



# **The International Association for Relationship Research Conference 2010**

## **Conference Program and Abstract Book**

**Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya  
July 22-26, 2010**

## **LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

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Ofra Mayseless, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel

Mario Mikulincer, Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel

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## **International Association for Relationship Research (IARR)**

[www.iarr.org](http://www.iarr.org)

The International Association for Relationship Research (IARR) is an interdisciplinary organization that strives to (a) promote advances in the scientific study of personal relationships and (b) encourage collaboration among students, new scholars and experienced scholars. IARR resulted from the integration of two prior organizations (the International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships, the International Network on Personal Relationships) and has worked to maintain the high standards set by each organization. IARR members share an interest in relationship structures (e.g., romance/marriage, friendship, peer, parent-child, roommate, coworkers, siblings, extended family) and relationship processes (e.g., love, power, intimacy, attachment, jealousy, disclosure, conflict resolution, commitment). The organization sponsors two journals (*Personal Relationships*, *Journal of Social and Personal Relationship*), a newsletter (*Relationship Research News*), a book series (*Advances in Personal Relationships*) and workshops/conferences. Recent conferences have been held in Greece, USA, Australia and Brazil. The 2010 conference is being held in Israel. Future conferences are being planned for the USA and Poland.

IARR's members represent a broad range of disciplines, such as family studies, psychology, communication, sociology, child/lifespan development, gerontology, education, clinical practice (e.g., counseling, therapy) and anthropology. The organization has members from diverse countries and cultures. IARR benefits from the disciplinary and cultural diversity of its members.

Jacki Fitzpatrick

President

International Association for Relationship Research

Sample countries/regions of IARR members include:

|            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Australia  | Japan                    |
| Austria    | Kuwait                   |
| Bangladesh | Latvia                   |
| Belgium    | Malaysia                 |
| Brazil     | Mexico                   |
| Canada     | Netherlands              |
| Chile      | New Zealand              |
| China      | Poland                   |
| Colombia   | Portugal                 |
| Croatia    | Romania                  |
| Denmark    | Russia                   |
| England    | Scotland                 |
| Finland    | Singapore                |
| France     | South Africa             |
| Germany    | Spain                    |
| Greece     | Sweden                   |
| Hungary    | Switzerland              |
| India      | Taiwan                   |
| Iran       | Turkey                   |
| Israel     | Ukraine                  |
| Italy      | United Arab Emirates     |
| Jamaica    | United States of America |

## Letter from IARR President Jacki Fitzpatrick

Hello Everyone,

I wish to welcome you to the 2010 conference of the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR) at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) of Herzliya, Israel. I hope that this conference will be a good experience for you. This conference is designed to showcase the diverse areas of relationship research of interest to colleagues in various disciplines. As we know that relationship expertise is not limited to only one profession, we have tried to integrate perspectives from several disciplines (e.g., family studies, psychology, education, communication, sociology, biology). We hope that this cross-disciplinary approach will facilitate communication among colleagues during the conference and professional collaborations in future years.

This conference is the result of tremendous efforts by several colleagues. For the past two years, Mario Mikulincer (Local Arrangements Committee Chair), Ruth Sharabany (Program Committee Co-Chair) and Ashley Duggan (Program Committee Co-Chair) have worked tirelessly to bring IARR's conference goals to fruition. I am grateful for their dedication and persistence. In addition, I appreciate their leadership in communication with other committee members, IDC colleagues, community members (e.g., hotel managers, travel coordinators), and the IARR Board of Directors.

I wish to thank the colleagues at the IDC. The administrators have generously provided the conference facilities (e.g., meeting rooms, audiovisual equipment) for our use. In addition, they have provided financial support, which allowed IARR to keep conference registration costs at a relatively low rate. The IDC faculty, staff and student assistants have given a great deal of their time to conference preparations as well. It is possible that much of their work will be unseen. If you have a pleasant experience during this conference, then I can assure that it is a result of their efforts.

The conclusion of this conference will mark the end of my term as IARR President. It has been an honor and privilege to serve IARR during the 2009-2010 term. I wish to thank all Officers, Committee Chairs, Editors, Boardmembers (listed below) and Committee Members for their assistance. I am sure that IARR will benefit from the leadership of the incoming President, Anita Vangelisti. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Jacki Fitzpatrick

President

International Association for Relationship Research

2009-2010 Board of Directors, Officers, Editors and Committee Chairs  
(Listed Alphabetically)

- Rebecca Adams, Editor of *Personal Relationships* (2009)
- Leah Bryant, Mentorship Committee Chair and 2009 New Scholar Workshop Coordinator
- Lorne Campbell, Editor of *Personal Relationships* (2010)
- Ashley Duggan, 2010 Conference Program Committee Co-Chair
- Brooke Feeney, Secretary-Treasurer
- Frank Fincham, Past President
- Jacki Fitzpatrick, President
- Stanley Gaines, Membership Committee Chair
- Omri Gillath, 2009 Mini-Conference Committee Chair and Future Conference Committee Chair
- Denise Haunani Solomon, Interdisciplinary Task Force (Ad Hoc)
- Maria Kaźmierczak, Boardmember at Large
- Andrea Lambert, New Professional Representative Boardmember
- Benjamin Le, Website Committee Chair
- Mario Mikulincer, 2010 Conference Local Arrangements Committee Chair and Editor of *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* (2010)
- Paul Mongeau, Editor of *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* (2009)
- João M. Moreira, Boardmember at Large and International Committee Chair
- Marian Morry, Editor of *Relationship Research News* (2010)
- Terri Orbuch, Media Relations Committee Chair
- Michael Roloff, Awards Committee Chair
- Ruth Sharabany, 2010 Conference Program Committee Co-Chair
- Susan Sprecher, Publications Committee Chair
- Anita Vangelisti, Vice-President/President-Elect
- Lesley Verhofstedt, Editor of *Relationship Research News* (2009)

## Letter from the IARR President-Elect Anita Vangelisti

Welcome to the 2010 biannual conference of the International Association for Relationship Research (IARR). As you browse through this program, you will see that it includes a wide array of topics associated with the study of personal relationships. The diversity of topics is impressive as is the number of different disciplines and nations represented.

Some of you remember the small conferences on personal relationships that were held in the late 1980s and early 1990s when people would gather in the lobby of a college dormitory after panels were over to talk about their latest ideas. Others of you are newcomers and are more familiar with the larger program and the broad range of social and intellectual opportunities it brings. While these conferences have grown a great deal over the past two and a half decades, they still offer wonderful opportunities for researchers and practitioners to share their work, banter over ideas, rekindle old professional relationships, and establish new ones. There are invited lectures, symposia, panel sessions, and poster sessions, as well as less formal gatherings over lunches and coffee. I encourage you to take advantage of as many of these as you can.

I also must echo Professor Fitzpatrick's thanks to the members of the Local Arrangements committee and their Chair, Mario Mikuliner, as well as the members of the Program Committee and their two Co-Chairs, Ruth Sharabany and Ashley Duggan. These individuals have devoted an incredible amount of time and effort to making this conference one that is both productive and enjoyable.

The membership of IARR understands, better than most, what it means to be an interdependent community of scholars and, as such, we also understand what it takes to make a professional organization like IARR function. It is impossible to acknowledge all of dedicated individuals who have contributed to the Association and who have made this conference possible. A few that deserve special mention include our current President, Jacki Fitzpatrick, our Board of Directors, our journal editors, and the members and chairs of our standing committees. If you run into any of these folks during the conference, please express your thanks. I can assure you that they'll appreciate it.

In the meantime, enjoy the conference and take some time to stroll on beach in Herzliya!

## **Welcome letter from Ruth Sharabany and Ashly Dugan**

### **Co-Chairs of Scientific Program**

It is our great pleasure to see the 2010 IARR Conference come to full fruition. We are privileged to have the opportunity for leadership that allows us to invite world renowned scholars as our keynote speakers and to program the cutting-edge research of our participants. We hope that the program balances intellectually-stimulating sessions with experiences for personal and professional development.

We are thankful for the many IARR members who worked with us on the program, including our academic program committee, including **Scott Cristopher, Sandra Faulkner, Ofra Mayseless, Joao Moreira, and Terri Orbuch**, for your support and feedback at each step along the way. We also wish to thank our **abstract reviewers** for your timely and thoughtful reviews, our **students** for your editing and sorting assistance, the former planners, particularly **Lisa Diamond, Wendy Samter, and John Caughlin**, for sharing great wisdom along the way, **Mario Mikulincer** for your superb competence and dedication, and **Jacki Fitzpatrick** for your thoughtful words throughout the process.

We are certain that returning IARR conference participants join us in anticipation of great sessions and events to be shared, and informal conversations that shape our work and our professional relationships for years to come.

For new participants, we hope the program introduces you to the best of IARR. In addition to academic sessions, we encourage you to attend mentorship opportunities, the business meeting, conversations with our editorial boards, and the special events.

We are proud to continue the tradition of sharing great research within the encouraging context our IARR conferences offer.

We appreciate your support.

Ruth Sharabany and  
Ashley Duggan  
Academic Planning Co-Chairs

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# ***Program at a Glance***

| <b><i>Thursday July 22</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                             |                              |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 9:30am-5:30pm                  | <b>IARR Board of Directors Meeting</b>                                                                                                                      | Room 320                     |
| 2:30pm-6:30pm                  | <b>Conference registration</b>                                                                                                                              | Arison/Lauder Building Lobby |
| 6:30pm-7:15pm                  | <b>Opening Reception</b>                                                                                                                                    | Sculpture Garden             |
| 7:15pm-8:30pm                  | <b>Opening Remarks and Invited Lecture #1</b><br><b>Amia Liblich</b><br><b>Friendship or Relationships? Some Observations Based on Recent Ethnographies</b> | Ivcher Auditorium            |

| <b>Friday July 23</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30am-8:30am         | <b>Conference registration</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Arison/Lauder Building Lobby                                                                         |
| 8:30am-10:00am        | <b>Session OA: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OA.01</b> Social regulation: The role of significant others in regulating affect, cognition, and behavior<br><b>OA.02</b> The emotional climate of relationship conflict: Individual differences in physiology and behavior<br><b>OA.03</b> The Cross-Culture Difficulties of Deviating Dating Norms<br><b>OA.04</b> The Importance of Positive Interpersonal Relationships on a Patient's Health<br><b>OA.05</b> Creating, Developing and Maintaining Friendships<br><b>OA.06</b> Multi-Cultural Studies on the Field of Friendship Research                                                                                                                                 | Room L201<br>Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104                           |
| 10:00am-10:45am       | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                      |
| 10:45am-12:15pm       | <b>Session OB: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OB.01</b> New Trends in the Study of the Attachment Bases of Interpersonal Processes<br><b>OB.02</b> Cross-Cultural Studies of Romantic Relationships<br><b>OB.03</b> When Romantic Partners Breakup: Understanding Unwanted Pursuit and Stalking<br><b>OB.04</b> Depression in Different Age Groups and External Relationship Factors<br><b>OB.05</b> Same-Sex Romantic Relationships: Sexual Practices, Partner Preferences and the Unique Problem of Marriage<br><b>OB.06</b> Family Relational Research as Implemented in Clinical Settings and Everyday Behavior<br><b>OB.07</b> Marital Relations and Parenting<br><b>OB.08</b> Full House: Global Studies on Parenting | Room L201<br>Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110<br>Room A111 |

## Friday July 23

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:15pm-1:45pm | <p><b>Lunch Break</b></p> <p><b>LUNCH MEETING</b> New professionals and graduate students Mentorship Lunch -- Professional Turning Points Q&amp;A with Esteemed Scholars</p> <p><i>Sponsored by the Mentorship Committee, Chair, Leah E. Bryant, DePaul University</i></p> <p>The mentorship luncheon is designed for junior scholars (individuals in graduate programs through pre-tenure years in academic tracks). There will be two parts to the luncheon. Part one is the introduction of <i>Esteemed Scholars</i>, where they will each share with the audience a brief overview of turning points in their professional lives. Part two will involve smaller groups with esteemed scholars and new scholars.</p> <p><b>Esteemed Scholar Participants:</b> Christopher Agnew, F. Scott Christopher, Michael Cunningham, Eli Finkel, Catrin Finkenauer, Terri Orbuch, Ruth Sharabany, Phillip Shaver, Brian Spitzberg, Susan Sprecher</p> <p><b>EDITORIAL MEETING</b> Meeting of <i>present</i> Editor and Associate Editors of the <i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> (closed)</p> | <p>Room A206</p> <p>Room A110</p>                                                                                                       |
| 1:45pm-3:15pm  | <p><b>Session OC: Symposia and panel sessions</b></p> <p><b>OC.01</b> Adult Attachment Orientations and Physiological Responses to Threats</p> <p><b>OC.02</b> Self-Regulation and Romantic Relationships</p> <p><b>OC.03</b> A Self determination theory perspective on close relationships</p> <p><b>OC.04</b> Influence of Conflict and Hurt on Attachment Styles and Resulting Relational Behaviors</p> <p><b>OC.05</b> Mental Health Studies in Relational Research</p> <p><b>OC.06</b> The Wind Beneath My Wings: The Role of Empathy and Support in Couple Relationships</p> <p><b>OC.07</b> Attachment Through the Years</p> <p><b>OC.08</b> Invited Symposium: Navigating Trauma</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>Room L203</p> <p>Room L201</p> <p>Room L204</p> <p>Room L102</p> <p>Room L103</p> <p>Room L104</p> <p>Room A110</p> <p>Room A109</p> |
| 3:15pm-3:45pm  | <p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                         |

## Friday July 23

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3:45pm-5:15pm | <p><b>Session PA: Poster Session #1 and Group Session</b></p> <p><b>PA.01</b> Development and Maintenance of Long Term Relationships</p> <p><b>PA.02</b> Close Relationships Dealing with Violence and Conflict</p> <p><b>PA.03</b> Comparing Men and Women: From First Dates to Committed Romantic Relationships</p> <p><b>PA.04</b> Developing Close Relationships</p> <p><b>PA.05</b> Family Relationships</p> <p><b>PA.06</b> Love yourself Before Loving Others</p> <p><b>PA.07</b> Children's Relationships</p> <p><b>PA.08</b> Being Alone is Good, Unless One is Always Alone</p> <p><b>GROUP A</b> Psychological and sociological aspects of social identity in late life</p> <p><b>GROUP B</b> Developmental research on relationship</p> | <p>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby</p> <p>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby</p> <p>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby</p> <p>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby</p> <p>Economics Building Lobby</p> <p>Economics Building Lobby</p> <p>Economics Building Lobby</p> <p>Economics Building Lobby</p> <p>Room L103</p> <p>Room L104</p> |
| 5:15pm-6:15pm | <p><b>Invited Lecture #2</b></p> <p><b>Ariel Knafo</b></p> <p><b>Genes, Parenting, and the Parent-Child Relationship</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>Ivcher Auditorium</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 6:20pm-7:40pm | <p><b>IARR Member Business Meeting: Open Discussion with IARR President, Jacki Fitzpatrick</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Ivcher Auditorium</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| <b>Saturday July 24</b> |                                                                                                                                                            |                   |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 9:30am-10:30am          | <b>Conference registration</b>                                                                                                                             | Ivcher Auditorium |
| 10:30am-11:30am         | <b>Invited Lecture #3</b><br><b>Lisa Diamond</b><br><b>Where's the Sex in Relationship Research? Where are the Relationships in Sex Research?</b>          | Ivcher Auditorium |
| 11:30am-12:00pm         | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                        |                   |
| 12:00pm-1:00pm          | <b>Invited Lecture #4</b><br><b>Susan Sprecher</b><br><b>Perspectives on Relationship Compatibility, Compatibility Matches, and Compatibility Matching</b> | Ivcher Auditorium |
| 1:10pm-9:00pm           | <b>Half-Day Trip to the Old City of Jerusalem</b><br>(lunch included)                                                                                      |                   |
| 9:00pm-10:00pm          | <b>"Night Spectacular" at Tower of David, Jerusalem</b>                                                                                                    |                   |

| <b><i>Sunday July 25</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7:30am-8:30am                | <b>Conference registration</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Arison/Lauder Lobby                                                                                  |
| 8:30am-10:00am               | <b>Session OD: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OD.01</b> Attachment research in Australia: Themes and contexts<br><b>OD.02</b> Loss within the Family and its Effects on Parenthood<br><b>OD.03</b> The Role of Attachment, Stress, and Hurt in Relationships<br><b>OD.04</b> Sexual desire, the weakest link of couple interaction: Integrating sexuality with other relationship dimensions<br><b>OD.05</b> The Influences of Hazing, Bullying, Conflict, and Hate<br><b>OD.06</b> An Intercultural Approach to Parent-Child Relationships<br><b>OD.07</b> Early Stage Intense Love and Mating Preferences<br><b>OD.08</b> Examination of Attachment in Dependent Individuals | Room L102<br>Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L201<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110<br>Room A109 |
| 10:00am-10:45am              | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                      |
| 10:45am-12:15pm              | <b>Session OE: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OE.01</b> Invited Symposium - Multicultural Experiences in Close Relationships<br><b>OE.02</b> Multiple perspectives on adolescent-parent relationships<br><b>OE.03</b> Relationship Dissolution and Break-Ups<br><b>OE.04</b> Connecting the Body and the Mind: Studies on Physical Health<br><b>OE.05</b> Attachment-Related Childhood Experiences Affect Adult Relationships<br><b>OE.06</b> Social Pain as a Reflection of Human Conflict<br><b>OE.07</b> Becoming Part of a Whole: Individual Perceptions within Couples<br><b>OE.08</b> Attachment and Attention Biases                                                    | Room L201<br>Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110<br>Room A109 |

| <b>Sunday July 25</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:15pm-1:45pm        | <b>Lunch Break</b><br><b>LUNCH MEETING</b> Meeting of Editor and AEs of <i>Personal Relationships</i> (closed)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Room A110                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1:45pm-3:15pm         | <b>Session OF: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OF.01</b> Stages of Romantic Relationships: Overlapping and Divergent Issues<br><b>OF.02</b> A Fresh Look at Romantic Love from Three Perspectives<br><b>OF.03</b> Dimensions of Attachment<br><b>OF.04</b> Caregiving in Close Relationships: Current Behavior and Internalized Models<br><b>OF.05</b> Love as a Battlefield<br><b>OF.06</b> Maintenance of Close Relationships: Relationships Intimacy and Quality<br><b>OF.07</b> Individual Experiences within Relationships<br><b>OF.08</b> Sexual and Physical Abuse | Room L203<br>Room L201<br>Room L204<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110<br>Room A109                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3:15pm-3:45pm         | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 3:45pm-5:15pm         | <b>Session PB: Poster Session #2</b><br><b>PB.01</b> Consequences of Attachment<br><b>PB.02</b> Age and Gender Differences in Love, Sex, and Relationships<br><b>PB.03</b> Social Cognition, Emotion, and Relationships<br><b>PB.04</b> Health and Close Relationships<br><b>PB.05</b> Children's Relationships and Adjustment<br><b>PB.06</b> Ever Changing Friendships<br><b>PB.07</b> Social Support is Everyone's Responsibility<br><b>PB.08</b> Being True to Yourself<br><b>MEET THE EDITORS</b> of IARR journals<br><b>MEMORIAL SESSION</b> Tribute to Caryl Rusbult     | Arison/Lauder Building Lobby<br>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby<br>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby<br>Arison/Lauder Building Lobby<br>Economics Building Lobby<br>Economics Building Lobby<br>Economics Building Lobby<br>Economics Building Lobby<br>Room L203<br>Room L201 |

| <b><i>Sunday July 25</i></b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 5:15pm-6:15pm                | <b>Past IARR President Invited Lecture</b><br><b>Phillip R. Shaver</b><br><b>Research on Adult Attachment: Past, Present, and Future</b>                                                         | Ivcher Auditorium |
| 6:20pm-7:20pm                | <b>EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING</b> Informal meeting of associated editors, editorial board members, and reviewers of the <i>past</i> team of the <i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> | Room L203         |
|                              | <b>MEETING FOR NEW PROFESSIONALS</b><br>Graduate students/new professional meeting                                                                                                               | Room L204         |
| 8:30pm                       | <b>IARR Awards Dinner</b>                                                                                                                                                                        | Sharon Hotel      |

| <b>Monday July 26</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am-9:00am         | <b>Conference registration</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Arison/Lauder Lobby                                                                                  |
| 9:00am-10:30am        | <b>Session OG: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OG.01</b> The Dynamic of Changes in Family Life - Coping with Stress and Relationship Transitions<br><b>OG.02</b> Marriage Satisfaction<br><b>OG.03</b> Context Dependent Processes of Attachment Insecurity: New Foundations for Attachment-Embedded Psychotherapy<br><b>OG.04</b> Power and Sexual Behavior<br><b>OG.05</b> Relationship Quality and Satisfaction<br><b>OG.06</b> Physiological, Behavioral, and Symptomatic Correlates of Attachment Orientations<br><b>OG.07</b> Social Support Across Different Contexts<br><b>OG.08</b> Relationship Dynamics and Sexual Risk Behaviors | Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L201<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110<br>Room A109 |
| 10:30am-11:15am       | <b>Coffee Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                      |
| 11:15am-12:45pm       | <b>Session OH: Symposia and panel sessions</b><br><b>OH.01</b> Sibling and Twin Relationships in Early Childhood and Later Life<br><b>OH.02</b> Implications of Attachment Styles at Various Life Stages<br><b>OH.03</b> Prosocial Behavior in the Context of Relationships<br><b>OH.04</b> Examination of Perceived Emotional Impressions and Relational Equity<br><b>OH.05</b> Attraction and Contentment in Interpersonal Relationships<br><b>OH.06</b> Marital Relations<br><b>OH.07</b> Funding opportunities through USA National Science Foundation – Expert information.                                                                   | Room L203<br>Room L204<br>Room L201<br>Room L102<br>Room L103<br>Room L104<br>Room A110              |
| 1:00pm-2:00pm         | <b>Closing session:</b> Open discussion with IARR President, <b>Jacki Fitzpatrick</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Room L201                                                                                            |

# *Detailed Program*

Thursday, July 22, 9:30am

***Thursday July 22***

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| <b>9:30am-5:30pm</b> | <b>IARR Board of Directors Meeting (Room A320)</b> |
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| <b>2:30pm-6:30am</b> | <b>Conference registration (Arison-Lauder Lobby)</b> |
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| <b>6:30pm-7:15am</b> | <b>Opening Reception (Sculpture garden)</b> |
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| <b>7:15pm-8:30pm</b>                                                                                                                | <b>Opening Remarks and Invited Lecture #1</b> |                   |
| Friendship or relationships? Some observations based on recent ethnographies<br>Amia Lieblich, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel |                                               | Ivcher Auditorium |

***Friday July 23***

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| <b>7:30am-8:30am</b> | <b>Conference registration (Arison-Lauder Lobby)</b> |
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| <b>8:30am-10:00am</b> | <b>Session OA: Symposia and panel sessions</b> |
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| <b>OA.01 Social regulation: The role of significant others in regulating affect, cognition, and behavior</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Vivian Zayas<br/>Discussant: Cindy Hazan</p> <p>Mental representations of attachment figures facilitate emotional recovery<br/>Vivian Zayas, Emre Selcuk, Gul Gunaydin, &amp; Ethan Kross</p> <p>Adult attachment and exploration: Activating the mental representation of romantic partners increases curiosity and exploratory behaviors<br/>Emre Selcuk &amp; Cindy Hazan</p> <p>Attachment avoidance impairs cognitive control following marital separation<br/>David A. Sbarra, Rita W. Law, Ashley E. Mason, &amp; Lauren A. Lee</p> <p>Self-regulation in everyday life: The influence of person and partner characteristics<br/>Gertraud Stadler, Niall Bolger, Kenzie Snyder, Masumi Iida, &amp; Patrick Shrout</p> |                             |

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| <b>OA.02 The emotional climate of relationship conflict: Individual differences in physiology and behavior</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L203 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Gilad Hirschberger</p> <p>Emotion regulation during couple interaction: The second hand smoke effect<br/>Shiri Ben-Naim, Tsachi Ein-Dor, Gilad Hirschberger, &amp; Mario Mikulincer</p> <p>The two meanings of physiological relaxation: Relationship satisfaction and detachment<br/>Omer Berkowitz, Tsachi Ein-Dor, Gilad Hirschberger</p> <p>Subtle sensitivity: Smiles, displays of empathy, and speech interruptions influence the quality of couple interactions<br/>Dana Bachar, Tsachi Ein-Dor, Gilad Hirschberger</p> |                             |

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| <b>OA.03 The Cross-Culture Difficulties of Deviating Dating Norms</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L204 |
| <p>A cross cultural test of the relational turbulence model: Relational uncertainty, partner interference, and turmoil in South Korean and American romantic relationships<br/>Mary Nagy, Jennifer Theiss</p> <p>Acculturation of Chinese immigrants in London and Rome: Personal relationships among majority and minority group members<br/>Gaia Di Castro</p> <p>Single women in Tel-Aviv<br/>Amit Gal Osem, Ofra Mayseless</p> <p>"Outsider" And "insider" perspectives on Canadian interracial relationships<br/>Rebecca Malhi</p>                                                                                                                                                                            |                             |
| <b>OA.04 The Importance of Positive Interpersonal Relationships on a Patient's Health</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L102 |
| <p>Exploring health-promoting relationships between professionals and teenage mothers: thoughts on power and vulnerability.<br/>Claudia Mollidor</p> <p>Spouses' vs. patients' perceptions of diabetes control show divergent associations with glycemic control<br/>Dara Sorkin, Kristin August, &amp; Karen Rook</p> <p>The importance of a good doctor-patient relationship for glycemic control: Findings from an ethnically-diverse sample of patients with type 2 diabetes<br/>John Billimek, Quyen Ngo-Metzger, Dara Sorkin, Sheldon Greenfield, &amp; Sherrie Kaplan</p> <p>Looking beyond the patient in phase-II cardiac rehabilitation<br/>Joshua Schoenfeld, Michael Rohrbaugh, &amp; Varda Shoham</p> |                             |
| <b>OA.05 Creating, Developing and Maintaining Friendships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Interpersonal chemistry in friendships and romantic relationships<br/>Kelly Campbell, Alexis L. Mitchell, &amp; Linda Meneses</p> <p>Fearlessness in preschoolers as a risk factor for development of lower empathy and aggressive and anti-social tendencies: A multi-method, multi-source study<br/>Inbal Kivenson Bar-on</p> <p>Guilt in friendship<br/>Rita D'Amico</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                             |

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| <b>OA.06 Multi-Cultural Studies on the Field of Friendship Research</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L104 |
| <p>Developing mutuality/friendship on internationalising campus: An intercultural communication perspective<br/>Kazuhiro Kudo</p> <p>The friendships of international students in Brazil: An exploratory study<br/>Agnaldo Garcia</p> <p>Are students from different religion and ethnic background seeking contact and friendship with students from other national group?<br/>Rachel Hertz-Lazarowitz, Tamar Zelniker, &amp; Abeer Farah</p> |                             |

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| <b>10:00am-10:45am</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b> |
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| <b>10:45am-12:15pm</b> | <b>Session OB: Symposia and panel sessions</b> |
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| <b>OB.01 New Trends in the Study of the Attachment Bases of Interpersonal Processes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Phillip R. Shaver<br/>Discussant: Mario Mikulincer</p> <p>The evolutionary armistice: Attachment bonds moderate the function of ovulatory cycle adaptations<br/>Eli Finkel &amp; Paul Eastwick</p> <p>Evidence for a negative association between avoidant attachment and estradiol<br/>Robin Edelstein</p> <p>Oxytocin, attachment, and interpersonal processes<br/>Jennifer Bartz</p> <p>Linking attachment theory and interdependence theory: A dyadic view of couples<br/>SiSi Tran &amp; Jeffry Simpson</p> |                              |

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| <b>OB.02 Cross-Cultural Studies of Romantic Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L203 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Itziar Alonso-Arbiol<br/>Discussant: Robin Goodwin</p> <p>Culture and the dimensions of romantic attachment<br/>Itziar Alonso-Arbiol, Fons van de Vijver, Phillip Shaver, Faisal Azaiza, Audrey Brassard, Özgür Çelenk, Marco Del Giudice, Omri Gillath, Konstantinos Kafetsios, Gery Karantzas, Netanela Karo-Sigall, Kazuo Kato, Marie-France Lafontaine, Shiri Lavy, Tonggui Li, Joao Moreira, Tatsuma Nakao, Eva Neumann, Kok-Mun Ng, Chris Sibley, Rosario Spencer, &amp; Wai Sing Tse</p> <p>"Being too close"? – A cross-cultural perspective on intrusiveness in romantic relationships<br/>Shiri Lavy, Betsy Feldman, Faisal Azaiza, Netanela Karo-Sigall, &amp; Wai Shing Tse</p> <p>Romantic relationship satisfaction among British and Turkish adults<br/>Özgür Çelenk, Fons van de Vijver, &amp; Robin Goodwin</p> <p>Cultural differences between secular, national-religious and ultra-orthodox Jewish couples<br/>Darya Maoz</p> |                              |

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| <b>OB.03 When Romantic Partners Breakup: Understanding Unwanted Pursuit and Stalking</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L204 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Barbara Winstead<br/>Discussant: Rowland Miller</p> <p>Influence of the breakup context on unwanted pursuit behavior perpetration between former partners<br/>Olivia De Smet, Ann Buysse, &amp; Ruben Brondeel</p> <p>Relationship and individual characteristics as predictors of unwanted pursuit<br/>Farrah Tassy, &amp; Barbara Winstead</p> <p>Predicting unwanted pursuit perpetration among female college students<br/>Leila Dutton, &amp; Amy Lyndon</p> <p>Experiences of unwanted pursuit in intimate relationships among individuals with a minority sexual orientation<br/>Valerian Derlega, Rebecca Ferrer, Mathew Pearson, Barbara Winstead, Leila Dutton, Louis Janda, Robin Lewis, &amp; Kathryn Greene</p> <p>Stalking rationalization: Toward a stalking myths acceptance questionnaire (SMAQ)<br/>Blake Witham &amp; Brian Spitzberg</p> |                              |

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| <b>OB.04 Depression in Different Age Groups and External Relationship Factors</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L102 |
| <p>Family differentiation, interpersonal competence and depression: A sample from Taiwan<br/>Kang-lin Yang</p> <p>Detection of depression in older adults by family and friends: Distinguishing mood disorder's signal from the noise of personality and everyday life<br/>Paul Duberstein</p> <p>Depression and empathic accuracy within couples: An interpersonal model of gender differences in depression<br/>Reuma Gadassi, Nilly Mor, &amp; Eshkol Rafaeli</p> <p>Psychological resiliency and suicide risk among community-residing older adults<br/>Marnin Heisel &amp; Gordon Flett</p>                                          |                              |
| <b>OB.05 Same-Sex Romantic Relationships: Sexual Practices, Partner Preferences and the Unique Problem of Marriage</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Does biological sex trump sexual orientation? Partner preferences of gays and lesbians.<br/>Benjamin Wiedmaier, Lauren Amaro, Peter Andersen, &amp; Sara Baker</p> <p>Dialectics between splitting and integrating in the lives of heterosexually married gay men<br/>Adir Adler &amp; Adital Ben-Ari</p> <p>Conscious / non-conscious identity positivity and integration predicts "out-of-control" and risky sexual practices in an online gay community sample<br/>Amir Rosenmann, Marilyn P. Safir, &amp; Ramzi Suleiman</p> <p>Gay men and the relational implications of 'top,' 'bottom,' and 'versatile'<br/>Jimmie Manning</p> |                              |
| <b>OB.06 Family Relational Research as Implemented in Clinical Settings and Everyday Behavior</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L104 |
| <p>Interpersonal influence in families: Developing and evaluating an instrument<br/>Femke Migerode, Ann Buysse, Bea Maes, &amp; Jan De Mol</p> <p>The family dilemmas of privacy ownership in genetic testing decisions<br/>Sandra Petronio</p> <p>A family assessment based on the social relations model<br/>Jan De Mol &amp; Ann Buysse</p> <p>Parental communication and cooperation among divorcing spouses in Israel<br/>Orna Cohen &amp; Ricky Finzi-Dottan</p>                                                                                                                                                                    |                              |

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| <b>OB.07 Marital Relations and Parenting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room A110 |
| <p>A dyadic perspective on attachment style as a moderator of the association between marital satisfaction and parenting style<br/>Keren Malchi &amp; Rachel Dekell</p> <p>His and her conflict: Contrasting dynamics of silent interparental conflict for men and women<br/>Magdalena Kielpikowski, Jan Pryor, &amp; Paul Jose</p> <p>Paternal parenting associations with childhood behavior problems in Japan<br/>Craig Hart &amp; David Nelson</p> <p>Knock knock, anybody home? Psychological availability as the link between work experiences and family relationships<br/>Gerdientje Danner-Vlaardingerbroek, Esther S. Kluwer, Elianne F. van Steenbergen, &amp; Tanja van der Lippe</p> <p>Attachment reorganization in adolescence: Straight-forward or complex?<br/>Daphne Goh &amp; Ross B. Wilkinson</p> |                              |

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| <b>OB.08 Full House: Global Studies on Parenting</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room A111 |
| <p>Parenting style and adolescent positive behaviours<br/>Cheryl Kier &amp; Ambrose Leung</p> <p>The effect of family structure and gender on adolescent well-being in East Asia<br/>Annis Lai-chu Fung</p> <p>Russian parenting: Correspondence with child relational aggression over time<br/>David Nelson, Craig Hart</p> <p>Bonds of silence: Parents and children cope with dissonant levels of religiosity<br/>Ephraim Tabory &amp; Shlomit Stern (Hazan)</p> |                              |

| 12:15pm-1:45pm <b>Lunch Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |           |
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| <b>LUNCH MEETING</b> New Professionals and Graduate Students<br>Mentorship Lunch -- Professional Turning Points Q&A with<br>Esteemed Scholars (Sponsored by the Mentorship Committee,<br>Chair, Leah E. Bryant, DePaul University)<br>Esteemed Scholar Participants: Christopher Agnew, F. Scott<br>Christopher, Michael Cunningham, Eli Finkel, Catrin Finkenauer,<br>Terri Orbuch, Ruth Sharabany, Phillip Shaver, Brian Spitzberg,<br>Susan Sprecher | Room A206 |
| <b>EDITORIAL MEETING</b> Meeting of <i>present</i> Editor and Associate<br>Editors of the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships (closed)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Room A110 |

| 1:45pm-3:15pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Session OC: Symposia and panel sessions |
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| <b>OC.01 Adult Attachment Orientations and Physiological Responses to Threats</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L203              |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Mario Mikulincer<br/>Discussant: Phillip R. Shaver</p> <p>Hyperactivation in action: Attachment anxiety, language, and physiological reactivity following romantic separations<br/>David Sbarra, Lauren Lee, Ashley Mason, &amp; Rita Law</p> <p>Attachment style moderates neural threat responding<br/>James Coan</p> <p>Neuroendocrine stress correlates of adult attachment insecurity: Cortisol and hippocampus<br/>Markus Quirin</p> <p>A multi-modal approach to the study of attachment-related distress<br/>Marieke Dewitte</p>                                                                                                      |                                         |
| <b>OC.02 Self-Regulation and Romantic Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L201              |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Grainne Fitzsimons</p> <p>When and how do romantic partners promote versus impede the pursuit of individuals' important personal goals?<br/>Eli J. Finkel, Madoka Kumashiro, Caryl E. Rusbult, &amp; Harry T. Reis</p> <p>How can you resist? Cognitive control helps people in a romantic relationship to stay faithful<br/>Tila Pronk, Johan Karremans, &amp; Daniel Wigboldus</p> <p>The limits of love: How love often fails to help individuals regulate their behavior in relationships<br/>Lara Kammrath &amp; Johanna Peetz</p> <p>Outsourcing self-regulation to romantic partners<br/>Gráinne M. Fitzsimons &amp; Eli J. Finkel</p> |                                         |

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| <b>OC.03 A Self determination theory perspective on close relationships: Relational outcomes of autonomy support versus control</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L204 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Yaniv Kanat-Maymon<br/>Discussant: Avi Assor</p> <p>What kind of parent-child relationships lead to homophobia (and by what mechanism)?<br/>Netta Weinstein</p> <p>The costs of parental pressure to express emotions: conditional regard and autonomy support as predictors of emotion regulation and intimacy<br/>Guy Roth</p> <p>Perceived maternal control and responsiveness to distress as predictors of young adults' empathic responses<br/>Michal Kanat-Maymon</p> <p>Autonomous motivation and projection as predictors of romantic relationship quality<br/>Yaniv Kanat-Maymon</p> |                            |
| <b>OC.04 Influence of Conflict and Hurt on Attachment Styles and Resulting Relational Behaviors</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L102 |
| <p>When will hurt not heal: The relationship of degree of closeness, degree of attachment and attachment style to ongoing hurt feelings<br/>Jodie Burchell &amp; Ross Wilkinson</p> <p>Conflict, social support, capitalization and relationship satisfaction<br/>Gian Gonzaga &amp; Heather Setrakian</p> <p>Hurting the ones we love: The features and functions of punishment in close relationships<br/>Julie Fitness &amp; Julie Peterson</p> <p>From conflict to intimacy: An attachment perspective on recovery from conflict in cohabiting couples<br/>Karen Prager &amp; Forouz Shirvani</p>                  |                            |

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| <b>OC.05 Mental Health Studies in Relational Research</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Affective temperament in nurses in primary and hospital care settings<br/>Raul Cordeiro</p> <p>Ethnic attitude, self concept, and the mental health of interracial marriage families adolescents in Taiwan<br/>Wei-Shiuan Jeng &amp; Chin-Chun Sue</p> <p>Intrusiveness in romantic relationships and psychological disorders<br/>Shiri Lavy &amp; Guy Doron</p> <p>School relationships and adolescent depression<br/>Abigail Millings, Rhiannon Buck, &amp; Paul Stallard</p> <p>Beneficial participation: Social interactions in online depression communities and psychological well-being<br/>Shirley Dorchin &amp; Galit Nimrod</p> |                            |

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| <b>OC.06 The Wind Beneath My Wings: The Role of Empathy and Support in Couple Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L104 |
| <p>Responding to problems: The roles of severity and barriers<br/>Nancy Frye</p> <p>Caring for the wounded injured and ill: Spousal stressors and relational transformations<br/>Victoria Jennings-Kelsall</p> <p>How does empathy help us to be better support providers on a daily basis?<br/>Inge Devoldre, Lesley Verhofstadt, &amp; Ann Buysse</p> <p>Effects of supportive and unsupportive behaviors in couples coping with cancer<br/>Meirav Dagan, Robbert Sanderman, &amp; Mariët Hagedoorn</p> |                            |

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| <b>OC.07 Attachment Through the Years</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A110 |
| <p>The paths from relations to others and our death fears to ageism<br/>Sara Cohen-Fridel &amp; Ehud Bodner</p> <p>Relations between attachment styles, ageism and quality of life in late life<br/>Ehud Bodner &amp; Sara Cohen-Friedel</p> <p>Attachment style, networks, and satisfaction in older Australian adults: Implications for psychological health<br/>Ross Wilkinson &amp; Tamara Coupe</p> <p>Together and apart: Types of second couplehood in old age<br/>Chaya Koren &amp; Zvi Eisikovits</p> <p>Attachment network quality in adolescent attachment<br/>Daphne Goh</p> |                            |

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| <b>OC.08 Navigating Trauma</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A109 |
| <p>Invited Symposium - Convenors: Zehava Solomon &amp; Hadas Wiseman<br/>Discussant: Itamar Barnea</p> <p>Intergenerational echoes of the trauma in the relational experiences of the second generation with their parents and with their children<br/>Hadas Wiseman</p> <p>Complex trauma of war captivity: Attachment and PTSD<br/>Zehava Solomon</p> |                            |

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| <b>3:15pm-3:45pm</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b> |
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| <b>3:45pm-5:15pm</b> | <b>Session PA: Poster Session #1 and Group Session</b> |
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| <b>PA.01 Development and Maintenance of Long Term Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Past and present attitudes toward love and romantic relationships<br/>Weronika Styczynska</p> <p>Turning points in marital relationship dissolution<br/>John Humblet, Ann Buysse, &amp; Peter Rober</p> <p>An examination of attitudes and beliefs towards consanguineous marriages in a Dutch population<br/>Ashley Hoben &amp; Abraham Buunk</p> <p>Maintaining close relationships in hard times: The role of needs and feelings<br/>Claudia Chiarolanza &amp; Ritagrazia Ardone</p> <p>Determinants of relationship quality: The role of relationship between parents, previous romantic experiences, attachment and self-disclosure of both partners<br/>Margareta Jelic, Zeljka Kamenov, &amp; Ana Zlutar</p> <p>Expressing annoyance of partner behavior is better for the marriage<br/>Heather Setrakian, Amy Strachman, &amp; Gian Gonzaga</p> |                                 |

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| <b>PA.02 Close Relationships Dealing with Violence and Conflict</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>A comparison of the Rahim organizational conflict inventory and the focus of communication questionnaire<br/>Terry Bowles</p> <p>"I killed her, but I never laid a finger on her" - The difference between wife-murder and wife-battering<br/>Dalit Yassour-borochowitz &amp; Ruchama Goussinsky</p> <p>Emotional needs – Why Europe fails to engage in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.<br/>Christopher Schilling</p> <p>Interpersonal conflict between Brazilian and foreign workers in the workplace: the case of multinational companies in the Brazilian Amazonia<br/>Gizelly Martins &amp; Agnaldo Garcia</p> <p>The effects of values and ambivalent sexism on marital relationships: A couple data analysis<br/>Ayça Özen &amp; Nuray Sakalli-Ugurlu</p> <p>Theoretical perspectives on conflict in close relationships<br/>Daniel Lord</p> |                                 |
| <b>PA.03 Comparing Men and Women: From First Dates to Committed Romantic Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Temporary identity constructed in a "romantic" conversation: The case study of an initial "small talk".<br/>Ewa Kalecinska-Adamczyk</p> <p>How much will you invest? Trade offs in first dates<br/>Evyatar Shpilman, Nurit Gur-Yaish, &amp; Yonathan Kroyttenberg</p> <p>Dating in the digital age<br/>David Levin</p> <p>Romantic relationship dissolution: The role of gender differences in love components<br/>Magdalena Mokwa</p> <p>I see your true colors: Partner concept complexity in long distance romantic relationship<br/>Wei-Chuan Cheng, Amy Kuo, Pei-Ying Lin, Ya-Ling Wang, Yi-Cheng Lin</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                 |

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| <b>PA.04 Developing Close Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Effect of daily hassles on the desire for physical proximity and emotional closeness in couples<br/>Yoav Lavee</p> <p>Friendship relationships of shy early-adolescents<br/>Lucia Ponti &amp; Franca Tani</p> <p>Self-disclosure, mediated communication and relationship development<br/>Suzanne Kurth</p> <p>Female selection criteria for sperm donor versus life partner<br/>Debra Zeifman &amp; Jennifer Ma</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |
| <b>PA.05 Family Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Economics<br>Building Lobby     |
| <p>Longitudinal associations between adolescent self-efficacy, behaviour problems and perceived family relationships<br/>Jelena Lubenko</p> <p>Attribution style as a predictor of autonomy supportive parental practices.<br/>Pazit Gabay-Elgi, Anat Moed, Yaniv Kanat-Maymon, &amp; Avi Assor</p> <p>The quality of life and interpersonal relations in partner relationships<br/>Teresa Rostowska, Aleksandra Lewandowska-Walter, &amp; Anna Jarmolowska</p> <p>Managing emotions and conflict in post-divorce relationships<br/>Claudia Chiarolanza, Ritagrazia Ardone, &amp; Milena Lombardi</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 |
| <b>PA.06 Love yourself Before Loving Others</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Economics<br>Building Lobby     |
| <p>The relation between subjects and their personal possessions<br/>Edo Litmanovitch</p> <p>Attachment and leadership: The relationship of subordinate's attachment to the leader with leadership style and work satisfaction<br/>Fernando Molero &amp; Marina Milantoni</p> <p>Attachment and depressive symptoms in middle childhood and early adolescence: testing the validity of the emotion regulation model of attachment.<br/>Katrijn Brenning, Bart Soenens, Caroline Braet, &amp; Guy Bosmans</p> <p>Empathy: The mediating link between attachment avoidance and prejudice<br/>Elle Boag &amp; Katherine Carnelley</p> <p>The role of attachment anxiety - avoidance and submissive acts on relationship stability<br/>Ezgi Besikci, Ayda Buyuksahin Sunal, &amp; Fatma Beyza Yavuzer</p> <p>Perceived friendship opportunities mediate the association between avoidant attachment and instrumental functioning in teams<br/>Shiri Lavy &amp; Roi Granot</p> |                                 |

