics that can be measured within a human services ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Data Distributions for the Major ECE Systems: Licensing, QRIS, and ERS

Posted on [January 5, 2019](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I thought it important to share with researchers who may be doing ECE research on Licensing, QRIS – Quality Rating and Improvement Systems, and ERS – Environmental Rating Scales. Usually when we are doing research, we find the data to ...

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## Theory of Regulatory Compliance and Quadratic Regression

Posted on [December 25, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a RIKI LLC brief technical research note on the Theory of Regulatory Compliance and quadratic regressions: Theory of Regulatory Compliance and Quadratic Regression

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## Evolution of Differential Monitoring

Posted on [December 13, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached please find a Technical Research Note on the Evolution of Differential Monitoring with special emphasis on Key Indicators and Risk Assessment. Evolution of Differential Monitoring

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## The Importance of Immunizations

Posted on [December 6, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Having children properly immunized is a very important goal within public health. It helps to protect children's health. Within early care and education programs, immunizations are both a standard of care as well as an outcome of that care. Recently, ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Child Care Licensing Study Trend Analysis

Posted on [October 3, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

After returning from a stimulating week at the National Association for Regulatory Administration's (NARA) Licensing Seminar and the Expert Licensing Panel hosted by NARA and the National Center for Early Childhood Quality Assurance (NCECQA), I learned about a new resource ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Follow-Up Detail to the Three State Standards Validation Using Stepping Stones as a National Standard

Posted on [October 3, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Below I have a hotlink to a chart and graphic display which provides additional detail to an earlier RIKI Blog post on a three state standards validation study using Stepping Stones to Caring for Our Children. The chart provides the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## National Association for Regulatory Administration's Licensing Seminar in Williamsburg, VA (Sept 24-26)

Posted on [September 19, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The National Association for Regulatory Administration's Licensing Seminar was held in Williamsburg, Virginia from September 24-26th along with the Expert Licensing Panel hosted by the National Center for Early Childhood Quality Assurance from September 26th-27th. Here is the URL – NARA ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Theory of Regulatory Compliance Models

Posted on [August 25, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached to this blog is a technical research note outlining the three theory of regulatory compliance models that have been used over the past 40 years describing the essence of this theory. It is interesting to note that the three ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Washington State's Early Care & Education Research Agenda

Posted on [August 20, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

It is with great excitement that I share with you today two very significant publications from the Washington State's Department of Children, Youth and Families which outline their research agenda for licensing of early care and education programs. These publications ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Validation of Regulations in Three States Using Stepping Stones to Caring for Our Children as Our National Comparison

Posted on [July 31, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The past several posts to this blog have dealt with standards, rules/regulations, Caring for Our Children, and unlicensed child care. This specific post presents some initial analyses of doing a validation study of regulations in three states using as the ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## ECPQIM – Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicators Model Data Base

Posted on [July 31, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the article and comprehensive data base for the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model (ECPQIM) I have been suggesting to use as a systems approach for monitoring and evaluating early care and education programs.

ECPQIM – ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Two Newspaper Articles on Unlicensed Child Care and Home Based Child Care

Posted on [July 13, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The following two links provide interesting newspaper articles for parents and policy makers that fit nicely with my two previous blog posts on Caring for Our Children Basics and the Parent's Guide to Choosing Safe and Healthy Child Care. Unlicensed ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## A Parent's Guide to Choosing Safe and Healthy Child Care

Posted on [July 7, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

For those who follow my RIKI Website and Blog, I have in two previous RIKI Blogs posted Generic Key Indicators for Early Care and Education and Caring for Our Children Basics for state administrators. In this blog, I want to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Generic Key Indicators from Regulatory Compliance, Professional Development and Quality Rating Improvement Systems

Posted on [June 25, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I get asked all the time what are the most salient generic key indicators from all the various sectors of the early care and education system, such as regulatory compliance/licensing, professional development and quality rating improvement systems (QRIS). I have ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Caring for Our Children Basics

Posted on [June 25, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Caring for Our Children Basics has fallen off the radar screen when it comes to monitoring, regulatory compliance and standards development in early care and education (ECE). This is a very important set of standards that has distilled the most ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **NARA's Key Indicator Facilitated Dialogues to Continue at their Licensing Seminar in Williamsburg, Virginia, September 24-26.**

Posted on [June 16, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The second NARA Key Indicator Facilitated Dialogues session was held yesterday (June 15, 2018) in which Dr Fiene discussed the evolution of the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model, the Differential Monitoring Logic Model and Algorithm, and his ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **NARA's Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues this Friday, June 15th**

