

THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MODEL*

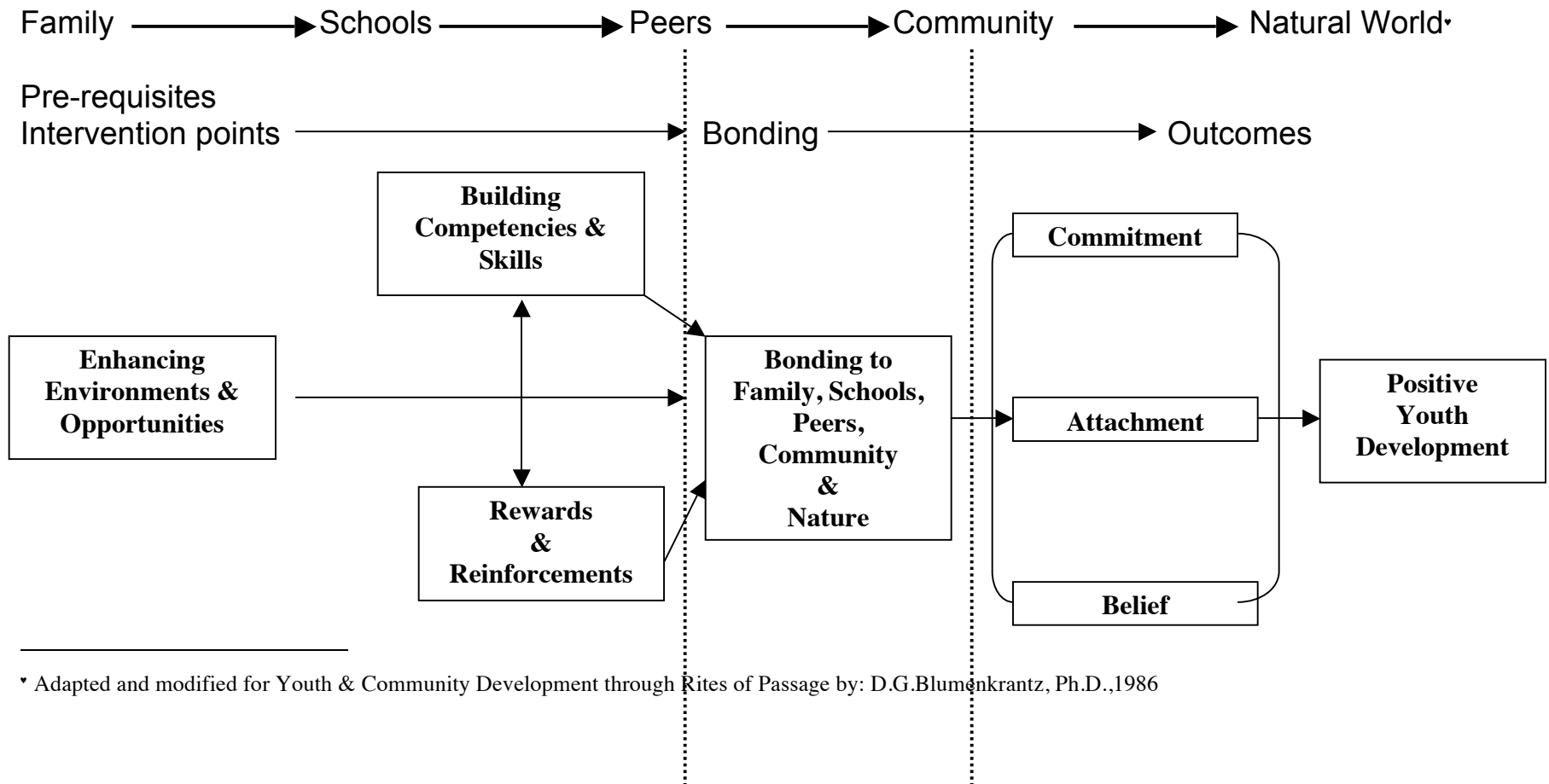
Drs. J. David Hawkins and Richard Catalano at the University of Washington

Youth development involves **connecting** and **enhancing** environments and building competencies, which promote the positive development of children and youth in their families, in their schools, among their peers in their community and with a strong connection to the natural world. Youth come of age through initiation into these environments, which are connected, non-sequentially, within a systems framework that promotes whole human beings and strong, resilient and adaptive communities.

Guided by the 20 elements in the architectural structure for youth & community development through rites of passage and within an “emergent design” process activities intensify focus on particular values, attitudes and competencies expected within each environment. Demonstrations of competencies, family and community celebrations periodically mark special times in a child’s development.

Designs include: Initiation of Scholars® - Initiation into Play – Parent/Child change of status - Giving back & Community Service – Therapy as Initiation and more.

Impact of major systems/environments on child development = *Initiation opportunities*.



* Adapted and modified for Youth & Community Development through Rites of Passage by: D.G.Blumenkrantz, Ph.D.,1986