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| <b>PA.07 Children's Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Economics<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>On the links between patterns of close relationships, aggressive behavior and loneliness among non-clinical boys<br/>Michal Al-Yagon</p> <p>The association between protégés' attachment style and mentoring relationship success<br/>Limor Goldner</p> <p>Proposed revision for the security scale<br/>Kathryn Kerns &amp; Brittany Mathews</p> <p>Assessing attachment anxiety and avoidance in middle childhood and early adolescence: The development of a child version of the experiences in close relationships scale-revised<br/>Katrijn Brenning, Bart Soenens, Caroline Braet, &amp; Guy Bosmans</p> <p>Exploring intergenerational transmission of romantic attachment in young adults and their parents in a Chilean sample<br/>Rosario Spencer, Itziar Alonso-Arbiol, Andres Fresno, &amp; Francisca Calquin</p> |                             |
| <b>PA.08 Being Alone is Good, Unless One is Always Alone</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Economics<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Distinctions in attachment status and style<br/>Mary Campa</p> <p>The Italian version of the inventory of parent and peer attachment<br/>Franca Tani, Silvia Guarnieri, &amp; Lucia Ponti</p> <p>Attachment styles and the three response levels: Cognitive, affect, and behavioral correlates<br/>Remedios Melero, Itziar Alonso-Arbiol, &amp; M Jose Cantero</p> <p>Conceptual and methodological issues on attachment research: A cultural point of view<br/>Paula Mena Matos</p> <p>Distance as a double-edged sword: The hot, cool, and cold systems of self regulation in attachment<br/>Ya-Ling Wang &amp; Yi-Cheng Lin</p> <p>Global vs relationship-specific attachment as predictors of compassionate love for a romantic partner<br/>Beverley Fehr &amp; Susan Sprecher</p>                                        |                             |

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| <b>GROUP SESSION</b> Open interest group meetings                                                                                                                                          | 3:45pm-4:45pm |
| <u>Group A</u> : Psychological and sociological aspects of social identity in late life<br>Ehud Bodner, Sara Cohen-Friedel, Yuval Palgi, Menachem Ben-Ezra, Mohammed Morad, & Yaffa Lerman | Room L103     |
| <u>Group B</u> : Developmental research on relationship<br>Ruth Sharabany                                                                                                                  | Room L104     |

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| <b>5:15pm-6:15pm</b>                                                                                     | <b>Invited Lecture #2</b> |  |
| Genes, Parenting, and the Parent-Child Relationship<br>Ariel Knafo, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel | Ivcher Auditorium         |  |

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| <b>6:20pm-7:20pm</b>                                   | <b>IARR Member Business Meeting:</b> |  |
| Open Discussion with IARR President, Jacki Fitzpatrick | Ivcher Auditorium                    |  |

## ***Saturday July 23***

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| <b>9:30am-10:30am</b> | <b>Conference registration (Ivcher Auditorium)</b> |
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| <b>10:30am-11:30pm</b>                                                                                                          | <b>Invited Lecture #3</b> |                   |
| Where's the Sex in Relationship Research? Where are the Relationships in Sex Research?<br>Lisa Diamond, University of Utah, USA |                           | Ivcher Auditorium |

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| <b>11:30am-12:00pm</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b> |
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| <b>12:00pm-1:00pm</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>Invited Lecture #4</b> |                   |
| Perspectives on /Relationship Compatibility, Compatible Matches, and Compatibility Matching<br>Susan Sprecher, Illinois State University, USA |                           | Ivcher Auditorium |

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| <b>1:10pm-9:00pm</b> | <b>Half-Day Trip to the Old City of Jerusalem<br/>(lunch included)</b> |
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| <b>9:00pm-10:00pm</b> | <b>"Night Spectacular" at Tower of David, Jerusalem</b> |
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## *Sunday July 25*

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| <b>7:30am-8:30am</b> | <b>Conference registration (Arison-Lauder Lobby)</b> |
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| <b>8:30am-10:00am</b> | <b>Session OD: Symposia and panel sessions</b> |
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| <b>OD.01 Attachment research in Australia: Themes and contexts</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L102 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Zoe Hazelwood<br/>Discussant: Phillip R. Shaver</p> <p>Exploring normative attachment insecurities in new relationships<br/>Zoe Hazelwood &amp; Dianah Ward</p> <p>A re-examination of coping from an attachment theory perspective<br/>Gery Karantzas</p> <p>Assessing attachment in adolescents and young adults: Development of a general short-form of the Experiences in Close Relationships Questionnaire-Revised<br/>Ross Wilkinson</p> |                             |

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| <b>OD.02 Loss within the Family and its Effects on Parenthood</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L203 |
| <p>The internal working model of the mother among bereaved and non-bereaved daughters<br/>Mariana Gaitini</p> <p>"I am no longer one of you:" Parents experience of child loss and its impact upon their relationship to their living children<br/>Ronit Shalev</p> <p>Marriage, motherhood and relationship: The interplay of attachment and relationship to the deceased for married and unmarried women bereaved of their partners<br/>Ofri Bar Nadav</p> <p>Attachment and loss among young fathers: A close look at relationship themes and proximity-seeking strategies of fatherless fathers.<br/>Amit Fachler &amp; Ruth Sharabany</p> |                             |

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| <b>OD.03 The Role of Attachment, Stress, and Hurt in Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L204 |
| <p>The effect of attachment orientation priming on pain sensitivity in pain free individuals<br/>Angela C Rowe, Katherine B Carnelley, James Harwood, Daniel Micklewright, Lauren Russouw, Charlotte Rennie, &amp; Christina Liossi</p> <p>Testosterone, romantic jealousy and attachment orientation.<br/>Nicola J. Fussell &amp; Angela C. Rowe</p> <p>OD.03 Tears for fears? Attachment styles and adult crying behavior<br/>Abigail Millings &amp; Angela Rowe</p> <p>Environmental threat influences psychological distress and marital satisfaction among avoidantly attached individuals<br/>Abira Reizer, Chaya Possick, &amp; Tsachi Ein-Dor</p> <p>Oxytocin and secure attachment priming as stress-buffers for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder<br/>Gizem Arikan, Kathy Carnelley, Lusia Stopa, David Baldwin, &amp; Anke Karl</p> |                             |
| <b>OD.04 Sexual desire, the weakest link of couple interaction: Integrating sexuality with other relationship dimensions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Gurit Birnbaum<br/>Discussant: Harry T. Reis</p> <p>Sexual passion from changes in intimacy over time: A dyadic diary analysis<br/>Lorne Campbell &amp; Harris Rubin</p> <p>"You turn me on": An attachment perspective on perceived partner responsiveness and sexual desires<br/>Gurit Birnbaum &amp; Harry Reis</p> <p>Sexual and marital satisfaction in newlywed couples<br/>Erick Janssen, Eshkol Rafaeli, Uzma Rehman, Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, &amp; Julia Heiman</p> <p>When it doesn't happen naturally: Infertility and couples' perceptions of their sexuality and their relationship<br/>Danielle Jackson, Scott Christopher, &amp; Jay S. Nemiro</p>                                                                                                                                                   |                             |

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| <b>OD.05 The Influences of Hazing, Bullying, Conflict, and Hate</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Hate Crimes in France<br/>Bernard-Israel Feldman, Gerard Lopez, &amp; Jean-Pierre Benais</p> <p>Intimate interracial relationships and IPV: An examination of attributions and judgments of blame<br/>Kellina Craig-Henderson</p> <p>When women see the forest and men the trees: Vengefulness in close relationships depends on gender and construal level<br/>Esther Kluwer, Carsten De Dreu, &amp; Inmaculada Valor-Segura</p> <p>“But I didn’t mean it”: The role of intention in defining hate<br/>John Rempel, Steven Hertz, &amp; Christopher Burris</p> <p>The Psychology of Hazing<br/>Susan Lipkins</p> <p>Vulture culture: Insight into bullying and cyberbullying<br/>Susan Lipkins</p>                                                                                                                                                    |                             |
| <b>OD.06 An Intercultural Approach to Parent-Child Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L104 |
| <p>"My mother is my best friend": The ultra-close mother-adult daughter relationships<br/>Einat Keren &amp; Ofra Mayseless</p> <p>Testing an integrated model of the association between parental conflict and child adjustment in divorcing families<br/>Sofie Maes, Jan De Mol, &amp; Ann Buysse</p> <p>Role reversal and its relation to interpersonal and personal adjustment among young immigrants in Israel<br/>Olga Oznobishin</p> <p>Mothers’ trait emotional intelligence predicts observed attachment behavioral problems in face-to-face interaction with 4-month old infants<br/>Bjarne Holmes, Karlen Lyons-Ruth, Melanie Gunning, Kristen Kelly, &amp; Con Stough</p> <p>The role of parent-child relationships in the filial behaviors of Chinese Malaysian adolescents<br/>Charissa Cheah, Sevgi Bayram Ozdemir, &amp; Christy Leung</p> |                             |

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| <b>OD.07 Early Stage, Intense Love, and Mating Preferences</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room A110 |
| <p>Mating preferences: The moderating role of the sexual behavioral system<br/>Ohad Szepeswol &amp; Mario Mikulincer</p> <p>Parents, children, and conflicts over mate choice<br/>Shelli L. Dubbs &amp; Abraham P. Buunk</p> <p>Brain activations during early-stage intense love predict relationship outcomes 40 months later<br/>Xiaomeng Xu, Lucy Brown, Arthur Aron, Guikang Cao, Tingyong Feng, &amp; Xuchu Weng</p> <p>Perceived similarity predicts relationship satisfaction across 16 countries<br/>Erina Lee &amp; Gian C. Gonzaga</p> <p>Romantic relationship experiences and culture among Mexican-origin adolescent girls<br/>Graciela Espinosa-Hernandez, Sara Vasilenko, Mayra Bamaca-Colbert, Courtney Waters, &amp; Charlotte Mirzoeff</p> |                             |

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| <b>OD.08 Examination of Attachment in Dependent Individuals</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 8:30am-10:00am<br>Room A111 |
| <p>Changes in the family system due to conduct disorders of adolescents<br/>Wojciech Blazek &amp; Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska</p> <p>The role of parenting styles and attachment security to parents on adolescent self-control<br/>Emine Tuna Özgüle &amp; Nebi Sümer</p> <p>The impact of parental control on adolescents' self-regulation and adjustment among Turkish adolescents<br/>Mehmet Harma &amp; Nebi Sumer</p> <p>Family relations, parental monitoring, and adolescent substance misuse<br/>William Crano, Jason Siegel, &amp; Eusebio Alvaro</p> |                             |

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| <b>10:00am-10:45am</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b> |
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| 10:45am-12:15pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Session OE: Symposia and panel sessions |
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| <b>OE.01 Multicultural Experiences in Close Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L201            |
| <p>Invited Symposium - Convenors: Barry Schneider &amp; Robin Goodwin</p> <p>The cultural grounding of first-date scripts<br/>Tara Marshall &amp; Laura Hellen</p> <p>The content of on-line and in-vivo exchanges between friends in Italy and Canada<br/>Barry H. Schneider &amp; Irene Vitoroulis</p> <p>Hurtful messages from parents: Experiences of Chinese young adults<br/>Shuangyue Zhang</p> <p>The social relations of migrants: A longitudinal analysis of Polish migrants to the UK<br/>Robin Goodwin &amp; Kinga Goodwin</p>                                                                                                                                                |                                         |
| <b>OE.02 Multiple perspectives on adolescent-parent relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L203            |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Orya Tishby</p> <p>Processes of change in the relationships of adolescents with their parents, among clinical and community population.<br/>Dana Atzil-Slonim</p> <p>The search for the lost father<br/>Ricky Pelach-Galil</p> <p>Partners and motherhood for bereaved and non-bereaved women: The interplay of attachment and the ongoing relationship to the partner<br/>Ofri Bar Nadav</p> <p>Interpersonal relational patterns of adolescents and parents in divorced and intact families<br/>Orya Tishby</p>                                                                                                                                                |                                         |
| <b>OE.03 Relationship Dissolution and Break-Ups</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L204            |
| <p>Identifying types of on-again/off-again dating relationships based on partners' negotiation of their breakups and renewals<br/>Rene Dailey, Andrea Richards, Borae Jin, Kelly Rossetto, &amp; Erik Green</p> <p>How emotions are related to behavior in divorce negotiations<br/>Anne Wietzker &amp; Ann Buysse</p> <p>Cognitive, emotional, and behavioral changes following romantic relationship dissolution<br/>Daphna Ram</p> <p>Sex differences in predictors of emotions following a romantic relationship breakup<br/>Adam Smith</p> <p>Perceived responsiveness, partner affirmation, and mutual cyclical growth<br/>Harry Reis, Madoka Kumashiro, &amp; Caryl E. Rusbult</p> |                                         |

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| <b>OE.04 Connecting the Body and the Mind: Studies on Physical Health</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L102 |
| <p>Social constraint predicts cancer related-traumatic stress symptoms more for men than women partners: Couples coping with newly diagnosed colorectal cancer<br/>Stacey Hart, Cassandra Crangle, &amp; Madhulika Varma</p> <p>Mother-child relationships in families with HIV-infected and healthy children: the effects of the mother's social beliefs, psychological distress, and relationship with her mate<br/>Eugene Tartakovsky &amp; Liat Hamama</p> <p>Attachment dimensions and dyadic relations in breast cancer patients and their partners<br/>Aviva Ayzenberg &amp; Shulamith Kreitler</p> <p>The affect of HIV positive diagnosis on couple and family relationships<br/>Erez-Lavie Trachtman &amp; Sara Ivanir</p> |                              |

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| <b>OE.05 Attachment-Related Childhood Experiences Affect Adult Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Mother-child attachment in early childhood and anxiety symptoms in preadolescence: The role of peer competence and emotion regulation<br/>Laura E. Brumariu &amp; Kathryn A. Kerns</p> <p>Attachment, caregiving, and marital satisfaction among couples with love and arranged marriages<br/>Elcin Gundogdu Akturk &amp; Nebi Sumer</p> <p>Childhood experience effects on adult couple relationships: Exploring the mediational role of attachment style and sexual strategy<br/>João Moreira &amp; Ana Leal</p> <p>Age differences in effects of family structure and quality on attachment to romantic partners and attitudes towards marriage and divorce<br/>Zeljka Kamenov &amp; Margareta Jelic</p> |                              |

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| <b>OE.06 Social Pain as a Reflection of Human Conflict</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L104 |
| <p>The direct causation approach leading to theory of dehumanization: A breakthrough in inter-group conflict research and its applications.<br/>Olek Netzer</p> <p>The development of sexual aversions and altruistic motivations among communally raised Kibbutz members<br/>Debra Lieberman &amp; Thalma Lobel</p> <p>Traumatic encounters between Holocaust survivors and the absorbing society<br/>Miriam Rieck</p> <p>The role of fear of social pain in the experience of ostracism<br/>Paolo Riva &amp; Kipling D. Williams</p> <p>A theory of relationship identity negotiation: The effects of couple identity on psychological and relational well-being<br/>Tracy Kwang, Lisa Neff, &amp; William Swann</p> |                              |

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| <b>OE.07 Becoming Part of a Whole: Individual Perceptions within Couples</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room A110 |
| <p>Ambivalence over emotional expression in intimate relationships: A shift from an individual characteristic to dyadic attribute<br/>Adital Ben-Ari &amp; Yoav Lavee</p> <p>Studying relationships: Introducing the qualitative research method interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) accompanied by an illustration from a relevant study<br/>Haggay Seri</p> <p>An actor-partner model of the associations between relational uncertainty and reactions to sexual communication<br/>Roi Estlein &amp; Jennifer Theiss</p> <p>The dynamics of couples' communicative repertoires - A study on the mediatization of personal relationships<br/>Christine Linke</p> <p>Forgiveness congruence in marital relationships: Couple identify and relationship outcomes<br/>Dean Busby &amp; Randal Day</p> |                              |

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| <b>OE.08 Attachment and Attention Biases</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room A111 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Kostantinos Kafetsios</p> <p>Attachment system activation and attention biases to emotion stimuli<br/>Panoraia Andriopoulou</p> <p>Attachment and attentional biases for facial expressions of disgust<br/>Maren Westphal &amp; George Bonnano</p> <p>Priming the relational schema leads to attachment biases in the perception of positive (but not negative) emotion in a simulated social interaction task<br/>Konstantinos Kafetsios &amp; Ursula Hess</p> |                              |

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| <b>12:15pm-1:45pm</b>                                                                                                  | <b>Lunch Break</b> |
| <b>LUNCH MEETING</b> Meeting of the Editor and Associate Editors of the Journal <i>Personal Relationships</i> (closed) | Room A110          |

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| <b>1:45pm-3:15pm</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Session OF: Symposia and panel sessions</b> |
| <b>OF.01 Stages of Romantic Relationships: Overlapping and Divergent Issues</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L203                     |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Kristin Mickelson<br/>Discussant: Phillip R. Shaver</p> <p>Transition to parenthood in couples: The role of communal responsibility on relationship satisfaction and couple distress<br/>Kristin Mickelson &amp; Susanne Biehle</p> <p>A dyadic diary study of older married couples managing type II diabetes: Spouses' involvement and relationship quality<br/>Masumi Iida, Mary Ann Stephens, Melissa Franks, Karen Rook, &amp; James Salem</p> <p>The dating phase of relationships<br/>Anita Barbee &amp; Michael Cunningham</p> <p>Marital conflict in early marriage and the implications for divorce among Black American and White American couples<br/>Terri Orbuch, Kira Birditt, Edna Brown, &amp; Vince Marshall</p> |                                                |

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| <b>OF.02 A Fresh Look at Romantic Love from Three Perspectives</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Keith Davis<br/>Discussant: Julie Fitness</p> <p>Romantic compromises<br/>Aaron Ben-Ze'ev</p> <p>What the brain tells us about intense romantic love that we didn't know before<br/>Arthur Aron</p> <p>Romantic love from an actor's and an observer's perspective<br/>Keith Davis</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                            |
| <b>OF.03 Dimensions of Attachment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L204 |
| <p>Fertility intentions depend on intergenerational family relations: An attachment perspective<br/>Eva-Maria Merz</p> <p>The relationship between adult attachment style and therapeutic alliance: A meta-analytic review<br/>Marc Diener</p> <p>The treatment of internalizing problems in adolescence: The role of attachment<br/>Guy Bosmans &amp; Caroline Braet</p> <p>Putting the ambivalence back in anxious ambivalence<br/>Geoff MacDonald, Samantha Joel, Stephanie Spielmann, &amp; Kenneth Locke</p>                                                                                                     |                            |
| <b>OF.04 Caregiving in Close Relationships: Current Behavior and Internalized Models</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L102 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Miri Scherf</p> <p>Buds of parenting among young men: The role of quality of close relationships<br/>Ofra Mayseless &amp; Miri Scharf</p> <p>From adolescence to emerging adulthood: Quality of parent-child relations and attachment predict buds of parenting among young women<br/>Miri Scharf &amp; Ofra Mayseless</p> <p>Parents' romantic attachment style and relationship characteristics affect their representations of parental caregiving<br/>Elia Psouni</p> <p>Caregiving for hospitalized older adults<br/>Nurit Gur-Yaish, Anna Zisberg, Efrat Shadmi, &amp; Gary Sinoff</p> |                            |

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| <b>OF.05 Love as a Battlefield</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L103 |
| <p>A theme analysis of relationship challenges during the transition to parenthood through the lens of the relational turbulence model<br/>Jennifer Theiss, Roi Estlein, &amp; Mary Nagy</p> <p>While a pregnant belly expands between us: Changes in sexual experiences and relationship quality throughout the three trimesters of pregnancy<br/>Dafna M. Sagiv-Reiss, Gurit E. Birnbaum, &amp; Marilyn P. Safir</p> <p>Why money and love don't go together<br/>Monique Pollmann &amp; Nicole Mead</p> <p>Interpersonal determinants of fathers' breastfeeding involvement<br/>Lynn Rempel &amp; Katrina Moore</p>                                                                                                              |                            |
| <b>OF.06 Maintenance of Close Relationships: Relationships Intimacy and Quality</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L104 |
| <p>Stress resilience in early marriage: Does practice make perfect?<br/>Lisa Neff &amp; Elizabeth Broady</p> <p>Maintaining close relationships: Gratitude as a motivator and a detector of maintenance behavior<br/>Kaska E. Kubacka, Catrin Finkenauer, &amp; Caryl E. Rusbult</p> <p>The role of visible responsiveness and its perception on intimacy feelings of romantic partners<br/>Anik S. Debrot, Andrea B. Horn, Michael Reicherts, &amp; Meinrad Perrez</p> <p>Can prayer increase forgiveness?<br/>Nathaniel Lambert &amp; Frank Fincham</p> <p>The Relationship Quality Interview (RQI): Operationalizing and assessing relationship quality as a multidimensional, dyadic, dynamic construct<br/>Erika Lawrence</p> |                            |
| <b>OF.07 Individual Experiences within Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A110 |
| <p>The contribution of attachment theory to adult crying phenomena<br/>Michal Drenger, Ety Berant, &amp; Mario Mikulincer</p> <p>To do, to have, or to share: Valuing experiences over material possessions depends on the involvement of others<br/>Peter Caprariello &amp; Harry Reis</p> <p>Indirect ingratiation: Pleasing people by associating them with successful others and by praising their associates<br/>Nurit Tal-Or</p> <p>Self-expansion and flow: The role of challenge and skill<br/>James Graham &amp; Mikaela Harf</p>                                                                                                                                                                                         |                            |

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| <b>OF.08 Sexual and Physical Abuse</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A111 |
| <p>Attachment as a factor of resiliency for childhood polyvictimization<br/>Jeffery Aspelmeier, Ann Elliott, &amp; Thomas Pierce</p> <p>Obsessive relational intrusion, stalking and the experience of fear: The roles of threats, sex and sexual precedence<br/>Blake Witham &amp; Brian Spitzberg</p> <p>When pain does not heal: The effects of persistent social and physical suffering on self and identity<br/>Paolo Riva &amp; Kipling D. Williams</p> <p>Interpersonal psychotherapy for depressed women with trauma histories in community mental health care<br/>Nancy Talbot, Erin Ward, &amp; Stephanie Gamble</p> |                            |

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| <b>3:15pm-3:45pm</b> | <b>Coffee Break</b> |
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| <b>3:45pm-5:15pm</b> | <b>Session PB: Poster Session #2</b> |
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| <b>PB.01 Consequences of Attachment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Attachment and emotional abilities of substance users<br/>Zoe Maka &amp; Effrosyni Mitsopoulou</p> <p>Adult attachment and caregiving in substance abusers under treatment: A Portuguese adaptation of the caregiving questionnaire<br/>Diogo Oliveira, Nuno Torres, &amp; Ana Ramalho</p> <p>The relationship between attachment styles, preferences of meeting settings for mate selection and relationship commitment in a sample of Turkish young adults<br/>Ezgi Besikci, Ayda Buyuksahin Sunal, &amp; Selda Seker</p> <p>Inner working models in intimate relationships – adult attachment and time perspective<br/>Aleksandra Huic &amp; Zeljka Kamenov</p> <p>Adapting interpersonal psychotherapy for older adults at risk for suicide<br/>Marnin Heisel, Paul Duberstein, Nancy Talbot, Deborah King, &amp; Xin Tu</p> <p>Aftermath of break up in romantic relationship: Coping, attachment and partner's intimacy<br/>Tal Wiseman-Nave &amp; Ruth Sharabany</p> |                                 |

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| <b>PB.02 Age and Gender Differences in Love, Sex, and Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>Evidence to suggest that female copulatory vocalisations are not a reflexive consequence of orgasm<br/>Gayle Brewer &amp; Colin Hendrie</p> <p>Romantic relationships during emerging adulthood<br/>Alice Bonechi, Silvia Guarnieri, &amp; Franca Tani</p> <p>Dating relationships and psychological consequences of sex in late adolescence: An event-level analysis<br/>Sara Vasilenko, Eva Lefkowitz, &amp; Jennifer Maggs</p> <p>Older couples' dyadic coping and relationship satisfaction<br/>Melanie Peter-Wight</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |
| <b>PB.03 Social Cognition, Emotion, and Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>What a difference some pay makes: Comparisons between paid staff and volunteers on interpersonal dimensions related to job satisfaction.<br/>Barry J Fallon &amp; Simon M. Rice</p> <p>Stereotypes and emotions towards single persons as a function of their age, gender and whether they choose to be single<br/>Gal Slonim, Nurit Gur-Yaish, &amp; Ruth Katz</p> <p>A measure for the study of social networks: The Italian version of the Network of Relationships Inventory<br/>Silvia Guarnieri &amp; Franca Tani</p> <p>Politeness and psychological distance: A construal level perspective<br/>Elena Stephan, Nira Liberman, &amp; Yaacov Trope</p> <p>Personal communication in brainstorming group: Determinants and effects<br/>Sergey Yagolkovskiy</p> <p>A method for assessing reliability invariance in cross-group relationship research<br/>James Graham</p> <p>Business partnership in local government<br/>Eti Sarig</p> |                                 |

| <b>PB.04 Health and Close Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
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| <p>Encouraging disclosure about patient roles and relationships in medical interviewing: A Communication Privacy Management framework for encouraging or inhibiting disclosure<br/>Ashley Duggan, Ylisabyth Bradshaw, Wayne Altman, Kathleen Chanatry, Colleen Coburn, Shannon Carroll, Matthew Dunn, Aisling Francoeur, John Glass, Natalie Swergold, Sarah Weintraub, Hilary Weismann, &amp; Kathryn Zioto</p> <p>Me and my unborn child as a mirror to past and present close relationships: The role of gender<br/>Ora Gazit &amp; Miri Scharf</p> <p>Breaking the mold: Evaluating the effectiveness of a non-punitive violence rehabilitation program<br/>Erin Crockett &amp; Timothy Loving</p> <p>Sense of coherence and parental caregiving system as resources to promote the health and adjustment of adolescents with chronic disease: Adolescents with type 1 diabetes and their parents<br/>Alon Goldberg &amp; Hadas Wiseman</p> <p>Analysis of psycho-social functioning of teenage pregnant mothers based on sample of girls displaying antisocial behaviors<br/>Magdalena Blazek</p> <p>Physical and psychological self image in pregnancy<br/>Maria Kazmierczak</p> <p>Experiences of women and men with gender related physical, sexual and psychological violence: a national survey in the Belgian population<br/>Sabine Hellemans &amp; Ann Buysse</p> |                                 |
| <b>PB.05 Children's Relationships and Adjustment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Economics<br>Building Lobby     |
| <p>Socioemotional and behavioral adjustment among children with LD: The moderating role of maternal personal resources<br/>Michal Al-Yagon</p> <p>An observational study of the interactions of children with and without ADHD and their close friends<br/>Sebastien Normand, Barry H Schneider, Philippe Robaey, &amp; Sally Kuehn</p> <p>The role of self-perception and perception of friendship in susceptibility to peer pressure<br/>Marija Lebedina-Manzoni &amp; Martina Lotar</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 |

| <b>PB.06 Ever Changing Friendships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Economics<br>Building Lobby |
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| <p>Sibling relationships in adulthood<br/>Lorenzo Bellettini, Silvia Guarnieri, Franca Tani</p> <p>Rethinking “sustainable” cross-sex relationships: Managing (un)certainly and accountability in close relationships with the opposite sex<br/>Masahiro Masuda</p> <p>Relationship formation in the transition to adulthood: A perspective for responsible, stable adulthood<br/>Joseph Lah Lo-oh</p> <p>Fat Talk between friends: Co-Rumination about physical appearance<br/>Jonathan Rudiger &amp; Barbara Winstead</p> <p>Attachment, intimacy and self-disclosure in same-gender and cross-gender friendships<br/>Marina Taslak &amp; Zeljka Kamenov</p> |                             |

| <b>PB.07 Social Support is Everyone’s Responsibility</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Economics<br>Building Lobby |
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| <p>The role of partner characteristics and relationship properties in the provision of spousal support: a large-scale survey<br/>Fanny Weytens &amp; Lesley Verhofstadt</p> <p>Directional measurement of social support in toxic emotional work context: An empirical study on distributors of multi level marketing occupation<br/>Jack Chih Ming Chou &amp; Jiang Liang Chen</p> <p>Refusing advice: Exploring the nature and correlates of advice rejection in personal relationships<br/>Jil Kelly &amp; John Daly</p> <p>Gender differences in marital support provision: An overview of multi-method evidence<br/>Lesley Verhofstadt, Inge Devoldre, William Ickes, &amp; Ann Buysse</p> <p>How does provider empathy contribute to support provision? Integrating evidence from self-report, observational, and diary research<br/>Inge Devoldre, Lesley Verhofstadt, Ann Buysse, &amp; Mark Davis</p> <p>Social network substitution: Reliance on minor children for support<br/>Kristin Mickelson</p> |                             |

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| <b>PB.08 Being True to Yourself</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Economics<br>Building Lobby |
| <p>“Thanks, the same to you.” A quasi-experimental study of gratitude and reciprocity among adolescents<br/>Malgorzata Szczesniak, Francesca Consoli, &amp; Agnieszka A. Nieznanska</p> <p>Reciprocal intergroup emotions and empathy: what we feel and what we think they feel<br/>Rosanna Trentin &amp; Maria Grazia Monaci</p> <p>The subjective experience of disappointment in the context of personal relations<br/>Eliane Sommerfeld</p> <p>Expressing remorse: Perceptions of partner sincerity following transgressions in romantic relationships<br/>Monica Gracyalny &amp; Paul Mongeau</p> <p>Emotional resilience following a breakup: The effects of positive emotions on subsequent dating behavior<br/>Adam Smith</p> |                             |

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| <b>MEET THE EDITORS</b>                                                                                                                | 3:45pm-5:15pm<br>Room L203 |
| Open meeting with the Editors of IARR journals – <i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> and <i>Personal Relationships</i> |                            |

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| <b>MEMORIAL SESSION A Tribute to Caryl Rusbult</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3:45pm-5:15pm<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Committed to relationship science: Lessons from Rusbult<br/>Christopher Agnew</p> <p>Commitment to the concept of commitment<br/>Ximena Arriaga</p> <p>Caryl, interdependence theory, and forgiveness<br/>Eli Finkel</p> <p>A tribute to Caryl Rusbult: The embodiment of Michelangelo phenomenon in action<br/>Madoka Kumashiro</p> <p>Being reminded that just focusing on pairs is not enough<br/>Margaret Clark</p> <p>Appreciating Caryl<br/>Phillip Shaver</p> <p>Rusbult's investment model and the self-expansion of the self-expansion model<br/>Arthur Aron &amp; Elaine Aron</p> |                            |

Sunday, July 25, 5:15pm

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| <b>5:15pm-6:15pm</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>Past IARR President Invited Lecture</b>             |                   |
| Research on Adult Attachment: Past, Present, and Future<br>Phillip R. Shaver, University of California, Davis, USA                                                |                                                        | Ivcher Auditorium |
| <b>6:20pm-7:20pm</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING</b>                         |                   |
| Informal meeting of associated editors, editorial board members, and reviewers of the <i>past</i> team of the <i>Journal of Social and Personal Relationships</i> |                                                        | Room L203         |
| <b>6:20pm-7:20pm</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>MEETING FOR NEW PROFESSIONALS</b>                   |                   |
| Graduate students/new professional meeting                                                                                                                        |                                                        | Room L204         |
| <b>8:30pm</b>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>IARR Awards Dinner at the Sharon Hotel Herzliya</b> |                   |

***Monday July 26***

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| <b>8:00am-9:00am</b> | <b>Conference registration (Arison-Lauder Lobby)</b> |
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| <b>9:00am-10:30am</b> | <b>Session OG: Symposia and panel sessions</b> |
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| <b>OG.01 The Dynamic of Changes in Family Life - Coping with Stress and Relationship Transitions</b> | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L203 |
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Symposium - Convenors: Maria Kazmierczak & Magdalena Blazek  
Discussant: Phillip R. Shaver

The change of a range of parental custody and emotional bonds in the family  
Magdalena Blazek, Maria Kazmierczak, Aleksandra Lewandowska-Walter, & Gail Goodman

How do couples cope with personal and relational stressors? A family life-cycle perspective

Lesley Verhofstadt & Fanny Weytens

Changes in the family system due to conduct disorders of adolescents  
Wojciech Blazek & Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska

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| <b>OG.02 Marriage Satisfaction</b> | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L204 |
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Motivations for seeking treatment for ED: The woman's perspective  
Marita McCabe, Helen Conaglen, John Conaglen, & Elodie O'Connor

Understandings of relationship satisfaction: An interpretative phenomenological analysis.

Matthew Colahan, Aneta Tunariu, & Pippa Dell

Meta-analysis of Romanian studies on relationship influencing factors  
Mona Vintila, Daliana Istrat, & Amalia Kuglis

Marital Satisfaction: Comparisons among African Americans, Hispanics, Caucasians, Turkish and Asian  
Bernadette Marson

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| <b>OG.03 Context Dependent Processes of Attachment Insecurity: New Foundations for Attachment-Embedded Psychotherapy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: David Bowles<br/>Discussant: Guy Bosmans</p> <p>Priming attachment security and attachment insecurity: The cognitive vulnerability model applied to attachment theory<br/>Guy Bosmans, Marieke Dewitte, &amp; Caroline Braet</p> <p>Attachment priming as a moderator of negative social evaluations in avoidant and borderline personality disorder<br/>David Bowles</p> <p>Avoiding minds: Avoidant (but not anxious) attachment predicts poorer mental state decoding ability in adults<br/>Lance Slade, Joe Levy, Amanda Holmes, &amp; David Bowles</p> <p>Counsellor attachment orientation and its relation with empathy, mental state understanding and perspective taking<br/>M. Hill, Lance Slade, &amp; G. Richards</p> |                             |
| <b>OG.04 Power and Sexual Behavior</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L102 |
| <p>The sunken part of the iceberg: What is not said in supervision meetings?<br/>Eliezer Yariv &amp; Orit Forkosh</p> <p>"Good reasons" for telling others' secrets: What are they and how are they influenced by relational quality?<br/>Anita Vangelisti, Larrissa Roberts, &amp; Alexa Hampel</p> <p>Barriers to intimacy caused by self-other differences in perceptions of self-disclosures<br/>Emily Pronin</p> <p>The effects of mate-choice copying dynamics on human romantic and risky sexual behaviors<br/>Michael Cunningham, Anita Barbee, &amp; Lee Dugatkin</p> <p>Sexting...is it all about power?<br/>Susan Lipkins &amp; Jaclyn Levy</p>                                                                                                 |                             |

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| <b>OG.05 Relationship Quality and Satisfaction</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L103 |
| <p>Height, relationship satisfaction, jealousy and mate retention<br/>Gayle Brewer &amp; Charlene Riley</p> <p>Getting off to a bad start: The relationship between communication patterns in the initial episode of a serial argument and the number of subsequent episodes.<br/>Rachel Reznik &amp; Michael Roloff</p> <p>Michelangelo phenomenon: Partner affirmation, target behavior, and personal growth<br/>Madoka Kumashiro</p> <p>Between the sheets and beyond: Relationship quality may improve, even when sex is unsatisfying<br/>Moran Mizrahi, Gilad Hirschberger, Gurit E. Birnbaum, &amp; Mario Mikulincer</p> <p>Dyadic perception of relationship quality: How to consider the stereotype effect<br/>Semira Tagliabue, Margherita Lanz, &amp; Daniela Barni</p> <p>Why did we breakup? Predicting explanations for romantic dissolution<br/>Juan Wilson, Christopher Agnew, &amp; Laura VanderDrift</p> |                             |
| <b>OG.06 Physiological, Behavioral, and Symptomatic Correlates of Attachment Orientations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L104 |
| <p>It's not me, it's you: Adult attachment, cortisol, and social support exchange in dating couples<br/>Kathryn Brooks, Theodore Robles, &amp; Christine Dunkel Schetter</p> <p>Effective reaction to danger: Attachment insecurities predict behavioral reactions to an experimentally induced threat above and beyond general personality traits<br/>Tsachi Ein-Dor, Mario Mikulincer, &amp; Phillip R. Shaver</p> <p>Attachment security and daily cortisol rhythms<br/>Bulent Turan, Sasha Gibbs, &amp; Laura Carstensen</p> <p>Dismissing-avoidants are happier when not in a relationship: An international survey of attachment and life satisfaction<br/>Kimberly Johnson &amp; Bjarne Holmes</p> <p>A geometrical analysis of attachment in personality disorders<br/>Olivier Laverdière &amp; Jean Descôteaux</p>                                                                                               |                             |

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| <b>OG.07 Social Support Across Different Contexts</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room A110 |
| <p>The role of relationships of women in poverty persisting in higher education goals<br/>Charlene A. Lutes</p> <p>The importance of social support in pediatric settings: Links to the quality of life of children/adolescents and their family caregivers<br/>Carlos Carona, Carla Crespo, Neuza Silva, &amp; Cristina Canavarro</p> <p>Interpersonal relationships and cooperation in the constitution and maintenance of a co-operative in Brazil<br/>Raquel Miranda &amp; Agnaldo Garcia</p> <p>Social support in a stressful situation enhances later attachment security with the provider<br/>João Moreira &amp; Patrícia Gamboa</p>                                            |                             |
| <b>OG.08 Relationship Dynamics and Sexual Risk Behaviors</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 9:00am-10:30am<br>Room A111 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Christopher Agnew</p> <p>Relationship commitment and condom use in young adults at risk for HIV<br/>Christopher Agnew, Laura VanderDrift, Jocelyn Warren, &amp; Marie Harvey</p> <p>Predicting concurrent sexual behavior: Who steps out and why?<br/>Laura VanderDrift, Christopher Agnew, Marie Harvey, &amp; Jocelyn Warren</p> <p>Power over condom use intentions and behavior within sexual dyads<br/>Marie Harvey, Jocelyn Warren, Christopher Agnew, &amp; Laura VanderDrift</p> <p>Characteristics of sexual partnerships: Demographic versus relational descriptors<br/>Jocelyn Warren, Marie Harvey, Laura VanderDrift, &amp; Christopher Agnew</p> |                             |
| <b>10:30am-11:15am</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Coffee Break</b>         |

| 11:15am-12:45pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Session OH: Symposia and panel sessions |
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| <b>OH.01 Sibling and Twin Relationships in Early Childhood and Later Life</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L203            |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: Keren Fortuna<br/>Discussant: Victoria Bedford</p> <p>Twin relationships in early childhood: A comparison across MZ twins, DZ twins, and singletons<br/>Keren Fortuna &amp; Ariel Knafo</p> <p>Prosocial behavior in twin children pairs in a resource allocation task<br/>Salomon Israel, Keren Fortuna, &amp; Ariel Knafo</p> <p>Siblings in middle and late adulthood: The new hot topic<br/>Paula Avioli &amp; Victoria Bedford</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                         |
| <b>OH.02 Implications of Attachment Styles at Various Life Stages</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L204            |
| <p>Relationship as a condition for higher functioning<br/>Mimi Wellisch &amp; Jac Brown</p> <p>Attachment in psychosis and the effect of threats to self-esteem on the instability of persecutory ideation<br/>Sara Melo &amp; Richard Bentall</p> <p>Romantic attachment, life satisfaction, and shared goals: A predictive model of marital satisfaction<br/>Itziar Alonso-Arbiol, Fernando Molero, &amp; Itziar Fernandez</p> <p>Attachment style and working alliance predict depression outcomes among women with childhood sexual abuse histories<br/>Phillip Smith, Stephanie Gamble, &amp; Nancy Talbot</p> <p>Parental attachment anxiety and avoidance in predicting attachment to parents in middle childhood<br/>Burak Dogruyol &amp; Nebi Sumer</p> <p>Blinded by love: Thinking about relationships influences attentional capacity in highly anxious individuals<br/>Sarah C. E. Stanton, Lorne Campbell, &amp; Timothy J. Loving</p> |                                         |

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| <b>OH.03 Prosocial Behavior in the Context of Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L201 |
| <p>Symposium - Convenor: William Graziano<br/>Discussant: Margaret Clark</p> <p>Altruism towards anyone often operates via self-other inclusion, and thus is in a “relationship context<br/>Art Aron</p> <p>Killing your relationship with kindness: Women’s perceptions of their romantic partners’ pro-social acts<br/>Laura Vander Drift, Sara Branch, &amp; William Graziano</p> <p>Can security-enhancing interventions overcome barriers to empathic caregiving in couple relationships?<br/>Mario Mikulincer &amp; Phillip Shaver</p> <p>My child’s keeper: Parental motives and helping<br/>Louis Penner</p> <p>When do we offer more help than we seek in relationships?<br/>Lindsey Beck &amp; Margaret Clark</p> |                              |
| <b>OH.04 Examination of Perceived Emotional Impressions and Relational Equity</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L102 |
| <p>More good for others or more good for oneself? – Gratitude in relationship formation<br/>Malgorzata Szczesniak, Agnieszka A. Nieznanska, &amp; Cristina Mastrodascio</p> <p>Caregiving and service relationships<br/>Savion Orr-Moravkin &amp; Shiri Lavy</p> <p>Emotional intelligence and emotion regulation<br/>Magdalena Smieja-Necka, Katarzyna Jedzokova, &amp; Dorota Kobylinska</p> <p>Sensory processing sensitivity is associated with boredom in close relationships<br/>Elaine Aron, Arthur Aron, Jadzia Jagiellowicz, &amp; Jennifer Tomlinson</p> <p>How do beginning teachers cope with impression management?<br/>Hayuta Yinon</p>                                                                       |                              |

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| <b>OH.05 Attraction and Contentment in Interpersonal Relationships</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L103 |
| <p>I trust you because you are able to exert control on yourself: The role of perceived self-control on interpersonal trust<br/>Francesca Righetti &amp; Catrin Finkenauer</p> <p>Disentangling the effects of workplace friendships: A framework for explaining how and why friendships affect job outcomes<br/>Hilla Dotan</p> <p>"My friends are great but sometimes...": An exploration of letdowns and disappointment in friendship<br/>Emily Langan</p> <p>Perceived and actual similarity of sense of humor in relationships<br/>Michael Maniaci &amp; Harry Reis</p> |                              |

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| <b>OH.06 Marital Relations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L104 |
| <p>Factors leading to marital commitment in Chinese interethnic couples<br/>Xinmiao Zhong &amp; Duncan Cramer</p> <p>Darling, I must google that! An examination of how adults' romantic relationships and compulsive Internet use influence each other<br/>Catrin Finkenauer &amp; Peter Kerkhof</p> <p>A spouse in distress: A study on motivation, empathic accuracy and support provision<br/>Lesley Verhofstadt, Mark Davis, &amp; William Ickes</p> <p>When marital partners travel for work, how do couples talk about their relationships?<br/>Anisa Zvonkovic, Andrea Roets, Jennifer Rojas-McWhinney, &amp; Katherine Gerst-Lyons</p> |                              |

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| <b>OH.07 Funding opportunities through USA National Science Foundation – Expert information</b> | 11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room A110 |
| <p>Questions and answers session<br/>Kellina M. Craig-Henderson</p>                             |                              |

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| <b>1:00pm-2:00pm</b>                                   | <b>Closing session</b> |
| Open discussion with IARR President, Jacki Fitzpatrick | Room L201              |

# *Abstracts*

# INVITED LECTURES

| Thursday, July 22, 7:30pm-8:30pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Ivcher Auditorium |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <p>Friendship or relationships? Some observations based on recent ethnographies</p> <p><i>Amia Lieblich</i>, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel</p> <p>In my two recent studies in Jaffa, Israel, I have observed the development of stable group "relationships" among individuals and yet noticed that these do not develop into "friendships". The settings of these observations are early-morning-beach walkers in one study, and members of a community theater in the second. While people seem to care enough for each other, some process of inhibition tends to abort the development of intimacy and real friendship among them. In my talk I will describe the phenomenon as it interacts with class, age, and gender. These will lead to an exploration of three related questions: What are the reasons of the "inhibition"? Are these "relationships" artificial? What is their function?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                   |
| Friday, July 23, 5:15pm-6:15pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Ivcher Auditorium |
| <p>Genes, Parenting, and the Parent-Child Relationship</p> <p><i>Ariel Knafo</i>, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel</p> <p>The parent-child relationship is unique in that it involves both affective ties and socialization processes between individuals who are genetically interrelated. The last decade has seen a revolution with regards to the age-old assumptions of psychological research about the roles of parenting in child development. While meaningful associations between parenting and child characteristics have often been reported, an important criticism of these studies concerns their inability to distinguish between how parental behavior directly molds child development, and how parenting itself may be formed in response to child behavior. Increasingly, socialization models point to the importance of child effects in family research. Child effects are derived from individual differences in children's behaviors. These differences may result from developmental history, unique experiences, or children's genetic disposition. In this sense, both parties in the relationship bring in their individual personalities, and the relationship is, among other things, the product of the partially heritable contributing traits. My talk will focus on "evocative gene-parenting correlations, in which children's genetically influenced behaviors affect their parents' behavior, on the one hand, and on "gene-parenting interactions," in which parents' effects on children depend on children's genetic propensities. Studying the combined roles of children's genetically-influenced traits and the parenting they evoke and receive is expected to further affect our understanding of child development and the parent-child relationship.</p> |                   |

| <b>Saturday, July 24, 10:30am-11:30am</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>Ivcher Auditorium</b> |
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| <p>Where's the Sex in Relationship Research? Where are the Relationships in Sex Research?</p> <p>Lisa Diamond, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA</p> <p>Despite the obvious interconnections between social scientific research on sexuality and social scientific research on interpersonal relationships (and the even more obvious interconnections between sex and relationships in human experience), these fields have remained relatively separate, even as both of them have undergone considerable growth and diversification over the past several decades. Despite the fact that relationship researchers and sexuality researchers have similar research questions and methods, they tend to base their research in different theoretical traditions, and to disseminate their work in different publications and at different scientific meetings. As a result, there has been little substantive cross-pollination between the work conducted in each “camp,” to the detriment of both. In this presentation I describe my own struggles managing a “dual identity” as both a relationship researcher and a sexuality researcher, and use these experiences as a jumping off point for considering various reasons why these fields remained relatively separate. I outline the specific benefits that greater integration could bring for each discipline, and I conclude with specific recommendations regarding institutional collaborations between relationship researchers and sexuality researchers in research, training, and dissemination.</p> |                          |

| <b>Saturday, July 24, 12:00pm-1:00pm</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Ivcher Auditorium</b> |
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| <p>Perspectives on /Relationship Compatibility, Compatible Matches, and Compatibility Matching</p> <p>Susan Sprecher, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, USA</p> <p>Internet Matching services have drawn public attention to relationship compatibility and compatibility matching, and to Relationship Science. Several Internet matching services have advertised that Relationship Science is behind their proprietary matching algorithms used to create compatible matches. An additional claim is that these compatible matches lead to long-term compatible relationships and even to the societal outcome of a reduced divorce rate. The purpose of my presentation is to provide a landscape view of relationship compatibility, compatible matches, and compatibility matching, three distinct but interrelated issues. What does Relationship Science say about each of these topics? Furthermore, what aspects of Relationship Science are being "used" to accomplish compatibility matching at the Internet Matching sites? In addition to addressing these questions, the presentation will include example findings from my own research that directly or indirectly relate to the topic of the formation of compatible relationships.</p> |                          |

| Sunday, July 25, 5:15pm-6:15pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Ivcher Auditorium |
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| <p>Past IARR President Invited Lecture</p> <p>Research on Adult Attachment: Past, Present, and Future</p> <p>Phillip R. Shaver, University of California, Davis, CA, USA</p> <p>In 1987, Hazan and Shaver published an exploratory article in the <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i> suggesting that romantic love, which was then becoming a “hot” topic in social psychology, could be fruitfully conceptualized in terms of Bowlby and Ainsworth’s attachment theory, a theory originally focused on infant-parent relationships. Since then, hundreds of theoretical writings and empirical studies have extended the theory in new directions, some of which were reviewed and integrated in a 2007 book by Mikulincer and Shaver, <i>Attachment in Adulthood: Structure, Dynamics, and Change</i>. In his Past President’s Address, Shaver will describe the present state of the theory and summarize several lines of research, including ones involving laboratory experiments, daily diary methods, fMRI, and genetics as well as extensions of the theory into the realms of altruism, leadership, and Buddhism. If time permits, he will briefly consider challenges and opportunities for further research.</p> |                   |

# ORAL SESSIONS

## Friday July 23

**OA.01 Social regulation: The role of significant others in regulating affect, cognition, and behavior**

Friday, July 23  
8:30am-10:00am  
Room L201

### **OA.01 Mental representations of attachment figures facilitate emotional recovery**

Vivian Zayas<sup>1</sup>, Emre Selcuk<sup>1</sup>, Gul Gunaydin<sup>1</sup>, Ethan Kross<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA*

A basic function of attachment relationships is to provide individuals with a feeling of security that serves as a protective factor against distressing events and emotional states. One manner in which these protective effects may occur is by facilitating recovery after the experience of an upsetting personally relevant event. The present research investigated the extent to which activating the mental representation of an attachment figure (mother, romantic partner) facilitates emotional recovery following the reliving of a distressing autobiographical event. Three studies showed that activating the representation of an attachment figure (either using a photograph or memory recall) versus an unknown other or an acquaintance down-regulated negative affect and up-regulated positive affect. Moreover, the pattern across the three studies suggests that the ability for the mental representation of the attachment figure to facilitate emotional recovery following distressing autobiographical memory recall is moderated by the quality of attachment. The effect appears to be strongest among individuals who were low on attachment-avoidance. These findings indicate that simply thinking about an attachment figure following the recall of a distressing autobiographical memory can facilitate emotional recovery by lessening negative affect and increasing positive affect, and that the ability for attachment figures to facilitate recovery depends on the quality of the attachment relationship. The implications of these findings for self-regulation are discussed.