Posted on [June 14, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues this Friday, June 15th Join Dr. Fiene and NARA at 3-4pm AT | 2-3pm ET | 1-2pm CT | 12-1pm MT | 11-12pm PT | 10-11am AKT Child Care | Adult Care | Child Welfare NARA is excited to present facilitated dialogues on Key Indicators with Dr. Rick ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Regulatory Compliance Skewness and Scaling for Decision Making**

Posted on [June 14, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two technical research notes/short papers on regulatory compliance skewness and scaling for decision making. The first note deals with the issues associated with the terrible skewness found in regulatory compliance data while the second research note proposes a ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## **Fiene Algorithm for Generating Regulatory Compliance Key Indicators (RCKI)**

Posted on [June 7, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is the most recent simplified version of the Fiene Algorithm for Generating Regulatory Compliance Key Indicators (RCKI) Add up regulatory non-compliances for all programs, agencies, jurisdictions, etc... Review Regulatory Compliance history sorted from high to low Nominal (Compliance(1)/Non-Compliance(o)) or ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Pubs, Docs, Pres for State Licensing Administrators

Posted on [May 6, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are a series of publications, documents, technical notes, and slides for licensing administrators related to licensing measurement & systems, and regulatory compliance to keep in mind as they design and implement their monitoring systems: LICENSING MEASUREMENT CHAPTER2 Instrument-Based Program ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Ordinal Scaling in Licensing Measurement

Posted on [April 30, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have attached a short technical paper (TRC Ordinal Scale Licensing Measurement ) on moving from the predominant licensing measurement paradigm which measures rules and standards at a nominal scale level to an ordinal scale level. By introducing this alternate ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Assorted Flyers and Brochures Describing RIKILLC, ECPQI2M, KI, QI, RA, and DM

Posted on [April 17, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are an assortment of flyers and brochures developed by the Research Institute for Key Indicators LLC (RIKILLC) and the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) describing the Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model (ECPQI2M), Key Indicators (KI), ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## ECPQI2M Research Articles

Posted on [April 9, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The following three journal articles published in 2013, 2015, and 2017 focus on the key components of ECPQI2M – Early Childhood Program Quality Improvement and Indicator Model in regulatory program compliance (1IJCCEP), program quality via Quality Rating & Improvement Systems ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Research Projects Over the Past 40 Years

Posted on [April 9, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have had the opportunity to work on some very interesting projects over the past 40 years+ as a research psychologist and professor. I have worked with many National Organizations; Federal, Local and State Agencies; and private human service agencies ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Linear versus Non-Linear Reality

Posted on [April 9, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are some notes that I hope will generate a good deal of thinking about how we approach reality given some random observations about data (mathematics and statistics), psychology (public policy) and physics (time and space). This is very different ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Building Effective and Efficient Program Monitoring Systems for Human Services

Posted on [April 9, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached is a paper that describes the basic tenets/elements of building an effective and efficient program monitoring system for human services. State administrators are constantly under pressure to ensure the health and safety of clients (effectiveness) while not being overly ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Three Things We Have Learned in Regulatory Compliance

Posted on [April 3, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a very short paper/abstract entitled: Three Things We Have Learned about Key Indicators, Risk Assessments, and Differential Monitoring over the past 40+ years of doing research on these methodologies. KI, RA, DM National Update

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## Regulatory Compliance Decision Making Using the Key Indicator Methodology

Posted on [March 30, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

In this blog I have a new Technical Research Paper on how best to make regulatory compliance decisions. “The purpose of the paper is to provide guidance to regulatory administrators in decision making regarding the Key Indicator Methodology. A 2 x ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA's First Key Indicator System Facilitated Dialogue Session Held

Posted on [March 27, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA's Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues was held on Friday, March 23 Participants joined Dr. Fiene and NARA at the following time to discuss Key Indicators, Licensing Measurement & Systems 3-4pm AT | 2-3pm ET | 1-2pm CT | 12-1pm MT | 11-12pm PT | 10-11am AKT Child Care | Adult Care ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA's Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues this Friday, March 23rd

Posted on [March 20, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues this Friday, March 23 Join Dr. Fiene and NARA at 3-4pm AT | 2-3pm ET | 1-2pm CT | 12-1pm MT | 11-12pm PT | 10-11am AKT Child Care | Adult Care | Child Welfare NARA is excited to present facilitated dialogues on Key Indicators with Dr. Rick ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA's KEY INDICATOR FACILITATED DIALOGUES with DR. RICK FIENE