### **OA.01 Adult attachment and exploration: Activating the mental representation of romantic partners increases curiosity and exploratory behaviors**

Emre Selcuk, Cindy Hazan

*Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA*

Exploration and openness to new information are critical for effective goal-pursuit. Although a key assumption of attachment theory is that security-providing attachment figures enhance these activities, the normative effects of adult attachment on exploration have been understudied. The aim of the present project was to investigate whether romantic partners, as primary attachment figures in adulthood, increase individuals' curiosity and exploratory behavior. In three experiments, we asked participants to complete a questionnaire consisting of a set of open-ended questions. The questionnaire served as a supraliminal prime designed to activate the mental representation of either participants' romantic partner or social or nonsocial topics (e.g., grocery shopping, interacting with an acquaintance). Following this task, we assessed participants' self-reported curiosity (Studies 1 and 2) and actual exploratory

behavior (Study 3). Across the three studies, activating the mental representation of the romantic partner, as compared to control topics, resulted in higher curiosity and exploratory behavior. Moreover, in Studies 1 and 2 (but not 3), the effects of the partner prime were only observed for participants who were strongly attached to their partner (assessed by the WHOTO). Finally, neither individual differences in adult attachment nor relationship quality significantly moderated these effects in any of the studies. These findings are consistent with adult attachment theory's proposition that romantic partners serve as "secure bases," enhancing each other's exploratory activities. We discuss the findings in terms of the role of significant others in self-regulation, particularly in domains that are not necessarily directly relevant to the attachment relationship.

### **OA.01 Attachment avoidance impairs cognitive control following marital separation**

David A. Sbarra, Rita W. Law, Ashley E. Mason, Lauren A. Lee  
*University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA*

Attention and working memory are limited capacity systems that can be negatively impacted by psychological stress and active efforts to suppress unwanted thoughts. Adults high in attachment avoidance often engage in defensive processing of attachment-related threats by minimizing the personal relevance of the threat and engaging in deactivating coping strategies. These strategies can falter when highly avoidant individuals encounter competing demands for cognitive resources. We address this topic using data from a prospective study of adults experiencing a recent marital separation (N = 103). After completing a 7-minute recall task asking participants to mentally reflect on their relationship history and separation experience, highly avoidant participants evidenced significantly worse performance on a digit span memory task, which requires attention and working memory. These performance decrements were observed at an initial laboratory visit and again three months later; avoidant adults also evidenced significant decreases in digit span performance over the follow-up period. This change was moderated by scores on the Marlowe-Crowne social desirability scale; the largest decreases in task performance were observed among adults reporting high avoidance and high social desirability at the first visit. The negative association between avoidance and digit span performance remained significant after accounting for several competing predictors, including education level, suppression during the recall task, trait-like tendencies toward emotional suppression, and adjustment to the separation. The findings will be discussed in terms of their fit with self-regulatory models of close relationships as well as their contribution to understanding deactivating strategies in the face of attachment-related threats.

### **OA.01 Self-regulation in everyday life: The influence of person and partner characteristics**

Gertraud Stadler<sup>1</sup>, Niall Bolger<sup>1</sup>, Kenzie Snyder<sup>1</sup>, Masumi Iida<sup>2</sup>, Patrick Shrout<sup>3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>*Columbia University, New York City, NY, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*New York University, New York City, NY, USA*

Although self-regulation occurs within the social network of a person, it has mostly been studied in individuals alone. The current study investigated self-regulation processes in couples in everyday life and with a variety of stressors. Three hypotheses were tested: (1) The frequency of using different self-regulation strategies is correlated between partners. (2) Individual and partner characteristics influence self-

regulation in everyday life. (3) Stressors that affect both partners explain part of the correlation of self-regulation strategy use between partners. Participants (n = 180 in 90 couples) reported their self-regulation strategies in questionnaires and filled out daily diaries. The current study supported the hypotheses: The use of different self-regulation strategies was correlated between partners with correlations ranging from .25 for expressing negative feelings to .51 for perseverance when faced with a difficult situation. Individual and partner characteristics as well as shared stressors accounted for some variance. These results provide a new perspective on the interplay between individual and social influences on self-regulation and emphasize the need to study self-regulation within the social network.

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| <b>OA.02 The emotional climate of relationship conflict: Individual differences in physiology and behavior</b> | Friday, July 23<br>8:30am-0:00am<br>Room L203 |
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**OA.02 Emotion regulation during couple interaction: The second hand smoke effect**

Shiri Ben-Naim<sup>1</sup>, Tsachi Ein-Dor<sup>2</sup>, Gilad Hirschberger<sup>2</sup>, Mario Mikulincer<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

Emotion regulation is a critical component of intimate relationships as they enable partners to convey the sentiments they wish to convey, and to avoid the detrimental consequences of harmful emotions that may negatively influence relationship quality. In the current research we examined whether instructing one partner to regulate emotions would influence the emotional experience, expression, and cardiovascular reactivity of both the manipulated person and his or her partner. We examined these effects as a function of individual differences in attachment orientations. One hundred and twenty seven young Israeli couples engaged in a 15-minute discussion of an area of disagreement in their relationship during which their physiology and behavior were continuously recorded. In each dyad one partner was randomly assigned to either: (a) the expressive suppression condition in which they were instructed to conceal emotions from their partner; (b) the positive reappraisal condition in which they were instructed to make positive attributions about their partner's intents; or (c) the neutral condition in which general instructions were provided. Results revealed that regulation manipulations impacted the manipulated partner's self-reported experience of emotion. Interestingly, these manipulations affected the non-manipulated partner's emotional behavior and physiology. Specifically, in the suppression condition non-manipulated partners exhibited higher cardiovascular arousal and more negative and less positive behaviors, whereas in the reappraisal condition non-manipulated partners exhibited lower cardiovascular arousal, more positive and less negative behaviors. These effects were moderated by individual differences in attachment orientation. Overall, our findings support Butler et al's (2003) metaphor on the second-hand smoke effect of emotion regulation.

**OA.02 The two meanings of physiological relaxation: Relationship satisfaction and detachment**

Omer Berkowitz<sup>1</sup>, Tsachi Ein-Dor<sup>2</sup>, Gilad Hirschberger<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

One of the consistent findings emerging from the relationship interaction literature is that couples who are satisfied with their relationship engage in physiologically calm interactions, whereas couples who are unsatisfied exhibit high arousal, especially

when discussing areas of disagreement in their relationship. The current research examined whether cardiovascular arousal during discussions of relationship disagreements may at times indicate individuals' level of engagement/disengagement in the relationship, such that in some cases physiologically calm interactions indicate emotional disengagement. In this case physiological relaxation would be associated with low relationship satisfaction. We conceptualized relational engagement/disengagement in two ways: (a) levels of dispositional attachment avoidance; (b) the frequency of using pronouns that convey togetherness ("we-words") during the interaction. Forty seven young Israeli couples engaged in a 15-minute interaction discussing an area of disagreement in their relationship during which their physiological responding was monitored and their behavior was videotaped. Two trained coders used a computer program to code for the frequency of we-words during the interaction. Results indicated that individuals low in attachment avoidance and low in cardiovascular arousal were high in relationship satisfaction. However, partners high in attachment avoidance and low in cardiovascular arousal were low in relationship satisfaction. Similarly, individuals who used a higher frequency of we-words and who were physiologically calm exhibited high relationship satisfaction. However, physiologically calm interactions with infrequent use of we-words were associated with relationship dissatisfaction. These findings indicate that physiological relaxation is not always associated with relationship satisfaction, and may sometimes convey relational detachment.

#### **OA.02 Subtle sensitivity: Smiles, displays of empathy, and speech interruptions influence the quality of couple interactions**

Dana Bachar<sup>1</sup>, Tsachi Ein-Dor<sup>2</sup>, Gilad Hirschberger<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

Research has demonstrated the importance of emotional behavior as an indicator of relationship quality. However, most of this research has utilized microanalytic methods of behavioral coding that tap fluctuations in emotions, but may be less sensitive to larger themes that characterize the interaction. In the current research we were primarily interested in understanding how being sensitive to one's partner influences the quality of couple interactions. We conceptualized sensitivity according to three criteria: (a) responding empathetically - detecting empathic opportunities and responding to them; (b) smiling in an appropriate manner - displaying Duchenne smiles to convey caring and closeness; (c) speech interruptions - breaking into the partner's speech. Forty couples engaged in a 15-minute discussion of an area of disagreement in their relationship during which their physiology was monitored and their behavior was videotaped. Two trained coders independently rated each spouse on the above behavioral codes. Results indicated that speech interruptions were associated with higher physiological arousal during the interaction for both men and women. Women were more physiologically relaxed when they provided more empathic opportunities, and men were more physiologically relaxed when they displayed appropriate smiles. Individuals high in personal distress who are typically unsatisfied in their relationship, were high in relationship satisfaction to the extent that they displayed appropriate smiles. Similarly, partners low in relationship satisfaction exhibited higher arousal unless they showed more empathetic responding. In this case, physiological arousal was lower. These findings indicate that subtle displays of sensitivity influence the emotional climate of interactions.

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| <b>OA.03 The Cross-Culture Difficulties of Deviating Dating Norms</b> | Friday, July 23<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L204 |
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**OA.03 A cross cultural test of the relational turbulence model: Relational uncertainty, partner interference, and turmoil in South Korean and American romantic relationships**

Mary Nagy, Jennifer Theiss

*Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA*

The relational turbulence model highlights relational uncertainty and interference from partners as two relationship qualities that make people more reactive to their relational circumstances. Countless studies have validated the model in American samples, but the model has yet to be tested across cultures. Thus, this study explored patterns of relational uncertainty and partner interference in romantic relationships in the USA and South Korea and examined how these variables predict relational turmoil for romantic partners in each culture. We hypothesized that intimacy was negatively associated with relational uncertainty and curvilinearly associated with interference from partners, peaking at moderate levels of intimacy. We also predicted that increased relational uncertainty and partner interference are associated with perceptions of increased turmoil in the relationship. Survey data was collected from 157 college aged individuals from the USA and 143 college aged individuals from South Korea. We used multiple-group analysis in structural equation modeling to evaluate our hypotheses and to explore cultural group differences between Americans and Koreans in the predicted model. In the combined sample, results supported the hypotheses such that intimacy was negatively associated with relational uncertainty and curvilinearly associated with partner interference, which were both positively associated with perceptions of turmoil in the relationship. Cross cultural analyses revealed that the association between relationship uncertainty and relational turmoil was significant for Koreans, but not for Americans. Thus, results suggest some cultural differences in the way Americans and Koreans experience relational turmoil.

**OA.03 Acculturation of Chinese immigrants in London and Rome: Personal relationships among majority and minority group members**

Gaia Di Castro

*Brunel University, London, United Kingdom*

Acculturation research has mainly focused on immigrants' perspective and adaptation to the new society at the cultural level. However, in multicultural societies, the perspectives of the native-born majority group members and mutual relations between natives and immigrants are equally important. Therefore, social and interpersonal relationships among natives and immigrants embody a new trend in acculturation research. The present study sought to expand previous examinations analysing personal relationships among 122 Chinese immigrants and 147 Italian and British natives. Results suggested that intercultural relationships with majority group members were highly sought by immigrants, while natives showed a more reluctant attitude. In fact, those immigrants who favoured an acculturation strategy of assimilation - of which seeking relationships with natives comprises an important part - reported greater psychological adjustment. In addition, positive attitudes toward multiculturalism were related to positive attitudes toward equal societal participation, and in turn, with higher life satisfaction. Implications of these findings for the power of close relationships to enhance intercultural relations in multicultural societies will be discussed.

### **OA.03 Single women in Tel-Aviv**

Amit Gal Osem, Ofra Mayseless

*Haifa university, Haifa, Israel*

Despite growing numbers of single women in their 4<sup>th</sup> decade of life, singlehood at this age still constitutes a deviation from normative developmental models (Gordon, 1994; Arnett, 2000). This research focused on the experiences of heterosexual women (ages 30-40) with no permanent romantic relationship, in Tel-Aviv - the largest metropolitan in Israel. We sought to open a window to voices of single women's life in the city and focused on three major questions: (1) How do single women experience the society that they live in? (2) How do they perceive their place of living in the big city of Tel-Aviv in terms of their singlehood? (3) In what way do single women structure their emotional relationships? The research used a qualitative-narrative approach that guided the analyses of the narratives of interviews with 16 single women (ages 30-40) that live in Tel- Aviv. Several themes characterized these narratives: (a). difficult and traumatic experiences; (b). "Busy Lives"; (c) one significant close figure; (d). A specific romantic relation as the object of fantasies and longing; (e). Relations with parents: close and frequent vs. complicated and difficult; (f). Psychological treatment as a recurrent theme; and (g). Career as a significant and central theme. Previous research highlighted mostly difficulties and distress among single women. Although the status of marriage and establishing a family in Israel is still central, the research underscored that a new growing group of single women establishes its legitimate place in the Israeli society.

### **OA.03 "Outsider" And "insider" perspectives on Canadian interracial relationships**

Rebecca Malhi

*University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada*

Canadian interracial couples live in a society that tends to approve of their unions in principle, but not in reality. The present research examined romantic interracial relationships from the perspectives of both "insiders" (that is, people who are members of different-race unions) and "outsiders" (people who are not interracially involved). My goal in doing so was two-fold: first, to explore outsiders' beliefs (e.g. attitudes and perceptions) concerning interracial couples, as expressed in the discourses they drew upon in talk on the topic; and second, to investigate how such beliefs and behaviours (e.g. public reactions) of members of Canadian society impact interracial couples. The "insiders" study documented a consistent pattern of racially-based incidents that were perpetrated against the interracial participants, incidents that were ostensibly mild but still significant enough to cause the couple members some distress. Furthermore, the "outsiders" study found that, along with a few positive "celebratory" discourses, participants often drew upon negative "cautionary" discourses that depicted interracial couple members as being very different from each other and likely to experience difficult lives. The implication is that different-race couples face mixed messages in Canadian society: in a country with multicultural ideals of not "seeing race" or not "noticing colour," the factors of race and colour are, in fact, very important and influential.

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| <b>OA.04 The Importance of Positive Interpersonal Relationships on a Patient's Health</b> | Friday, July 23<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L102 |
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**OA.04 Exploring health-promoting relationships between professionals and teenage mothers: thoughts on power and vulnerability.**

Claudia Mollidor

*London School of Economics, London, United Kingdom*

The aim of this paper is to highlight the importance of, and outline the types of relationships between teenage mothers and professionals who work with them in a range of capacities in service settings in south London. I argue that the kind of relationships practitioners and mothers engage in are key in the provision of user-friendly and stigma-free services and, therefore, require a detailed exploration. This paper is based on two bodies of empirical research: in-depth interviews with professionals specialized in working with teenage mothers, and findings from a Photovoice project with teenage mothers in the area. The extent to which experiences of these professional-client relationships vary between the two groups will be of interest here. Preliminary findings indicate that specialized practitioners consider their roles in mothers' lives as highly important to ensure their well-being. However, some mothers do not display the appropriate interest and uptake of services, creating a source of frustration for professionals. According to professionals, relationships have to be based on trust and respect, which can be challenging to establish with a client base which is both deemed 'hard to reach' and often suspicious of the establishment. Traditional power relations between service providers and users are hence reverse and will be discussed. By identifying the role played by professionals in the lives of teenage mothers, I hope to establish a framework within which health promoting relationships for particular client groups can be theoretically informed and practically applied.

**OA.04 Spouses' vs. patients' perceptions of diabetes control show divergent associations with glycemic control**

Dara Sorkin, Kristin August, Karen Rook

*University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA*

The management of chronic illness often occurs in a dyadic context, in which both patients and their spouses can appraise the patients' illness management. How spouses assess their partner's disease management may have prognostic value, but researchers have seldom examined this possibility. The present study accordingly evaluated the usefulness of spouse ratings of diabetes control as a predictor of patients' glycemic control (hemoglobin A1c). Data were derived from an ethnically diverse sample of 208 diabetic patients (90 non-Hispanic white and 118 Hispanic patients) and their spouses. Both patients and spouses rated the patient's diabetes control. Patients' hemoglobin A1c values were abstracted from medical records. Patients had a mean age of 57 (s.d.=11) years and had been diagnosed with diabetes approximately 9 (s.d.=6) years. Roughly half (52%) of the patients were male. Couples had been married 27 (s.d.=14) years, on average. Analyses that controlled for marital quality revealed that among non-Hispanic white patients, their ratings, but not their spouses' ratings, of their diabetes control were associated with Hb1c ( $\beta = .49, p < .001$  vs.  $\beta = -.15, n.s.$ ). In contrast, among Hispanic patients, spouses' ratings, but not patients' ratings, of the patients' diabetes control were associated with HbA1c ( $\beta = .20, p < .05$  vs.  $\beta = .16, p = .11$ ). These findings underscore the importance of including spouses' views of their chronically ill partners' disease management, as spouses sometimes

provide more accurate assessments. The findings also highlight the need to consider cultural differences in examining the implications of patients' versus spouses' views of the patients' illness management.

#### **OA.04 The importance of a good doctor-patient relationship for glycemic control: Findings from an ethnically-diverse sample of patients with type 2 diabetes**

John Billimek, Quyen Ngo-Metzger, Dara Sorkin, Sheldon Greenfield, Sherrie Kaplan  
*University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA*

The quality of the relationship between physicians and their patients has been shown to be as important a predictor of patients' self-care behaviors and health outcomes as the quality of the technical care for a number of conditions, including diabetes. The interpersonal relationship between doctors and patients encompasses the social-psychological aspects of the clinical interaction, including doctor-patient communication and trust. Some hypothesize that poor interpersonal care processes contribute to racial/ethnic disparities in health. The present study evaluated patients' ratings of trust and participatory decision making, two measures of interpersonal processes of care, as predictors of patients' glycemic control (hemoglobin A1c). Data were derived from an ethnically diverse sample of 810 diabetic patients (224 non-Hispanic white and 586 Hispanic patients). Hemoglobin A1c values were abstracted from medical records. Patients had a mean age of 56 (s.d.=11) years and had been diagnosed with diabetes for approximately 9 (s.d.=8) years. Most (62%) of the patients were female. Analyses that controlled for gender, age, and duration of diabetes revealed that for all patients, irrespective of ethnic background, their ratings of trust with their physician were significantly associated with HbA1c ( $\beta = -0.11, p < 0.01$ ). In contrast, ratings of participatory decision making were significantly associated with HbA1c only for the non-Hispanic white patients ( $\beta = -0.23, p < 0.05$ ). These findings underscore the importance of considering cultural differences in preferences for participating in decision making and the interpersonal context of the health care interaction.

#### **OA.04 Looking beyond the patient in phase-II cardiac rehabilitation**

Joshua Schoenfeld<sup>1</sup>, Michael Rohrbaugh<sup>2</sup>, Varda Shoham<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Saint Joseph's College of Maine, Standish, ME, USA, <sup>2</sup>University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA*

Previous research highlights the key role of close relationships in cardiac health. For example, in one sample of patients with congestive heart failure (CHF), marital quality predicted patient survival at four years (Coyne, Rohrbaugh, Shoham, Sonnega, Nicklas, & Cranford, 2001) and eight years (Rohrbaugh, Shoham, & Coyne, 2006), and spouse confidence in patient efficacy predicted patient survival at four years (Rohrbaugh, Shoham, Coyne, Cranford, Sonnega, & Nicklas, 2004). In another sample of CHF patients, spouse distress predicted six-month changes in patient health (Cleary, Rohrbaugh, Shoham, & Butler, 2006). The present paper builds on previous research by reporting several key findings from a study of 128 cardiac rehabilitation patients and their spouses and considering the implications of these findings for both research and clinical practice. Of particular interest: patients whose spouses chose to participate in a study of the rehabilitation process attended more rehabilitation sessions, showed greater functional improvement, and were more likely to complete the program than married patients whose spouses declined to participate. These patients also scored higher on measures of communal coping, useful discussions,

spouse involvement, and active engagement than patients whose spouses declined to participate. Collectively, this pattern provides evidence that relationship factors play an important role in the context of cardiac rehabilitation and that looking beyond the patient can help predict crucial health behaviors such as attendance at cardiac rehabilitation. Results also suggest that objective behavioral measures can be used as markers of clinically valuable relationship factors in this context.

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| <b>OA.05 Creating, Developing and Maintaining Friendships</b> | Friday, July 23<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L103 |
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#### **OA.05 Interpersonal chemistry in friendships and romantic relationships**

Kelly Campbell, Alexis L. Mitchell, Linda Meneses

*California State University, San Bernardino, USA*

Chemistry refers to an instant connection between two individuals. Few researchers have examined this construct and those who have, focused on sexual chemistry and did not address chemistry in friendships. The goal of the present study was to identify the underlying components of interpersonal chemistry in friendships and romantic relationships. One thousand ethnically diverse men and women responded to an online, mixed-method questionnaire. A majority of participants were from the Western USA but the sample represented regions across the U.S. Friendship and romantic chemistry were inductively described in terms of an implicit understanding, perceived similarity, ease of communication and electric synergy with another person. Romantic, but not friendship chemistry, was described in terms of an instant physical attraction, excitement, affection, and strong sexual desire. Friends and romantic partners with whom participants experienced chemistry were perceived as caring, genuine, and trustworthy. Participants thought chemistry functioned to alleviate loneliness, promote intimacy, ensure survival, and spiritually connect individuals. They also thought it helped people identify, from the early stages of a relationship, whether they should invest time and emotion into the friendship or romance. Participants who had never experienced chemistry identified possible reasons including a belief that relationships take time to develop, feeling distrustful of people upon first meeting, and an inability to find people who share their interests. These individuals also described feeling lonely. Personality was predictive of chemistry in that extroverted individuals were more likely to have experienced both friendship and romantic chemistry. Directions for future research conclude the presentation.

#### **OA.05 Fearlessness in preschoolers as a risk factor for development of lower empathy and aggressive and anti-social tendencies: A multi-method, multi-source study**

Inbal Kivenson Bar-on

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Social behavior and in particular its dark side, aggression and anti-social tendencies are strongly dependent on developmental and social contexts (Raine, 2002). Though less explored, temperament too may be an important antecedent. The present study examined the association between fearlessness, as a temperamental tendency, and socio-emotional characteristics reflecting the dark side of social behavior low empathy, high aggressive and severe anti-social tendencies among preschool children aged 3-4 years. Under-activation of the fear system (i.e., fearlessness) may place a child at risk of failing to attend to some of the early precursors of empathic concern

involving emotional arousal evoked by the misfortune or distress of others. Such omission may also be associated with general aggressiveness and with distinct and severe forms of proactive aggressive behavior and specifically with severe antisocial tendencies. The research sample included 80 three years old pre-schoolers, their parents, and the children's preschool teachers. The present study incorporated parental and preschool teacher reports as well as two laboratory procedures spaced one year apart. Fearlessness was found to be a consistent behavior that can be recognized by different sources in different contexts of young children's lives and is stable across time. Fearlessness was associated negatively with empathy, as assessed by questionnaires, observations, and projective instruments and was positively associated with aggressiveness and severe antisocial tendency at both examinations. These findings suggest that fearlessness in preschool constitutes a clear risk factor for developmental pathways that lead to problems in morality, conscience development, and severe antisocial behaviors.

### **OA.05 Guilt in friendship**

Rita D'Amico

*Institute of Cognitive Science and Technology (CNR), Rome, Italy*

Guilt is a subjective unpleasant state, implying harm to another person and the acknowledgement of moral transgressions. Over the last decades, several studies have focused on guilt in couples, whereas relatively little attention has been devoted to guilt in friendship relationships. The present study was aimed to fill this gap. Participants were 151 students (73 males and 78 females) at the Department of Communication studies of Rome University (Italy). Their age ranged between 18 and 30 years. All participants had been involved in a friendship relationship for at least six months to 20 years. They were asked to answer a questionnaire during lecture time. Socio-demographic information were collected first. Next, participants were invited to describe a situation that was most vivid in their mind and to indicate, on a 10-point scale the extent to which the guilt was strong. They were also solicited to explain, in a free format, 1) the reasons why they felt guilty in that specific situation; 2) what they did or thought after feeling the emotion, 3) in what way the emotional experience had changed both themselves and the relationship. Two independent judges coded participants' accounts, reasons for feeling guilty and any reparative behaviors reported by them. The results obtained highlight not only the episodes of guilt that are typical of friendship, but also the values and norms that were transgressed and that from the participants' point of view were important characteristics of the relationship with their best friends.

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| <b>OA.06 Multi-Cultural Studies on the Field of Friendship Research</b> | Friday, July 23<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L104 |
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### **OA.06 Developing mutuality/friendship on internationalising campus: An intercultural communication perspective**

Kazuhiro Kudo

*Dokkyo University, Soka, Saitama, Japan*

This paper focuses on mutuality as a main communicative component of friendship between international and home students on internationalising campus. The literature has problematised superficial relations between the two student groups, and discussed the need for new theories and institutional engagements that help to facilitate greater

intercultural interactions and learning. Against this background, the author conducted a set of grounded theory studies involving individual and focus-group interviews with 36 international students, 39 home students and 17 academic and administrative staff in Japanese universities. A critical-interpretive analysis of the qualitative data generated mutuality (i.e. interpersonal interconnectedness and interdependence) as a core element of intercultural friendship communication which consists of three recurrent subthemes: (1) relaxed reciprocity (i.e. relaxed, mutually rewarding multifunctional communication based on equality and trust), (2) understandability (i.e. mutual understanding based on common grounds) and (3) purposelessness (i.e. undoing profit-and-loss arithmetic). The analysis highlights the intersubjective, co-creating nature of friendship and interculturality, which challenges previous studies that regard objectified cultural differences in friendship elements as detrimental to relational development. It also shows the influences of non-cultural, socio-institutional factors on students' friendship, calling for greater analytical sensitivity to multilayered (e.g. historical, economic, political, ideological, educational, sociocultural) contexts that are currently impacted by the discourses of globalisation and internationalisation of higher education.

#### **OA.06 The friendships of international students in Brazil: An exploratory study**

Agnaldo Garcia

*Federal University of Espirito Santo, Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil*

This work investigated the friendships of foreign college students in Brazil. 100 students (50 males and 50 females) from 25 countries completed a questionnaire specially developed to this investigation covering: friends network (nationality and geographical distribution); a brief friendship history (beginning and outstanding events); common activities and shared interests; communication languages; difficulties in friendships; the role of friends in adapting to Brazil and perceiving the country. A total of 820 friends has been mentioned, 439 from the same country, 256 Brazilians and 125 from other countries. Most friends lived in the same town (351), other town in Brazil (49) or other country (261). Main communication languages were Portuguese, English and Creole. The main common interests and shared activities were related to leisure (612), studies (409), scientific or cultural activities (323), sports (166), work (100) and religion (92). Considering the 225 closest friends mentioned, 120 had been known personally in other country, 93 known personally in Brazil and 2 in Internet. Difficulties included distance from friends (74), communication (39), personal differences (35) and cultural differences (20) and depended on the nationality of friends. Outstanding events were related to support or companionship (136), leisure (112), work or study (76). 128 close friendships affected positively the adaptation to Brazil, 67 did not affect it and 9 affected negatively. 106 friendships affected positively how the participant perceived Brazil, 93 were indifferent and 5 affected negatively. Brazilian friends were especially important in both aspects. Data are discussed in light of contemporary literature on international friendships.

#### **OA.06 Are students from different religion and ethnic background seeking contact and friendship with students from other national group?**

Rachel Hertz-Lazarowitz, Tamar Zelniker, Abeer Farah

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

157 Jews and 202 Arabs students at the University of Haifa (UH) completed in 2008 questionnaires about life on campus. Attitudes toward friendship, integration,

segregation, positive and negative perception were examined. UH is composed of 25% Arabs: Muslims (the majority), Christian, and Druze, and Jew: native born in Israel (the majority), Jews born in Ethiopia and in Former Soviet Union. A social relationship scale was constructed based on Sharabany (1974,1994), and included items related to close contact such as helping, visiting and doing things together. Arabs had significantly higher scores of social relationship with the other nation: The Druze had the highest mean score, followed by the Christian, the Muslims, the Ethiopians Jews, the Israeli Jews, and lastly, by Jews from FSU. For both Jews and Arabs, social relationship with the other group is significantly correlated with positive attitudes toward the university and toward integration. Having friends correlated with more positive and less negative perception of life in UH. Finally, it was found that the majority of the Arabs (2/3) and a minority of the Jews (1/3) reported having a lot of contact with students from the other nation. Also, 46% of the Arabs and 15% of the Jews reported having more than 5 friends, and the university was the major context for friendships for most of the students (70%). The potential and limitations of UH in promoting integration via friendship will be discussed.

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| <b>OB.01 New Trends in the Study of the Attachment Bases of Interpersonal Processes</b> | Friday, July 23<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L201 |
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#### **OB.01 The evolutionary armistice: Attachment bonds moderate the function of ovulatory cycle adaptations**

Eli Finkel<sup>1</sup>, Paul Eastwick<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Northwestern University, Chicago Illinois, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Texas A&M University, TX, USA*

Theoretically, attachment processes evolved as a means of allying adult mating partners to each other in the early history of the genus Homo, thus encouraging increased investment, especially paternal investment, in offspring. Previously existing adaptations that fostered intersexual conflict could have threatened attachment bonds, which suggests that attachment processes should have evolved along with an ability to mute or refocus the effects of such conflictual adaptations. Two studies offer support for this prediction by demonstrating that attachment bonds moderate the function of ovulatory cycle adaptations. Among heterosexual women who were strongly (but not weakly) attached to their romantic partner, fertility predicted a decreased likelihood of reporting interest in extrapair sexual activity. In addition, to the extent that women were bonded to a male partner, fertility predicted their use of sexual contact to foster an emotional connection with him. These results highlight how researchers can use the timeline of hominid evolution (i.e., phylogeny) as a tool to complement functional, adaptationist hypotheses.

#### **OB.01 Evidence for a negative association between avoidant attachment and estradiol**

Robin Edelstein

*University of Michigan, Ann Harbor, Michigan, USA*

Estradiol is a steroid hormone that has been linked with attachment and caregiving processes in humans and other mammals. Yet, it is unclear whether variations in estradiol levels are associated with individual differences in relationship-relevant personality constructs. In my talk, I will present correlational and experimental evidence that estradiol is related to avoidant attachment. Findings from the first study

indicate that avoidance is negatively related to baseline estradiol levels. Moreover, this relation is moderated by participants' implicit motivation for intimacy, such that the highest estradiol levels are observed among less avoidant participants with high levels of intimacy motivation. Subsequent studies examined whether exposure to intimacy-related stimuli increases estradiol levels and whether avoidance moderates these effects. Findings reveal that estradiol is associated with relationship-relevant personality constructs in theoretically meaningful ways. The data also suggest that estradiol may be an important link between individual differences in attachment and intimacy in close relationships.

### **OB.01 Oxytocin, attachment, and interpersonal processes**

Jennifer Bartz

*Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NY, USA*

Oxytocin (OXT) regulates attachment and prosocial behavior in animals, and it has been shown to increase trust in healthy adults. This suggests that OXT may facilitate trusting, prosocial behavior in individuals, such as those who score high on measures of attachment insecurity, who have difficulties with such behaviors. Other research, however, shows that negative early care-giving experiences can dysregulate the OXT system, altering responses to OXT. We found support for this latter hypothesis. OXT (vs. placebo) decreased trust and increased aggressive responses in a social dilemma game for anxious but not securely attached individuals. Attachment anxiety also moderated the effects of OXT on recollections of maternal closeness: anxiously attached individuals remembered being less close to their mother, whereas securely attached individuals remembered being closer to their mother following OXT (vs. placebo). These data suggest that OXT is not a universal prosocial enhancer; rather OXT may produce different effects depending on relational histories, expectancies and goals, and underlying neurobiological differences in the OXT system due to early care-giving experiences.

### **OB.01 Linking attachment theory and interdependence theory: A dyadic view of couples**

SiSi Tran<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey Simpson<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, USA, <sup>2</sup>University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minnesota, USA*

Many theorists and researchers have emphasized the importance of adopting a dyadic perspective on the study of attachment processes. In our lecture we will consider integrating Attachment Theory with Interdependence Theory, one of the most insistently dyadic of relationship theories, by examining the interactions among both partners' attachment styles and their relationship commitment levels that may predict emotional and behavioral reactions in potentially threatening relationship discussions. We will show how greater commitment on the part of at least one partner enhances both partners' emotional responses and security in the relationship, buffering the usual negative coping strategies of insecure partners. Because each partner's emotional and behavioral reactions have effects on the other's emotional and behavioral outcomes, the characteristics of both partners are essential to the examination, modeling, and full understanding of relationship phenomena. Negative relationship histories can often hinder an individual's ability to cope effectively with threatening events, but one's own relationship commitment and particularly one's partner's commitment may offset negative contributions of attachment history by curtailing the tendency to react negatively and by promoting constructive responses.

**OB.02 Culture and the dimensions of romantic attachment**

Itziar Alonso-Arbiol<sup>1</sup>, Fons van de Vijver<sup>2</sup>, Phillip Shaver<sup>3</sup>, Faisal Azaiza<sup>4</sup>, Audrey Brassard<sup>5</sup>, Özgür Çelenk<sup>6</sup>, Marco Del Giudice<sup>7</sup>, Omri Gillath<sup>8</sup>, Konstantinos Kafetsios<sup>9</sup>, Gery Karantzas<sup>10</sup>, Netanela Karo-Sigall<sup>11</sup>, Kazuo Kato<sup>12</sup>, Marie-France Lafontaine<sup>13</sup>, Shiri Lavy<sup>14</sup>, Tonggui Li<sup>15</sup>, Joao Moreira<sup>16</sup>, Tatsuma Nakao<sup>17</sup>, Eva Neumann<sup>18</sup>, Kok-Mun Ng<sup>19</sup>, Chris Sibley<sup>20</sup>, Rosario Spencer<sup>21</sup>, Wai Sing Tse<sup>22</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian, Spain*, <sup>2</sup>*Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands*, <sup>3</sup>*University of California, Davis, California, USA*, <sup>4</sup>*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*, <sup>5</sup>*Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Canada*, <sup>6</sup>*Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands*, <sup>7</sup>*University of Turin, Turin, Italy*, <sup>8</sup>*University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA*, <sup>9</sup>*University of Crete, Rethymnon, Crete, Greece*, <sup>10</sup>*Deakin University, Victoria, Australia*, <sup>11</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>12</sup>*Kyushu University, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka, Japan*, <sup>13</sup>*University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*, <sup>14</sup>*Ariel University Center, Ariel, Israel*, <sup>15</sup>*Peking University, Beijing, China*, <sup>16</sup>*Lisbon University, Lisbon, Portugal*, <sup>17</sup>*Yamaguchi College of Arts, Yoshiki-gun, Yamaguchi, Japan*, <sup>18</sup>*University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany*, <sup>19</sup>*UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA*, <sup>20</sup>*University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand*

Studies of close relationships and of the many mental processes influenced by experiences in close relationships have benefitted greatly from applications of attachment theory and associated measures. But most such studies are conducted in English in Western Anglophone countries. Although attachment processes and dynamics are likely to be rooted in innate behavioral systems that are cross-culturally universal, the shaping of these processes by cultural norms, family systems, and so on is also very important. A few studies (e.g., Schmitt and colleagues, 2003, 2004) have indicated that there are cross-cultural differences in the prevalence of various forms of attachment (e.g., secure, anxious, and avoidant). Many studies of romantic attachment have relied on the two-dimensional conception of attachment insecurities operationalized by the Experiences in Close Relationships inventory (ECR; Brennan, Clark, & Shaver, 1998). We will report a large cross-cultural study focused on four hypotheses: (1) the two dimensions underlying romantic attachment patterns - attachment anxiety and avoidance - will be similar across cultures; (2) individuals from East-Asian cultures will score higher on attachment anxiety than individuals from European and North American cultures; (3) collectivism (as distinct from individualism) will be positively associated with attachment anxiety at cultural level; and (4) masculinity of the country will be positively associated to larger gender differences in avoidant attachment. Linguistically and culturally adapted versions of the ECR were administered to nearly 9,000 college-educated young adults in 18 countries. We will report on construct equivalence across countries and test the hypotheses using multivariate modeling.

## **OB.02 "Being too close"? – A cross-cultural perspective on intrusiveness in romantic relationships**

Shiri Lavy<sup>1</sup>, Betsy Feldman<sup>2</sup>, Faisal Azaiza<sup>3</sup>, Netanela Karo-Sigall<sup>4</sup>, Wai Shing Tse<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ariel University Center, Ariel, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*, <sup>4</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>5</sup>*Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong-Kong, China*

Autonomy and closeness/proximity are two basic needs in human relationships, and balancing them is crucial for the creation and maintenance of healthy, satisfying relationships. In this paper we focus on the breakdown of autonomy-proximity balance, as reflected by intrusive behaviors. Culture and gender variations in perceptions and evaluations of dependence and interdependence (e.g., Markus & Kitayama, 1991) may be related to cultural differences in perceptions and evaluation of intrusiveness and other relational behaviors. In this study, we examined perceptions of intrusiveness in 1207 participants from five cultures (290 Americans, 208 Indians, 212 Jewish-Israelis, 295 Arab-Israelis, and 202 Chinese). Participants were asked to use a Likert-type scale to rate how well each of 38 behaviors represents intrusiveness. (The behaviors were generated from analysis of replies to open questions about intrusiveness, of participants in four cultures). Latent class analysis revealed that participants' response patterns fell into 6 classes: One class included relatively low ratings of all behaviors, while another included relatively high ratings of all behaviors. The other four classes showed more variability, differing in their highest and lowest rated items. ANOVA tests revealed cultural and gender differences in probabilities of class membership. The differences we found in conceptualization of behaviors as intrusive (or not), may reflect perceptual variations related to thoughts/schemas of autonomy and proximity in romantic relationships between genders and across cultural groups. They also provide the beginnings of behavioral "definitions" of cultural and norms and values that have been found in previous studies.

## **OB.02 Romantic relationship satisfaction among British and Turkish adults**

Özgür Çelenk<sup>1</sup>, Fons van de Vijver<sup>1</sup>, Robin Goodwin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands*, <sup>2</sup>*Brunel University, London, United Kingdom*

The purpose of the study was to integrate adult attachment styles, autonomy-relatedness self construal and gender roles in understanding romantic relationship satisfaction among British and Turkish adults. The research sought to determine if there are differences on adult attachment styles, autonomy-relatedness self construal, gender roles and relationship satisfaction among participants from the two cultural groups. Moreover, it was analyzed whether adult attachment styles, gender roles and autonomy-relatedness predict romantic relationship satisfaction in both cultural groups. Three hundred and twenty individuals from Turkey and Britain who were in romantic relationships completed self-report questionnaires measuring adult attachment styles (avoidance of intimacy and experiencing anxiety), autonomy-relatedness, masculinity-femininity, and romantic relationship satisfaction. Results indicated that all variables used in the study, except autonomy, are predictors of romantic relationship satisfaction in both cultural groups. Moreover, the regression coefficients were identical across two samples. Finally, while controlling for age and length of the relationship, Turkish participants were found to be significantly higher on avoidance, relatedness, femininity and masculinity as opposed to British participants. Additionally, British participants were found to be significantly higher on romantic relationship satisfaction, autonomy, autonomy-relatedness compared to

Turkish participants. Current study complements cross-cultural research by offering identical predictors for relationship satisfaction across cultures combined with cross-cultural differences in means in the predictors (adult attachment styles, autonomy-relatedness, and gender roles) and romantic relationship satisfaction. Findings of the study are interpreted in light of the differences in family values between two countries and changing structure of the Turkish society.

## **OB.02 Cultural differences between secular, national-religious and ultra-orthodox Jewish couples**

Darya Maoz

*The Centre for Academic Studies, Or Yehuda, Israel*

One would conventionally predict that intelligence, physical attractiveness, and health would be highly desired by men, and that women are likely to prefer mates who show good earning potential. This general hypothesis is derived from the evolutionary logic that sexual selection operates through differential reproductive success. But previous research dealt exclusively with secular, mostly western cultures. In this paper we examine preferences in mate selection within the context of religiosity. The present study's goal was to examine whether the evolutionary theory can predict mate choices in any culture, or should it be examined differently in certain sub-cultures.

Ethnographic research conducted between 2006-2009 included semi-structured in-depth interviews with men and women aged 20-45 from three Israeli sub-cultures - national-religious, ultra-orthodox (Haredim) and secular, as well as analysis of ads in dating websites. Analysis found verification of the evolutionary theory in the secular sub-culture, in which men enacted a preference for physical attributes (beauty) in women, whereas women preferred an assertive, strong and successful man. The ultra-orthodox sub-culture - the most religious of the three - repudiates the assumptions of the evolutionary theory, as it considers parameters such as looks and money as earthly and superficial. And a mixed narrative was found in the national-religious subculture, which is located in-between the other two. These results suggest that mate selection and preference clearly depend on the nature of the sub-culture, and that preferences in mate choice do not necessarily reflect personal and evolutionary wishes or desires, but rather social norms and expectation.

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| <b>OB.03 When Romantic Partners Breakup: Understanding Unwanted Pursuit and Stalking</b> | Friday, July 23<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L204 |
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## **OB.03 Influence of the breakup context on unwanted pursuit behavior perpetration between former partners**

Olivia De Smet, Ann Buysse, Ruben Brondeel

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

Unwanted pursuit behaviors (UPB) are often present when romantic partners separate. Nevertheless, the examination of several breakup-related context factors on UPB remains underexposed. Important aspects of the breakup context comprise (a) individual adjustment to the breakup and (b) characteristics of the breakup event (e.g., initiator status, reason and locus of cause of the breakup). In a Flemish community sample of 194 ex-partners, these aspects of the breakup context were examined in relation to UPB perpetration. Alternative count models were used to analyze the data. A Zero-Inflated Poisson (ZIP) regression best fitted the skewed frequency distribution of UPB counts, which consisted of a preponderance of zeros. The ZIP model

estimated two regression equations: one predicted differences in the occurrence of UPB (counts part) and one predicted whether or not UPB occurred (zero-inflated part). The results showed that, when controlling for gender, education level and social desirability, the number of perpetrated UPB in the counts part was positively associated with ex-partner initiation of the break, attributing cause to the ex-partner and external factors, the ex-partner's lack in meeting family obligations as reason for the break, and adjustment problems (depression, anxiety, and lonely negativity). The participant's infidelity as reason for breaking up negatively influenced the number of self-perpetrated UPB. In the zero-inflated part, only ex-partner initiation of the break and adjustment problems (depression, anxiety, lonely negativity as well as former partner attachment) significantly lowered the odds of perpetrating no UPB. These results contribute to a more comprehensive theory of UPB perpetration.

### **OB.03 Relationship and individual characteristics as predictors of unwanted pursuit**

Farrah Tassy, Barbara Winstead

*Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, USA*

The empirical literature on perpetration of unwanted pursuit (UP) reveals that certain individual characteristics, in particular, anxious attachment and jealousy, are reliable predictors of UP. This study proposed that relationship characteristics, specifically idealization of the partner, relationship satisfaction, investment, and commitment, fewer perceived relationship alternatives, and number of breakups would also predict UP. Individuals were recruited who "had a difficult time letting go of a romantic partner after the relationship ended." Based on their responses to the Relationship Pursuit - Pursuer questionnaire, 158 of 242 (65%) reported that they had engaged in unwanted pursuit. In bivariate analyses significant predictors of unwanted pursuit included: Anxious Attachment, Self Esteem (inversely), Neuroticism, Behavioral Jealousy, Idealization, Investment, Commitment, and number of relationship breakups. Discriminant function analysis was used to distinguish between pursuers and non-pursuers. The variables that predicted engaging in pursuit of one's ex-partner were Behavioral Jealousy and Relationship Investment. Predicting extent of pursuit among pursuers, individual characteristics accounted for 20.5% of the variance. Anxious attachment and Behavioral Jealousy were significant individual predictors. The relationships variables added 5% to overall variance, but R<sup>2</sup> change was not significant ( $p = .11$ ). Among the relationship predictors, none were significant, but there was a trend for fewer relationship alternatives to predict UP among pursuers ( $p = .06$ ). These results confirm that anxious attachment predicts both engaging in pursuit and the extent of pursuit. Behavioral jealousy also predicted the extent of pursuit. Among the relationship variables, investment contributed to an ex-partner's willingness to engage in unwanted pursuit.

### **OB.03 Predicting unwanted pursuit perpetration among female college students**

Leila Dutton<sup>1</sup>, Amy Lyndon<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of New Haven, New Haven, CT, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, USA*

Little empirical research has tested theoretically-grounded models of stalking perpetration. Further, little research has been conducted to examine predictors of unwanted pursuit (UP) with data from pursuers. This study tests a theory-guided mediational model of UP. Participants were 142 heterosexual female undergraduates from two universities who reported engaging in at least one UP behavior after the

breakup of a romantic relationship. Students completed an online questionnaire for partial course credit. We predicted that the anxiety-related traits of anxious attachment, self-esteem, and rejection sensitivity would predict two cognitive factors of rumination (i.e., experiencing repeated, intrusive, and unwanted thoughts resulting from failure to maintain progress toward a goal, such as getting back together with a former partner) and linking (i.e., associating a specific relationship with happiness or self-worth). We hypothesized that rumination and linking would predict anger and jealousy, which would predict perpetration of UP. Results of preliminary correlational analyses provided partial support for the hypothesized model. Attachment anxiety was significantly correlated with rumination ( $r = .27, p = .002$ ), as was rejection sensitivity ( $r = .20, p = .019$ ). Rumination was positively correlated with both anger ( $r = .28, p = .001$ ) and jealousy ( $r = .34, p = .001$ ). Linking was also correlated with jealousy ( $r = .20, p = .017$ ), which was correlated with UP ( $r = .23, p = .005$ ). In addition to furthering an understanding of the reasons why female college students engage in UP, the results have implications for campus prevention and intervention efforts.

### **OB.03 Experiences of unwanted pursuit in intimate relationships among individuals with a minority sexual orientation**

Valerian Derlega<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca Ferrer<sup>2</sup>, Mathew Pearson<sup>1</sup>, Barbara Winstead<sup>1</sup>, Leila Dutton<sup>3</sup>, Louis Janda<sup>1</sup>, Robin Lewis<sup>1</sup>, Kathryn Greene<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, USA, <sup>2</sup>National Institutes Of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA, <sup>3</sup>University of New Haven, New Haven, CT, USA, <sup>4</sup>Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA

This study tested a systems level model of the sources of unwanted pursuit among individuals with a minority sexual orientation (gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered persons) where one person wanted to end the intimate relationship (the disengaging partner) and the other person did not want to end it (the rejected partner). Data were collected from the perspectives of both the disengaging and rejected partners.

Data from 172 male and female participants were collected on attachment styles (avoidant and anxious), investment model variables, and experiences with prejudice/discrimination associated with a minority sexual orientation. Unwanted pursuit measures (focusing on intrusive and aggressive behaviors, respectively), recalled by the disengaging and rejected partners, were the outcome measures. The study was directed at persons with a minority sexual orientation who had been in a relationship where one person may have wanted to end the relationship and the other partner did not want to end it. The questionnaire survey was completed on-line. The results (based on multiple regressions relying on a boot strapping procedure) were mostly consistent with previous research about the effects of attachment style and investment model variables (especially investment) on unwanted pursuit. A unique feature of the results is evidence about the effects of discrimination and prejudice associated with a minority sexual orientation on the recall of unwanted pursuit by the disengaging partner. Disengaging partners reported experiencing more unwanted pursuit the more often they experienced prejudice because of their sexual orientation.

### **OB.03 Stalking rationalization: Toward a stalking myths acceptance questionnaire (SMAQ)**

Blake Witham, Brian Spitzberg

*San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, USA*

Obsessive Relational Intrusion (ORI) is a pattern of activities pursuing greater intimacy than the target of such pursuit prefers. ORI significantly overlaps with stalking, which is often motivated by a desire to reestablish or escalate intimacy, but elicits fear from the target of pursuit. A relational goals theory (RGT) of ORI proposes that such pursuit results from a combination of goal-linking, rumination, emotional flooding, and rationalization (Cupach & Spitzberg, 2004, 2007). This study examines the content and measurement of the rationalizations component of this theory. Analogous to the role that rape myths play in supporting coercive sexual compliance-gaining, the question is whether or not such a relational disjunction is facilitated by adherence to rationalizations about the nature of courtship, intimacy, and relationship pursuit. This study asks research questions related to cognitive biases, beliefs in stalking myths, and beliefs related to courtship persistence. Results indicate that up to 78% of respondents accept at least some minimal level of individual stalking myths or false persistence beliefs, with males significantly more likely to hold rationalized beliefs. Hypotheses predicting inverse correlations between victimization and acceptance of the examined false beliefs were rejected. Lay definitions of stalking were found to significantly correlate with the fear component of most legal definitions and males were found to be more likely to accept both myths and persistence beliefs.

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| <b>OB.04 Depression in Different Age Groups and External Relationship Factors</b> | Friday, July 23<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L102 |
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### **OB.04 Family differentiation, interpersonal competence and depression: A sample from Taiwan**

Kang-lin Yang

*Fu Jen Catholic University, Taipei, Taiwan*

In recent years, there is a growing trend to study adolescent and young adults' development from family system's perspective. Family differentiation is considered an influential factor within the family system. Well-differentiated family systems display interaction patterns that encourage both a tolerance for individuality and a tolerance for intimacy in the family. Poorly differentiated families regulate distances in extreme ways, thereby presenting family members with the dilemma of having to sacrifice individuality for the sake of connectedness or connectedness at the expense of individuality. Differentiation has been investigated in the areas of college adjustment (Lopez, Campell, & Watkins, 1986, 1988), interpersonal relationships (Bartle-Haring & Sabatelli, 1997; Cooper & Grotevant, 1987), psychosocial development (Garbarino, Gaa, Swank, McPherson, & Gratch, 1995), self-esteem (Bartle, Anderson & Sabatelli, 1989; Bartle & Sabatelli, 1995; Fleming & Anderson, 1986) and other adolescent problematic behaviors. Thus, the main purpose of the present study is to investigate the relationships between differentiation and personal adjustment (interpersonal competence, and depression) in a sample from Taiwan where the culture is toward more collectivism to further explore the link between family dynamics and psychological adjustment in late adolescence and young adulthood. The sample for the present study are 257 college students and young adults from

Taiwan. Structural Equation Modeling was used to analyze the data. The results indicated mother-child differentiation had significant positive impact on college students' interpersonal competence and significant negative impact on depression. Interpersonal competence had significant negative influence on depression.

**OB.04 Detection of depression in older adults by family and friends:  
Distinguishing mood disorder's signal from the noise of personality and everyday life**

Paul Duberstein

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

Friends and family members often accompany older adults on routine primary care visits. As their capacity to provide accurate health related information could profoundly influence diagnosis and treatment, it is important to evaluate the accuracy of their reports and identify key predictors of informant accuracy. Drawing on Funder's model, we hypothesized that the accuracy (sensitivity and specificity) of informant-derived mood disorder diagnoses would vary with patient personality (Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to Experience) and informant personality (Openness to Experience). Hypotheses were tested in a sample of 191 dyads consisting of primary care patients 60 years of age or older and their friends or relatives. Gold-standard mood disorder diagnoses were established at consensus conferences based on a review of medical charts and a structured interview with patients. Patients and informants completed extensive assessment batteries, including the NEO-Five Factor Inventory. Multivariate analyses adjusted for the effects of patient age, cognitive function, physical illness burden and other potential confounders. Results show that higher patient Extraversion and higher patient Agreeableness compromised sensitivity for informant-derived lifetime mood disorder diagnoses. Specificity for lifetime mood disorder diagnoses was compromised by lower Agreeableness and higher Conscientiousness. Informant Openness was associated with better sensitivity. Findings suggest that personality affects social cognitive processes involved in making judgments about the presence of a mood disorder history. Understanding the personality-driven relational influences in identifying mood disorders might inform public health efforts at enhancing services for depressed older adults and improve the quality of treatment monitoring.

**OB.04 Depression and empathic accuracy within couples: An interpersonal model of gender differences in depression**

Reuma Gadassi<sup>1</sup>, Nilly Mor<sup>1</sup>, Eshkol Rafaeli<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel, <sup>2</sup>Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*

Interpersonal factors, including increased sensitivity, seem to play a more significant role in depression among women than among men (Rehman, Gollan, & Mortimer, 2008), and may be responsible for their elevated risk of developing the disorder (Keenan & Hippl, 2005). Still, few studies have investigated the associations between depression and interpersonal sensitivity in the context of intimate relationships. The present study examines one form of interpersonal sensitivity, namely empathic accuracy (EA, Ickes, 1993) and its association with depression within couples. Fifty two heterosexual cohabiting couples completed depression questionnaires. Then, they participated in the EA lab procedure (Ickes, 1993): Both partners were asked to discuss, in turn, something they would like to change about themselves (that is unrelated to their relationship); the interaction was videotaped.

Then, the partners independently watched the videotaped interaction and were asked to report their own thoughts and feeling, and to infer their partner's thoughts and feelings. Next, participants completed the EA daily diary procedure (Howland & Rafaeli, in press): For 21 days, each partner had to report their own mood, as well as infer those of their partner's. As predicted, results from both the lab and the diary procedures indicated that for women, but not men, higher levels of depression were associated with decreased EA towards the partners' negative feelings. We discuss these findings with respect to gender differences in the etiology and maintenance of depression.

#### **OB.04 Psychological resiliency and suicide risk among community-residing older adults**

Marnin Heisel<sup>1</sup>, Gordon Flett<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada,*

<sup>2</sup>*York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

Older adults have high rates of suicide and employ lethal means of self-harm. A growing body of research on late-life suicide prevention has focused upon suicide risk assessment, to the near exclusion of research on psychological resiliency processes (Heisel, 2006). In the present study, we report on data collected in an on-going 1-year longitudinal study of psychological resiliency to late-life suicide ideation. To date, we have recruited over 165 adults, 65 years or older, from community settings and through newspaper advertisements in London, Ontario, Canada, and administered to them measures of late-life suicide ideation and of potential risk (depression, social hopelessness, loneliness, anxiety symptoms, and physical health problems) and resiliency factors (perceived meaning in life, purpose in life, life satisfaction, and perceived social support). Participants are invited to return for a 2-week retest assessment, and for 6-month and 12-month follow-up assessments. Preliminary cross-sectional findings support our previous research (Heisel & Flett, 2007, 2008), in demonstrating significant positive associations among late-life suicide ideation and the risk variables and significant negative associations among suicide ideation and the well-being variables. Perceived Meaning in Life (MIL) explained significant variability in participant suicide ideation, controlling for the risk factors, suggesting promise for this existential variable in conferring psychological resiliency, consistent with Viktor Frankl's theoretical approach. Participants reporting higher MIL further reported significantly less suicide ideation, even when reporting greater depressive symptoms. We will additionally report on findings of initial follow-up assessment periods, and discuss the clinical and public health implications of study findings.

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| <b>OB.05 Same-Sex Romantic Relationships: Sexual Practices, Partner Preferences and the Unique Problem of Marriage</b> | Friday, July 23<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L103 |
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#### **OB.05 Does biological sex trump sexual orientation? Partner preferences of gays and lesbians.**

Benjamin Wiedmaier<sup>1</sup>, Lauren Amaro<sup>1</sup>, Peter Andersen<sup>1</sup>, Sara Baker<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*San Diego State University, San Diego CA, USA,* <sup>2</sup>*University of Nebraska, Lincoln NE, USA*

The question underlying this study is whether gay men and lesbians, despite their sexual preference, exhibit the same mating patterns as heterosexuals. Research on heterosexual mate preferences based on Sexual Strategies Theory (SST) and

socioevolutionary theories has characterized men as seeking physical attraction and more short term mating opportunities, and women as desiring relational stability, provision, and long term relationship constancy. This study sought to ascertain the degree to which existing findings for heterosexual individuals may be applicable to gay and lesbian mate preferences and gender roles. In two studies ( $N_1=231$ ,  $N_2=136$ ), online survey data were collected from gay and lesbian individuals in diverse organizations. As hypothesized, in contrast to lesbians, gay men reported a greater desire for more partners. For eight time intervals, ranging from 1 month to lifetime, gay men desired significantly more partners than lesbians. As hypothesized, gay men also had significantly higher preference for short term relationships. Also as hypothesized, lesbians were more communal and emotionally vulnerable than gay men. Contrary to the hypothesized relationships, lesbians did not report a greater desire for long term relationships than gay men, and gay men were not more agentic than lesbians. In sum, this study provides additional support for SST and socioevolutionary theories. These data suggest that biological sex does indeed trump sexual orientation and psychological gender in determining sexual behavior.

#### **OB.05 Dialectics between splitting and integrating in the lives of heterosexually married gay men**

Adir Adler, Adital Ben-Ari

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

The phenomenon of homosexual men who are married to women (Mixed-orientation marriage) is usually invisible, but its frequency is not insignificant. In some cases the women are aware of their husbands' sexual orientation, in others the men choose to conceal their orientation from their wives. Despite the fundamental differences between the two situations, both are experienced as complex and challenging and require different modes of coping. This study was designed to explore this relatively unstudied phenomenon by taking the insiders' perspective. Thirteen in-depth semi-structured interviews with heterosexually married gay men were conducted. Whereas, the sexual orientation of seven participants was known to their wives, six participants concealed their homosexuality from their wives. The findings show that life in a mixed-orientation marriage can be understood along a continuum ranging between two poles: splitting and integrating. This continuum corresponds to the fundamental question in the lives of heterosexually married gay men: Is integration between homosexuality and heterosexual marriage possible, and if so, how? In this presentation we propose a theoretical model which evolved from participants' narratives and highlights the dialectics between splitting and integration in the lives of heterosexually married gay men.

#### **OB.05 Conscious / non-conscious identity positivity and integration predicts “out-of-control” and risky sexual practices in an online gay community sample**

Amir Rosenmann<sup>1</sup>, Marilyn P. Safir<sup>2</sup>, Ramzi Suleiman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*; <sup>2</sup> *University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

The current study focuses on internalized stigma in gay men's lives and relationships. Stigma may impede the development of a positive, integrated identity in its targets. Less positive sexual social identities (measured on an explicit, self-reported, level, and an implicit, automatic and non-conscious, level) were hypothesized to predict greater levels of identity fragmentations, defined here as a dissociative incoherence in the self schema, where individuals' behavior and thought are sometimes perceived as foreign to their self-knowledge. Less positive sexual social identity were further

hypothesized to predict subjective feeling that sexuality is "out-of-control" and risky sexual practices, via mediation of identity fragmentations. Employing an online sample of 301 North American gay men, hierarchical regression models were constructed to explore these hypotheses; variables were measured using questionnaire measures, as well as an Implicit Association Test designed to measure implicit sexual stigmatization (or "internalized homophobia"). These regression models significantly predicted both dependent variables, generally confirming the study's hypotheses. The study demonstrated the implications of stigma on gay men's identity coherence, and through it, on their "out-of-control" and risky sexual practices. The implicit measure predicted risky sexual practices independently of the explicit measures. Given the recent rise in HIV/STD incidence among this community, these results are discussed in term of their societal, personal and inter-personal implications. A vicious cycle is suggested, where greater sexual stigma impedes positive identity attainment, resulting in greater propensity to engage in high-risk activities that fuel this societal stigma.

**OB.05 Gay men and the relational implications of 'top,' 'bottom,' and 'versatile'**  
Jimmie Manning

*Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, KY, USA*

**Subjects and procedures:** This study explores 24 depth interviews with self-identified gay men regarding notions of the terms 'top,' 'bottom,' and 'versatile' in consideration of their personal relational understandings and experiences. A diverse set of participants were interviewed. Interview questions covered sexual orientation, sexual preference, relationship habits, perception of relational self and past or current relationships, perceptions of others' relationships who do not match participant's own relational template, and relational possibilities based upon another's preference-identification. **Data analysis methods:** Transcribed interviews were explored through relational-dialectical (Baxter & Montgomery, 1996) and queer theory (Yep, 2003) lenses. Specifically, the data were first analyzed using definitional analysis for constructions of what it means to be top, bottom, or versatile both in terms of sexual practice and in terms of the words' implications upon gay identity. This was followed by Spradley's differential analysis; and the results of this initial coding strategy were enhanced through secondary coding involving both emotion and versus analysis. **Validity measures,** including member-checking, followed. **Results:** The data demonstrate how relational possibilities are constructed by those who self-identify under the various terms, including how the terms translate into other relational roles (based on this data, they do not); how they play into relational tensions (they very much do, especially as relationships mature); and how individual sexual practice identities within relationships play into larger notions of how individuals in a relationship read the relationship (as well as how those outside the relationship may read the relationship).

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| <b>OB.06 Family Relational Research as Implemented in Clinical Settings and Everyday Behavior</b> | Friday, July 23<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L104 |
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**OB.06 Interpersonal influence in families: Developing and evaluating an instrument**

Femke Migerode<sup>1</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>1</sup>, Bea Maes<sup>2</sup>, Jan De Mol<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Experimental Clinical and Health Psychology, Family Studies; Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium,* <sup>2</sup>*Educational Sciences, Centre for Parenting, Child Welfare and Disabilities, Catholic University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium*

One of the founding premises of systemic psychotherapy is that people influence one another (Hedges, 2005). This is especially true within interdependent relationships like the ones between family members (Kelley, 1979). Moreover, this ability to influence one another seems to play a crucial part in the formation and functioning of a relationship (Cook, 2001). Interpersonal sense of influence has even been proposed as a valuable concept in systemic family assessment (Cook, 1993). Therefore it seems logical that measures for control, power and persuasion can be found. Yet, there seems to be a lacuna when it comes to the broader domain of interpersonal influence. The present research aims to fill this gap by creating and psychometrically evaluating an instrument for interpersonal influence in families in its full sense. Because of the implicit nature of interpersonal influence (De Mol & Buysse, 2008), clear and recognizable items are needed. Therefore, the items were generated based on the impact of a disability literature, since influence in these families becomes more explicit because of the specific context. This resulted in the Influence in Families Questionnaire (IFQ), a 42-item scale with two subscales, namely positive and negative influence. A 5-point Likert scale ranging from (0) never true to (4) always true is used to rate these items. Since a measurement is but as strong as its psychometric properties, the reliability (internal consistency and split-half) and validity (construct, criterion and content) are being evaluated. Results of this study will be available at time of the presentation.

**OB.06 The family dilemmas of privacy ownership in genetic testing decisions**

Sandra Petronio

*Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN, USA*

The root of many concerns about genetic testing is often a debate over ownership. Who owns the information about genetic test results? Who has the right to know those results? Are rights to know only within the control of the person directly tested or if others are implicated, should they also have access to the information? While genetic testing is a medical procedure, the choice to be tested and the decision to disclose the information most frequently involves family members. Using case studies, this paper discusses the way control and claims to ownership over genetic test results impacts family relationships as a whole and can produce divisions among individual members. Often, choices made by one family member instigate a series of privacy dilemmas that ripple through the entire family. The theory of Communication Privacy Management is used to analyze how information ownership is managed by families faced with decisions about genetic issues. Four cases are examined that identify strategies family members in these cases used to make choices about genetic testing, protection of information from other family members, renegotiation of family privacy rules to maintain personal control, and insistence on privacy boundary permeability. Reoccurring patterns across the cases are also explored.

## **OB.06 A family assessment based on the social relations model**

Jan De Mol, Ann Buysse

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

For some family therapists an empirically based family assessment is still a useful tool to understand family functioning. One purpose of family assessment is to formulate hypotheses that can guide clinical interventions. Family assessment is always based on models about family functioning. In this paper the Social Relations Model (Kenny & La Voie, 1984; SRM), and more specifically the family version of SRM (e.g., Cook, 2000), is presented as such a model about family dynamics. Moreover, SRM provides statistical tools to underpin empirically hypotheses about family functioning. An SRM family assessment of a family with a child in child psychiatric care exemplifies the possibilities and limitations of this SRM approach to family assessment. The subject of the family assessment is family members' sense of interpersonal influence in their family relationships. A basic assumption of systemic therapy is that family members influence each other. Interpersonal influence is the process by which family members affect and change each other thoughts, behaviour, and emotions (Huston, 2002). The main purpose of the present paper is to introduce SRM as a way of thinking about family dynamics and its usefulness for family assessment. The focus will be more on the clinical aspects of the SRM family assessment process - construction of SRM hypotheses and how these hypotheses may be used in clinical practice - and less on the methodological (statistical) and theoretical SRM framework.

## **OB.O6 Parental communication and cooperation among divorcing spouses in Israel**

Orna Cohen<sup>1</sup>, Ricky Finzi-Dottan<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*

This paper investigates predictors of co-parenting, operationalized as parental communication and cooperation regarding the children, during the divorce process. Given the importance of cooperative co-parenting to the post-divorce adjustment of children and parents, considerable research has been carried out on its predictors. Virtually all the studies, were conducted after the divorce, with very little attention paid to the co-parenting relationship and its predictors during the divorce process itself. This is an unfortunate omission, as the many stresses of this often protected period can place great strain on the parents' ability to co-parent cooperatively just when their children need it most. Self-report questionnaires querying four types of predictors (individual characteristics, conflict tactics, family support, child's temperament) were completed by 123 divorcing mothers and 94 divorcing fathers, drawn from Israel's Family Court Service. Two stepwise hierarchical regressions, on parental communication and cooperation, showed that female gender and the use of negotiation to resolve conflicts were the major predictors of both. These variables impacted on co-parenting both independently and in interaction with the personal features of defense mechanism and optimism. In addition, parent's optimism and child's shyness contributed directly to communication, and in interaction with gender and negotiation to cooperation. Interactive contributions to cooperation were also made by family support, shyness and physical assault. The differential contributions support the notion of communication and cooperation as separate components of co-parenting, and the value of studying both of them. Clinically, the findings may be used to help improve co-parenting during divorce.

**OB.07 A dyadic perspective on attachment style as a moderator of the association between marital satisfaction and parenting style**Keren Malchi<sup>1</sup>, Rachel Dekell<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>*Ashkelon Regional College, Ashkelon, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*

**Purpose:** This study expands past research on the interrelatedness of marital relations and parent-child relations, testing for the contribution of attachment as a possible moderator. While the current literature usually focuses on the direct effect of marital satisfaction on parenting, this study adopts a dyadic perspective, exploring the interaction between marital satisfaction and both parents' attachment as contributing to their own and their partners' parenting style. **Methods:** 135 married Israeli couples, the parents of a middle-age child, took part in the study. Utilizing the Actor-Partner Independence model, parenting style was predicted by main and interaction effects between actor (own) and partner attachment orientations, on the one hand, and marital satisfaction, on the other. **Findings:** Findings revealed that low marital satisfaction was associated with less parental authoritativeness in anxious fathers and greater parental permissiveness in avoidant mothers, reflecting spillover effects. Conversely, findings also demonstrated that high marital satisfaction in avoidant fathers or anxious mothers was actually associated with reduced parenting quality, as evident in greater permissiveness. In other words, even though these parents reported being satisfied, they displayed a negative parenting style. Finally, one crossover effect showed that partner anxiety in highly satisfied mothers was associated with less displays of permissive parenting. **Conclusions:** Exploring the moderating role of attachment orientations within a dyadic framework revealed a number of contrasting findings regarding processes which occur between family subsystems; involving spillover, compensation and crossover trends. Permissive parenting is especially influenced by the interaction between attachment orientations and marital satisfaction.

**OB.07 His and her conflict: Contrasting dynamics of silent interparental conflict for men and women**Magdalena Kielpikowski, Jan Pryor, Paul Jose*Victoria University of Wellington, Wellington, New Zealand*

Interparental conflict may be considered one of the chief interests of family researchers, yet only a handful of studies have included aspects of its non-verbal non-physical form within their scope. This knowledge gap has led us to conduct a series of qualitative and quantitative studies with the aim to develop psychometric instruments for measuring 'silent conflict' and to begin to explain its functioning within the family system, using a longitudinal design. Drawing on our preliminary qualitative findings we hypothesised that conflict avoidance, partner hostility and concern for children would act as predictors of silent conflict between parents. We analysed data from 115 New Zealand parental dyads employing the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (APIM; Kashy & Kenny, 2000) in order to explore the effects of partners' interrelatedness and to compare the processes for mothers and for fathers in the sample. This is particularly important in view of the theme of differences in conflict behaviours between men and women, persisting in marital relationship research. Both

our concurrent and longitudinal findings supported the hypotheses, at the same time highlighting the distinct processes for the mothers and fathers in our study. Partner effects, for example, were found only for women's reports of silent conflict. We discuss the implications of the findings for furthering our understanding of the origins of silent conflict, and of the dissimilarities between mother- and father- processes. Finally, we emphasise that parents and childless couples participate in distinctively different family system dynamics.

### **OB.07 Paternal parenting associations with childhood behavior problems in Japan**

Craig Hart, David Nelson

*Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA*

Research in on Japanese fathering has focused on parental values and beliefs, rather than on the actual behaviors that fathers engage in with their children. The aims of this study were to (a) establish a parenting measurement model for Japanese fathers, (b) identify child measurement models for aggression, withdrawal, and immature behaviors, and (c) investigate linkages between paternal parenting and child behavior problems. Parenting questionnaires were completed by 214 Japanese mothers from Kushiro-city, Japan who rated their spouses on measures of connection, reasoning-oriented regulation, coercion, psychological control, and permissiveness. Fathers' age averaged 36.3 years ( $SD = 4.8$ ). Their average education was 13.3 years ( $SD = 2.4$  years). Children's ages ranged from 39 to 71 months ( $M = 53.9$  months,  $SD = 8.2$  months). Teachers completed measures assessing aggression, withdrawal, and immature behavior. A two-group Confirmatory Factor Analysis using the Mplus statistical software identified the parenting dimensions. Separate two-group CFAs identified three measurement models (aggression, withdrawal, and immature behavior). Parenting and child behavior items were invariant across gender. SEM procedures showed that physical coercion was positively associated with emotional/impulsive behavior, physical and relational aggression, and reticent behavior for boys and girls. Psychological control was positively associated with girls' physical and relational aggression, and with reticence. Permissive parenting was positively related to boy's immature behavior and negatively related to aggression for both genders. Paternal connection was negatively related to physical aggression and withdrawal for boys and girls. Reasoning-oriented regulation was linked to fewer behavior problems for boys.

### **OB.07 Knock knock, anybody home? Psychological availability as the link between work experiences and family relationships**

Gerdientje Danner-Vlaardingerbroek, Esther S. Kluwer, Elianne F. van Steenbergen, Tanja van der Lippe

*Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands*

Contrary to what is generally assumed, chronic minor experiences rather than major life events are particularly influential in family relationships. Despite the salience of work in daily life, the effects of work experiences on partner relationships have been largely neglected in the relationship literature and studies including the parent-child relationship are even scarcer. How exactly does work spill over into family relationships? In answer to this question, we introduce the concept 'psychological availability', which refers to the presence and direction of psychological resources, specifically aimed to the partner or child. By means of a survey including 313 dual earner couples with children, we tested the hypothesis that psychological availability

mediates between daily work experiences and subsequent family relationship behavior. Structural equation modeling using AMOS allowed us to analyze both partners' work experiences and their relationship behaviors simultaneously in one model. Results revealed that for both partners, negative and positive work experiences of a particular day were related to decreased versus increased psychological availability towards each other and towards their child. Subsequently, enhanced psychological availability was related to less anger and withdrawal, and more responsiveness towards the partner, and a better balance between acceptance and control towards the child. Bootstrapping results showed the significance of psychological availability as mediator between work experiences and family relationship behavior, and subsequently the quality of these relationships, within as well as between partners. This research offers both theoretical and practical insights into how relationship dynamics within the family are affected by both partners' work experiences.

#### **OB.07 Attachment reorganization in adolescence: Straight-forward or complex?**

Daphne Goh, Ross B. Wilkinson

*The Australian National UNiversity, Canberra, Australia*

Attachment reorganization is a normative process that takes place across the lifespan, and is most readily observed in adolescence. During this period of adolescence, adolescents increasingly orient themselves towards peers for fulfillment of attachment functions, with factors such as attachment functions, age, gender, and the presence of a romantic relationship found to influence the chronological shift of attachment functions to various attachment figures. These elements aforementioned are examined in this cross-sectional study of normative attachment processes in an Australian adolescent population. Self-reported attachment to mothers, fathers, and friends of 2 cohorts of early adolescents ( $n = 183$ ; 109 females and 74 males) and late adolescents ( $n = 328$ ; 239 females and 90 males) is examined using the modified Attachment Network Questionnaire (modified ANQ; Doherty & Feeney, 2004). Results of 2 mixed-design Analysis of Variances (ANOVAs) conducted support the process of attachment reorganization in adolescence, with adolescents' preferences for specific attachment targets differing according to attachment functions, their age, gender, and romantic status. Adolescents increasingly orient towards peers, and away from parents, for attachment needs as they age, with this process facilitated by the presence of a romantic relationship. The increasing importance of the romantic partner as an attachment figure is correspondingly demonstrated. Adolescent females also show greater preference for friends as targets, while adolescent males turn their fathers, particularly for the attachment functions of Safe Haven and Secure Base. Implications for understanding the inherent complexities in the normative attachment development of adolescents, and future directions for similar research are discussed.

#### **OB.08 Full House: Global Studies on Parenting**

Friday, July 23  
10:45am-12:15pm  
Room A111

#### **OB.08 Parenting style and adolescent positive behaviours**

Cheryl Kier<sup>1</sup>, Ambrose Leung<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada*, <sup>2</sup>*Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada*

This study explored the relationships between authoritative, authoritarian, and permissive parenting styles and adolescent friendship, community involvement, and

financial saving behaviour. Authoritative parenting, a style that combines responsiveness (warmth, explanations for consequences, and child-centredness) with demandingness (setting maturity demands, monitoring the child, following through with consequences), has been found to be the most optimal style for youth in the majority North American culture. In comparison, the authoritarian parenting style is high on demandingness, but relies on harsh discipline rather than explanation. Permissive parents set few boundaries for children's behavior. 150 university students aged 17 to 24 (54 females) completed questionnaires. It was predicted that those who perceived their parents as showing strong authoritativeness would also have supportive friends, engage in the community, and save money rather than spend it. For females (but not males), the more authoritative they rated their mothers and their fathers, the more involved they were in civic activism. Conversely, for females (but not males) the more authoritarian they described their mothers and their fathers, the less the students were involved in civic activism. Although correlational, results suggest parents have an indirect influence on their daughters' behaviour. Feeling supported by parents may translate to a desire to help one's community. When females are treated callously, their motivation to help others may be diminished. In an era in which concern exists about the limited involvement of young people in political affairs, one strategy may be to encourage nurturant parenting so that youth are inspired to make a difference.

#### **OB.08 The effect of family structure and gender on adolescent well-being in East Asia**

Annis Lai-chu Fung

*City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China*

Background: Following the dramatic increase in divorce rate in the past decade there has been an equally dramatic increase in non-traditional family structures e.g. single parent families, stepparent families and children living with relatives. This study aimed to investigate the effect of family structures on well-being, specifically on aggression, across multiple family structures and whether there is a gender difference within each family structure. Method: Fourteen thousand, eight hundred and seventy-four adolescents (aged 10 to 19) were given a questionnaire containing socio-demographic factors and standardized scales for assessing adolescent well-being (inclusive of aggressive behaviour, delinquency, anxiety-depression, proactive aggression and reactive aggression). Result: There were significant differences across family structures, where children from stepmother families were more likely to have lower well-being. Males in general had lower well-being than females. A significant interaction between gender and family structure was observed, where the well-being of males was significantly different across family structures whilst no such effect was observed in females. Conclusion: Results of this study challenged the common belief that children from mono-parental families are lowest in well-being. The distinction between proactive and reactive aggression are further confirmed in this study.

#### **OB.08 Russian parenting: Correspondence with child relational aggression over time**

David Nelson, Craig Hart

*Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA*

This study considers Russian parenting, in the form of psychological control, as it corresponds with child relational aggression over a decade span (from preschool to adolescence). Previous studies have found a consistent relationship between the

rejecting nature of psychological control and children's use of relational aggression with peers. Children may not only model the inappropriate behavior of their parents but likely react to rejecting parenting with externalizing behaviors. No studies have yet considered the longitudinal link between parenting and relational aggression. We used parent- and child-driven path analyses to test whether peer-directed and romantic relational aggression is associated with psychological control both concurrently and longitudinally. We used a Russian sample which initially involved 207 mothers and their preschool children. Nearly 75% of the original sample was involved in data collection at the 10-year follow-up. Using AMOS, parent- and child-driven models were compared, and the parent-driven models yielded the most significant linkages. Maternal psychological control was significantly stable over time; relational aggression was also stable over time for girls. Maternal psychological control at Time 1 was associated with relational aggression for girls at Time 1 and with peer-directed and romantic relational aggression for boys and girls at Time 2. Paternal psychological control was also associated with relational aggression for boys and girls at Time 2. Consistent with previous research, psychological control is particularly associated with the development of relational aggression problems in children, and is an effective predictor a whole decade after mothers report engagement in such behavior.

#### **OB.08 Bonds of silence: Parents and children cope with dissonant levels of religiosity**

Ephraim Tabor, Shlomit Stern (Hazan) *Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*  
Loving parents characterized by a strong religious orientation may feel ambivalence when their children completely reject their religious identity. The parents might find it difficult to accommodate to their children's different identity, but at the same time, not want to drive their children away. We examine how this potential conflict situation is managed by focusing on Jews in Israel who take on a nonreligious identity after having been brought up by parents who were religiously observant. Our study is based on personal interviews with 20 religious (Orthodox) Jewish parents and 13 children who are no longer religious. Our findings emphasize the importance of silencing and self-silencing in managing conflict, as the sides are careful to refrain from making demands that might lead to a break in their relationships. Children often cover or mask their nonreligious behavior in the presence of their parents, in order to help them maintain face and avoid embarrassment and shame.

#### **OC.01 Adult Attachment Orientations and Physiological Responses to Threats**

Friday, July 23  
1:45pm-3:15pm  
Room L203

#### **OC.01 Hyperactivation in action: Attachment anxiety, language, and physiological reactivity following romantic separations**

David Sbarra, Lauren Lee, Ashley Mason, Rita Law  
*University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA*

Following romantic separations, highly anxious adults often engage in hyperactivating emotion regulatory strategies. This paper presents evidence from two studies indicating that the ways in which adults talk about their separation is correlated with- and can help explain- hyperactivating physiological response profiles. In Study 1 (N = 103), attachment anxiety was associated with significant increases in heart rate during a romantic breakup interview, and this association was fully mediated by the use of

first person singular pronouns (e.g., me, myself, and I). In Study 2 (N = 93), recently divorced adults completed a stream-of-consciousness recording about their separation and then engaged in a series of mental recall tasks while blood pressure (BP) was recorded. Linguistic immediacy (reflecting highly engaged and experiential language) interacted with attachment anxiety; highly anxious adults who described their separation using immediate language evidenced the largest increases in BP. The two studies' results are discussed in terms of how language can mediate and moderate hyperactivating responses to a social loss.

### **OC.01 Attachment style moderates neural threat responding**

James Coan

*University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA*

A large and growing body of evidence indicates that adult attachment styles influence patterns of social and emotional responding. Multiple measures of adult attachment style were given to subjects in two samples, one heterosexual (n = 16), the other same-sex (n = 27). In both samples, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) was performed during an experiment that combined varying degrees of supportive social contact with threat of electric shock. In both samples, adult attachment styles robustly moderated the brain's response to shock threat, both as a function of social support condition, and across support conditions. Moreover, these moderator effects were observed both intrapersonally (based on a participant's own attachment scores) and systemically (including the partner's attachment scores). Particularly striking moderator effects were observed in regions such as the hypothalamus, right anterior insula, and amygdala. Attachment styles are discussed as biases in how the brain estimates the resource utility of relational partners, especially during stressful situations.

### **OC.01 Neuroendocrine stress correlates of adult attachment insecurity: Cortisol and hippocampus**

MarKus Quirin

*University of Osnabrueck, Osnabrück, Germany*

Studies of both rodents and humans suggest that adverse early parenting conditions can engender persistent changes in the neuroendocrinological stress system (cortisol dysregulation, neuronal atrophy). In adult humans, attachment styles are thought to be the result of early experiences with parents and other caregivers. Evidence will be presented of deviant patterns of cortisol secretion in anxiously attached individuals and of reduced neural cell density in the hippocampuses of both anxiously and avoidantly attached individuals. The findings will be discussed with respect to their potential role as neural underpinnings of reduced emotion regulation abilities in insecurely attached individuals.

### **OC.01 A multi-modal approach to the study of attachment-related distress**

Marieke Dewitte

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

This study aimed at providing a comprehensive analysis of individual differences in the regulation of attachment distress as measured through different components of the emotional response, including neuroendocrine reactions, subjectively experienced affect, and proximity-seeking behaviour. Emotional responses were measured before, during, and after the induction of attachment distress in a sample of couples. Analyses using multilevel modelling revealed that, in both men and women, attachment anxiety

was related to physiological (i.e., cortisol) and subjective emotional distress responses, whereas avoidant attachment most consistently predicted subjective and behavioural responses to distress. In addition to one's own attachment style, partner's attachment style was also found to modulate emotional and behavioural responses to relational stress, in both couple members. Results are discussed in terms of an emotion regulation perspective on individual differences in attachment style.

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| <b>OC.02 Self-Regulation and Romantic Relationships</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L201 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

### **OC.02 When and how do romantic partners promote versus impede the pursuit of individuals' important personal goals?**

Eli J. Finkel<sup>1</sup>, Madoka Kumashiro<sup>2</sup>, Caryl E. Rusbult<sup>3</sup>, Harry T. Reis<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Goldsmiths, University of London, London, United Kingdom*, <sup>3</sup>*Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*,

<sup>4</sup>*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

The past decade has witnessed a marked expansion of research on (a) perceived partner responsiveness, (b) the Michelangelo phenomenon, and (c) self-regulation, but almost no work has sought to integrate these three streams of research. In this presentation, the authors present a novel process model of how these three processes interrelate and report the results from three studies designed to test this process model. Across the three studies, the authors employed diary, longitudinal, and behavioral methods; conducted residualized-lagged data-analytic procedures; incorporated self-report, across-partner, and coder-report data; and examined actual goal achievement with a yes/no measure 18 months later. All three studies provided strong support for the process model, which suggests that having a partner who supports the target's ideal-self goal-pursuit leads the target to perceive the partner as responsive, which, in turn, leads the target to work harder to achieve these goals and ultimately to achieve them. Hard work is crucial, as simply possessing a strong sense of self-efficacy about the goals did not reliably promote goal attainment in these studies. These findings highlight the importance of accounting for relational processes in understanding when and how individuals achieve their goals and serve as a rallying call for self-regulation researchers to bolster their theoretical models by incorporating social dynamics into them.