Posted on [March 13, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA (National Association for Regulatory Administration) is excited to present new, facilitated dialogues on Key Indicators with Dr. Rick Fiene, the father of the Key Indicator System. The Key Indicator System methodology applies across all licensing areas; these dialogues will allow ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues with Dr. Rick Fiene

Posted on [February 21, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Key Indicator System: Facilitated Dialogues w/ Dr. Rick Fiene NEW! FOR PROFESSIONALS IN... Child Care | Adult Care | Child Welfare In partnership with Dr. Rick Fiene, NARA is starting facilitated dialogues on Key Indicator Systems. The Key Indicator System ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA March Webinar: Key Indicators for Adult Care

Posted on [February 21, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

MARCH WEBINAR KEY INDICATORS FOR ADULT CARE NARA Webinar: Key Indicator Systems in Adult Care Settings – A Powerful Resource Thursday, March 8 2018 – Register today! 1:30pm AT 12:30pm ET 11:30am CT 10:30am MT 9:30am PT 8:30am AKT Key Indicator Systems identify a statistically-validated ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Early Childhood Task Force with Fred Rogers as Honorary Chairperson

Posted on [February 20, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)



Here is an oldie but one that is worth sharing since we are celebrating Fred Rogers 50th Anniversary of Mr Rogers Neighborhood: creation of the Early Childhood Task Force with Mr Rogers as the honorary chairperson as signed by then ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Early Childhood Innovation Prize

Posted on [February 3, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This is one of the most interesting initiatives and solutions in early care and education that I have seen. It is like the “Nobel Prize” for Early Childhood Education. What a great idea! So collaborative and creative. Please check out ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## New OPRE Research Report on QRIS Validation Studies

Posted on [January 26, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Attached is a new OPRE Research Report on the Validation of Quality Ratings Used in QRIS – Quality Rating and Improvement Systems: Validation of Quality Ratings in QRIS

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## NARA Webinar: Theory of Regulatory Compliance, January 25, 2018

Posted on [January 9, 2018](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA Webinar: Theory of Regulatory Compliance Thursday, January 25, 2018 – Register today! 1:30pm AT 12:30pm ET 11:30am CT 10:30am MT 9:30am PT 8:30am AKT The theory of regulatory compliance is the basis for risk assessment, key indicators and differential monitoring. Without ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## iLookOut for Child Abuse

Posted on [November 9, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The iLookOut for Child Abuse Online Training Program sponsored by the Center for the Protection of Children and Department of Humanities, Penn State Hershey and funded by National Institute for Child Health and Human Development is a must see for human service state ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Licensing and Quality Data Distributions

Posted on [November 9, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two technical research notes which depict licensing and quality data distributions from several states and national data bases maintained by the Research Institute for Key Indicators (RIKILLC). Licensing and Quality Descriptive Statistics with Graphic Licensing and Program Quality ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Article published in Journal of Pediatric Health Care

Posted on [October 20, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The following article is being published in the Journal of Pediatric Health Care, Volume 31, Issue 6, November–December 2017, Pages 684-694: Caring for Our Children Health and Safety Standards Into Child Care Practice: Child Care Health Consultation Improves Infant and Toddler Care. This ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Efficient and Effective Monitoring in Licensing Peer Learning Group

Posted on [September 25, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The BUILD Initiative – QRIS National Learning Network, NECQAC – National Early Childhood Quality Assurance Center, and NARA- National Association for Regulatory Administration have collaborated on the development and implementation of a major initiative with ten states dealing with more ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA Webinar: The Importance of Key Indicators and Risk Assessment in a New National ECE Monitoring System

Posted on [September 5, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA Webinar: The Importance of Key Indicators and Risk Assessment in a New National ECE Monitoring System and the Introduction of a new Coaching Model Thursday, September 28, 2017 – Register Today! We will explore how key indicator and risk ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA 2017 Licensing Seminar

Posted on [August 30, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) is holding its 25th Annual Licensing Seminar next month. Please see the attached brochure which highlights this premier seminar on regulatory administration and compliance in the human services field (NARA 2017 Seminar Program). ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKILLC Clients and Proposals

Posted on [August 26, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a listing of RIKILLC past and present clients and collaborators as well as proposals that have been submitted to clients and interested clients who have contacted RIKILLC related to services, and expert witness engagements or consults to give ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## New Resources from the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance

Posted on [August 23, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are two new resources from the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center): National Program Standards Crosswalk Tool Developing and Revising Child Care Licensing Requirements “The National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center) is pleased ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Child Care Health Consultation Improves Infant and Toddler Care

Posted on [August 20, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a link to the Journal of Pediatric Health Care which published a very significant study on how child care health consultation improves infant and toddler care.