### **OC.02 How can you resist? Cognitive control helps people in a romantic relationship to stay faithful**

Tila Pronk, Johan Karremans, Daniel Wigboldus

*Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands*

The present research examined whether cognitive control helps romantically involved people to deal with the lure of attractive alternatives. Our reasoning is based on the general assumption that cognitive control can help people in suppressing initial impulsive responses, and instead to respond in line with broader relationship-protective motives (see also Pronk, Karremans, Overbeek, Vermulst, & Wigboldus, 2010, JPSP). Our main prediction was that cognitive control helps people to stay faithful to their romantic partners. We conducted two studies to test this main hypothesis. Study 1 showed that participants' level of cognitive control (as measured with a Stroop-like task) predicted the amount of difficulty they experienced in staying faithful to their romantic partner. Specifically, participants with a higher level of

cognitive control reported to find it easier to stay faithful. In Study 2 we measured (hetero-sexual) romantically involved and non-involved males' cognitive control, as well as their responses to an attractive female in an actual interaction with her. First, cognitive control was measured with a 2-back task (a working memory task). Subsequently, participants were placed in a waiting room for 10 minutes, together with an attractive female confederate. After the interaction, the confederate rated the extent to which she felt the participant was flirting with her. Results showed that only for men in a romantic relationship, higher levels of cognitive control were related to lower levels of perceived flirting. With this, the present research shows that cognitive control helps romantically involved individuals to guard themselves against the temptation of desirable others.

### **OC.02 The limits of love: How love often fails to help individuals regulate their behavior in relationships**

Lara Kammrath, Johanna Peetz

*Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON, Canada*

People in close relationships often try, for love, to do things to make the other person happy. In Western culture, there is the notion that love can "move mountains" and relationship partners may sometimes find themselves thinking, "if this person really loved me, s/he would do X." Across three studies, we found that feelings of love and concern successfully predicted intentions to complete actions for the benefit of the other person. These feelings failed, however, to predict actual behavior, when the behavior required continued self-regulation over a period of one to two weeks. In Study 1, feelings of love and caring for one's father predicted the number of paragraphs participants' composed for a Father's Day card when the card could be completed in one sitting, but not when the card required completion over a period of seven days. In Studies 2 and 3, love and concern for a romantic partner (measured chronically or manipulated experimentally) predicted the amount that participants' promised to do for their partner over a two-week period, but showed no association with actual follow-through. Across the studies, sustained behavior regulation was better predicted by factors related to self-regulation strength, such as trait conscientiousness, than by love.

### **OC.02 Outsourcing self-regulation to romantic partners**

Gráinne M. Fitzsimons<sup>1</sup>, Eli J. Finkel<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada,*

<sup>2</sup>*Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA*

Because of the everyday interdependence of romantic relationships, partners have great power to help or hurt each other's chances of making goal progress. In the current research, we suggest that people in close relationships may come to rely on helpful or instrumental partners, and demonstrate that thinking of goal-instrumental others can have an ironic negative effect on individuals' own motivation to pursue important goals. In Study 1, participants who thought about their romantic partner's instrumentality for their academic achievement goal conserved fewer resources for an academic-goal-relevant task, compared with participants who thought about their partner's instrumentality for another goal, or with participants who thought about a positive characteristic possessed by their partner. In Study 2, participants who thought about their romantic partner's instrumentality for a fitness goal (vs. another important goal) planned to spend less time and effort pursuing fitness, even though they continued to report high commitment to this goal. As predicted, this pattern was

stronger for participants with fewer available self-regulatory resources. In Study 3, the extent to which participants "outsourced" motivation to their romantic partners (i.e., the extent to which they responded to the experimental manipulation by reducing their own effort) was positively related to relationship commitment, suggesting that relying on romantic partners for help with goals may promote positive relationship outcomes. This latter finding reinforces the dynamic nature of the links between intrapersonal and interpersonal processes.

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| <b>OC.03 A Self determination theory perspective on close relationships: Relational outcomes of autonomy support versus control</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L204 |
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### **OC.03 What kind of parent-child relationships lead to homophobia (and by what mechanism)?**

Netta Weinstein

*University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany*

Parent-child relationships may be characterized by the autonomy and closeness support parents provide (Deci & Ryan, 1985; Grolnick, Deci, & Ryan, 1997). Relationships in which closeness is nourished but autonomy support is absent may encourage children to introject parents' values at the expense of non-conditional self-acceptance. As a result, children repress aspects of themselves that they learn are unacceptable. We consider one self-aspect that parents often consider unacceptable; namely, gay sexual orientation. Two studies tested our main hypothesis: that parental styles supporting relatedness but thwarting autonomy lead to repression of gay orientation. Based on previous research demonstrating that repressed homosexuality leads to defensive reaction formation processes expressed as homophobia (Adams, Wright, & Lohr, 1996), we also hypothesized that parent autonomy thwarting would indirectly relate to homophobia through repressed gay orientation. To test this, we measured parents relatedness and autonomy support, explicit (self-reported) sexual orientation, implicit sexual orientation (using primed implicit association tasks), and self-reported homophobia. Results showed that participants reporting high parent relatedness relative to autonomy demonstrated a greater discrepancy between implicit and explicit sexual orientation (Studies 1 and 2); particularly when primed with their parents (Study 2). Furthermore, sexual orientation discrepancy related to higher self-reported homophobia. We discuss implications of these results for relationship processes responsible for self-acceptance and attitude formation.

### **OC.03 The costs of parental pressure to express emotions: conditional regard and autonomy support as predictors of emotion regulation and intimacy**

Guy Roth

*Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, Israel*

The aim of the present study was to explore parents' use of expression- and suppression-oriented conditional regard and autonomy support as related to modes of emotion regulation and to intimacy capacity in young adults. Participants were 174 female college students. As predicted from self-determination theory (Ryan & Deci, 2000), students' perceptions of parents as hinging their regard on students' expression or suppression of negative emotions predicted a maladaptive pattern of emotion regulation and intimacy capacity. In contrast, autonomy-supportive parenting predicted more adaptive emotion-regulation and intimacy patterns. Also as predicted, emotion-regulation mode mediated the relations among parental practices and

intimacy capacity. Results suggested that parents who use conditional regard to encourage children's sharing of negative feelings may actually undermine their children's socioemotional capacities.

### **OC.03 Perceived maternal control and responsiveness to distress as predictors of young adults' empathic responses**

Michal Kanat-Maymon

*Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*

Two studies examined the relations between young adults' present empathic responding and their retrospective perceptions of two maternal behaviors during their childhood and adolescence: maternal control and maternal responsiveness in times of distress. Study 1 assessed empathic responding at a dispositional level. Study 2 replicated and extended the findings of Study 1 in a sample of romantic partners, focusing on both emotional and behavioral empathic responding and support. As predicted from Self-Determination Theory (Ryan & Deci, 2000), perceived maternal control had unique negative associations with empathic support of one's romantic partner (indicated by both self- and partner- reports) and with empathic concern for others in general, and a unique positive association with personal distress in response to others in need. Perceived maternal responsiveness to distress was a unique positive predictor of empathic concern. Interactive effects were found, suggesting that the experience of one's mother as controlling is likely to interfere with one's empathic responding, and that high levels of perceived maternal responsiveness do not cancel the negative effects of the experience of controlling parenting. Furthermore, the findings suggest that high levels of perceived maternal responsiveness might exacerbate the negative relations between perceived maternal control and personal distress in response to others in need.

### **OC.03 Autonomous motivation and projection as predictors of romantic relationship quality**

Yaniv Kanat-Maymon

*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

During the last decade, the phenomenon of projection received considerable attention in research of close relationships (e.g., Lemay, Clark, & Feeney, 2007; Murray, Holmes, & Griffin, 2003). Projection is defined as a process whereby persons ascribe to their partners their own qualities. Consequently, such individuals come to see their partners as more similar to themselves. By promoting similarity, projection is believed to increase feelings of understanding, closeness and enables partners to respond less destructively to the inevitable disappointments that occur as relationships unfold (e.g., Lemay, et al., 2007; Murray, Holmes, & Griffin, 1996).

In contrast, Self Determination Theory (SDT, Deci & Ryan, 2000) suggests a less positive view of projection. According to SDT, people are naturally motivated to perceive and integrate all aspects of their existence (Ryan, 1995). The result of such integrated self is a sense of autonomy, feelings that one's actions emanate from and reflect one's authentic self and are not a product of inter- or intra- personal pressure (Deci & Ryan, 2000). From a SDT perspective, projection is expected to result from a less integrated self and therefore have only limited benefits to relationship quality. Results from a sample of 104 dating couples using APIM analysis suggest that, as hypothesized, autonomous motivation and projection predicted relationship satisfaction. However, only autonomous motivation predicted voicing dissatisfaction and self-disclosure. Moreover, autonomous motivation moderated projection. Simple

slopes analysis revealed that only participants low on autonomy used projection. The motivational antecedents for projection and their outcomes are discussed.

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| <b>OC.04 Influence of Conflict and Hurt on Attachment Styles and Resulting Relational Behaviors</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L102 |
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**OC.04 When will hurt not heal: The relationship of degree of closeness, degree of attachment and attachment style to ongoing hurt feelings.**

Jodie Burchell, Ross Wilkinson

*The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia*

The factors that influence the development and expression of hurt feelings are complex and numerous. These factors are not well understood, particularly those where hurtful events cause pain long after the event. Recent studies suggest that the degree of attachment and degree of closeness between the victim and the perpetrator, and the victim's attachment style may influence the intensity of hurt feelings. The current study aimed to assess whether these factors in conjunction influence the processing of hurt over time. The current study employed a self-report questionnaire (preliminary sample: 97 adult participants, 90 females, 7 males,  $M_{age} = 27.56$ ,  $SD_{age} = 6.43$ ; expected sample: 200 participants). Participants recalled hurtful events from relationships of varying closeness, and reported the intensity of hurt both when the event occurred and when they completed the study. The study also measured the participant's attachment style and their degree of attachment to each relational partner. The closeness of the perpetrator to the victim significantly predicted the intensity of hurt. The closest relational partners caused the most hurt both at the time of the event and at the time of the study. Regardless of relationship, there was a significant reduction in the level of hurt over time. Attachment anxiety and avoidance significantly interacted with the change in hurt over time, but only for hurt originating from romantic partners. This suggests that attachment style plays a role in how hurtful events are processed, but these effects only become salient in close relationships that meet the victim's attachment needs.

**OC.04 Conflict, social support, capitalization and relationship satisfaction**

Gian Gonzaga, Heather Setrakian

*eHarmony Labs, Pasadena, CA, USA*

Social interactions between romantic partners have fundamental implications for relationships. Myriad research demonstrates that partners who are better at resolving conflict, providing social support and being responsive to capitalization attempts have more satisfying relationships. Surprisingly, no research has demonstrated which of the three social interactions; conflict, social support, or capitalization, has the largest impact on relationship satisfaction. Thus, it is unclear if these three interactions have overlapping effects on relationship quality and if it is necessary to study all three. Two hundred engaged couples participated in a laboratory session where they each discussed an area of conflict, an area they wanted to change about themselves (social support), and a personal recent positive event (capitalization). Each participant reported how perceived their partner's conflict resolution, social support, and responsiveness during capitalization as well as how satisfied he/she was with their relationship both before the laboratory session and three months after getting married. There were relatively low inter-correlations between constructive conflict resolution, social support, and responsiveness during capitalization. All three types of responses

independently, and roughly equally, predicted concurrent satisfaction and change in satisfaction among males. When looking at females constructive conflict resolution was the most powerful predictor of concurrent satisfaction and change in satisfaction, but social support also had a significant effect on satisfaction while responsiveness during capitalization attempts did not. These findings suggest that all three interactions have important and separate effects on the quality of the relationship but conflict resolution may be most important among females.

#### **OC.04 Hurting the ones we love: The features and functions of punishment in close relationships**

Julie Fitness, Julie Peterson

*Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW, Australia*

Being hurt by our close relationship partners may elicit intense anger and pain, along with a powerful impulse to punish the partner we hold responsible for our distress. In this paper, I will argue that the urge to retaliate in response to partner-caused emotional pain is hard-wired and serves a variety of potentially adaptive functions, though it may also have destructive and tragic consequences. Following a discussion of the features and functions of punishment in close relationship contexts from an evolutionary, social-psychological perspective, I will present the findings of an empirical study of aggressive punishment in which 32 dating couples were recruited to what was advertised as a "food preferences" study. Once in the laboratory, each partner was randomly allocated to an experimental or control condition, and all were asked to participate in an unrelated 'memory' study while the experimenter prepared food for the main study. Participants in the experimental condition were then asked to vividly recall a partner betrayal while participants in the control condition were asked to recall a neutral event. Finally, all participants were given the opportunity to allocate painfully hot, chilli sauce to their partners and to another, unknown participant. Participants in the remembered betrayal condition allocated significantly more hot sauce to their partners than participants in the control group, but did not differ from control participants in the amount of hot sauce they allocated to the stranger. The implications of this work for enhancing our understanding of punishment in close relationships will be discussed.

#### **OC.04 From conflict to intimacy: An attachment perspective on recovery from conflict in cohabiting couples**

Karen Prager, Forouz Shirvani

*The University of Texas at Dallas, Dallas, TX, USA*

This diary study investigates recovery from conflict in romantic relationships as a function of individual attachment orientations and felt security in the relationship. Cohabiting couples completed on-line questionnaires including two measures of attachment, one of which was modified to determine feelings of security in the relationship (AAQ). Couples also completed a 21-day diary, and rated emotions experienced each day (PANAS, plus sad, happy, secure, etc.) and daily interaction intimacy (IRF-I). On days couples reported conflict, partners answered questions about their handling of the conflict, any resolution of the conflict, and feelings that remain on that day and on the days following. Preliminary analyses, conducted on 45 couples, reveal significant associations between partners' anxious and avoidant attachment, respectively, and (1) the number of conflicts during the 21 days, (2) partners' average levels of negative emotion, and (3) the couple's average interaction intimacy across the 21 days. Multi-level analyses will examine associations between

attachment orientation and (1) the level of negative emotion couples experience on the day of a conflict, (2) the extent to which negative emotion dissipates and positive emotion increases each of 3 days following the conflict; (3) the level of intimacy on the day of the conflict, and (4) the extent to which intimacy increases (or not) over 3 days following the conflict. Results will indicate whether attachment security appears to aid partners' recovery from conflict, both in terms of individual partners' emotional well-being and the couple's level of interaction intimacy.

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| <b>OC.05 Mental Health Studies in Relational Research</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L103 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

**OC.05 Affective temperament in nurses in primary and hospital care settings**

Raul Cordeiro

*Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Portalegre, Portugal*

The present study investigated the Affective Temperament of nurses in Primary and Hospital Care. The sample consists of nurses from both settings. For the data collect we used the TEMPS-A Scale (Akiskal, 1998), translated to Portuguese by Figueira and Severino (1999). In order to have a better characterization of the sample, some general questions have been added. The sample was composed by 60 nurses, mainly females with an average age of 36. Most of the nurses were married (65%), whose work schedule is divided between fixed time-table (49,2%) and shift time-table (50,8%). The study showed that nurses have, mainly, Hyperthimic Temperament (46,67%), followed by Anxious Temperament (30%). These results are in concordance with a previous studies about Affective Temperament in Nurses. The analyses of the variables, using t-test and the Spearman Correlation, showed that the Affective Temperament has a significant statistical relation with age.

**OC.05 Ethnic attitude, self concept, and the mental health of interracial marriage families adolescents in Taiwan**

Wei-Shiuan Jeng, Chin-Chun Sue

*Chung Jung Christain University, Tainan, Taiwan*

Taiwan's interracial marriage reached the highest point in 2003 held 31% of the current year married couples; the number decreased gradually, in 2009 the interracial marriage only took as 19% of the current year married couples. 12.4% and 8.7% children born within the interracial marriage families in 2003 and 2009 respectively. Most interracial marriage families in Taiwan are Taiwanese male married immigrant female. Fathers of the adolescents are the dominate ethnic group of the society, will they identify their fathers' ethnicity regardless their mothers' ethnicity. Whether they held different attitudes toward the ethnicity of their fathers and mothers, and how does the attitude impact their self concepts and the mental health. The study will apply 2009 Survey of Living Status of the Interracial Family Adolescents in Taiwan to reveal the relationships between and among the ethnic attitude, the self concept, and the mental health of interracial marriage families adolescents in Taiwan. 334 Females and 332 males 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade interracial marriage family students who were randomly selected from the schools cross Taiwan area will be the sample of the study. The ethnic attitude will be measured as a set of questions such as whether you proud of the father's/mother's ethnic cultural, the self concept will be includes the self assessment of the body image and the sense of self values. The mental health is the score of CESD scale. SEM will be use to understand the concerning phenomena.

### **OC.05 Intrusiveness in romantic relationships and psychological disorders**

Shiri Lavy<sup>1</sup>, Guy Doron<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ariel University Center, Ariel, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

In parent-child relationships, intrusiveness is often defined as overprotective parenting or parental control. Recollections of such overprotective parenting were associated with a variety of psychological disorders, such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), depression and anxiety. Recently, perceptions of a romantic partner's intrusiveness was linked with relationship dissatisfaction. In the current study, we examined whether current perceptions of one's partner as intrusive are associated with similar psychological difficulties as recollections of intrusive parenting styles. In the current study we conducted an internet survey (n = 508) of self reports measures tapping perceived partner intrusiveness, OCD, depression and anxiety symptoms. The analysis consisted of two steps. In step 1, the factorial structure of the intrusive behaviors questionnaire was validated, confirming five distinct intrusiveness factors: (1) monitoring partner's behavior (2) controlling partner's behaviors (3) behaving unfairly (4) seeking closeness in insensitive ways, and (5) being aggressively intrusive. In step 2, we examined the associations between the various factors of partner's intrusiveness identified in step 1 and symptoms of psychological disorders. Results showed that while OCD was associated with all five intrusiveness factors, depression was associated with three intrusiveness factors, and anxiety was associated with only two factors of partner's intrusiveness. All three psychological disorders were associated with aggressive intrusive behaviors. These findings are consistent with the proposition that perceptions of intrusiveness in adult romantic relationship and recollections of intrusive parenting are associated with psychological disorders. Implications of the findings for theory and treatment are discussed.

### **OC.05 School relationships and adolescent depression**

Abigail Millings, Rhiannon Buck, Paul Stallard

*University of Bath, Bath, Avon, United Kingdom*

Literature suggests that for adolescents, a sense of bondedness to school and attachment to parents play a key role in subsequent mental health. Attachment to peers is also important, with secure peer attachment being linked to healthy adjustment and insecure attachment being linked with both anxiety and depression. Less is known about the combined protective function of school connectedness and peer attachment. In the current study, 884 students aged 12-16 across 2 schools self-reported school connectedness, peer attachment, self esteem, anxiety, and depressive symptoms (low mood). Attachment style differences were found in all variables, with those reporting secure peer attachment having higher self esteem, lower anxiety, and lower depressive symptoms, than those reporting insecure peer attachment (whether anxious or avoidant). Those with higher school connectedness were likely to have lower depressive symptoms, and this association remained significant (although less strong) after controlling for self esteem. High school connectedness was more common among students with secure peer attachment than those with insecure peer attachment, and interaction effects suggest a possible protective function of school connectedness in depressive symptoms among those with insecure peer attachment. Findings are discussed with reference to attachment theory, the relationship between attachment anxiety and general anxiety, and the co morbidity of anxiety and depression.

### **OC.05 Beneficial participation: Social interactions in online depression communities and psychological well-being**

Shirley Dorchin, Galit Nimrod

*Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel*

Members of Online Depression Communities (ODCs) may be divided into those who post messages to other members of the community and/or respond to their posts ("posters") and those who do not interact with other members and simply read others' posts ("lurkers"). Sponsored by NARSAD and based on an online survey of 793 members of 29 ODCs this study aimed to explore associations between type of participation and psychological well-being. Results indicated that posters and lurkers had similar demographic characteristics and constraints on participation. Hence, lurking behavior was not due to objective difficulties, but rather reflected subjective preferences. Relative to lurkers, posters tended to be veterans and visited their communities more often. These differences suggested that lurkers' behavior resulted from insufficient confidence and less familiarity with their respective ODC. The two groups did not differ in their interests related to knowledge of depression (e.g., symptoms). However, they differed significantly with regard to interest in relationships, with posters reporting higher levels of interest. In addition, posters agreed more than lurkers that ODCs provided them with social benefits (e.g., connecting with others), but no differences were found with regard to personal benefits (e.g., dealing with daily tasks). Posters reported greater improvement in their condition as a result of participating in ODCs as compared to lurkers. Moreover, their level of depression was found to be significantly lower than that of lurkers, a difference unexplained by background variables. These findings suggest better psychological well-being outcomes for respondents who interact with other members of their community.

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| <b>OC.06 The Wind Beneath My Wings: The Role of Empathy and Support in Couple Relationships</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L104 |
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### **OC.06 Responding to problems: The roles of severity and barriers**

Nancy Frye

*Long Island University, Brookville, NY, USA*

In even the most satisfying relationships, couples face specific problems, varying in severity. Partners may strategically devote more time and effort to actively working on their most severe problems. However, actively addressing problems comes with risks, since active work on a problem may reveal an inability to resolve that problem. The implications of such a discovery would be particularly detrimental for partners with barriers to leaving the relationship. Consequently, whether partners spend more time addressing their more severe or their less severe problems may depend on their ability to leave their relationship. Two studies of partners in seriously dating, cohabiting, and marital relationships examined responses to problems of varying degrees of severity and the role of barriers. In each, hierarchical linear modeling revealed a positive association was found between the severity of problems and use of various strategies to address the problems, such that partners reported higher levels of exit, voice, loyalty, and neglect in response to their more severe problems. However, barriers to leaving the relationship moderated these associations, such that partners with more barriers to leaving were less likely to actively address their more severe problems. In contrast, when satisfaction served as a moderator, partners with more

satisfaction were more likely to actively address their more severe problems. Results are discussed in terms of implications for whether partners remain in their relationships because of a desire to stay or an inability to leave.

### **OC.06 Caring for the wounded injured and ill: Spousal stressors and relational transformations**

Victoria Jennings-Kelsall

*Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA*

Though prior research has alluded to the stressful effects of military life on a family, there has been little examination of the communicative and relational aspects of stress within the context of military families. In particular, research on a growing population within the U.S. armed forces, the Wounded Injured and Ill (WII), is limited. Presently, a significant number of service members are returning from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan and joining the ranks of the WII. Among those classified as WII are those who are diagnosed with conditions such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and trauma from burn injuries and amputations. This study examines and highlights how the experience of living with and caring for a WII spouse transforms the marital relationship. Specifically, I examine data derived from personal weblogs and discussion forums designed for WII and their families. These public venues capture naturally occurring discourse and provide insight into the lives of spousal caregivers of WII. To analyze the data, I use the constant comparative method and open-coding techniques to reveal common sources of caregiver stress. Then, I apply axial coding methods to identify the salient relationship and communication issues that emerge. The discussion section emphasizes both the theoretical and pragmatic value of this work. At a theoretical level, this research highlights the intrapersonal and interpersonal transformations that occur as marital partnerships evolve into caregiving relationships. The paper also lays a foundation for research that may identify strategies for alleviating the challenges that confront WII families.

### **OC.06 How does empathy help us to be better support providers on a daily basis?**

Inge Devoldre<sup>1</sup>, Lesley Verhofstadt<sup>2</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>1</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium, <sup>2</sup>Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium*

In the last decade there is growing evidence for social support to be a primary component of couple relationships (Bradbury, Fincham, & Beach, 2000). More specifically, spouses' skills to help each other cope with personal difficulties, and to provide everyday support to one another, are found to play a central role in marital functioning (Bradbury & Karney, 2004). Despite the growing body of knowledge of how support operates in marriage, little is known about the determinants of spousal support. The critical need for identifying the antecedents of social support has nevertheless been expressed by many social support and marital researchers. One of the personal characteristics of spouses that is theorized to play a central role in spousal support is dispositional empathy of the provider (Devoldre, Davis, Verhofstadt, & Buysse, in press). The goal of this research was to explore the contribution of support provider's cognitive and affective empathy on daily support provision between spouses. Therefore, a two-week diary study was conducted in which 146 partners of 73 married couples were asked to report on their level of dispositional empathy, the level of daily stress, and the provision of daily support within their marriage. The results will be discussed in light of existing theory and

research on empathy and social support.

### **OC.06 Effects of supportive and unsupportive behaviors in couples coping with cancer**

Meirav Dagan, Robbert Sanderman, Mariët Hagedoorn

*University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands*

**Objectives:** This study examines the separate effects of supportive and unsupportive behaviors in couples coping with curative colorectal cancer. We aim to identify people who are most susceptible to spousal supportive and unsupportive behaviors. **Methods:** In a longitudinal design three and nine month after the diagnosis patients with curative colorectal cancer and their partners (n= 70) completed questionnaires about spousal supportive (SSL) and unsupportive (SSL-N) behaviors, their sense of personal control (Pearlin & Schooler's Mastery), and depressive symptoms (CES-D). **Results:** Multilevel analysis (MLwiN) was used to examine the changes in distress over time in a dyadic context. Patients and spouses who perceived more spousal support experienced less distress over time, this only applies for those low in personal control. Moreover, spouses who perceived more unsupportive spousal behaviors experienced more distress, again only for those low in personal control. **Conclusions:** People low in personal control are harmed more by unsupportive behaviors and benefit more from supportive behaviors than people high in personal control.

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| <b>OC.07 Attachment Through the Years</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A110 |
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### **OC.07 The paths from relations to others and our death fears to ageism**

Sara Cohen-Fridel, Ehud Bodner

*Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*

Ageism as a form of prejudice is a way of relating negatively to people because they are old. Previous studies have examined the connection between the two dimensions of attachment, anxiety and avoidance, and prejudice toward distinctive social groups, but not toward the elderly. Studies have also explored the association between fear-of-death and ageism, but not in relation to attachment dimensions. In addition, the connection between empathy and ageism had not been studied yet. In this study we suggest a model in which attachment styles, and background characteristics (gender, age and religiosity) were used as predictors, empathy and fear-of-death functioned as mediators, and the three factors of ageism, served as the predicted variables. Young adults (n=440) in the age of 20-40, completed the Experiences in Close Relationships Scale (two attachment dimensions), the Balanced Emotional Empathy Scale (BEES), Fear of Personal Death Scale (FPDS), and Fraboni Scale of Ageism (FSA) (stereotype, contribution and evasion factors). Stepwise-regression-analyses and structural-equation-model (SEM) depicted a similar picture. Anxious attachment was directly and positively correlated with contribution and evasion factors of ageism, and avoidance - with the stereotype factor. The mediator Fear-of-death demonstrated direct and positive relations, whereas the mediator empathy showed direct and negative relations with the ageism factors. The background characteristics were indirectly correlated through the two mediators. The model which was statistically confirmed implies that interventions needed for diminishing ageist attitudes in younger people require further exploration of existential fears, ability to experience emotions of others, and ways people relate to each other.

### **OC.07 Relations between attachment styles, ageism and quality of life in late life**

Ehud Bodner, Sara Cohen-Friedel

*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*

Background: This study is the first to explore the relations between attachment styles, ageism, and quality of life (QoL) among elderly people. The attachment theory describes how human beings relate to each other, according to their attachment style. Previous studies have examined the connection between attachment styles and prejudice toward distinctive social groups and minorities. Ageism as a form of prejudice is a way of relating negatively to people because they are old. QoL among the elderly was found to be associated with self-ageism. It was therefore hypothesized that QoL, attachments styles, and demographic characteristics can explain ageism among the elderly. Methods: Four questionnaires were administered: Fraboni Scale of Ageism (FSA), which consisted four scales (separation, affective, stereotype, and intergeneration), Experiences in Close Relationships Scale, which measures four attachment styles (secure, dismissive, fearful, and preoccupied), SF-36 health status inventory (eight scales) and socio-demographic questions. Ninety-four elderly men and women aged 64-85 who live in the community completed the questionnaires. Results: MANCOVAS indicated that securely attached individuals score higher on separation than fearfully attached individuals, and that securely and dismissively attached individuals score higher than fearful and preoccupied individuals on seven QoL scales. Multiple regression analyses showed that attachment styles, age, gender, and some QoL scales contribute to the explained variance of ageism. Conclusions: Secure attachment in late life seems to be related to less ageism and a better QoL. The enhancement of a secure attachment base in elderly people may assist in moderating ageism and improving older people's QoL.

### **OC.07 Attachment style, networks, and satisfaction in older Australian adults: Implications for psychological health**

Ross Wilkinson, Tamara Coupe

*Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia*

Maintaining interpersonal relationships is considered a hallmark of successful ageing however there has been limited research from an attachment perspective examining relationships in later life. Recent research has gone beyond focussing on single, dyadic relationships to include multiple dyadic relationships that exist in both family and social environments. Given the loss of primary attachment figures that occurs with increasing age it is particularly important to examine the broader network of relationships when examining attachment in older age. This paper reports the results of a study examining attachment style, attachment networks, attachment satisfaction, and psychological health in a sample (N = 205) of older Australians (50 to 97 years). Consistent with socioemotional selectivity theory, the size of attachment networks decreased with increasing age. Overall, women reported more attachments and relied on a wider range of attachments than men. Men had their attachment needs met almost exclusively by their partners. Attachment anxiety was associated with greater attachment strength to attachment figures and more 'full-blown' attachments. Avoidance was associated with smaller attachment networks, lower attachment strength, and fewer full-blown attachments. Contrary to expectations, satisfaction with attachments in terms of availability and responsiveness were not associated with psychological health indicators. Significant relationships only emerged when examining the extent to which primary attachments relationships are available and

responsive. Implications for the assessment of proposed relationships between attachment networks, attachment style, and psychological health in older adults are discussed.

### **OC.07 Together and apart: Types of second couplehood in old age**

Chaya Koren, Zvi Eisikovits

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Increase in life expectancy is likely to lead to alternative intimate partner relationships, such as second couplehood in old age. Previous classifications of the phenomenon have been done based on external (physical) variables of living arrangements and formality of the relationship (i.e. married/not married and living/not living under the same roof). The relational variables of (emotional) togetherness/separateness have not been used in those previous classifications. The aim of this presentation is to present a typology of second couplehood in old age based on the interaction between relational (emotional) and external (physical) variables, from a dyadic perspective. This is a qualitative study based on a theoretical sample of 20 couples chosen according to the following criteria: men who entered second couplehood at age 65+ and women at age 60+, following termination of first couplehood due to death or divorce. Criteria also included living arrangements: under the same roof, either married or not, or in separate houses. 40 individual semi-structured interviews were conducted, recorded and transcribed verbatim. Content analysis was performed while the couple was the unit of analysis. Findings revealed four types of second couplehood relationships in old age: 1. Living Together (physically and emotionally), 2. Living Apart (physically) Together (emotionally), 3. Living Together (physically) Apart (emotionally), 4. Living Apart (physically and emotionally). The analysis showed that spatial and emotional arrangements in second couplehood relationships in old age are not necessarily coherent. These findings are discussed in the context of the changing social status of the phenomenon from deviant to normative.

### **OC.07 Attachment network quality in adolescent attachment reorganization**

Daphne Goh

*The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia*

Attachment reorganization, or “attachment transference” is a normative process that commences in adolescence and beyond. Extant literature has documented the process of ‘transferring’ attachment functions across adolescence, and has identified factors which affect this process. Yet the attachment network quality, and factors which impact it during the process of attachment reorganization have yet to be fully explored. The self-reported quality of attachment and satisfaction with the responses of mothers, fathers, and friends were examined in this cross-sectional sample (N = 492) of 2 cohorts of early (n = 176; 73 males and 103 females) and late adolescents (n = 316; 83 males and 233 females). Attachment network quality was assessed through ‘weighted’ attachment strength scores which multiply reported satisfaction with the attachment figure by the attachment figure’s position in the modified Attachment Network Questionnaire (modified ANQ; Doherty & Feeney, 2005). Reported attachment quality to attachment figures during the process of attachment reorganization was found to differ according to individual figures, attachment functions, age, and romantic status. Younger adolescents reported overall greater satisfaction with their attachment figures compared with older adolescents. Adolescents also reported increasing attachment quality with their friends as they

mature, corresponding to a reduction in quality of attachment, particularly for mothers. Finally, adolescent females reported higher quality relationships with their friends, while adolescent males reported better quality relationship with their fathers compared with the former. The importance and role of quality in attachment relationships in understanding adolescent attachment reorganization, and future directions are discussed.

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| <b>OC.08 Navigating Trauma</b> | Friday, July 23<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room A109 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

### **OC.08 Intergenerational echoes of the trauma in the relational experiences of the second generation with their parents and with their children**

Hadas Wiseman

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Psychological trauma, especially massive traumas such as genocide, may have long-term effects not only on the victimized generation, but also on the next generations that did not endure the traumatic events directly. Intergenerational effects on the children of Holocaust survivors ("second generation") have been studied extensively; showing that overall, they score in the normal range of psychological functioning. We argue that it is not the trauma itself that is transmitted, but rather the "echoes of the trauma" that play out in the relational themes and sensitivities of the second generation. Based on studying a non-clinical Israeli sample of second generation adults by means of combining the Core Conflictual Relationship Theme method (Luborsky & Crits-Christoph, 1998) with narrative-qualitative analysis we trace the echoes of the trauma in their recollected relational experiences with their parents and with their children (Wiseman & Barber, 2008). The central relationship themes that were identified revolved around three prevalent intertwined interpersonal patterns: (1) A pattern of "mutual overprotection" in the parent-child relationship of the second generation with their parents. (2) An intergenerational communication style of "knowing-not knowing", in which there is a dialectical tension between "knowing" and "not knowing" the parental trauma. (3) A quest for corrective parenting in the current parent-adolescent relationship of the second generation with their children (survivors' grandchildren), involving the aspiration to grant autonomy and keep open lines of familial communication. The relevance of these complex intergenerational processes to understanding the relational world of descendants of other massive trauma will be discussed.

### **OC.08 Complex trauma of war captivity: Attachment and PTSD**

Zehava Solomon

*Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel*

War captivity is marred by intense exposure to recurrent harrowing stressors deliberately perpetrated by man. Prisoners of war (POW) are subjected to brutal torture, interrogations, humiliation and extreme violence. In addition, the deprivation of benevolent human interaction enhances the captives' dependency upon their captors. Clinical and empirical evidence suggest that prolonged captivity may take a dire physical and psychological toll. Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), complex PTSD, and disrupted capacity and motivation for close inter-personal relationships often follow war captivity. Many ex-POWs oscillate between intense attachment and terrified withdrawals, dramatic alterations in perceptions of others and impaired

interpersonal relationship. For many ex-POWs, intimacy may turn to be a source of constant threat and rarely a source of comfort. At the same time, studies have repeatedly documented the beneficial role of secure attachment in mitigating the noxious effects of traumatic stress. Secure attachment is seen as a relatively stable major inner resource that enhances coping with traumatic events reducing the risk for distress. The proposed presentation focuses on the longitudinal relationships of war captivity, PTSD and attachment. Our study assessed the implication of attachment in coping with war captivity. Specifically, we examined: (1) The role of secure attachment (as reflected in memories and hallucinations of significant others and attachment figures) during captivity. (2) The longitudinal inter relationship of attachment, PTSD and Complex PTSD, assessed prospectively at 3 points in time: 18, 30 and 35 years after release and finally (3) vignettes from clinical interviews with ex-POWs and selected scenes from a documentary.

# ORAL SESSIONS

## Sunday July 25

**OD.01 Attachment research in Australia: Themes and contexts**

Sunday, July 25  
8:30am-10:00am  
Room L102

### **OD.01 Exploring normative attachment insecurities in new relationships**

Zoe Hazelwood, Dianah Ward

*Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

Attachment bonds between romantic partners are thought to develop over a number of years, yet recent research has suggested attachment insecurity may be a normative, relevant aspect of the very early stages of relationship development. This study aimed to explore if attachment behavior could be evidenced in very early relationships in an Australian sample of young adults. A second aim was to determine if the attachment insecurities found in new relationships could predict relationship-salient variables that have been explored in previous research looking at longer term relationships. Two hundred and ninety-two participants who were either single, in a new relationship or an established relationship completed a series of questionnaires assessing attachment, attributions and self-disclosure. The data revealed attachment anxiety and avoidance was higher for participants in the very early stages of a relationship compared to those in longer-term commitments. However, these insecurities did not predict differing levels of negative attributions and self-disclosure in new relationships. These results suggest the instability typical of new relationships may produce heightened levels of insecurity yet may facilitate attraction in the early stages. Conversely, the attachment system may not necessarily guide attributions and self-disclosure in the same way for new relationships as it can for established relationships. Future research may benefit from the use of longitudinal designs and behavioral measures to better understand how attachment operates in new relationships.

### **OD.01 A re-examination of coping from an attachment theory perspective**

Gery Karantzas

*Deakin University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*

Over the last two decades, a plethora of research has investigated the manner in which individuals cope with stress. However, three critical issues remain unresolved. Firstly, debate exists regarding the most appropriate conceptualization of coping. Secondly, it is unclear if coping should be best represented as a trait-based or state-based phenomenon. Thirdly, the intra-individual factors that influence people's coping tendencies remain unclear. In this presentation, it is argued that attachment theory, a theory of distress regulation and emotional bonding, provides a useful framework to conceptualize coping and provides insight into people's coping tendencies. Study 1 (N = 500, Mdn = 27 years) reports on a model of coping (based on attachment theory) developed and tested on two coping measures. Across both measures, the coping factor structure grounded in attachment theory provided the best fit to the data. Study 2 (N = 130, Mdn = 25 years) reports on an online experimental study designed to investigate the moderating effects of attachment on coping. The findings revealed that

when controlling for attachment, people did not differ in their use of coping strategies across stressful situations. The implications of these findings for health professionals in the area of stress-coping will be discussed.

### **OD.01 Assessing attachment in adolescents and young adults: Development of a general short-form of the Experiences in Close Relationships Questionnaire–Revised**

Ross Wilkinson

*Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia*

The Experiences in Close Relationships–Revised is a 36-item self-report questionnaire that is widely used to assess individual differences in attachment anxiety and avoidance in adults with romantic relationship experience. However, both its length and its reference to romantic partners limit the extent to which it can be employed with younger individuals. This paper reports the results from two studies evaluating a revised general, short form (20 items) of the ECR-R, the ECR-R-GSF, which has had items modified to refer to relationships in general. In Study One the factor structure and convergent validity of the ECR-R-GSF is investigated with 694 students aged from 14.5 to 22.9 years. In Study Two the structural model was assessed with an independent sample of 493 high school students aged from 11 to 19 years. Confirmatory factor analysis supported a two-factor model consistent with the original ECR-R. The factor loadings and variances were found to be invariant across the samples. Multi-group analyses demonstrated that the model was consistent across age and gender. The factors related appropriately to the Relationship Questionnaire (Bartholomew & Horowitz, 1991) dimensions and categories. The ECR-R-GSF dimensions were found to have moderate correlations with the Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment–Peer scale (Armsden & Greenberg, 1987) but weaker correlations with the Maternal and Paternal Attachment scales. The results indicate that the ECR-R-GSF is a potentially efficient and appropriate way to assess trait attachment in adolescents and young adults. The need to consider different levels of attachment abstraction is discussed.

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| <b>OD.02 Loss within the Family and its Effects on Parenthood</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L203 |
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### **OD.02 The internal working model of the mother among bereaved and non-bereaved daughters**

Mariana Gaitini

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

The mother-daughter relationship balances intimacy and closeness with separateness and conflict. Mother loss in childhood is a powerful event, but the ongoing impact of that loss and how it affects the inner world of the adult women affected is less well known. 30 women who lost mothers in childhood were compared with 30 nonbereaved women. Among the bereaved, the representations of the mother were retained as idealized figures, recollected without conflict, and seen as positive, supportive, and whose essence was in her mother role. The deceased mothers subjective personhood was generally ignored, and they were rarely seen as separate individuals, combining both positive and negative elements or intrapersonal complexity. These mothers seemed to have been frozen as internal models of motherhood, but not as women or individuals. In contrast, the non-bereaved women had pictures of their

mothers that were significantly more complex, with richer and thicker narratives, and highly individualized. It is suggested that the image of the deceased mother retained as an internal positive figure is directly related to the experience of loss. In contrast to daughters who are continuing to modify their construction of the image of the living internalized mothers, the challenge to construct and reconstruct the deceased mother for the bereaved is met differently and more narrowly at this developmental stage in the lives of the daughters. The implications of this for the theory of close relationships and for the theory of grief and mourning are discussed (Dowdney, 2000; Haine et al. 2006; Rubin, 1984, 2008).

#### **OD.02 "I am no longer one of you:" Parents experience of child loss and its impact upon their relationship to their living children**

Ronit Shalev

*University of Haifa, Haifa,*

The impact of child loss upon the parents has life-long implications for their self-perception, their well-being and the nature of their close relationships with others. In a research study of 60 bereaved parents, the impact of the loss changed how they looked at their future and how they re-evaluated the significance of their closest relationships. Research findings showed that the greater the degree of reported change in self perception following loss, the more intense the attention to the ongoing relationship to the deceased child. For the bereaved Israeli parents, the idea that there could be anything positive emerging from their experience of loss and life change was anathema. Future orientation, (Seginer, 2005 ) addresses the degree to which people are able to project themselves into the future. Although optimism for the future was associated with greater difficulties in functioning in the present, optimism for the future of surviving children was associated with a more positive recollected relationship and memories associated with the deceased child. Most people are generally optimistic about their future and look forward to it hopefully. Bereaved parents show both increased anxiety for their surviving children and hopefulness that they will have a better life. The parents difficulties in managing their own lives, and their limited hopefulness for themselves, have implications for the management of close relationships post-loss. The discussion addresses parent's management of relationships with living and deceased children and their implications (Rubin, 1996, 2008).

#### **OD.02 Marriage, motherhood and relationship: The interplay of attachment and relationship to the deceased for married and unmarried women bereaved of their partners**

Ofri Bar Nadav

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Adjustment to the loss of one's spouse and life partner entails a dialectical interplay between an attempt to preserve the connection to the past and the demand to accommodate to the new reality of life without the deceased. Our research has shown a striking resemblance in the experiences following loss between widows and "widows without a ring" - unmarried women who have lost their life partner. We also showed that both bereaved groups differ significantly in many aspects of their lives from their non-bereaved peers (Bar Nadav, 2007; Bar Nadav & Rubin, in preparation; Rubin, 1999). In this presentation, we wish to discuss important aspects of attachment and the ongoing relationship to the deceased partner that differentiated women who were mothers at the time of loss from those who did not have children at that time, as

compared to non-bereaved women. These differences showed, for example, that for bereaved mothers it took much more time to find a balance between "letting go" and "holding on" to the memory of their lost partner. Furthermore, the mothers were also found to have a different, more complex route in their efforts to form a new romantic relationship. The bereaved women significantly differed from non-bereaved women as far as attachment avoidance is concerned, while bereaved women, who were mothers at the time of their loss, showed the highest amount of interpersonal avoidance. These findings and their significance for understanding the importance of the "internalized" husband in family relationships will be considered.

### **OD.02 Attachment and loss among young fathers: A close look at relationship themes and proximity-seeking strategies of fatherless fathers.**

Amit Fachler, Ruth Sharabany

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel,*

The present study was the first to assess three dimensions of internal working models of young fathers, combining self-report questionnaires (Brennan, Clark, & Shaver, 1998), relationship anecdote paradigms (Luborsky & Crits-Christoph, 1998), and semi-structured interviews. 64 fathers took part in the study. The study yielded intriguing results: 1) fatherless fathers showed a higher frequency of insecure attachment and an avoidant attachment style; 2) on core relationship themes, while both groups demonstrated guilt as a self-response across reported interpersonal interactions, fatherless fathers' levels of guilt were rated higher than controls. As almost no direct guilt towards the lost father emerged in the interviews, the construct of displaced guilt is advanced. This phenomenon refers to guilt accompanying the death of the father, which are redirected towards significant living person's (e.g. wife, mother, child). This finding corresponds to Mikulincer's findings regarding dissociated anger (Mikulincer, 1998), characteristic of individuals with high avoidant attachment ratings. The findings also contribute to our understanding: 1) the ongoing relationship to the deceased as formulated by the Two-Track Model of Bereavement (Rubin et al, 2009); 2) the specific nature of modeling vs. reworking strategies of fatherhood (Bretherton et al, 2007); and 3) the oscillation between seeking intimacy and detaching from the closeness within the dynamic model of proximity seeking, (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2007, 2008). The limitations and contributions of the study are discussed, along with suggestions for further research.

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| <b>OD.03 The Role of Attachment, Stress, and Hurt in Relationships</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L204 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

### **OD.03 The effect of attachment orientation priming on pain sensitivity in pain free individuals**

Angela C Rowe<sup>1</sup>, Katherine B Carnelley<sup>2</sup>, James Harwood<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Micklewright<sup>1</sup>, Lauren Russouw<sup>1</sup>, Charlotte Rennie<sup>2</sup>, Christina Liossi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom,*

<sup>2</sup>*University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom*

The current study used Social Pain Theory (MacDonald & Leary, 2005) as a framework from which to examine a causal relationship between anxious attachment, secure attachment and pain sensitivity in a pain free sample of 95 adults. A cold pressor task was used to induce acute pain before and after priming participants with secure or anxious attachment or a neutral prime. Measures of pain threshold,

tolerance, catastrophizing and intensity were taken. Compared to the neutral prime, secure and anxious primes resulted in higher tolerance and threshold, and therefore lower pain sensitivity. Herein it is argued that while the secure prime buffered participants against the experience of pain by activating thoughts and feelings relating to emotional security and safety, the anxious prime resulted in pain analgesia as it activated social rejection concerns. This argument is supported by the finding in the current study that the anxious-primed group reported higher levels of post-prime emotional numbness than the secure-primed group, as well as by previous research linking high rejection sensitivity, a variable characteristic of anxious attachment orientation, with pain analgesia (MacDonald, Kingsbury, & Shaw, 2005).

### **OD.03 Testosterone, romantic jealousy and attachment orientation.**

Nicola J. Fussell, Angela C. Rowe

*University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom*

While the previous decade has seen progress in mapping the neurobiology of human attachment, little is known about the genetic predispositions that interact with early experiences and result in individual differences in attachment orientation. The related research area of romantic jealousy, which functions to protect attachment relationships, lacks similar knowledge of the genetic propensities that may predict responses to relationship threat. In an attempt to further our understanding of biological predictors of jealousy experiences and to explore its relationship with attachment orientation, the current study focuses on the sex hormone testosterone. We inferred a role for testosterone in the experience of romantic jealousy on account of known associations with dominance and aggression and these behavioural phenotypes with jealousy. Further, testosterone has previously been shown to interact with stress regulation systems in humans and to regulate oxytocinergic/vasopressinergic function in animal studies; thus testosterone may play a mediating role between the attachment and sex behavioural systems. Specifically we manipulated circulating testosterone in order to examine both the separate and interactive effect of circulating (functional) and prenatal (organisational) testosterone on male and female judgements over romantic jealousy, as well as a putative mediating role of attachment orientation. We expected higher degrees of testosterone to be associated with insecure attachment orientation and greater distress in response to sexual as opposed to emotional infidelity in males and females. Our findings suggest partial support for our predictions, which we interpret in the light of current neurobiological conceptualisations of attachment and sex behavioural systems.

### **OD.03 Tears for fears? Attachment styles and adult crying behavior**

Abigail Millings<sup>1</sup>, Angela Rowe<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Bath, Bath, Somerset, United Kingdom*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Bristol, Bristol, Avon, United Kingdom*

Adult attachment styles are best understood as individual differences in affect-regulation strategies, determining how individuals experience and express their emotions, and how they seek support from others. Crying can be a social signal of emotional distress and is considered an attachment behavior, designed to elicit care from others. This study sought to explore the theoretically clear, but as yet untested relationship between attachment styles and patterns of adult crying behavior. UK undergraduates (n=465) completed measures of attachment avoidance and anxiety (Experiences in Close Relationships, Brennan et al. 1998), crying (Adult Crying Inventory, Vingerhoets & Cornelius, 2001), state anxiety (State-Trait Anxiety

Inventory, Spielberger, 1983) and depression (Centre for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale, Radloff, 1977). Measures of attachment and crying were counterbalanced between subjects. Factor analysis revealed new factor structures for the ACI components crying proneness and attitudes towards crying. Regression analyses indicated that attachment avoidance was a significant negative predictor of crying frequency, crying through sadness/loss, and crying through threat to self. Attachment anxiety was a significant positive predictor of crying proneness, crying through threat to self, and crying through sadness/loss. In addition, we found that state anxiety was a significant positive predictor of crying proneness, and crying through threat to self, empathy, and sadness/loss. Attachment styles also predicted, in theoretically congruent ways, attitudes towards crying, which may mediate the link between attachment style and patterns of crying behavior. Findings are discussed in terms of attachment constructs and the differential contributions of hyperactivating and deactivating affect regulation strategies.

### **OD.03 Environmental threat influences psychological distress and marital satisfaction among avoidantly attached individuals**

Abira Reizer, Chaya Possick, Tsachi Ein-Dor

*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

This research examined the impact of stressful environments on marital relationships. 133 Israeli couples exposed to different levels of terror threat and political uncertainty completed measures of attachment orientation, psychological distress, and marital satisfaction. Results indicated that in low-threat areas, spouses high on attachment avoidance did not express distress despite their marital dissatisfaction. In contrast, in high threat areas, spouses high on attachment avoidance exhibited greater psychological distress, and psychological distress mediated the relationship between attachment avoidance and marital dissatisfaction. Psychological distress only partially mediated the relationship between attachment anxiety and marital dissatisfaction in the entire sample. The discussion stresses the importance of considering attachment dimensions when studying the effects of external stressors on marital relations.

### **OD.03 Oxytocin and secure attachment priming as stress-buffers for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder**

Gizem Arikan<sup>1</sup>, Kathy Carnelley<sup>1</sup>, Lusia Stopa<sup>1</sup>, David Baldwin<sup>1</sup>, Anke Karl<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Exeter, Exeter, United Kingdom*

Attachment styles have an impact on emotion regulation of individuals and (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2007) and activation of secure attachment could function as a stress-buffer as well (Miterany 2004, cited in Mikulincer, Shaver & Horesh, 2006). We hypothesize that a nasal dose of the human social bonding hormone oxytocin may enhance felt attachment security. The combined effect of secure attachment priming (SAP) and Oxytocin (OT) were tested in a double-blind experimental study utilizing the trauma film paradigm (Holmes, Brewin, & Hennessy, 2004) in 82 healthy undergraduates (planned 100 by the end of February 2010). Participants answered questionnaires on attachment, styles and trait anxiety and dissociation. They were randomly assigned to one of four possible conditions: receiving a nasal dose of oxytocin plus secure attachment priming (OT+SAP), receiving placebo (PI) plus secure attachment priming (PI+SAP), receiving oxytocin plus neutral priming (NP) (OT+NP) and receiving placebo plus neutral priming (PI+OT). All participants

watched the trauma films. Before and after the films their ratings of mood and felt security were collected. Following the viewing they rated the unpleasantness of the movies and for one week time they kept the intrusions related to films in a diary. It is hypothesized that those in the oxytocin and secure attachment condition would score higher in felt security scale, and would report more positive mood, less aversive reactions to the film and less intrusions about the film. This study may be highly relevant for the prevention and treatment of PTSD.

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| <b>OD.04 Sexual desire, the weakest link of couple interaction:<br/>Integrating sexuality with other relationship dimensions</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L201 |
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#### **OD.04 Sexual passion from changes in intimacy over time: A dyadic diary analysis**

Lorne Campbell, Harris Rubin

*University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada*

How does passionate experience relate to relationship intimacy? Romantic relationships are characterized by both passion and intimacy, but these constructs typically follow divergent trajectories when examined in the context of relationship development. Whereas intimacy tends to increase over time, sex and passionate experience tends to decrease. The current research tested a model proposed by Baumeister and Bratslavsky (1999) that may help explain this pattern. Rather than being directly related, the model holds that passion's association with intimacy is best understood as it being linked with changes in intimacy over time. Within this framework, when intimacy shows relatively large and rapid increases, levels of passion should be high. When intimacy remains unchanged over time, levels of passionate experience should be low. To test this hypothesis, a dyadic diary study involving sixty-seven couples completed daily measures of intimacy, passion, and sexual satisfaction. Analyses guided by the Actor-Partner Interdependence Model (Kenny, Kashy, & Cook, 2006) demonstrated that day-to-day changes in intimacy were indeed linked to relationship passion, and also to the enjoyment of sexual encounters when they occurred. Passion being associated with changes in intimacy over time provided the best fit when compared to alternative models. Additional dyadic analyses extended this model by revealing a partner effect, with changes in one partner's daily intimacy being independently linked to the other partner's passion and sexual satisfaction. These results represent the first empirical support for this model of intimacy and passionate experience.

#### **OD.04 "You turn me on": An attachment perspective on perceived partner responsiveness and sexual desires**

Gurit Birnbaum<sup>1</sup>, Harry Reis<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Rochester, NY, USA*

The belief that a relationship partner understands, values, and supports important aspects of the self (i.e., perceived partner responsiveness; PPR) is inherent to the development of intimate and satisfying relationships. Because sex is a prominent context in which people seek a sense of felt understanding, validation, and caring, it is reasonable to expect that intimacy-related processes may underlie changes in the desire to have sex with one's partner. However, previous research has yielded conflicting results about how, for whom, and when intimacy contributes to sexual desire. These inconsistencies are difficult to resolve due to methodological limitations

and the lack of a coherent theoretical framework capable of explaining the functional significance of sex in close relationships. The present research adopted an attachment-theoretical perspective to examine the contribution of PPR to sexual desires. In Study 1, 1617 participants completed self-report scales of attachment orientations, PPR, and sexual desires and fantasies. In Study 2, 150 participants imagined scenes in which their partner was responsive or unresponsive and then rated their sexual desire. Results indicated that PPR was associated with more frequent sexual fantasizing about one's partner and heightened interest in sex with him or her. Not all people reacted to positive responsivity in the same way, however. Avoidantly attached individuals were less likely than their less avoidant counterparts to desire their partner, possibly reflecting intimacy concerns. These findings suggest that perceiving one's partner as responsive may facilitate sexual desire, primarily among those people who engage in sex for attachment-related reasons (e.g., proximity seeking).

#### **OD.04 Sexual and marital satisfaction in newlywed couples**

Erick Janssen<sup>1</sup>, Eshkol Rafaeli<sup>2</sup>, Uzma Rehman<sup>3</sup>, Amy Holtzworth-Munroe<sup>1</sup>, Julia Heiman<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada*

Although a number of studies have revealed a connection between sexual and marital satisfaction, little is known about how and for whom sexuality contributes to marital problems or, conversely, how and for whom it may contribute to a long, happy marriage. We explored, in two studies, the impact of various individual- and dyadic-level variables on sexual and marital satisfaction. The studies were guided by a theoretical model that focuses on, among others, sexual and nonsexual affect, communication, and perceived partner responsiveness (PPR). Study 1 involves a sample of 35 first-time newlywed couples who completed daily diaries for 30 days. A series of hierarchical linear models examined predictors of sexual desire, sexual activity, and sexual and marital satisfaction. The findings showed intriguing but complex effects of affect, communication quality, and PPR on sexual desire and activity. The occurrence of sex was positively associated with sexual satisfaction. In addition, sexual satisfaction predicted both PPR and marital satisfaction. Interestingly, the effects of sexual satisfaction on PPR, and of PPR on marital satisfaction, were strongest for wives. Study 2 examined the association between affective behaviors during sexual and nonsexual conflict discussions and marital satisfaction using a sample of 15 newlywed couples. Affective behaviors during nonsexual conflict discussions did not predict marital satisfaction. In contrast, negative behaviors during sexual conflict discussions were significantly related to lower levels of marital satisfaction in wives. Albeit preliminary in nature, the findings underscore the relevance of examining the impact of specific areas of conflict in marital communication research.

#### **OD.04 When it doesn't happen naturally: Infertility and couples' perceptions of their sexuality and their relationship**

Danielle Jackson, Scott Christopher, Jay S. Nemiro  
*Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA*

Over two million married couples in the U.S. have experienced fertility problems. Yet a limited number of social scientists have investigated relational issues associated with infertility. We addressed this lacuna by examining how couples' sexuality and relationships were affected by a diagnosis and treatment of infertility. Specifically,

we qualitatively analyzed semi-structured interviews from 10 couples who were currently or had recently undergone fertility treatment. Couples uniformly reported that treatment significantly affected their sexuality. Participants related that their sex lives had become regimented due to treatment; some described sex as a "chore" or "work". When asked about their own sexuality, responses were gendered and dependent on who was seen as at "fault" or "responsible" for the infertility. When diagnosis and treatment focused on the female partner, the women offered that they felt less like a "real" or a "true" woman. Some questioned their own purpose in life in light of not being able to conceive children in a "normal" manner. When diagnosis and treatment focused on the male partner, the men felt guilty and questioned their manhood. Relationally, couples with self-perceived strong relationships prior to treatment believed that treatment ultimately strengthened their relationship and told of sharing feelings and going through treatment as a couple. However, other couples identified treatment as a source of arguments, and the reason behind a decrease in sexual intimacy. In these instances, women underwent treatment by themselves. These findings can be used to help support couples undergoing treatment for fertility problems.

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| <b>OD.05 The Influences of Hazing, Bullying, Conflict, and Hate</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L103 |
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#### **OD.05 Hate Crimes in France**

Bernard-Israel Feldman, Gerard Lopez, Jean-Pierre Benais

*Faculty of Medicine Paris V, Paris, France*

Ilan Halimi was a young French Jew who dies when he was 23 years old, tortured from 21st of January 2006 till February 13th 2006 by a gang of young Muslim immigrants in the region of Paris. He was found dying covered with burns and cuts. France is nowadays one of the western countries where there are the most numerous number of hate crimes. Most of the attacks come from Muslim immigrants and their children against the Jews (in relation with the Middle East conflict). And this is a dilemma for France since according to the French Republican Tradition there is no "Communautarisme" in this country since the French Revolution of 1789 (possibility for Ethnic and/or religious communities to live apart of the rest of the population). However recently the French Government is trying to deal with this kind of hate crimes because of the importance of the phenomena. We will show through this conference how France is trying to adapt herself to this problem in order to stop the immigration of her Jews to Israel or North America.

#### **OD.05 Intimate interracial relationships and IPV: An examination of attributions and judgments of blame**

Kellina Craig-Henderson

*National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA, USA*

Within the Intimate Partner Violence literature, it is well established that race-based differences exist in judgments of blame, arrest and sentencing of criminal offenders (e.g., Ellison, Trinitapoli, Anderson & Johnson, 2007; Lipsky & Caetano, 2002). However, little research has considered the way that such differences may manifest themselves in the context of interracial IPV. Moreover, there is no existing published research that has examined how reactions differ when the racial status of the female victim in an interracial relationship is systematically varied. The proposed study

extends and integrates previous research conducted by the researcher which has examined reactions to intimate interracial relationships, and investigates the interactive effects of self-defense, and gender role stereotypes among other things. This study examined reactions to IPV among heterosexual couples in interracial relationships. In an exploratory experimental design, empathy, judgments of blame, and punitive recommendations in response to a description of an IPV incident were assessed. The design employed included a one-way, between subjects, ANOVA procedure. Participants were randomly assigned to one of 4 conditions. Each participant (n = 60) read a brief scenario describing an intimate partner violence incident and responded to questionnaire items. The description of the incident provided to each of the participants systematically varied whether the heterosexual couple were members of the same racial status, and if not, whether the female victim was Black or White. The analysis of responses are currently underway. Initial analyses included an ANOVA procedure with couple's racial status as the between subjects variable.

**OD.05 When women see the forest and men the trees: Vengefulness in close relationships depends on gender and construal level**

Esther Kluwer<sup>1</sup>, Carsten De Dreu<sup>2</sup>, Inmaculada Valor-Segura<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Granada, Granada, Spain*

This research addresses what drives men and women to engage in vengeful acts after a partner's transgression. We integrate insights from evolutionary psychology and recent developments in Construal Level Theory (Trope & Liberman, 2003) to argue that males and females construe their relationship and their partner's transgressions at different levels of abstraction. In three experiments we tested the general hypothesis that males are relatively more vengeful when and because they construe their relationship and their partner's transgressions at concrete, specific and low level; females, in contrast, are relatively more vengeful when and because they construe their relationship and their partner's transgressions at global, abstract, and high level. Study 1 examined how women and men construe their relationship after thinking about a hypothetical transgression. As expected, women described their relationship more in global terms and less in local terms than men. Study 2 focused on self-reported feelings of revenge following a hypothetical transgression by one's intimate partner. Women reported more feelings of revenge than men when the transgression was described in global terms, whereas a description in local terms caused men to report more feeling of revenge than women. In Study 3, we simulated a transgression among couples using the Cyberball paradigm, manipulated participants' mindset, and included a behavioral measure of revenge, using the hot sauce paradigm. The data supported our prediction that women become more vengeful following their partner's transgression when they are in a global mindset, while men become more vengeful when they are in local mindset.

**OD.05 “But I didn’t mean it”: The role of intention in defining hate**

John Rempel, Steven Hertz, Christopher Burris

*St. Jerome's University, Waterloo, ON, Canada*

Hate is an important, yet understudied, interpersonal construct that Rempel and Burris (2005) have defined as a motive with the goal of diminishing or destroying the wellbeing of the hated target. However, many people having lashed out in anger and harmed another would be reluctant to label this “hate” unless “they meant it”.

Building on Strack and Deutsch's (2004) distinction between impulsive and reflective determinants of behavior, we hypothesized that an action will more likely be perceived as motivated by hate when the desire to harm is conscious and deliberate. We tested this hypothesis using two vignettes in which Todd, a student attending a university where staff members are on strike, physically intimidates and threatens a staff member who he heard publicly derogating students in his speech to picketing workers. Todd's actions are portrayed as impulsive in one condition and planned and deliberate in another. Participants were asked to rate Todd's hatred, his desire to see David suffer, his negative emotions (anger, contempt, loathing, disgust), and the deliberateness of his actions. Todd's actions were seen to be more deliberate in the "planned" than in the "impulsive" condition but there were no significant mean differences in hate judgments. However, in both conditions hate ratings were significantly positively correlated with judgments that Todd acted intentionally. Thus, it appears that Todd's hatred was judged to be greater when his motives (i.e. desire to see David's wellbeing diminished) were perceived as deliberate, even when his actions were seen as impulsive.

### **OD.05 The Psychology of Hazing**

Susan Lipkins

*Real Psychology, Port Washington, NY, USA*

Introduction: Hazing is a process, based on a tradition that is used by groups for discipline and to maintain their hierarchy. Hazing occurs in schools, colleges, the workplace and the military. Hazing is a worldwide phenomenon that is not a function of race, socioeconomic class or educational level. In the past ten years, hazing has become more violent, more humiliating, and more sexual. Methods: Six hundred (600) surveys and in-depth clinical interviews were conducted in order to explore the many aspects of hazing. Victims, bystanders and perpetrators of hazing as well as their parents participated. Results: The Blueprint of Hazing was created to explain how hazing is learned and how it is passed on. The Perfect Storm Theory explains the psychological underpinnings of how initiation rituals morph into hazardous hazing. Conclusions: Hazing is becoming more violent and more sexual each year. Methods to prevent and/or intervene in hazing are necessary and are provided.

### **OD.05 Vulture culture: Insight into bullying and cyberbullying**

Susan Lipkins

*Real Psychology, Port Washington, NY, USA*

Introduction: Bullying, sexualized bullying and cyberbullying are common experiences for students of all ages, regardless of sex, socioeconomic status or educational level. Bullying is increasing in frequency and severity. Bullying often interferes with school attendance and performance and sometimes ends in death; Many factors support bully behavior including our current "vulture culture" which emphasizes a winner/loser mentality that encourages dominance and aggression. There are genetic and environmental factors that lead to the development of bullies and victims. Often these roles are established in preschool and elementary school, and may condition a child to continue such behavior throughout life. Sometimes victims become bullies and in extreme cases, seek revenge through school shootings, as was the case at Virginia Tech in 2007. Method: Clinical interviews and review of the literature were used to study the psychological and sociological factors that support bully, victim and bystander behavior. Meta-analysis of current programs has found that anti-bullying education is not successful and that zero-tolerance programs are

detrimental. Results: Prevention of and intervention during bullying necessitates specific strategies to be implemented by authorities, parents, teachers and students. Conclusions: Bullying, sexualized bullying and cyberbullying are increasingly common and dangerous. Prevention necessitates a change in the culture, and systemized changes that empower the bystander. The code of silence could be changed by the development of positive attitudes toward reporting incidents. Multiple methods of reporting must be available and reporting should be rewarded.

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| <b>OD.06 An Intercultural Approach to Parent-Child Relationships</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room L104 |
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**OD.06 "My mother is my best friend": The ultra-close mother-adult daughter relationships**

Einat Keren, Ofra Mayseless

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Most of the literature exploring the mother-adult daughter relationship focused on a period or situation in which one of them needs the other's support (Fingerman, 2001). Additionally, most of the literature tended to explore only one perspective (i.e., mother's or daughter's; Seiffge-Krenke, 1999). The present study examined the mother-adult daughter relationships when both parties are healthy and independent, by exploring the subjective experiences, perceptions and meanings that both generations revealed in their relationship stories as they unfold from childhood to the present. Fifteen dyads of healthy mothers over the age of 50 years, and their adult daughters (over the age of 30, married with at least one child) were interviewed individually using in-depth semi-structured interviews. Based on narrative analysis techniques and combined phenomenological and interpretative approaches (Josselson, 2004), four groups of dyads of mothers-adult daughters were identified: angry, ambivalent, positive change and ultra-close. In this presentation we will address the narratives constructed by the adult daughters in the "ultra-close" group which reflected an extreme end of positive and ultra -close relationship. For this group four major themes were identified: from mother-daughter close relationships to mutual friendship; mother as a subject rather than an object; exclusive preference of the mother, and blurred boundaries in the mother-adult daughter relationship. Since most of the empirical and conceptual literature exploring mother-daughter relationships across the life span, stress the problematic and negative aspects in the relationships (Shrier, Topsett & Shrier, 2004), these findings can fill a gap in the understanding of continuously positive mother-daughter relationships.

**OD.06 Testing an integrated model of the association between parental conflict and child adjustment in divorcing families**

Sofie Maes, Jan De Mol, Ann Buysse

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

Divorce of their parents is considered as causing crisis in children's lives. However, research showed that not the divorce per se, but rather the amount of enduring high parental conflict before, during and after the divorce explains children's adjustment problems (Bernardini & Jenkins, 2002). The association between parental conflict and child adjustment is well established in research, but the exact process of how conflict leads to child problems is less well understood. The two most important theoretical frameworks with a focus on the process mechanisms are the cognitive-

contextual framework of Grych and Fincham (1990) and the emotional security hypothesis of Davies and Cummings (1994). The difference between the two models is that the first focuses on cognitive processing while the latter puts emphasis on emotionality and the significance of feeling emotionally secure. Mann and Gillion (2002) tested an integration of both frameworks in a student population with non-divorced parents. They found that appraisals do not seem to have a direct causal effect on emotional security, it seems that both processes are independent from each other. So far, no research exists where the integrated model was tested in a population of children with divorcing parents. Are the two processes in this situation also independent from each other? It is possible that the effects are different because the divorce is a fact. In this study 174 children between 11 and 17 years old whose parents are in divorce completed several questionnaires to test the integrated model. Results will be discussed.

#### **OD.06 Role reversal and its relation to interpersonal and personal adjustment among young immigrants in Israel**

Olga Oznobishin

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

This study focuses on relationship patterns associated with role reversal and adjustment outcomes in the context of immigration from the former Soviet Union to Israel. Role reversal in parent-child relationship, when the child adopts parental roles while the parents behave helplessly, is a common phenomenon among immigrant families. Nevertheless, the particular dynamics of family relationships in immigration and their adjustment implications are far from being understood. To fill this gap, over a hundred young adults in ages 19-30 who immigrated with their parents as children and adolescents, retrospectively reported of various responsibilities they assumed after immigration and described their current relationships with parents and adjustment. Role reversal dimensions had differential relations with the various aspects of relationships with parents. Perceived fairness of the distribution of familial responsibilities appeared to be the most important factor in the role reversal situation. Low fairness was negatively related to perceived intimacy with both parents and to conflictual independence (i.e., freedom from excessive anger, guilt and mistrust of the parent). It was also positively associated with emotional cutoff (i.e., exaggerated façade of independence). Providing instrumental caregiving was also positively related to emotional cutoff and negatively to conflictual independence, whereas emotional caregiving was negatively related to conflictual independence and positively to emotional fusion (i.e., overindification with the family). In the personal domain, familial obligations were associated with higher feelings of self-efficacy. These results are consistent with the general role reversal literature which views this phenomenon as a source of both negative developmental outcomes and competence.

**OD.06 Mothers' trait emotional intelligence predicts observed attachment behavioral problems in face-to-face interaction with 4-month old infants**

Bjarne Holmes<sup>1</sup>, Karlen Lyons-Ruth<sup>2</sup>, Melanie Gunning<sup>3</sup>, Kristen Kelly<sup>4</sup>, Con Stough<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom*, <sup>2</sup>*Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom*, <sup>4</sup>*Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA*,

<sup>5</sup>*Swinburne University, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia*

Cost-effective assessments are needed that have the potential to identify those at risk for parent/infant attachment problems. Hence, a priority within clinical work is to develop and validate assessments that can be used to predict future relational problems between a mother and infant. We predicted that mothers' trait emotional intelligence would be lower in mothers displaying problematic attachment-related behaviors toward their four-month old infants during a video-taped play session. Method: Sixty-four mother/infants were video-recorded interacting in the home. The behavior was coded with the scaled four-month version (Kelly, 2004) of the Atypical Maternal Behavior Instrument for Assessment and Classification (AMBIANCE) (Lyons-Ruth et al., 1999). Coders were blind to other data. Twenty percent of interactions were double-coded: interrater reliability was .93 (ICC, McGraw & Wong, 1996). Trait EI was assessed with the Swinburn University Emotional Intelligence Scales (SUIET) (Palmer & Stough, 2001). Alpha for EI scales was .81-.83. Results: The hypothesis was upheld. Linear regression models demonstrated that lower scores on the Trait-EI subscales were significantly related to problematic maternal behavior on the AMBIANCE. In addition, logistic regression models successfully predicted classification as disrupted in attachment communication from mothers' emotional intelligence. Conclusion: Twenty-five percent of the variance explaining mothers' disrupted attachment-communication with their four month old infants could be explained by a model combining family demographic risk (4%) and emotional intelligence (21%). Results are discussed within the frameworks of emotional intelligence, atypical maternal behavior, and attachment. The work could aid health workers and clinicians in determining the need for early interventions.

**OD.06 The role of parent-child relationships in the filial behaviors of Chinese Malaysian adolescents**

Charissa Cheah, Sevgi Bayram Ozdemir, Christy Leung

*University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, USA*

Filial piety, a traditional Confucian ethic emphasizing child respect, obedience, and mutual sacrifice between parent and child, significantly impacts Chinese family dynamics and child outcomes (Bedford & Yeh, 2004; Ho, 1996). Significant changes in the parent-child relationship during adolescence underlie the importance of understanding the mechanisms of filial piety. We examined the: (1) predictors of reported filial behaviors (age, gender, awareness of indebtedness and positive filial emotions towards father and mother) among Chinese adolescents, and (2) mediating role of the adolescents' relationship with their mothers and fathers. Chinese adolescents aged 9-18 years (N=122; M=13.14, SD=2.22; 49.2% girls) in Malaysia reported on their: (1) demographics, (2) indebtedness towards mother and father (Greenberg, 1980), (3) positive filial emotions towards mother and father (Silverstein et al., 2002), (4) relationship quality with mother and father (Armsden & Greenberg, 1987), and (5) filial behaviors (FB; e.g., bringing honor to parents, obeying and respecting parents; Yang, 1989). Indebtedness, filial emotions, and relationship quality with each parent were positively, and age was negatively associated with filial

behaviors. There were no gender differences in filial behaviors. SEM (MPlus) revealed that adolescent-mother relationship significantly mediated the effect of age,  $z=-2.92$ ,  $p<.05$ ,  $\beta=-.12$ , indebtedness,  $z=2.26$ ,  $p<.05$ ,  $\beta=.07$ , and filial emotions,  $z=3.37$ ,  $p<.05$ ,  $\beta=.16$ , towards mothers on FB. There was no significant effect of adolescent-father relationship on FB. The role of the mother- versus father- child relationship in the internalization of culturally-endorsed values of indebtedness and emotions of gratitude, and consequently children's filial behavior will be discussed. Implications of these findings for adolescent development across cultures will be highlighted.

#### **OD.07 Early Stage, Intense Love, and Mating Preferences**

Sunday, July 25  
8:30am-10:00am  
Room A110

#### **OD.07 Mating preferences: The moderating role of the sexual behavioral system** Ohad Szepeswol<sup>1</sup>, Mario Mikulincer<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

Finding the right romantic partner is an issue that concerns most individuals. Evolutionary theories were successful in predicting normative trends among men and women but are unable to account for individual differences in mating preferences. The behavioral systems approach (Shaver & Mikulincer, 2006) maintains that these differences can be explained by variations in the functioning of an innate motivational system, which after its activation by sexual stimuli drives the person to achieve the system's goal of sexual intercourse. Over time, failure to achieve this goal can result in the development of one of two secondary strategies: hyperactivation and deactivation. Hyperactivation involves an increase of sexual attempts, accompanied by heightened alertness and anxiety. Deactivation involves suppression of sexual behavior and thoughts. The current research examined the moderating role of sexual hyperactivation and deactivation in mating preferences. Specifically, we hypothesized that hyperactivation would be associated with evolutionary adaptive preferences, whereas deactivation would be associated with non-adaptive preferences. In two studies, 257 participants were presented with pictures or movies of potential romantic partners in two mating conditions (long-term, short-term), and rated their interest in them. Whereas men high in sexual hyperactivation revealed decreased standards for short-term romantic partners, thereby promoting sexual variety, men high in sexual deactivation showed decreased standards for long-term partners. Whereas women high in sexual hyperactivation revealed increased standards for long-term partners, thereby promoting selectiveness, women high in sexual deactivation showed decreased interest in long-term partners. Findings indicate that the sexual system plays an important role in mating preferences.

#### **OD.07 Parents, children, and conflicts over mate choice**

Shelli L. Dubbs, Abraham P. Buunk

*University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands*

A feature that sets *Homo sapiens* apart from all known extant species is that kin (especially parents) play a large role in determining the mate choice of individuals. Drawing on the logic of parent-offspring conflict and evolutionary trade-offs, we hypothesized that parents' mate preferences (for their children's mates) will differ from the mate preferences of their children. Specifically, we predict that parents prefer children's mates to have characteristics that suggest high parental investment

and cooperation with the ingroup (e.g., same ethnic background), whereas children will prefer mate characteristics which indicate high genetic quality (e.g., attractiveness). Previous studies have supported these hypotheses using culturally diverse samples of children of mating age. The present research uses a sample of 474 Dutch parents, mothers (n= 234) and fathers (n=240), with children of mating age. Overall, the hypotheses that children may especially prefer mates with traits connoting genetic quality whereas parents may especially prefer a child's mate to have traits connoting parental investment and cooperation with the ingroup was supported. In addition, sex differences were investigated and revealing that there is a higher degree of parent-offspring conflict for daughters than for sons. Parents perceived the traits being poor, having a different ethnicity, having different religious beliefs, and being divorced in a child's potential partner as being more unacceptable when they had a daughter rather than a son. Lastly, a comparison between parents with a single child to parents with multiple children did not reveal a difference in the degree of conflict.

#### **OD.07 Brain activations during early-stage intense love predict relationship outcomes 40 months later**

Xiaomeng Xu<sup>1</sup>, Lucy Brown<sup>2</sup>, Arthur Aron<sup>1</sup>, Guikang Cao<sup>3</sup>, Tingyong Feng<sup>3</sup>, Xuchu Weng<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*Southwest University, Chongqing, China*, <sup>4</sup>*Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China*

Early-stage romantic love has been studied previously in the U.S., U.K., and China (Aron et al. 2005; Bartels & Zeki, 2000; Ortigue et al., 2007; Xu et al., in press), revealing activation in the reward and motivation systems of the brain. But what happens as the relationship progresses? Do activations during the early-stage of a romantic relationship predict whether the relationship continues, and if so, how satisfied and committed the partner is at a later time? Forty months after their initial scanning, we were able to follow up with 12 of 18 early-stage romantic love participants in the Xu et al. study (carried out in China). Of the 12, half were still together, and reported on their current relationship satisfaction and commitment. Activations in the right caudate tail, a large region of the right middle frontal gyrus, and right midline cerebellum, were different in those who were together, compared to those who were apart. For the six still together, in spite of the small sample, activations in the left caudate tail, fundus between the middle/superior frontal gyrus and right midline cerebellum significantly predicted scores for relationship happiness at 40 months; activations in the middle frontal gyrus, bilateral caudate tail, cerebellum, middle/superior frontal gyrus, dorsal caudate and anterior medial caudate body, predicted relationship commitment levels at 40 months follow-up. The data suggest that activation of specific cortical and sub-cortical neural systems early in a relationship when thinking about the beloved partner might predict relationship longevity, happiness, and commitment.

#### **OD.07 Perceived similarity predicts relationship satisfaction across 16 countries**

Erina Lee, Gian C. Gonzaga

*eHarmony Labs, Pasadena, CA, USA*

Previous studies have shown that perceived similarity (i.e., congruence of self-perception and perception of another) rather than actual similarity is important in predicting marital well-being (Acitelli, Douvan, & Veroff, 1993). In general,

perceived similarity is measured by asking participants to rate themselves and their partners on traits and behaviors using a defined list of closed-ended questions. Furthermore, these studies often focus on participants in the US. The present study advances on previous research by providing a stronger test of perceived similarity using open-ended questions so that participants are not limited in their response choices. We also assess participants across multiple countries. Married and cohabiting participants (N=2267) from 16 countries took part in this online survey. Countries included: Spain, Argentina, Mexico, Germany, Turkey, France, Italy, Poland, China, Japan, South Korea, India, Russia, Brazil, USA, and UK. Participants completed open-ended questions assessing personality and values, for example, “List up to 5 personality traits that describe you” and “List up to 5 personality traits that describe your partner.” Participants also responded to closed-ended questions measuring relationships satisfaction (4-item CSI). Open-ended responses were translated then coded for perceived similarity; i.e., the number of personality traits used to describe both the participant and his/her partner. Results showed that perceived similarity in personality and values was effective in predicting relationship satisfaction across 16 countries. These findings show that seeing ones partner as similar to oneself is important in predicting relationship satisfaction in different cultures around the world. Differences by country were also explored.

#### **OD.07 Romantic relationship experiences and culture among Mexican-origin adolescent girls**

Graciela Espinosa-Hernandez, Sara Vasilenko, Mayra Bamaca-Colbert, Courtney Waters, Charlotte Mirzoeff

*Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA*

Latina girls may consider romantic relationships and early family transitions more important than other girls (East, 1998; La Greca & Harrison, 2005), especially those more oriented to the Latino culture. Thus, to further understand how culture shapes Latina romantic relationship experiences, we examined whether individual- and peer-cultural variables predicted Latina girls' report on romantic relationship experiences such as dating, intense break-ups, and planning to get married. Participants were 153 Mexican-origin girls ranging from 14 to 19 years of age ( $M = 16.3$ ,  $SD = 1.57$ ). Most of them were in school (89%). The majority (70%) reported being born in the U.S. Girls completed a survey at home that included measures of Perception of peers' Mexican orientation, Familism, English Use Acculturation, Spanish Use Enculturation, and Romantic relationship experiences. We performed hierarchical logistic regressions to test whether peer and individual cultural variables predicted romantic relationship experiences. Findings indicated that girls who are more family oriented are less likely to have dated several people or had an exclusive relationship than less family oriented girls. Moreover, more enculturated girls are more likely to have had an exclusive relationship, to have experienced an intense breakup, and to have planned to get married than less enculturated girls. Girls with more Mexican peers were also more likely to experience a break up. Thus, in general findings suggest that girls who are more exposed to Mexican culture may have more traditional views of romantic relationships and, therefore, may have more committed relationship experience.

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| <b>OD.08 Examination of Attachment in Dependent Individuals</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>8:30am-10:00am<br>Room A111 |
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### **OD.08 Changes in the family system due to conduct disorders of adolescents**

Wojciech Blazek<sup>1</sup>, Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska<sup>2</sup>, <sup>1</sup>*Family Diagnostic and Consulting Centre, Sopot, Poland*, <sup>2</sup>*Institute of Psychology, University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland*

Fifty adolescents aged between 13-16 (30 male and 20 female) and their parents participated in the research. All of them (adolescents) completed the questionnaires and were interviewed during the psychological assessment. Parents completed a widely used in Poland Parental Attitude Questionnaire by M. Ziemska (1977) and was interviewed in accordance to conduct problems of their children. Parents were asked to describe the changes in the family system due to psychological disturbances. Participants (adolescents) fulfilled the following measures: Intelligence Scale by Wechsler WISC-R, Buss and Durkee Hostility Scale, Personality Inventory by H.J. Eysenck EPQ-R, Rotter Incomplete Sentences Blank. The results show that primary causes of malfunctioning of adolescents are among others: immaturity in fulfilling parental roles by the mother and father, alcohol abuse, sexual abuse and other pathological features of functioning (aggression). The results also indicate disturbances in mother- father and parents- children subsystems as well as deterioration in the family as a result of conduct disorders of adolescents. The aim of the presentation is to describe the dynamic of changes in analyzed families as well as to propose therapeutical interventions in order to help participants to function effectively in the society and to improve family relations.

### **OD.08 The role of parenting styles and attachment security to parents on adolescent self-control**

Emine Tuna Özgüle, Nebi Sümer

*Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey*

This study aims to examine the relationship between parenting styles, attachment security to parents, and adolescent self-control in a Turkish sample. Adolescents (N = 422) from two high schools participated in the study. They reported their perception of emotionally warm and rejecting parenting behaviors of both their mothers and fathers using My Memories of Upbringing (EMBU) scale and their attachment security to both parents via the Kerns Security scale. They also rated their successful and unsuccessful goal-oriented behavior on the Adolescent Self-Control Inventory. Results revealed that both maternal and paternal attachment security of the adolescent had effects on successful self-control, but only maternal attachment has an effect on failure of self-control. Results also showed that perceived parental warmth had a significant and positive effect on successful self-control, but its effects were insignificant on self-control failure. Similarly, both maternal and paternal rejecting parenting had negative effects on successful self-control and positive effects on self-control failure. Mediation analyses were conducted to better understand the role of parental attachment in the relationship between parenting styles and adolescent self-control. The results suggested that parenting warmth provided by both parents seemed to increase the success of adolescent self-control through secure attachment. No mediation effect was found for the self-control failure. Findings were discussed considering the previous studies and the effect of cultural context.

### **OD.08 The impact of parental control on adolescents' self-regulation and adjustment among Turkish adolescents**

Mehmet Harna, Nebi Sumer

*Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey*

Previous work has shown that higher levels of self-regulation are associated with greater social competence and lower levels problem behaviors. Past studies have also posited that parenting is linked to self-regulation and adjustment in childhood and adolescence. It was hypothesized that parental psychological and behavioral control would be indirectly associated with adolescent outcomes via self-regulation. Sixth and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Turkish students ( N = 300) were recruited and they completed self-report measures of parental control behaviors, self-regulation abilities, and academic self-concept. Mothers also completed measures of parental control, adolescents' self-regulation abilities, and adjustment. The mediational hypothesis was largely supported. Structural Equation Modeling results revealed that perceived parental psychological control predicted low levels of self-regulation, and in turn, this predicted adolescent adjustment. Parental behavioral control predicted self-regulation abilities in adolescent-reported model only. Conceptual and cultural implications of the findings were discussed considering previous research.

### **OD.08 Family relations, parental monitoring, and adolescent substance misuse**

William Crano, Jason Siegel, Eusebio Alvaro

*Claremont Grad. Univ., Claremont, California, USA*

Increasingly, research on adolescents focuses on family relationships in predicting and preventing deviant behavior. One of the most dangerous deviant behaviors is drug misuse. Recent meta-analytic research has confirmed the role of parental monitoring in attenuating adolescent drug use; however, how monitoring affects behavior remains uncertain. To address this issue, data from the National Survey of Parents and Youth, a nationally representative longitudinal sample of US adolescents, were used to examine how gender and family structure (father-only, mother-only, dual-parent) influenced adolescents' beliefs, peer relations, and behaviors. Analysis revealed numerous significant differences on risk variables associated with family relations on adolescent drug-related perceptions and illicit substance use. Dual-parent youth were monitored more closely than single-parent youth. Youth from dual-parent households were less likely to use illicit substances. However, youths' perceptions of family warmth did not differ as a function of family structure. A path analytic model, estimated to illuminate and test linkages among theoretically implicated variables, revealed that family income, child's gender, and family structure all affected parental monitoring, but not parental warmth. Monitoring and warmth, in turn, predicted adolescents' social and interpersonal perceptions of drug use, and both of these variables anticipated adolescents' actual drug use one year later. Results reconfirm the importance of parental monitoring and warmth, and demonstrate the link between these variables, adolescents' social and intrapersonal beliefs and relationships, and their use of illicit substances.

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| <b>OE.01 Multicultural Experiences in Close Relationships</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L201 |
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### **OE.01 The cultural grounding of first-date scripts**

Tara Marshall, Laura Hellen

*Brunel University, London, United Kingdom*

Several studies have examined dating and relationship scripts in Western cultures, but few have extended their investigations beyond this cultural context. The present study addressed this research gap by examining the first-date scripts of White British university students, for whom casual dating behaviour may be considered a normative stage of relationship development, and of South Asian British students, for whom dating behaviour is less normative. Participants from both groups were asked to identify the sequential actions that take typically place on a first date in their culture, and to indicate whether these actions tend to be performed by men, women, or both. Results revealed that the scripts generated by White British respondents largely endorsed traditional gender roles, with three times as many agentic behaviours assigned to men than to women. The scripts generated by South Asian British respondents reflected a similar ratio, but they described significantly fewer behaviours overall. Moreover, the content of the scripts was qualitatively different, reflecting a concern with assessing the dating potential of a partner in the White British scripts, and the marriage potential of a partner in the South Asian British scripts. Moreover, South Asian British scripts did not appear to be influenced by acculturation: those who identified more strongly with mainstream British culture did not generate more Western-style dating scripts. Overall, these results suggest that arranged marriage scripts continue to have greater resonance for many South Asian British young adults than do dating scripts.

### **OE.01 The content of on-line and in-vivo exchanges between friends in Italy and Canada**

Barry H. Schneider<sup>1</sup>, Irene Vitoroulis<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada.* <sup>2</sup>*Brunel University, London, United Kingdom*

In recent years, electronic communication has become available to almost all young people in many societies, with implications that have been debated widely. We used a daily-log method to compare the content of the on-line and in-vivo conversations of early adolescents in Canada and Italy. A total of 123 volunteer participants in the two countries completed on-line logs of their contacts with friends on random days over a period of 1-3 months. In both countries, a disproportion of girls volunteered. Most participants contacted friends on-line but only a small minority had friends whom they met exclusively on line. There was remarkable intra-individual similarity in the self-reported content of on-line and in-vivo exchanges. Modality of contact was greatly overshadowed by very significant sex and country differences. Canadians were more likely than Italians to share common interests with their friends or discuss events happening at school. Consistent with the general literature on sex differences in relationships, girls were far more likely than boys to express emotions on line. In addition to these general findings, we report specific profiles of conversation content for lonely, shy and socially anxious participants. These findings would be complemented very profitably by similar data from a society in which face-to-face

expression of emotion is discouraged for one or both sexes. Our findings suggest that electronic communication serves essentially the same relational functions as did the telephone and written letter a generation ago.

### **OE.01 Hurtful messages from parents: Experiences of Chinese young adults**

Shuangyue Zhang

*San Houston State University, Houston, USA*

Two hundred sixty college students from Eastern China participated in a survey on hurtful messages from their parents. Two thirds of them ( $n = 172$ ) could recall such a message. To these participants, hurtful feelings were real. They perceived more enhancement motivation (e.g., "My parent said that because he/she wanted to help me") and honesty motivation (e.g., "My parent said that because he/she wanted to be honest with me") than intent-to-hurt motivation. Participants also perceived more positive relational consequences of the message than negative relational consequences. On gender differences, female participants evaluated the message as more negative (i.e., more hurtful, less truthful, less enhancement motivation, and less honesty motivation) than did male participants. Messages from father had more negative relational consequences than messages from mother. There was no participant gender and parent gender interaction. After controlling relational satisfaction, perceived truthfulness of the message and perceived honesty motivation were negatively associated with perceived hurtfulness of the message; perceived enhancement motivation was positively associated with positive relational consequences, and negatively with negative relational consequences.