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## CCIS – Child Caregiver Interaction Scale

Posted on [August 13, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

I have attached two documents by Dr Barbara Carl, Penn State University: the CCIS – Child Caregiver Interaction Scale and a powerpoint presentation regarding the tool. This tool is a wonderful example of an effective and efficient observation tool to ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Contact Information

Posted on [July 6, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Many of you have asked what is the best way for getting in touch with me. Here is my latest contact information: Dr Richard Fiene, Senior Research Psychologist & Director Research Institute for Key Indicators LLC (RIKILLC) 717-598-8908 RFiene@RIKInstitute.com Email ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Penn State Prevention Research Center Updates their Website

Posted on [June 30, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The Pennsylvania State University Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center has updated their website recently: <http://www.prevention.psu.edu/>

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## NARA Licensing Key Indicator Systems Flyer

Posted on [June 28, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

This is a new NARA Flyer describing the Licensing Key Indicator Systems. The flyer provides an overview to the key indicator methodology and its possible uses within agencies: Please click on the following Link: NARA Licensing Key Indicators ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA and Montana

Posted on [June 28, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here is a collaborative effort between NARA and Montana describing the Key Indicator System Methodology: NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration Key Indicator Powerpoint Presentation and Audio:

([https://zoom.us/recording/play/4L2v\\_U3rxDuNe5bZDPpR8mEXaIpkXzunaG\\_H8kohWULjUVJ6CiqTeooNmMVpHQyw](https://zoom.us/recording/play/4L2v_U3rxDuNe5bZDPpR8mEXaIpkXzunaG_H8kohWULjUVJ6CiqTeooNmMVpHQyw))

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## NARA Webinar: A Canadian Perspective: Implementing Tiered Licensing in the Province of Ontario

Posted on [June 7, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA Webinar: A Canadian Perspective: Implementing Tiered Licensing in the Province of Ontario Thursday, June 22 Register Today! Faced with growing caseloads for their child care inspectors, the province of Ontario recently implemented a “tiered” approach to allocating licensing resources. Under ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKI

Posted on [February 28, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

The RIKI (Research Institute for Key Indicators) Institute, directed by Dr Richard Fiene, Retired Professor of Psychology and Human Development, Penn State University, focus is to improve the quality of early care and education programs nationally and internationally through an ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## NARA February 23rd Webinar on Regulatory Compliance Monitoring Paradigms

Posted on [February 17, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration will be hosting a Webinar (February 23rd) on Regulatory Compliance Monitoring Paradigms. Please see the following URL for additional information: NARA Webinar Announcement The Penn State Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center Webpage ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Technical Research Notes & Papers

Posted on [February 11, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are several Technical Research Notes and Papers updating, refining, and validating the differential monitoring, risk assessment and key indicator methodologies: Regulatory Compliance Matrices Theory of Regulatory Compliance & Regulatory Compliance Monitoring Paradigm Matrix Research Notes Key Indicator Methodology 2015 ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Theory of Regulatory Compliance Working Research Papers & Algorithms 2017

Posted on [February 7, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are some working papers and graphics I have started to work on to provide direction and guidance for regulatory compliance monitoring at both the state and national levels. Most of the examples are from early care and education but the concepts are generic and can be applied to any public or private human service [...]

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## Research Services

Posted on [February 1, 2017](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

If you are in need of empirically based decision making via big data analysis, RIKILLC may be a resource you explore. RIKILLC can help organizations, agencies, and businesses as they wade through the reams of data swirling in their various ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Regulatory Compliance Monitoring Paradigms and More

Posted on [December 29, 2016](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are some working papers and graphics I have started to work on to provide direction and guidance for regulatory compliance monitoring at both the state and national levels. Most of the examples are from early care and education but ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## Latest RIKI Research related to ECPQIM and DMLMA

Posted on [October 18, 2016](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

Here are the two versions of the RIKI Book of Readings for ECPQIM/DMLMA: 1) Main Reports and Papers, 486 pages (15 MB).

This research monograph/book of readings/reports/papers contains the basic reports written during 2012-2016 related to

ECPQIM/DMLMA now in its ... [Continue reading →](#)

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## RIKI & NARA PARTNERSHIP

Posted on [February 20, 2016](#) by [Dr Fiene](#)

For all future research and development for differential monitoring, risk assessment and key indicator methodologies please go to the NARA – National Association for Regulatory Administration. Dr Fiene pictured with Tara Orlowski, NARA President and Marcus Williams, NARA Executive ...

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