### **OE.01 The social relations of migrants: A longitudinal analysis of Polish migrants to the UK**

Robin Goodwin & Kinga Goodwin

*Brunel University, London UK*

The expansion of the European Union eastwards in 2004 led to a rapid and large scale migration of Eastern and Central European migrants to the West of the continent. Between 2004 and 2009 approximately 1.5 million members of these states came to live and work in the UK, of which more than a million were Poles. Yet we know little about the social relationships of these new migrants in Britain, and the implications of this for their successful adjustment in their new society. We conducted a three-wave longitudinal study of 400 new migrants from across the UK who entered the country during early 2007, with data collection repeated in 2008 and early 2009 (wave 2, 3 Ns of 239 and 214). Participants completed a detailed online questionnaire, while a subset of 30 respondents participated in indepth interviews, repeated one year apart. Results indicated that most Poles declared they only occasionally/ rarely made friends with British, with no change in relationship intimacy across the waves. Poles were unwilling to form close romantic relationships with Brits (with only 20% willing to consider marrying a Brit). Those high on Schwartz' conservation values at time1 were more willing to have close British relations at time3, as were those high on the self-transference values of benevolence and universalism. Emotional and practical support for our Poles came mainly from their family/ partners, while those 'back home' provided mainly emotional help. Findings are discussed in the light of broader resource theories during migration, as well as the continuing changing demographic of this migration to the UK.

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| <b>OE.02 Multiple perspectives on adolescent-parent relationships</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L203 |
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**OE.02 Processes of change in the relationships of adolescents with their parents, among clinical and community population.**

Dana Atzil-Slonim

*Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*

Aims: 1. identifying interpersonal patterns of adolescents with their parents in a clinical and a community sample. 2. Exploring changes in these patterns in the course of a year, and the relationship between these changes and symptomatic change. 3. Examining gender -specific relational patterns with each parent. Method: The sample consisted of 73 adolescents, ages 15 - 18. Thirty were in psychodynamic psychotherapy and 43 were not in treatment. Both groups underwent Relationship Anecdote Paradigms (RAP) interviews according to the Core Conflictual Relationship Theme method (CCRT, Luborsky & Crits-Christoph, 1998) and completed the Youth-Outcome Questionnaire (Y-OQ, Burlingame et al., 1996), and Target Complaints scale (TCS, Battle Imber et al., 1966). Interviews were conducted at the beginning of treatment (or school year) and repeated a year later. Results: 1. The degree of flexibility in the Wish and Response of Self components of the CCRT increased significantly within the clinical group during one year of treatment, whereas in the community group these components did not change. Additionally, differences in the relationship patterns with the parents between the groups and the time points were observed. 2. The clinical group improved significantly from time 1 to time2 in both outcome measures (YOQ and TCS). The changes were significantly higher than those detected in the community group. Interaction effects between the gender of the adolescent and the parent were detected in specific interpersonal conflicts. These differences and changes will be discussed and demonstrated with vignettes from the interviews.

**OE.02 The search for the lost father**

Ricky Pelach-Galil

*Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*

Despite the growing interest in fathers, men and boys in recent years, we still lack an integrative theoretical picture that elucidates the effect of the relationship with the father on his adolescent son's development. My research attempts to fill this gap by hearing the boy's voices on these matters. Fourteen In-depth interviews with 17-18 year old boys were conducted and analyzed, using qualitative research approaches, and in particular, the grounded theory methods. Trustworthiness procedures were carried out. The findings suggest that in early adolescence boys "rediscover" their fathers and assign new meaning to the relationship with them. In other words, the father "enters" the boy's inner world and becomes a subject with whom the adolescent son begins both an open and inner "negotiation" between his sense of self, self worth, and his perceptions of his father's attitudes towards him. In contrast with well-known theories that adolescents need to separate from both their parents, adolescent boys' developmental task with their fathers is actually one of becoming closer, of establishing a reattachment with their fathers. The boys' success or failure in reattachment with their fathers has serious repercussions upon their sense of self and their perspective regarding their future. These findings delineate a new psychoanalytic-developmental framework of how the relationship with the father during adolescence affects the son's maturation process.

## **OE.02 Partners and motherhood for bereaved and non-bereaved women: The interplay of attachment and the ongoing relationship to the partner**

Ofri Bar Nadav

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

Adjustment to the loss of one's spouse and life partner entails a dialectical interplay between an attempt to preserve the connection to the past and the demand to accommodate to the new reality of life without the deceased. Part of this task includes modification in the ongoing relationship to the deceased. Our research has shown a striking resemblance in the experiences following loss between widows and "widows without a ring" - women who had lost a partner, to whom they were never married. We also showed that both bereaved groups differ significantly in many aspects of their lives from their non-bereaved peers (Bar Nadav & Rubin, in preparation). In this presentation, we wish to discuss important aspects of attachment and the ongoing relationship to the deceased partner that differentiated women who were mothers at the time of loss from those who did not have children at that time, as compared to non-bereaved women. These differences showed, for example, that for bereaved mothers it took much more time to find a balance between "letting go" and "holding on" to the memory of their lost partner. Furthermore, the mothers were also found to have a different, more complex route in their efforts to form a new romantic relationship. The bereaved women significantly differed from non-bereaved women in attachment avoidance, while bereaved mothers, showed the highest amount of interpersonal avoidance. These findings and their significance for understanding the importance of the "internalized" husband in family relationships will be considered.

## **OE.02 Interpersonal relational patterns of adolescents and parents in divorced and intact families**

Orya Tishby

*Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*

The aim of present study was to compare the interpersonal patterns of adolescents and their parents from divorced and intact families. The sample consisted of 37 adolescents (ages 15 - 18), who entered treatment in an outpatient clinic, and were interviewed as part of a larger study. Twenty three adolescents were from intact families and 14 from divorced families. Both groups underwent Relationship Anecdote Paradigms (RAP) interviews (Luborsky & Crits-Christoph, 1998), in which they were asked to related three meaningful episodes with each parent. Interviews were coded and analyzed using the Core conflictual Relationship Theme method (CCRT, Luborsky & Crits-Christoph, 1998). Adolescents also completed the Youth-Outcome Questionnaire (Y-OQ, Burlingame et al., 1996). Results showed significant differences in the interpersonal relationship patterns that each group had with their mothers and with their fathers. For example: Adolescents from divorced families were rated higher on the wish towards mother "to achieve and to help others", and they perceived their mothers as more upset, compared to adolescents from intact families. Adolescents from divorced families were also rated higher on the wish to be distant from their fathers and to avoid conflict with him. The YOQ scores of adolescents from intact families were significantly higher than the YOQ scores of adolescents from divorced families, although both were in the clinical range. These and other results will be discussed as reflecting unique relational patterns of adolescents and their parents among clinical populations, and specifically among adolescents with divorced parents.

**OE.03 Relationship Dissolution and Break-Ups**

Sunday, July 25  
10:45am-12:15pm  
Room L204

**OE.03 Identifying types of on-again/off-again dating relationships based on partners' negotiation of their breakups and renewals**

Rene Dailey<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Richards<sup>2</sup>, Borae Jin<sup>1</sup>, Kelly Rossetto<sup>3</sup>, Erik Green<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*The University of Montana, Missoula, MT, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, USA*

Using a turning points approach, this study identified types of on-again/off-again (on-off) relationships based on how partners negotiated breakups and renewals across the course of their relationships. Participants' descriptions of their relational transitions were first qualitatively assessed and five on-off patterns emerged. Partners in the habitual pattern avoided discussing the transitions and fell back into previous relational patterns quickly. Partners in the transitions as change pattern used transitions to resolve problems or instigate change in the other partner. The incongruent pattern was driven by partners who had incompatible desires or circumstances. Gradual separators reported less interest in the relationship with each subsequent transition. The controlling or persistent partner pattern tended to have one partner controlling the progression of the relationship. These types were substantiated with quantitative data from researcher ratings of transition descriptions and participant questionnaires. Certain types demonstrated that relational status transitions strengthened the relationship; other types reflected lower quality functioning. For example, gradual separator and controlling partners reported more conflict ineffectiveness and communication aggression than transitions as change and incongruent partners. Further, whereas incongruent and transitions as change partners had more resolve about renewals, gradual separators had more resolve about breakups. Habitual and controlling partners also reported less, whereas transitions as change partners reported more, explicit communication during renewals. Overall, the types provide a heuristic framework for further understanding the progression and dynamics of on-off relationships. The current findings additionally extend knowledge of how partners negotiate relational transitions in on-off relationships as well as dating relationships more generally.

**OE.03 How emotions are related to behavior in divorce negotiations**

Anne Wietzker, Ann Buysse

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

Nowadays, divorce is a common phenomenon in the Western world. Divorcing couples have a lot to negotiate, from the living arrangements to the distribution of goods, money, and liabilities. The results of these negotiations influence the future lives of the former partners and their children. However, contrary to negotiations in organizations, divorce negotiations have so far rarely been investigated. We used a self constructed questionnaire on emotions in divorce and the Dutch Test of Conflict Handling (DUTCH, De Dreu et al., 2001) in order to examine in how far specific emotions are related to behavior in divorce negotiations. The DUTCH differentiates five typically observed negotiation styles (problem solving, compromising, yielding, avoiding, and forcing). Participants were 458 persons who were in the process of divorce. The results show, that different emotions (such as anger, love, regret, and guilt) are related to negotiation behavior in very different ways. For instance, guilt

was related to yielding behavior, anger was related to forcing behavior. The findings may have practical implications, for instance for divorce mediation and counseling.

### **OE.03 Cognitive, emotional, and behavioral changes following romantic relationship dissolution**

Daphna Ram

*Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA*

The loss of someone close through relationship breakup is a traumatic experience. However, little empirical work has looked at the negative effects of non-marital romantic relationship dissolution, and the recovery process. The present research addresses this issue by examining recovery from a romantic relationship breakup as a multi-faceted (cognitive, affective, behavioral) process that unfolds over time. Two groups- individuals who had recently experienced a breakup and those still in an intact relationship- completed an online daily diary assessing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral responses over the course of 28 days. Multilevel modeling was used to assess longitudinal changes in responses between the breakup and intact groups, and to measure the role of individual differences in adult attachment on the recovery process. Compared to the intact sample, the breakup sample initially experienced elevated levels of negative emotion and greater use of distraction activities as a means of coping with the loss, both of which subsequently declined over the 28 days. Within the breakup sample, recovery trajectories differed significantly depending on one's adult attachment pattern. Those with higher attachment anxiety experienced more negative emotion initially, which decreased over the 28 days. Higher attachment avoidance corresponded to lower contact with the former partner following the breakup. These findings delineate the different cognitive, emotional, and behavioral changes experienced by individuals as they respond to relationship breakup. This research also sheds light on the long hypothesized, but little studied, "reorganization" process (Bowlby, 1982) in which individuals no longer use the former partner to fulfill attachment needs.

### **OE.03 Sex differences in predictors of emotions following a romantic relationship breakup**

Adam Smith

*Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, USA*

Existing research on romantic relationship termination has primarily examined predictors of overall distress. While this research has increased our knowledge about predictors of negative emotional distress, predictors of individual emotions has been neglected. In addition, while a few sex differences in predictors of distress have been identified, sex differences in predictors of individual emotions have not been examined. Participants completed a survey about a recent breakup including information about aspects of the former relationship, characteristics of the breakup process, and specific emotions experienced at the time of breakup. Results indicated that there are sex differences in predictors of families of emotions following a breakup. Men experienced more anger emotions when there was higher satisfaction in the former relationship and a higher number of interactions was required to complete the breakup. A higher number of interactions was also a negative predictor of positive emotions for men. For women, a blaming tone during the breakup and being broken up with emerged as predictors of scared emotions and an open tone during the breakup was a negative predictor of anger emotions. Additionally, different factors emerged as predictors for anger and scared emotions (e.g., attributing the

responsibility for the cause of the breakup to the partner was a negative predictor) and for positive emotions (high peak quality of the relationship and being broken up with were negative predictors). This study expands our knowledge of how men and women experience a breakup differently and how different aspects of the breakup elicit different emotions.

### **OE.03 Perceived responsiveness, partner affirmation, and mutual cyclical growth**

Harry Reis<sup>1</sup>, Madoka Kumashiro<sup>2</sup>, Caryl E. Rusbult<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Goldsmith's, University of London, London, United Kingdom* <sup>3</sup>*Free University, Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherland*,

Lay individuals and scholars alike believe that having a supportive partner makes it easier to accomplish one's life goals. But how does such influence occur? In this talk, we will present a truly interpersonal model of goal regulation, focusing on interdependence and interaction. The research we will discuss focuses on promotion contexts: How partners help each other attain valued goals. This emphasis complements traditional studies of support, in which partners help each other overcome stresses and problems. Whereas both partners usually find positive outcomes of support interactions beneficial, one partner's goal attainment can be problematic for the other. For example, it may threaten the other's self-esteem, or upset existing power differentials or stable patterns of relationship maintenance. Our model proposes that, for interdependent partners, personal goal attainment is facilitated by responsive behavior: behavior that demonstrates understanding, validation, and caring. Two steps are included in this process: Partner A being responsive (enacted responsiveness) and Partner B recognition (perceived responsiveness). More broadly, the model considers the role of commitment in fostering enacted responsiveness and of trust as a consequence of perceived responsiveness. Thus we also provide a model of how commitment leads to trust, and vice versa. We will present results from three studies: a short-term longitudinal survey, a daily diary study, and a laboratory observation study. Each study examines mutual cyclical growth in a different time frame and from a different methodological perspective, thereby building confidence for the model. We will also present evidence about alternative models (e.g., projection, retrospective self-perception).

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| <b>OE.04 Connecting the Body and the Mind: Studies on Physical Health</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L102 |
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### **OE.04 Social constraint predicts cancer related-traumatic stress symptoms more for men than women partners: Couples coping with newly diagnosed colorectal cancer**

Stacey Hart<sup>1</sup>, Cassandra Crangle<sup>1</sup>, Madhulika Varma<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, Canada*, <sup>2</sup>*University of California, San Francisco CA, USA*

Social constraints (SC), the perception that one's expression of cancer-related thoughts and feelings is being inhibited by one's spouse, are related to significant distress in cancer patients. While research demonstrates that women experience significantly more distress than men (Hagedoorn et al., 2008), regardless of whether they are the cancer patient or caregiving partner, few studies have examined the

relationship of SC to distress across gender or in couples. We hypothesized distress for women (vs. men) would be more affected by SC. Heterosexual couples, where one partner was diagnosed with colorectal cancer (N=62) were recruited from major medical centers and completed self-report questionnaires prior to the patient's surgery. Multiple regression analyses examined cancer related traumatic stress (PTSD Checklist-Civilian Version; Weathers et al. 1991) as the outcome variable. Predictor variables were SC (Social Constraints Scale; Lepore, 1998), gender, and the interaction of gender X SC. All analyses controlled for relationship satisfaction (Dyadic Adjustment Scale; Spanier, 1976). Findings showed higher distress in partners was significantly predicted by greater SC ( $\beta=1.1$ ,  $p=.001$ ) and the SC X gender interaction ( $\beta=-1.0$ ,  $p=.03$ ; Total  $R^2_{adj}=.36$ ,  $p=.001$ ), such that men (vs. women) with high SC reported worse distress. Findings failed to demonstrate a significant relationship between the same predictor variables and distress among patients. While unexpected, data revealed that male partners were more negatively affected by SC than female partners. One potential explanation is that women caregivers have more avenues of outside support while men tend to over-rely on their wives, who simultaneously are coping with cancer.

**OE.04 Mother-child relationships in families with HIV-infected and healthy children: the effects of the mother's social beliefs, psychological distress, and relationship with her mate**

Eugene Tartakovsky, Liat Hamama  
*Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel*

This study pursued two goals: 1) to examine how relationships in families with an HIV-infected child differ from those in families with healthy children; 2) to investigate the role of the mothers' social beliefs, psychological distress, and relationship with her mate on the mother's relationships with her children. The study was conducted in a large city in Kazakhstan, where 139 preschool children were infected with HIV in State hospitals, probably by using untested blood for infusions and through unsterile instruments. Sixty three mothers of the infected children and 116 mothers of healthy children completed the research questionnaires. As compared with the mothers of healthy children, mothers of the infected children reported better relationships with their children. In addition, they reported stronger beliefs in the reward for application and spirituality. No significant differences were found between the two groups in measures of psychological distress, relationship with one's mate and social cynicism. In both groups, stronger beliefs in reward for application and better relationships with one's mate were associated with more positive relationships with their children. In addition, among mothers of healthy children, social cynicism and psychological distress were found to be negatively correlated with the mothers' relations with their children. The results obtained are discussed in light of the ABCX model of family functioning (McCubbin & Patterson, 1983). According to this model, mothers' relations with their children are a function of the family stressors and demands, family resources and strengths, and the mother's coping behavior.

#### **OE.04 Attachment dimensions and dyadic relations in breast cancer patients and their partners**

Aviva Ayzenberg<sup>1</sup>, Shulamith Kreitler<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kaplan Medical Center, Rehovot, Israel, <sup>2</sup>Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Under conditions of threat to life, injuries to femininity and sexuality, and relentless invasion into personal, dyadic and family routine, breast cancer reality seems to be an arena in which complex interactions between attachment, sexuality and intimacy play dynamic roles. 132 breast cancer patients and partners participated in the study, completing self report questionnaires that assessed attachment dimensions, coping, perceived support, distress, psychosocial adjustment, dyadic adjustment (sexual, intimacy and marital satisfaction) and post traumatic growth. Analysis of data included two main strategies: regressions equations for the prediction of research variables by attachment dimensions of patients and partners and clusters analysis (inspired by systems theory research) in which types of marital couples according to their attachment dimensions were identified and compared. Results in general support attachment theory hypotheses, establishing relationships of attachment dimensions to measures of adjustment and growth. An interesting difference was found between patients and partners samples: while in patients anxious attachment predicted dyadic adjustment, avoidant attachment in partners was a better predictor of dyadic adjustment. In cluster analysis, The effect of avoidant attachment of partners on dyadic adjustment was highlighted. One of the intriguing questions raised by this study is whether or how, specific stress characteristics related to breast cancer, are intensively and mutually enacting attachment avoidance dimension as a defense mechanism against unspoken fear of death and uncertainty. Another question refers to the possibility of the creation and acceleration , of vicious circles in dyadic relationships due to attachment avoidance, affecting intimacy, sexuality and marital satisfaction.

#### **OE.04 The affect of HIV positive diagnosis on couple and family relationships**

Erez-Lavie Trachtman, Sara Ivanir

*Shinui Institute for Family and Couple Therapy, Glil Yam Herzelya, Israel*

HIV/AIDS is a unique sickness due to the high stigma and discrimination which are correlated with it. Since HIV is viewed today as a chronic disease, HIV+ patients are presented with challenges in 4 dimensions: physical, mental, familial and social. Researches and clinical experience show that the most negative effect is related with the negative stigma which is held by society, the destruction of life planning and social and family assimilation while the physical aspects are controlled by the medical treatment. "Project Love" is a non for profit service which provides family and couple therapy for people with HIV. The initiative of "Project Love" is based on the deep believe that system philosophy, theory and practice has a lot to offer in promoting wellness for people who are living with HIV. Another assumption was that a community service based on accepting environment with accessible, committed, qualified professional staff offers good comfortable setting for people with HIV and their families, to use mental health services in spite their fear of stigmatization and discrimination. In light of this, the clinical framework was designed for multiple populations with low motivation, physical limitations, various mental diagnoses from different multicultural background and sexual orientations. The presentation will present a three years clinical experience which was gathered giving therapy to couples and families dealing with the complex issues around living with HIV such as self esteem issues relevant to interpersonal relationships, family dynamics, Coalitions

among family members and secrets around sexual orientation and sickness status.

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| <b>OE.05 Attachment-Related Childhood Experiences Affect Adult Relationships</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L103 |
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**OE.05 Mother-child attachment in early childhood and anxiety symptoms in preadolescence: The role of peer competence and emotion regulation**

Laura E. Brumariu, Kathryn A. Kerns

*Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA*

Literature suggests that early attachment security is associated with later development of anxiety symptoms. Little is known about relations of insecure attachment patterns (ambivalent, avoidant, and disorganized) with anxiety symptoms in preadolescence. Using data from the NICHD Study of Early Child Care (n = 1097), this study longitudinally examined the role of early mother-child attachment in the development of preadolescent anxiety symptoms, and whether peer competence (i.e., peer efficacy) and emotion regulation (i.e., the ability to manage the intensity of emotions) at early school age explain this relation. The relation of temperament (negative emotionality and behavioral inhibition) with anxiety was also evaluated. Attachment security and disorganization were related to later anxiety, however, these results were qualified by nonsignificant associations in models controlling for temperament and other variables. Peer competence partially explained the relations of security, avoidance, and disorganization with anxiety, and emotion regulation also partially explained the relation between security and anxiety. In addition, peer competence partially explained the relations of negative emotionality and behavioral inhibition with later anxiety and emotion regulation partially mediated the relation of negative emotionality with anxiety. These findings highlight the importance of investigating specific mechanisms that are responsible for the relations of mother-child attachment and of temperament with anxiety symptoms. The results have implications for prevention programs or treatment processes when working with children at risk for developing anxiety symptoms. The study also suggests that it is important to examine models of the development of anxiety that incorporate attachment in combination with other risk factors.

**OE.05 Attachment, caregiving, and marital satisfaction among couples with love and arranged marriages**

Elcin Gundogdu Akturk, Nebi Sumer

*Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey*

Present study aims to examine the effects of attachment anxiety and avoidance on the caregiving styles and relationship satisfaction for women with arranged and love marriages in Turkish culture. We expected that women with arranged marriages would differ from those with love marriages on attachment, avoidance, marital satisfaction, and caregiving dimensions (proximity vs. distance, sensitivity vs. insensitivity, cooperative vs. control, and compulsive). First the Caregiving Scale (Kunce & Shaver, 1994) was adapted into Turkish and then, married women (N = 179) completed the measures of attachment, caregiving, and marital satisfaction. Results indicated that women with arranged marriages reported lower levels of marital satisfaction, provision of proximity, and sensitive caregiving and higher levels of attachment avoidance than those with love marriages. Furthermore, 2 (secure vs. insecure) X 2 (arranged vs. love marriages) ANCOVA was conducted on relationship

satisfaction and the dimensions of caregiving by controlling for duration of marriage and the number of children. Results showed that, as expected, whereas secure women reported significantly higher levels of marital satisfaction, proximity provision, sensitive caregiving, and control in caregiving, insecure women reported higher compulsive caregiving than secure ones. However, the interaction between marriage type and attachment security was not significant. Findings were discussed considering the cultural implications of attachment avoidance and marriage types.

### **OE.05 Childhood experience effects on adult couple relationships: Exploring the mediational role of attachment style and sexual strategy**

João Moreira, Ana Leal

*University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal*

Evolutionary approaches to individual differences in attachment styles have suggested that they may represent individually-tuned adaptations to different reproductive environments. Namely, it has been argued that avoidant attachment is an adaptation to an adverse environment that makes a short-term, uncommitted reproductive strategy more advantageous. Different childhood variables (e.g., father absence, relationship quality with either parent, parental relationship quality, general stress), however, have been proposed as critical in producing effects on adult relationships, putatively mediated by attachment styles. We undertook a comparative study of these hypotheses by measuring, with self-report scales, the childhood variables above, together with adult attachment style, short- and long-term sexual strategies, and investment model variables (commitment, satisfaction, investment, quality of alternatives). Participants were 150 adults involved in a couple relationship (38% married, 12% cohabiting, 44% in a courtship, 6% "friends with benefits"), between 18 and 78 years of age ( $M = 33.26$ ), 50% with a college education. Data were analyzed with structural equation models, which showed very different significant paths for men and women. Among men, mediation processes were clear and sequential: worse quality of relationship with mother  $\rightarrow$  more avoidant attachment  $\rightarrow$  more short-term sexual strategy  $\rightarrow$  less satisfaction and investment, better alternatives  $\rightarrow$  less commitment. Among women, effects were more complex. The crucial childhood variable was stress, which led to short-term sexual strategy and from there to less commitment, partially mediated by lower satisfaction. Father absence during childhood had a direct effect upon lower commitment among women. Theoretical and practical implications are many, but results need replication.

### **OE.05 Age differences in effects of family structure and quality on attachment to romantic partners and attitudes towards marriage and divorce**

Zeljka Kamenov, Margareta Jelic

*University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia*

The aim of this research was to examine the differences in attachment to romantic partners and attitudes towards marriage and divorce among individuals whose parents had divorced as opposed to those whose parents had high quality marriages and those whose parents had low quality marriages, as well as to find out whether these effects of family structure and the quality of relationship between parents vary with age. A total of 1385 participants (432 high-school students, 529 undergraduate students from various faculties of the University of Zagreb, and 424 adults) were included in the research. Data about family structure and the quality of parental relationship were obtained. The modification of the Experiences in Close Relationship Inventory (Kamenov and Jelić, 2003), and Attitudes toward marriage and divorce scales were

applied. Significant differences were found on Anxiety in attachment to romantic partners due to low quality of relationship between parents. Specifically, individuals whose parents had low marital quality while they were teenagers appear to be more anxious in their romantic relationships in comparison with individuals from two other types of families. There were also significant differences in attitudes towards marriage and divorce in regard to family type, but these effects were stronger in younger age groups. Overall, the quality of relationship between parents proved to be more important factor for future romantic relationships than family structure, with more immediate effects on attitudes toward marriage and divorce, and long term effects on attachment to romantic partners.

|                                                            |                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OE.06 Social Pain as a Reflection of Human Conflict</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room L104 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

**OE.06 The direct causation approach leading to theory of dehumanization: A breakthrough in inter-group conflict research and its applications**

Olek Netzer

*SPSSI, Washington, D.C., USA*

Aim: Research Question: "How exactly do normal people manage to justify in their own eyes even the most obviously erroneous ideas about other humans; and the most inhuman acts mass-destruction - without running into an intolerable Cognitive Dissonance with their own highest values of truth, virtue, sanity?" Method: Taking the Direct Causation approach: focusing on the agents of pathology that cause it directly (the cause for the 9/11 attack was obvious: they did it because they wanted to, believed they do the right thing). Analyzing conflict related texts in Israeli public media over 20 years; comparing with patterns of reasoning and moral justification in other war arenas past and present. Results: A major Discovery: The mental mechanism of conflict-orientation (fanaticism, prejudice) is Blind Areas. War-oriented persons are mentally blind to see realities that do not conform to their dehumanized orientation: that "We" and "Them" are human individuals; "We" are human, liable to error and crimes, "Them" are individuals with human qualities, same as we. Blind Areas and corresponding Patterned Beliefs comprise the Dehumanization Syndrome, the analytical and diagnosing tool for Dehumanized Orientation in texts and personalities. Predictability: leaders diagnosed as dehumanized cannot make peace unless forced to! Conclusion: Bringing Blind Areas to awareness effectively undermines the dehumanized self-justification system. As politically motivated behavior must be self-justified, bringing Blind Areas to individual and public awareness will have a healing effect on society, unlike other existing methods that touch indirect causes and could have only prevention or mental sanitation effect.

**OE.06 The development of sexual aversions and altruistic motivations among communally raised Kibbutz members**

Debra Lieberman<sup>1</sup>, Thalma Lobel<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, USA , <sup>2</sup>Tel Aviv University, Israel

As first proposed by Edward Westermarck, childhood coresidence serves as a cue to kinship and is associated with the development of sexual aversions during adulthood. Two natural experiments, Taiwanese minor marriages and the communal rearing practices of Israeli Kibbutzim, provided initial evidence in favor of Westermarck's claim. Despite the absence of actual genetic relatedness, individuals raised together

from birth tend not to marry as in the case of the Israeli Kibbutzim, and when they did, as in Taiwanese minor marriages, they produced fewer children and commonly ended up divorcing and engaging in extramarital affairs. These experiments provided initial evidence that exposure during early childhood impacts sexual attraction. With respect to the Israeli Kibbutzim data, critics suggest that the absence of marriages between peer-group members is better explained by the large pool of available mates outside the Kibbutz rather than by the development of innate sexual aversions. To investigate whether Westermarck's hypothesis applies to individuals raised in the children's houses of the Kibbutz, it is necessary to switch from sociological variables to psychological ones. In this way, we can assess the levels of sexual aversions that develop and determine whether it relates to the length of coresidence during childhood. Here we present data from communally raised Israeli Kibbutz members that show that durations of coresidence predict both sexual aversions as well as altruistic motivations. These data corroborate past findings and provide additional evidence that childhood coresidence serves as a cue to kinship and regulates both sexual aversions and altruism.

#### **OE.06 Traumatic encounters between Holocaust survivors and the absorbing society**

Miriam Rieck

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

It was widely believed that the Holocaust survivors suffered from guilt feelings because of their survival while others had perished during persecution, and that these guilt feelings would have been alleviated if they had talked or written about their life during persecution. [SEP]Based on readings of survivors' writings, the intra-psychic interpretation of their sufferings will be supplemented or replaced by a social-psychological one. [SEP]The writings of two survivors, Jean Amery and Paul Celan, both of whom had extensively written about their Holocaust experience and both of whom had later committed suicide, will be presented. [SEP]The social encounter of both Jean Amery and Paul Celan was extremely traumatic. Jean Amery had extensively written about his disappointment with social values, both during and after persecution, giving rise to the impression that he could not live in the ideological climate reigning in the post-war society. Paul Celan had expressed (mainly in his personal letters) his disappointment with the way his writings were accepted, on the personal and professional level. [SEP]Both writers have not written about "survivor guilt" but had suffered from the social "welcome" they had experienced after liberation, an ideological climate for Jean Amery and acceptance on the personal level for Paul Celan that may have been too heavy a burden after having been liberated from captivity.

#### **OE.06 The role of fear of social pain in the experience of ostracism**

Paolo Riva<sup>1</sup>, Kipling D. Williams<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy,* <sup>2</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA*

Previous studies showed that fear of pain increases the perception of physical pain. Consistent with the Pain Overlap Theory (MacDonald & Leary, 2005), we hypothesized that the fear of social pain (FOSP) will increase the experience of social pain. We developed and validated a new instrument (Fear of Social Pain Scale; FOSP) aimed to assess the fear of social pain and its predictive validity. A set of items were generated after reviewing the relevant literature. We included in the questionnaire physical-fear related items and other concurrent measures (e.g., Rejection Sensitivity

Questionnaire; Downey & Feldman, 1996). The psychometric proprieties of FOSP were assessed through exploratory factor analysis in a sample of university students (N = 200). In a subsequent study, participants were ostracized during a virtual ball-tossing game (e.g., Cyberball; Williams et al., 2000) and then measures of the experienced social pain were taken. Scores of FOSP correlated positively moderately with those of RSQ. Moreover, the FOSP significantly predicted the self-reported distress experienced during Cyberball. These findings shed light on emotional states which can increase the experience of social pain and they help the understanding of why certain categories of people (e.g., those high in fear of social pain) seem to avoid to reconnect with their source of social distress or to pursue novel social encounters. In sum, the FOSP represents a useful tool in the clinical evaluation of people who are likely to develop maladaptive defensive responses, thus helping them to prevent engaging into a vicious circle of chronic rejection.

**OE.06 A theory of relationship identity negotiation: The effects of couple identity on psychological and relational well-being**

Tracy Kwang, Lisa Neff, William Swann

*The University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA*

Relationships require two individuals to successfully merge their independent identities to form a unified couple identity. While previous research recognizes the necessity for the two identities to merge (Aron et al., 1986; 1991; Berger & Kellner, 1964), research has yet to examine HOW these identities merge together. We hypothesize that the process through which an individual and his/her partner merge to create a new couple identity is crucial in determining relationship longevity and satisfaction. We propose three models of relationship identity negotiation: Model A is where the self gives way to the partner's identity; Model B is where a negotiation occurs and the self and partner both contribute to forming a couple identity; Model C is where the self takes precedence over the partner. A series of correlational studies investigated the construct and discriminant validities of the relationship identity models. The models were tested against well-known constructs such as attachment styles (Hazan & Shaver, 1987), inclusion of others in the self (Aron et al., 1986; 1991), and proved to be unique predictors of individual and relational outcomes. While Models B and C have better outcomes for personal psychological well-being than Model A, Model B is the only model that predicts positive relationship outcomes. I also present preliminary results from studies exploring predictors of the relationship identity models, as well as their effects on relationships over time.

**OE.07 Becoming Part of a Whole: Individual Perceptions within Couples**

Sunday, July 25  
10:45am-12:15pm  
Room A110

**OE.07 Ambivalence over emotional expression in intimate relationships: A shift from an individual characteristic to dyadic attribute**

Adital Ben-Ari, Yoav Lavee

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

This paper examines the construct of Ambivalence over Emotional Expression (AEE) within the context of intimate relationship. In particular it seeks to investigate how conflict over emotional expression relates to various aspects of intimate relationships, including perception of the relationship, closeness, and marital satisfaction. In addition, we test the conceptual similarity between AEE and neuroticism both in

terms of the essence of the constructs and the nature of their associations with couple relationships. Most commonly AEE has been perceived as a stable trait of individuals (King & Emmons, 1990), however in this study we look at AEE of both spouses and treat it as a dyadic characteristic of individual attribute. We examine the contribution of each spouse's level of AEE as well as joint couple AEE to explaining variations in various relationship outcomes. Data were collected from both spouses in 226 Israeli couples. The findings indicated that for both men and women AEE is related to neuroticism: people high in neuroticism are more likely to present higher ambivalence over emotional expression. The findings also indicated that AEE of both spouses explain relationship quality and that dyadic AEE explains relationship quality more than individual partners' AEE. The study contributes to the body of knowledge on intimate relationships by highlighting the significance of shared constructed AEE as portrayed by both spouses. We further suggest that ambivalence over emotional expression resides within the sphere of meta-emotions (Gottman, 1999) and as such it points to the relevance of meta-emotions within couples.

**OE.07 Studying relationships: Introducing the qualitative research method interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) accompanied by an illustration from a relevant study**

Haggay Seri

*Birkbeck College, University of London, London, United Kingdom and Tavistock Clinic, London, United Kingdom*

IPA is a relatively new qualitative research method and is very popular today among students and researchers in the UK in health, clinical and counselling psychology. IPA is unique among traditional, and even more modern, psychological research methods offering researchers an engagement with a research question at an idiographic rather than nomothetic level. IPA helps to answer questions such as 'what it is like' and 'what it means' to experience particular relationships, events or states. Philosophically, IPA adopts both *phenomenological* and *symbolic interactionist* positions. Respectively, one position reflects the idea that, for the respondents, there is some ongoing significance in what they say in the interview and that this might have a relationship to beliefs or psychological constructs that they are thought to possess. The other position reflects the conviction that meanings are constructed and negotiated within a social context. IPA advocates for a small sample (6-8 participants) and often uses the semi-structured interview to collect information. In the initial stage interviews are recorded, transcribed and analysed, where themes are identified in the first interview and this is then repeated in the subsequent ones. Analysis often focuses on what is distinct in one case, but will also attempt to balance this with what is shared with other cases. The final results - as my accompanied study (*The meaning of the rite of circumcision for Anglo-Jewish first time parents*) illustrates - are presented in the form of a narrative account, where an identified theme (*maleness*) is justified by verbatim extracts from participants' transcript.

**OE.07 An actor-partner model of the associations between relational uncertainty and reactions to sexual communication**

Roi Estlein, Jennifer Theiss

*Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA*

Theory and research suggest that relational uncertainty compromises people's ability to communicate effectively, because these conditions make it difficult for people to predict how a relational partner will respond and to plan their communication

accordingly. Thus, prior research shows that heightened relational uncertainty corresponds with increased topic avoidance and indirect communication. One context in which communicative indirectness is particularly problematic is during the negotiation of a sexual relationship. Studies suggest that indirect communication about sex is associated with less sexual and relational satisfaction, more negative emotion, and more negative cognition. This study used an actor-partner interdependence model to examine the interpersonal dynamics of relational uncertainty, indirect communication, and sexual satisfaction between relationship partners. To test the model, the authors conducted a cross-sectional dyadic study in which 81 dating couples completed questionnaires about their romantic characteristics, sexual communication, and perceptions of their sexual relationship. The data were analyzed using structural equation modeling. Results revealed that as levels of relational uncertainty increase partners perceive their own communication about sex and their partner's communication about sex as more indirect; however, among both men and women, perceptions of a partner's indirect communication about sex is negatively associated with the respondent's sexual satisfaction, whereas his or her own indirectness is not significantly associated with sexual satisfaction. Thus, results suggest that a relationship partner's communication behavior may be more influential than one's own communication in predicting how people respond to sex. These findings highlight the interdependence that exists between partners who are negotiating sexual intimacy.

#### **OE.07 The dynamics of couples' communicative repertoires - A study on the mediatization of personal relationships**

Christine Linke

*University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany*

Media Communication has become a natural and important part of people's everyday life. The concept of *mediatization* enables to capture processes in different contexts and interrelations between media, society and culture (Krotz 2001; Lundby 2009). The aim of this research was to examine the mediatization on the level of personal relationships and more precisely to figure out how communication media affects couples' everyday life. The central aspects of the framework are concepts of everyday life (Krotz/Thomas 2007, Voß/Wehrich 2001), of communicative construction of marriage (Berger/Kellner 1965), the mental creation of relationships (Duck/Pittman 1994) and its changing nature (Lenz 2006). The empirical study was conducted in Germany with ten couples following an open and interpretive approach. As a result of the theoretical perspective a combination of methods (in-depth- interviews, communication diaries) was chosen. The interpretation process was applied as making sense of complex data following ideas of Grounded Theory (Strauss 1987). The empirically derived concept of a *communicative repertoire* that consists of more or less couple specific media communication forms is introduced. The study demonstrates the mediatization of couples' communicative repertoire affects symbolic and linguistic aspects of couple relationships as well as practice and identity related moments. The findings suggest an acceleration of this communicative repertoire that is expressed in an increasing adoption, flexibilization and intensification of communicative forms used within couple relationships.

### **OE.07 Forgiveness congruence in marital relationships: Couple identify and relationship outcomes**

Dean Busby, Randal Day

*Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA*

The ability and incidence of forgiveness in close relationships has received increased research attention in recent years. Fincham et al., (2005, 2006) examined the relationship between forgiveness and marriage outcomes and found a clear association between the level of forgiveness and relationship quality. Forgiveness has been related to more positive cognitions regarding self and partner as well as greater intimacy and closeness in the relationship (Finkel, Rusbult, Kumashiro, & Hannon, 2002; Gordon & Baucom, 2003). Consequently, the level of congruence between partners in how they view each other on forgiveness may be an important indicator of couple identify formation and an important predictor of couple outcomes. [SEP] With a sample of 357 couples from a northwestern metropolitan area, we evaluated couple identity formation by considering how similarly individuals rated themselves and their partners on the concept of forgiveness. These congruence scores were used to predict relationship quality over a period of three years. The initial analysis demonstrated that the degree to which partners saw each other as forgiving at time 1 was strongly related to their relationship quality across time. In addition, the greater the degree of similarity between the four ratings of self and partner forgiveness scores for each couple, the higher their relationship quality was at time 3. Important gender differences emerged where similarity was more strongly associated with female relationship quality than it was for males. Additional analyses using growth curve models will be used to explore how changes in forgiveness congruence over time influence relationship quality changes.

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|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OE.08 Attachment and Attention Biases</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>10:45am-12:15pm<br>Room A111 |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

### **OE.08 Attachment system activation and attention biases to emotion stimuli**

Panoraia Andriopoulou

*University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece*

Attachment theory considers early information - processing mechanisms, such as attention, of key relevance in the regulation of the attachment system and the regulation of emotions. However, experimental research into these mechanisms is still limited. The present study adapted Mikulincer et al.'s (2002) methodology of subliminal activation of the attachment system using a threat word, and compared it with supraliminal or no activation, in order to investigate the effects of such priming had on the processing of different kinds of emotional information suggestive of activation of the attachment schema. The emotional stimuli were selected on the basis of a pilot study of 120 participants ratings. In the main study, 114 participants were randomly assigned into three conditions - conscious, subconscious activation and control condition and then completed the emotional Stroop and the Dot Probe task. The results showed that participants who scored high on attachment avoidance had a Stroop interference effect for negative emotion words in the supraliminal threat activation condition. The results from the calculation of three different attention bias indices in the Dot Probe task found that attachment anxiety and avoidance were associated with a difficulty to disengage attention from emotion negative words, and this effect concerned the interaction between anxiety and avoidance. The above

findings remained significant even after controlling for negative and positive affectivity. The findings point to the different information that may be derived from different methods of assessing attention bias as well as the combination of endogenous and exogenous emotion information processes.

### **OE.08 Attachment and attentional biases for facial expressions of disgust**

Maren Westphal, George Bonnano

*Columbia University, NY, USA*

From an attachment perspective, attentional avoidance of negative emotional information may be functional in reducing negative feelings that jeopardize proximity to attachment figures. The present study used the dot probe task to examine attentional biases for facial expressions of emotions in individuals with high and low levels of attachment anxiety and avoidance. Results showed that anxiously-attached individuals exhibited a strong and highly significant tendency to attend away from disgust faces associated with social rejection (social-moral disgust), while showing the reverse attentional bias for faces displaying a more rudimentary, visceral type of disgust (core disgust). Avoidantly-attached individuals showed an attentional bias away from social-moral disgust faces, but no significant attentional bias for core disgust. Attachment did not affect performance on a subsequent memory task. The present study had several methodological strengths including differentiating between attentional responses to two distinct types of disgust, core disgust and social moral disgust. Most studies on attentional biases for emotional faces have grouped disgust with angry faces under the category "negative" or "threat face", making it difficult to identify disgust-specific effects. We propose that attentional avoidance of social-moral disgust faces represents an emotion-regulatory response to perceived social threat, research that could shed light on the role of attentional biases in social functioning and psychopathology. Including photographs displaying low intensity emotional expressions in the dot probe task may present a more sensitive measure of attentional biases than relying on extreme expressions that are likely to over-represent biases resulting from bottom-up or feature-driven processing.

### **OE.08 Priming the relational schema leads to attachment biases in the perception of positive (but not negative) emotion in a simulated social interaction task**

Konstantinos Kafetsios, Ursula Hess

*University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece*

The study examined the effects of priming the relational schema in the perception of facial expressions of emotion in a simulated social context. We used a story-based priming procedure to prime the individual or the collective self-schema of one hundred and twelve participants (after Brewer & Gardner, 1996, study 2). After that, participants rated cartoons depicting a person expressing positive or negative emotions surrounded by four other people expressing the same emotion as the central person or a different one. Orientation of the surrounding persons towards (or not) to the central figure was manipulated. Analyses found that activating the relational schema resulted in ascribing higher ratings of positive (but not negative) emotion by participants higher on anxious attachment and lower ratings of positive (but not negative) emotions by participants higher on avoidant attachment. Attachment orientations were assessed using the ECR\_R attachment scale. Anxious attachment was associated with attribution of higher disgust irrespective of the priming condition.

These findings were sustained after controlling for interdependent self-construal and in-group entitativity. The findings have implications for understanding the influence of relational socio-emotional schemas and attachment working models in particular in the processing of positive emotions as particularly

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| <b>OF.01 Stages of Romantic Relationships: Overlapping and Divergent Issues</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L203 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

**OF.01 Transition to parenthood in couples: The role of communal responsibility on relationship satisfaction and couple distress**

Kristin Mickelson, Susanne Biehle

*Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA*

While the literature on transition to parenthood has examined many aspects of the experience, one area that has been neglected is how responsibility for the pregnancy is viewed. While the physical pregnancy is an event occurring exclusively to the mother, many of the issues that arise during the perinatal period can be addressed jointly or individually depending on how expectant parents view the responsibility for the pregnancy. As marital relationships become more egalitarian, having a baby is no longer exclusively viewed as an event that solely concerns the mother. Belsky and Kelly (1994) have argued it is important for couples to view the transition to parenthood as happening to the couple communally rather than individually. They proposed that couples who view the experience collectively rather than separately will work together to discuss issues that arise and determine ways to reduce potential negative stress on their lives. In this way, the transition may actually bring them closer as a couple, which can increase their relationship satisfaction and lower their anxiety and depression. We hypothesized that couples who feel the mother has primary responsibility for the pregnancy (and for parenting) will report more mental distress and less relationship satisfaction. In the current study of 104 married/cohabiting couples expecting their first child, we found that communal responsibility for the pregnancy was related to less depression and greater relationship satisfaction for mothers (but not for fathers). A similar relationship was found at 1-month postpartum for communal responsibility for parenting in mothers (but not fathers).

**OF.01 A dyadic diary study of older married couples managing type II diabetes: Spouses' involvement and relationship quality**

Masumi Iida<sup>1</sup>, Mary Ann Stephens<sup>1</sup>, Melissa Franks<sup>2</sup>, Karen Rook<sup>3</sup>, James Salem<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA*,

<sup>3</sup>*University of California, Irvine, CA, USA*, <sup>4</sup>*SUMMA Health Systems, Akron, OH, USA*

Caregiving is relatively common in many older married couples. As chronic illnesses most often occur in late life, spouses are frequently involved in managing the ill partners' condition. As a result, spouses are most often the source of support and control (or influence) in patients' adherence to medical recommendations. Little is known, however, about the consequences of caregiving spouses' behaviors on the quality of the marital relationship. In an electronic diary study (N = 129 couples), we examined various ways spouses are involved with the management of their diabetic partners' daily dietary choices over 24 days. We focused on spouses' support (i.e., efforts to reinforce patients' ongoing dietary adherence), persuasion (i.e., efforts to convince or motivate patients to stick to the diabetic diet) and pressure (i.e., efforts to

force or coerce patients to improve dietary adherence) as they effect patients' daily evaluations of the relationship (relationship tension and enjoyment). We found that on days when spouses provided support, patients reported greater relationship enjoyment and less relationship tension. In contrast, on the days when spouses engaged in pressure, patients reported greater relationship tension, but spousal pressure was not associated with patients' relationship enjoyment. Spousal persuasion was also not associated with either relationship tension or enjoyment. Taken together, these findings suggest that spousal support improves the quality of partner interactions, whereas spouses' attempts to pressure patients to adhere to dietary regimen may negatively impact the quality of partner interactions. These results highlight the importance of understanding caregiving in older married couples.

#### **OF.01 The dating phase of relationships**

Anita Barbee, Michael Cunningham

*University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, USA*

While there have been many studies on the early years of marriage that have found that the use of negative conflict resolution communications predict later divorce (e.g., Gottman 1998), no studies have examined why couples have already developed such destructive patterns so early in marriage. It is likely that the behaviors that lead to the negative emotions of disgust and annoyance that underlie criticism, defensiveness and withdrawal arise during the dating phase of the relationship. So, while many dating couples break up when negative behaviors and emotions increase, others stay in relationships and even get married, only to find themselves in very negative cycles that eventually lead to divorce. Using social allergy theory (Cunningham & Barbee, 1996; Cunningham, Barbee & Druen, 1997; Cunningham et al., 2007, Cunningham, Barbee & Mandal, 2009) and social support theory (Cunningham & Barbee, 2000), we have been studying college-aged dating couples and the impact of increases in negative behaviors and decreases in social enrichment behaviors on feelings of liking, love, disgust and annoyance, as well as perceived relationship quality and satisfaction on relationship trajectories (e.g., levels of commitment to the relationship, breakups). We have found that over time negative behaviors do increase and these changes do impact feelings toward the partner and relationship satisfaction. But, while many couples break up once this happens, some couples forge ahead. This paper will present data on the personalities and the beliefs members of couples hold that impact the decision to stay in the relationship or even increase commitment.

#### **OF.01 Marital conflict in early marriage and the implications for divorce among Black American and White American couples**

Terri Orbuch<sup>1</sup>, Kira Birditt<sup>2</sup>, Edna Brown<sup>3</sup>, Vince Marshall<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Oakland University, Rochester, MI, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA*

In early marriage, couples can disagree about a variety of topics (e.g., money, how to spend time together, religion)(Oggins, 2003; Orbuch, Veroff, Hassan & Horrocks, 2004; Peterson, 2002). Further, conflict strategies that couples use in response to marital problems can have important implications for stability of marriage. Research indicates that couples who use negative strategies such as yelling and belligerence are more likely to divorce, report lower marital quality, and have greater stress reactivity (Gottman, Coan, Carrere, & Swanson 1998; Kiecolt-Glaser & Newton, 2001). Yet, despite expansive literature on marital conflict and its implications for marital longevity, little is understood about whether issues that couples disagree on and

conflict strategies used to resolve those disagreements, early in marriage, have long-term implications for marital longevity, among couples from diverse backgrounds. The goals of the current study are to examine: (1) topics of conflict, and (2) conflict strategies, early in marriage for their long-term implications on divorce among Black American and White American married couples. Data were collected as part of a longitudinal panel study following 373 same-race couples (199 Black American and 174 White American), who applied for their first marriage licenses (where the wife was less than 35 years old). Face-to-face interviews were conducted in Years 1, 3, 7, and 16 of the marriage. Results indicate that in the first year of marriage, the topics of conflict and the conflict strategies used have implications for divorce up to 16 years later and these associations varied by gender but not race.

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| <b>OF.02 A Fresh Look at Romantic Love from Three Perspectives</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L201 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

### **OF.02 Romantic compromises**

Aaron Ben-Ze'ev

*University of Haifa, Haifa,, Israel*

When we think about love, we typically imagine an ideal partner, someone perfect in every way. We devote much less time to considering what we would be prepared to settle for an actual, imperfect partner. The thought of reconciling ourselves to compromising our romantic ideals in a partner is often considered to be betraying the profound value of love. There is, however, no doubt that we do make such romantic compromises when the ideal is not available. Compromises are of great value in many human relationships; compromises can help us to avoid disputes and fights and enable us to live peacefully with each other. However, compromises also have a negative aspect in that they might require us to surrender our principles. These two contrasting views of compromise are based upon the two opposing principles: the necessity to be sensitive to the other's needs and the willingness to relinquish something of value. In the act of compromise, a sort of yielding occurs in which we give in to what we no longer can, or no longer wish to, resist. The issue of compromise becomes even more complex when we are dealing with romantic love, the ideal characterization of which seems to refuse any type of compromise. Because romantic love involves an intimate, intense relationship between two people, compromises are required. The test of genuine love is whether lovers can accommodate these compromises in a manner that prevents, or significantly reduces, the negative aspects, and allows the positive ones to prevail.

### **OF.02 What the brain tells us about intense romantic love that we didn't know before**

Arthur Aron

*SUNY-SB, Stony Brook, NY, USA*

There have now been several functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) studies of intense romantic love, leading to a number of conclusions-many of them new and even unexpected-about this significant human experience. First, it is now clear that this experience is essentially motivational (as opposed to a specific emotion, it generates diverse emotions according to whether the desired reward of a relationship with the partner is expected to be fulfilled, frustrated, etc). Indeed, the experience appears to be parallel to other intense reward oriented experiences such as those found

with cocaine. Second, intense romantic love shows the same pattern when one has been rejected but still wants the relationship (although in this case, there are also indications of distress). Third, the experience is not merely the same as sexual desire (it engages independent neural systems). Fourth, subjective reports of its intensity (e.g., as measured by the Passionate Love Scale) appear to be accurate representations of intensity of the underlying reward-motivation. Fifth, the underlying experience appears to be essentially identical across diverse cultural contexts (U.S., England, China). Sixth, intense romantic love appears possible even in long term marriages (i.e., individuals reporting such experiences show the same core pattern of neural response to images of their beloved as those newly in intense love)-although those in new love show more indications of anxiety and those in long-term love show attachment-related activations not seen in new love.

## **OF.02 Romantic love from an actor's and an observer's perspective**

Keith Davis

*University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, USA*

I shall argue for three major points: (a) That the experience of romantic love is different from an actor than from an observer's perspective; (b) That the appreciation of love in an actor's life requires an appreciation of status assignments (Ossorio, 1978); and (c) that from an observer-critic perspective, there are two distinct but related concepts of romantic love, one of which has an essentialist or definable structure and the other having a prototypical structure. From the actor's perspective, the job of the person is to do his own thing while being sensitive to opportunities and limitations. For actors, a crucial issue is the status that partner has in their lives. Is she a friend, a lover, or practical partner? While the typical case involves consciously assigning people to roles in one's life dramas, that is not always the case. Love at first sight and "free-fall" love (Huston, 2009) fit the case of unconscious status assignments. Stalking and partner abuse can be illuminated from this perspective. From the observer's perspective, the person's job is to note what is happening. The observer's concern is with how things work and this is the case for how love relationships can go wrong. I will critically evaluate two traditions of research on whether or not the concept of romantic love has an essentialist structure or a prototypical structure. These considerations suggest new directions for research on love and in the treatment of couples having difficulties in love relationships.

## **OF.03 Dimensions of Attachment**

Sunday, July 25  
1:45pm-3:15pm  
Room L204

## **OF.03 Fertility intentions depend on intergenerational family relations: An attachment perspective**

Eva-Maria Merz

*Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, Netherlands*

Human fertility has both a biological and a social component with biological aspects having stronger influences on fertility behaviour. Yet, fertility intentions are likely to be prone to social aspects and influences from social relationships of individuals through the shaping of representations of parenthood and family life through childhood experiences in the own parental home. The present study investigated the role of quality of the parental home, current intergenerational and family relationships, attitudes about intergenerational solidarity and parenting in association

with fertility intentions; based on an attachment theoretical background. Data from the Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (NKPS, N = 2,574) were analyzed to predict childbearing intentions of young adults in the future. Not surprisingly, positive attitudes about having children were positively related to fertility intentions whereas attitudes about intergenerational solidarity did not predict fertility intentions. Good quality of the parental home during childhood and high quality in current relationships with parents and the broader family network were associated with the intention to have a(nother) child(ren) in the future. In sum, the current study offers an extension of previous research linking affective relationship characteristics, attitudes and fertility by applying an attachment theoretical framework. Attachment theory provides a possible framework for understanding the impact that intergenerational, affectively charged relationships may have on individuals throughout the life course. Attachment is not only useful to shed light on instinctive care-giving behaviour for children but may also explain the wish to care; in other words the intention to have own children or not.

### **OF.03 The relationship between adult attachment style and therapeutic alliance: A meta-analytic review**

Marc Diener

*Argosy University, Washington DC, Arlington, VA, USA*

The present study consisted of a meta-analytic review of the relationship between adult attachment style and the therapeutic alliance in individual psychotherapy. The theoretical and empirical foundations of the constructs of adult attachment style and therapeutic alliance are reviewed, followed by a discussion of the present meta-analysis. The search procedure included a PsycINFO search, examination of relevant review articles/chapters, and review of reference sections to locate additional citations. The meta-analysis included 18 independent samples for a total of 957 participants. Data analysis included calculation of an overall effect size, statistical significance, a test for homogeneity, publication bias, and moderator analyses. Results indicated that individuals with more secure attachment styles demonstrated stronger therapeutic alliances, whereas those with more insecure attachment styles demonstrated weaker therapeutic alliances (weighted mean  $r = .18$ ,  $p = .0000005$ , 95% confidence interval = .11-.25). Exploratory moderator analyses of the potential impact of treatment length, patient gender, patient age, patient ethnicity, or primary diagnosis on the relationship between attachment and alliance were not significant. The limitations of the present study, directions for future research, and clinical implications of the results are discussed.

### **OF.03 The treatment of internalizing problems in adolescence: The role of attachment**

Guy Bosmans, Caroline Braet

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

Research has demonstrated that CBT is an effective treatment for internalizing problems in adolescence. However, in spite of good treatment effects, much room remains to improve the existing treatment strategies. One of the important risk factors in the development of internalizing problems is the quality of the relationship between parents and adolescents. From this perspective, it has been investigated whether adding parent training to existing effective CBT protocols could increase the treatment effects. Against all expectations, parent training did not prove to have an added value to the existing treatment effects. One of the reasons could be that

treatment should focus more on the quality of the adolescents' attachment towards their parents. To test this hypothesis, we investigated whether the relationship between power assertively disciplining parenting behaviors and internalizing problems in adolescence can be explained by the quality of the attachment relationship in 514 families with an adolescent. To avoid the results being driven by the adolescents' depression-related reporter bias, parenting was assessed combining the perspective of both the parent and the adolescent. This multi-informant research revealed that the initially significant impact of power assertive discipline on internalizing problems was reduced to non-significance after taking into account the effect of attachment quality. Similar effects were found for mother- and father-related variables, independent of the adolescents' gender, and independent of the adolescents' age. These findings have important implications for the further development of new treatment strategies, which will be discussed in depth.

### **OF.03 Putting the ambivalence back in anxious ambivalence**

Geoff MacDonald<sup>1</sup>, Samantha Joel<sup>1</sup>, Stephanie Spielmann<sup>1</sup>, Kenneth Locke<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Idaho, Moscow, USA*

Attitudes towards romantic partners can be wildly mixed and conflicting. Attachment theory suggests such internal conflict should especially mark the romantic relationship attitudes of those high in anxious attachment. However, direct evidence for an ambivalent structure to anxious individuals' romantic relationship attitudes is surprisingly scarce. I will discuss 3 lines of evidence from my lab that support the notion of anxious ambivalence and highlight the value of ambivalence in understanding relational dynamics. The first line of work shows that anxious individuals' feelings for past romantic partners are strongly volatile in response to the availability of new romantic opportunities. The second line of work shows that the seemingly null relation between anxious attachment and commitment hides two conflicting effects: dependence on the partner promotes higher commitment, whereas fears of rejection simultaneously undermine commitment. The third line of work shows that anxious individuals perceive similar and intense (i.e., ambivalent) levels of reward and threat in their romantic relationships. I will conclude with discussion of how research on ambivalence from the attitudes literature can be used to better understand the relational dynamics of anxiously attached individuals.

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| <b>OF.04 Caregiving in Close Relationships: Current Behavior and Internalized Models</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L102 |
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### **OF.04 Buds of parenting among young men: The role of quality of close relationships**

Ofra Mayseless, Miri Scharf

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Young adults start preparing to the parenting role before they actually become parents and even before pregnancy or marriage. These buds of parenting as they are evinced in representations, attitudes and expectations are explored in the present study. Past family relationships and attachment security is expected to 'equip' individuals with a positive model of caregiving and a better ability to attend to needs of others without being overwhelmed or threatened by the interdependence involved in providing care (Mikulincer & Shaver, 2006; Collins & Feeney, 2000). We examined longitudinally antecedents of these parenting buds assessed in adolescence (i.e., attachment

representations and relationships with parents), as well as current interpersonal competence in a sample of young adult males. During their senior year in high school eighty-eight Israeli male adolescents were administered measures pertaining to attachment representations and to their relationships with their parents. Seven years later we followed 60 of them asking them to fill out questionnaires assessing their interpersonal problems, and their perceptions regarding future parenting and children. Higher levels of attachment anxiety and more distant and non-accepting relationships with parents were related to higher levels of undesirability of having children, feeling inability to take care of children, and expectations for lower satisfaction from future parenting. The mediating role of current level of interpersonal problems will be explored as explaining the associations between past family relationships and buds of parenting.

#### **OF.04 From adolescence to emerging adulthood: Quality of parent-child relations and attachment predict buds of parenting among young women**

Miri Scharf, Ofra Mayseless

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

According to attachment theory, experiences in close relationships, particularly with one's caregivers affect the willingness and the competence to take care of others (Bowlby, 1982). Experiencing close and sensitive care promotes positive perceptions and attitudes toward caregiving. For example, secure attachment was associated with positive caregiving qualities toward one's partner (Collins & Feeney, 2000). Similarly close and sensitive care should affect attitudes toward parenting even before actual parenting or pregnancy. In line with this expectation insecure attachment was related to poorer perceived caregiving skills in general and toward children concurrently assessed (Reizer & Mikulincer, 2007; e.g., less ability to recognize others' needs and provide help effectively). In the present study we followed longitudinally 120 late adolescent girls. In the first assessment during their senior year in high school they completed measures assessing attachment representations (the Adult attachment Interview and attachment style questionnaires with regard to close friends and romantic partner), and relationships with their parents. Six years later, 80 participants filled out questionnaires regarding their perceptions regarding future parenting and children. Preliminary findings showed significant association between quality of parenting (including inadequate boundaries within the family), attachment styles and AAI scales, and buds of parenting of the emerging adults' females. Additionally, concurrent higher levels of separateness and individuation were associated with more positive perceptions of parenting buds. The contributions of attachment representations and one's own caregiving experiences to the motivation and to the perceived skillfulness pertaining to future parenting, and the possible mediating role of individuation will be discussed.

#### **OF.04 Parents' romantic attachment style and relationship characteristics affect their representations of parental caregiving**

Elia Psouni

*Lund University, Lund, Sweden*

Parents' attachment-related childhood experiences influence the relationship that will form between them and their child, via a caregiving system that organizes parental investment. Research has shown attachment and caregiving processes to be interrelated, with secure individuals providing more effective support than insecure individuals. However, associations have been predominantly sought for the

intrapersonal effect of an individual's attachment on their caregiving. Little is known about how attachment and caregiving qualities are embedded in family systems of multiple relationships. The present study addresses associations between parents' interaction as partners and the quality in their caregiving representations. Data were collected from 54 established couples with children 1-6 years old. Both partners completed questionnaires concerning thoughts, feelings and common strategies related to their romantic relationship. Caregiving representations were explored via the Caregiving and Attachment Interview (CAI: Bengtsson & Psouni, 2008), conducted with one parent from each couple (21 fathers, 33 mothers). Interestingly, avoidance and anxiety - as dimensions of adult romantic attachment - were highly correlated. Parents with avoidant and anxious romantic attachment styles held less coherent caregiving representations, characterized by more parental rejection and less love and warmth for the child. They tended to idealise themselves and their partners as parents and were less reflective about their parental role. These associations were stronger for fathers than for mothers, suggesting that characteristics of the relationship between partners appear to affect fathers' representations of caregiving more strongly, while mothers seem to have clearer boundaries between their romantic attachment style and their caregiving representations.

#### **OF.04 Caregiving for hospitalized older adults**

Nurit Gur-Yaish, Anna Zisberg, Efrat Shadmi, Gary Sinoff

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Older adults regularly receive instrumental and emotional help and support from their informal caregivers, especially family members. Though the provision of ongoing support to elders living in community settings has been studied extensively and has been linked to elders' well-being, there are very few reports in the literature relating to caregiving for older adults in hospital settings. While informal caregiving is beneficial to older adults in the community setting, it can be no less important during hospitalization, a time of increased dependency and subsequent greater need for assistance. Evidence suggests that around 60% of older adults require some type of assistance in performing daily activities while hospitalized and given that 35% of older adults decline in their functional status during acute hospitalizations, studying the role and potential impact of caregiver support during hospitalization is imperative. Three areas of support were identified for study: instrumental help, psychological support, and ensuring and explaining medical care. Results suggest that vast majority of the sample had at least one informal caregiver (usually spouse or adult children) that provided support during the hospital stay for about 5 hours per day. In addition, most of the help that elderly patients received was psychological and ensuring the medical care. Most importantly we found links between caregiver support and physical and psychological functioning (anxiety, depression and sense of control). This study highlights the significance of caregiving of family members to older adults in the vulnerable time of hospital stay.

**OF.05 A theme analysis of relationship challenges during the transition to parenthood through the lens of the relational turbulence model**

 Jennifer Theiss, Roi Estlein, Mary Nagy

*Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, USA*

The relational turbulence model (Solomon & Knobloch, 2004) suggests that transitional periods in romantic relationships are characterized by increased relational uncertainty and interference from partners, which give rise to turmoil in relationships. This study examined the transition to parenthood as one relationship event that evokes relational turbulence. The authors analyzed discourse from online discussion boards to consider how the birth of the first child transforms the romantic relationship between partners. Discussion board threads were selected for inclusion in the analysis if the original post was written by a first-time parent and referenced his or her romantic relationship. Each entry in a discussion thread was included as a separate unit of analysis (N = 316). Two analysts reviewed the data set twice to identify recurrent themes in the topics discussed by contributors. The analysts first performed open coding to identify the central concepts and dimensions in the data; then, they performed axial coding to map out the relationships within and between the most prominent themes. The qualitative theme analysis revealed six underlying themes of relational turbulence during the transition to parenthood: (1) unmet expectations from pre-birth to post-birth; (2) declining intimacy, including emotional, physical, and sexual intimacy; (3) interference and judgment from social networks; (4) discord over shifting roles and identities in the relationship; (5) relational uncertainty; and (6) destructive communication patterns. Then, using the lens of the relational turbulence model, the analysts performed a secondary analysis to assess the prevalence of relational uncertainty and partner interference in the existing themes.

**OF.05 While a pregnant belly expands between us: Changes in sexual experiences and relationship quality throughout the three trimesters of pregnancy**
Dafna M. Sagiv-Reiss<sup>1</sup>, Gurit E. Birnbaum<sup>2</sup>, Marilyn P. Safir<sup>3</sup>
*<sup>1</sup>Bar Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, <sup>2</sup>Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel, <sup>3</sup>University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Pregnancy is a period in the rich and complex process of a woman's life and a significant part of the couple's experience. This transitional period is unique in its physical, emotional, and cognitive aspects, and therefore may affect both sexual experiences and relationship quality. The vast majority of previous studies focused on women only, and nor has systematically studied the impact of changes within the relationship throughout 'normal' pregnancies. The present research was designed to examine the intricate linkage between sexuality and spousal relationships during pregnancy. In three studies, participants completed self-report scales of sex-related emotions, thoughts, motives, and experiences, as well as relationship quality. Study 1 (N = 361) examined the differences between pregnant and non-pregnant women in sexual and spousal experiences. Study 2 (N = 25) monitored women's sexuality and relationship quality throughout the three trimesters of pregnancy. Study 3 followed 31 couples throughout the pregnancy and prospectively examined the longitudinal relationship between sexual experiences and relationship quality. Results identified

two corresponding processes: Sexual enjoyment was at its peak during the first trimester of pregnancy, thereafter diminishing during the entire pregnancy, whereas marital satisfaction was preserved at a constant level during pregnancy with a slight increase towards the end of pregnancy. These findings suggest that the progress of pregnancy may independently affect sexuality and relational quality.

### **OF.05 Why money and love don't go together**

Monique Pollmann, Nicole Mead

*Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands*

Money affects interpersonal relationships. Recent research shows that reminding people of money makes them more self-sufficient (Vohs, Mead, Goode, 2006 ); but also that spending money on others is more satisfying than spending money on themselves (Dunn, Aknin, & Norton, 2008). Although researchers begin to recognize the interpersonal consequences of money, it is not yet clear what the effects of money are within close relationships. We argue that money is associated with exchange relationships and therefore does not fit into the definition of a close, communal relationship. We test this hypothesis in two studies. First, reminders of money should reduce the communal character of the relationship. After completing a neutral-descramble task or money-descramble task participants were asked to indicate the likelihood that they would comply with a hypothetical request for help by their partner. Compared to neutral-primed participants, money-primed participants were less willing to help. Second, intimate relationship partners should be motivated to avoid the topic of money to preserve the communal character of their relationship. We asked participants how much they would like to discuss money-related vs. money-unrelated topics with someone with whom they have a communal vs. an exchange relationship. We found that people avoid money related topics relative to other topics only when they have a communal relationship with the interaction partner. These findings indicate that the concept of money does not fit the concept of close relationships. This may explain why some couples do not pay enough regard to their spending and saving behavior.

### **OF.05 Interpersonal determinants of fathers' breastfeeding involvement**

Lynn Rempel, Katrina Moore

*Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada*

The importance of father involvement in the young family is increasingly evident. This research was conducted to understand the mechanisms underlying the significant positive impact that fathers can have on breastfeeding, and examine determinants of parents' experience with fathers' involvement in the breastfeeding process. Seventy-nine mothers and 64 fathers of one-year-old children completed a questionnaire regarding father involvement (FI) in breastfeeding. Measures included attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behaviour control regarding FI and the extent to which fathers demonstrated involvement by advocating for and affirming breastfeeding, being present during breastfeeding, providing household help, and being responsiveness to mother's needs. Parents also completed relationship trust, satisfaction and commitment measures. Mothers' report of the extent of FI was predicted by mothers' attitudes, whereas fathers' reported involvement was predicted by fathers' subjective norms regarding FI. Mothers' perception of FI was more strongly predicted by relationship variables than was fathers' reported FI. Fathers' subjective norms were related to mothers' attitudes regarding FI. With the exception of responsiveness, mothers' and fathers' reports of FI were moderately correlated.

Results suggest that mothers and fathers experience FI differently. Mothers' perceptions are motivated by intrinsic attitudinal and relationship considerations, whereas fathers' involvement is primarily motivated by the opinions of others. Findings highlight the importance of measuring the experiences of both partners, and suggest that, in order to make effective decisions about involvement, fathers should be aware of how mothers value their involvement and have appropriate normative information on which to base their breastfeeding support.

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| <b>OF.06 Maintenance of Close Relationships: Relationships Intimacy and Quality</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>1:45pm-3:15pm<br>Room L104 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

**OF.06 Stress resilience in early marriage: Does practice make perfect?**

Lisa Neff, Elizabeth Broady

*University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX, USA*

Stressors external to a marriage frequently are associated with lowered marital quality, a phenomenon referred to as stress spillover. However, while research has illuminated the detrimental effects of stress on marriage, less attention has been given to the possibility that under some conditions, stress may strengthen marital well-being. Drawing from theories of stress inoculation, the current studies examined whether experiences with manageable stressors early in the marriage may serve to make the relationship more resilient to future stress. In Study 1, 61 newlywed couples provided data regarding their stressful life events, relationship skills (i.e., attributions and observed conflict resolution behaviors), and marital satisfaction at multiple points over 2 ½ years. Results revealed that spouses who experienced moderate stress during the early months of marriage and possessed good relationship skills exhibited fewer future stress spillover effects compared to spouses who possessed good relationship skills, but had experienced little early stress. Study 2 examined stress resilience in the context of the transition to parenthood using a sample of 50 newlywed couples. Again, spouses who had experienced moderate stress during the early months of marriage and possessed good relationship skills reported greater marital satisfaction following the transition to parenthood, compared to spouses who possessed good relationship skills, but had little prior experience coping with stress. Together, results indicate that good relationship skills may not be sufficient to protect spouses from the detrimental effects of stress. Rather, spouses may need both good skills and practice using those skills in the face of manageable stress.

**OF.0 Maintaining close relationships: Gratitude as a motivator and a detector of maintenance behavior**

Kaska E. Kubacka, Catrin Finkenauer, Caryl E. Rusbult

*VU University, Amsterdam, Netherlands*

Gratitude affects people in a myriad of ways - the experience of gratitude makes people happier or motivates them to act in a pro-socially (cf. McCullough, Kimeldorf, & Cohen, 2008). Much research has been devoted to the study of this emotion, yet not much is known about the function of gratitude in close relationships (cf. Algoe, Haidt, & Gable, 2008). The present research contributes to the literature by examining gratitude as experienced by, and toward, spouses. Our model focuses on the role of gratitude in connection with perceived partner responsiveness and maintenance behaviours between partners. In a cross-sectional study of married couples, we examined both within-, and across-partner factors, investigating the determinants and

effects of gratitude. We found that feelings of gratitude toward a partner stem from the partner's relationship maintenance behaviours, partly because such behaviours create the perception of responsiveness to one's needs. In turn, gratitude motivates individuals to act for the maintenance of their relationships. Hence, the present model emphasizes that gratitude between close partners (a) originates from partners' relationship maintenance behaviours, as well as the perception of a partner's responsiveness to one's needs; and (b) promotes a partner's reciprocal relationship maintenance behaviours. As a result, our model shows that gratitude plays a role in mutual cyclical growth processes (cf. Wieselquist, Rusbult, Foster, & Agnew, 1999), whereby each person's maintenance behaviours, perceptions of responsiveness, and feelings of gratitude feed back on and influence the other partner's behaviours, perceptions, and feelings.

#### **OF.06 The role of visible responsiveness and its perception on intimacy feelings of romantic partners**

Anik S. Debrot, Andrea B. Horn, Michael Reicherts, Meinrad Perrez  
*University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland*

Psychological intimacy is a constitutive aspect of close relationships. It plays a particularly central role in romantic relationships, as it is linked with more satisfied and stable relationships. According to Reis and Shaver's (1988) process model, intimacy is the result of several subprocesses: whereas one partner discloses, the second reacts responsively and the first perceives this responsiveness. Several studies have however shown that perception of responsiveness can be influenced by many other factors than the actual partner responsiveness. In particular, Lemay and Clark (2008) have shown that people project their own felt responsiveness onto their partner, perceiving him or her to be as responsive as they report to be. The aim of this study is to look at the perception and the projection of responsiveness, when partners show it with visible behaviors. <sup>[L]</sup><sup>[SEP]</sup>Using an ambulatory assessment method, 102 young couples rated simultaneously four times a day during one week their own responsiveness to their partner, their perception of their partner's responsiveness and their intimacy feelings on palmtop computers. Means over the 28 points of measurement were aggregated. <sup>[L]</sup><sup>[SEP]</sup>Using APIM (Actor-Partner Interdependence Model) with structural equation modeling, results showed that perception of responsiveness is predicted by the partner's reported visible responsive behavior. However, it was more strongly predicted by the own reported visible responsiveness, which indicates a projection effect. Perception of responsiveness is in turn strongly linked with feelings of intimacy to the partner. The results and implications are discussed in regard of the process model of intimacy.

#### **OF.06 Can prayer increase forgiveness?**

Nathaniel Lambert, Frank Fincham  
*Florida State University, Tallahassee, USA*

The objective of the current 4 studies was to test whether praying for a relationship partner would increase forgiveness of that partner. Study 1 (n= 771) showed that initial prayer for partner was related to forgiveness of partner 6 weeks later. Study 2 (N=67) participants were assigned to either pray for a friend, pray about any topic, or think positive thoughts about a friend every day for four weeks. Those who prayed for their friend reported higher forgiveness scores for their friend than did those in the other two conditions, and this relationship was mediated by selfless concern. Study 3 (N= 48) went beyond self-report and found that praying for one's partner had

behavioral consequences for a relationship, such that those who prayed following a perceived partner transgression were more cooperative with their partners in a mixed-motive game. Study 4 (N= 74) used an experimental, longitudinal design in which participants were assigned to either prayer for their partner or to think positive thoughts about their partner for four weeks. Compared to partners of participants in the positive partner thought condition, the romantic partners of participants who prayed for their partner each day noticed a positive change in forgiveness behavior. These findings have implications for relationship well-being as they demonstrate that increasing the frequency of prayer for partner produces actual changes in forgiveness behavior to a degree that is noticeable by a romantic partner and begin to map potential mediators of the effect.

#### **OF.06 The Relationship Quality Interview (RQI): Operationalizing and assessing relationship quality as a multidimensional, dyadic, dynamic construct**

Erika Lawrence

*The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA*

Historically, relationship satisfaction and adjustment have been the target outcome variables for almost all couple research and therapies. In contrast, far less attention has been paid to the assessment of relationship quality. Thus, I will begin my presentation with a brief review of the long-standing debate regarding -- and clarify the distinctions among -- relationship adjustment, satisfaction, and quality. I will also discuss the need for an empirically-supported, psychometrically strong measure of relationship quality. Second, I will discuss the multidimensional nature of relationship quality, and briefly review prior research relevant to each dimension. I will also introduce the Relationship Quality Interview (RQI), a semi-structured, behaviorally anchored, individual interview that yields objectively coded ratings. The RQI was designed to assess relationship quality across five dimensions: (a) trust, closeness, and emotional intimacy; (b) inter-partner support; (c) quality of the sexual relationship; (c) respect, power, and control; and (e) conflict management and problem-solving strategies. Third, I will provide preliminary evidence of the reliability and validity of the interview. Evidence of the interview's reliability, convergent and divergent validity, and incremental validity will be presented from dating and married couples, men and women, and cross-sectional and longitudinal data. Finally, I will discuss broader issues relevant to couple assessment.

#### **OF.07 Individual Experiences within Relationships**

Sunday, July 25  
1:45pm-3:15pm  
Room A110

#### **OF.07 The contribution of attachment theory to adult crying phenomena**

Michal Drenger<sup>1</sup>, Ety Berant<sup>1</sup>, Mario Mikulincer<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya, Israel*

The purpose of the current research was to broaden and deepen existing knowledge about the experience of crying in adulthood. In 5 studies, we examined the contribution of individual differences in attachment orientation to the experience of adult crying. First, we examined the correlations between attachment dimensions and different aspects of crying behavior. Second, we developed and validated a self-report measure of adults' crying experience, and examined the associations between this experience, attachment dimensions, and central relationships patterns. Finally, we

examined the contribution of attachment styles and gender differences to participants' responses on exposure to different patterns of crying. Results suggest that there is a relationship between one's attachment style and the way in which one uses crying, experiences it and responds to it. The findings indicated that whereas attachment anxiety was associated with an emotionally ambivalent crying experience, attachment avoidance was associated with more negative emotions and cognitions with respect to crying. Results are discussed with regard to the value of attachment theory for the study of crying. We noted that although the primary goal of crying in achieving proximity and support from a significant other is carried over into adulthood, crying behavior and experience may be shaped and modified based on the responses the crying received from attachment figures during development, and the degree of attachment security that was in turn established. Beyond the theoretical implications, we emphasized the clinical implications of our findings by exploring the intrapsychic and interpersonal dynamics of the crying experience across different individuals.

**OF.07 To do, to have, or to share: Valuing experiences over material possessions depends on the involvement of others**

Peter Caprariello, Harry Reis

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

Recent evidence suggests that spending money on experiences makes people happier than spending money on material goods. Based on recent evidence that spending money on others (versus on oneself) better promotes happiness and that interpersonal relationships are a fundamental source of happiness, we propose and test two hypotheses. First, we hypothesize that experiences take place with others more often than not. Second, we hypothesize that it is the social aspect of experiences that affords value relative to material goods and to experiences alone. In Study 1, participants viewed a list of 12 hypothetical experiences and were asked to spontaneously "describe each experience in about three sentences." Coders rated whether or not others were involved as part of the descriptions. Experiences were described more often than not, and without prompting by us, in terms of doing things with others. In Study 2, respondents were given definitions of material, solitary, and social purchases, asked to think of a time that they spent money on each kind, and rated how happy each of the purchases made them. Consistent with hypotheses, spending money on social experiences made people happiest, while spending money on solitary experiences made people less happy than on material purchases. Overall, these results suggest that when you take the "social" out of the experience, its value and potential for providing happiness drops relative to material possessions and social experiences. Taking into account the relationship context of experiences appears critical to predicting how to best spend money in the pursuit of happiness.

**OF.07 Indirect ingratiation: Pleasing people by associating them with successful others and by praising their associates**

Nurit Tal-Or

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

Most of the literature on impression management considers direct tactics such as self-promoting by mentioning personal achievements and ingratiating by complimenting others. These direct tactics can backfire if the target recognizes the hidden motive behind them. Therefore, people often use indirect impression management tactics. Previous research has shown that people tend to promote themselves indirectly by associating themselves with successful others or by magnifying the characteristics of

others to whom they are connected. The current research suggested that when the motive is ingratiation, the impression manager may also use indirect tactics. It was proposed that a person with the motive of being liked can enhance the target indirectly by praising people associated with that target, rather than praising the target directly. Moreover, ingratiation can be performed indirectly by highlighting the connection between the target of ingratiation and successful others. The four experiments of the current research documented these tactics and examined their consequences for the impression manager and for the target. Experiment 1 demonstrated that people are aware of the potential benefits of the indirect ingratiation tactic. In Experiment 2, the impression managers were perceived more positively by their targets when they mentioned the success of people who were connected to these targets. Experiment 3 documented indirect ingratiation using the tactic of associating the target with successful others. Lastly, Experiment 4 revealed that associating a person with successful others makes that person like the impression manager who made this connection.

### **OF.07 Self-expansion and flow: The role of challenge and skill**

James Graham, Mikaela Harf

*Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, USA*

Aron and Aron's (1986) self-expansion model of love describes the positive impact that engaging in novel and challenging activities has on relationship quality in romantic relationships. Past research has consistently found a causal relationship between these variables, (Aron et al., 2000), and has more recently expanded the role of challenge in the self-expansion model by incorporating aspects of flow theory (Graham, 2008). The present discussion uses data from 2 experimental (n=64 and n=102) and 2 survey-based (n=307 and n=222) studies to examine whether the optimal level of challenge is determined by the couple's skill in a task. The data suggest that high levels of relationship quality result when the challenges afforded by an activity are high, but do not exceed the level of skill possessed by the couple. The level of activation experienced during a task mediated the effect of activity challenge on relationship satisfaction. Conversely, the effect of the challenge-skill difference impacted relationship satisfaction through the experience of affect. The present results suggest that the mechanism through which self-expansion functions is consistent with flow theory. Challenge in excess of the skill of the participants results in failure at the task, the experience of negative affect, and lower feelings of relationship satisfaction. Within the bounds of the participants' skill, the more challenge that is present, the more activating the activity, and the stronger the feelings of relationship satisfaction. Engaging in novel and challenging activities is good for a relationship, provided the couple possess sufficient skill to make success likely.

**OF.08 Attachment as a factor of resiliency for childhood polyvictimization**

Jeffery Aspelmeier, Ann Elliott, Thomas Pierce

*Radford University, Radford, VA, USA*

This study investigates the role of attachment security as a resiliency factor related to childhood victimization outcomes. Recent work demonstrates that poly-victimization-exposure to multiple categories of childhood victimization (i.e., property crime, physical assault, peer/sibling assault, witnessed/indirect victimization, sexual abuse, or child maltreatment) -comprises more than just the additive effects of separate victimization experiences (Finkelhor, 2008) and polyvictimization significantly predicts adult psychological functioning (Richmond, Elliott, Pierce, Aspelmeier, & Alexander, 2009). Attachment Security has been found to buffer the effects of individual types of abuse (e.g., sexual abuse, Asplemeier & Elliott, 2008), but this has not been investigated with polyvictimization. The current study examines the role of adult attachment as a moderator of the relationship between retrospective reports of polyvictimization in childhood and current psychological distress within a sample of 338 college men. On average participants reported approximately 10 different types of victimization experiences prior to the age of 17 and 98% reported experiencing at least one of the broader categories of victimization. Though only moderately correlated with each other, Polyvictimization and Anxious Attachment showed moderate to strong correlations with nearly all of the measures of psychological distress as assessed by the Trauma Symptom Inventory (Briere, 1995) and the Symptom Checklist-90-R (Derogatis, 1994). Anxious attachment significantly moderated the effects of polyvictimization. Among participants reporting high levels of anxious attachment, polyvictimization more strongly predicted psychological functioning, compared to participants with less anxious attachment. The same pattern was found for avoidant attachment, though it was only significant for the SCL-90-R.

**OF.08 Obsessive relational intrusion, stalking and the experience of fear: The roles of threats, sex and sexual precedence**

Blake Witham, Brian Spitzberg

*San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, USA*

Not all relationships begin well, and far fewer end well. When one partner prefers and pursues greater intimacy than the other partner prefers, it constitutes obsessive relational intrusion (ORI). When ORI elicits fear in the target being pursued, it crosses a threshold into the crime of stalking. Understanding the factors that push ORI from merely unwanted to fearful, becomes important in developing theories of how disjunctive relationships evolve and are perceptually categorized. Three hypotheses were formulated. It was predicted that if the members of the relationship had previously had sexual intercourse in the relationship, there would be less fear. Second, the existence of an explicit verbal threat was expected to increase the likelihood of experiencing fear. Third, females were expected to report greater fear in ORI situations than males. A prototypical obsessive relational intrusion situation was constructed and sexual precedence (prior sex vs. no prior sex) and threat (verbal threat vs. no verbal threat) were varied across scenarios. These scenarios were randomly distributed to 324 college students, who were asked to indicate whether or not they would experience fear in the scenario described. Results disconfirmed the first

hypothesis—prior sexual relations had no effect on eliciting fear. The second hypothesis was supported—the existence of a verbal threat significantly increased the likelihood of experiencing fear in response to the scenario. The third hypothesis was also strongly supported—females were much more likely than males to expect to experience fear in scenarios of obsessive relational intrusion

#### **OF.08 When pain does not heal: The effects of persistent social and physical suffering on self and identity**

Paolo Riva<sup>1</sup>, Kipling D. Williams<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy*, <sup>2</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA*

Chronic pain represents a widespread condition and its negative impacts on self and identity are well documented: loss of abilities and roles, relationships, employment, and so on (Walker, 2006). Recently, researchers have shown that the same neural system developed to signal a physical damage is also activated during the experience of ostracism and exclusion, warning people of threats to their social connections (Eisenberger, et al., 2003). Despite their common evolutionary root and their neural, linguistic and psychological overlap, the findings on persistent physical pain and chronic social pain have not been compared. We review the results showing the value of bringing together these separate lines of research, as the frequent co-occurrence of chronic pain, negative changes in social relationships and depression, and the relation between the past lack of adequate social connection and the actual level of persistent physical pain. Then, we propose a comprehensive model in which we argue that suffering either physical or social persistent pain depletes the resources necessary for self-regulation, thus impairing the ability of the individual to pursue active coping strategies (e.g., distraction) while increasing the likelihood of performing passive ones (e.g., withdrawal). In regards to identity, similar to individuals who experience chronic physical pain, theorists on social pain argue individuals who experience long-term social pain like ostracism or exclusion are likely to develop a variety of self-denigrating thoughts which could challenge, weaken and put the individual's identity at risk. The implications for the clinical practice and the future lines of research are discussed.

#### **OF.08 Interpersonal psychotherapy for depressed women with trauma histories in community mental health care**

Nancy Talbot, Erin Ward, Stephanie Gamble

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

Objective: Many depressed women in community mental health centers (CMHC) have histories of childhood sexual abuse and economic disadvantage. Depression chronicity, multiple psychiatric comorbidities, and persistent social dysfunction complicate treatment. Randomized trials are needed to test the effectiveness of evidence-based interventions in this population. This presentation will report findings from a trial comparing Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) to usual care psychotherapy (UCP) among women in a CMHC. Method: Seventy women with major depression and sexual abuse before age 18 were randomly assigned to IPT (N=37) or UCP (N=33). Staff clinicians provided all treatments. Participants were assessed upon study entry and at 10-, 24-, and 36-weeks following randomization. Generalized estimating equations were used to examine change over time. Results: Women in IPT had greater reductions in depressive symptoms, post-traumatic stress symptoms, and shame (all p values  $\leq .05$ ). IPT and UCP yielded comparable improvements in social and mental health-related functioning. Effect sizes ranged from small to large in favor

of IPT. Covariate analyses indicated that women who were Black, receiving public assistance income, or diagnosed with borderline personality disorder had higher post-treatment depression scores. Conclusion: IPT compared favorably to UCP in improving psychiatric symptoms and reducing shame among sexually abused women. Still, the majority of patients had clinically significant levels of depressive and social impairments even after treatment. There is a critical need for continued research to develop more effective treatments for the social and psychiatric sequelae of interpersonal trauma.

|                                                            |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>SP.06 Memorial Session _ A tribute to Caryl Rusbult</b> | Sunday, July 25<br>3:45pm-5:15pm<br>Room L201 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

### **SP. 06 Committed to relationship science: Lessons from Rusbult**

Christopher Agnew

*Purdue University, Indianapolis, USA*

When I first crossed paths with Caryl Rusbult, it was my first day as a graduate student in the social psychology program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in August of 1990. In the wake of her passing, I have thought quite a bit about what I learned from her about being a relationship scientist over the years since our initial meeting. Lessons from Rusbult include (1) the necessity and incredible value of theory, (2) taking the time to do "good science," particularly with respect to the study of close relationships, (3) placing great value on the input of other people, particularly students and junior colleagues, and (4) the critical importance of giving back, as an important activity in itself, but also as a means of moving relationship science forward. Caryl Rusbult left an indelible imprint on relationship science. We know much more now about how personal relationships work than we would have without her. We can honor her memory in a meaningful way, and help further relationship science, by continuing to learn from her lessons.

### **SP.06 Commitment to the concept of commitment**

Ximena Arriaga

*Purdue University, Indianapolis, USA*

Relationship commitment is a central construct in much of Caryl Rusbult's work, and it has become central to understanding ongoing romantic involvements. The first part of this talk will summarize the origins of Caryl's work on commitment, and describe why the investment model was the right set of ideas at the right time. My account will highlight how the investment model was a novel approach to studying relationships, the importance of having theory and developing models, and how Caryl's personal commitment to science influenced how she approached research (e.g., being systematic and thorough, having clear convictions yet being respectful when disagreeing with others, believing there is truth and wanting to communicate it). In the second part of this talk, I will describe why I think commitment is an important construct. Theorizing about the causes and consequences of commitment provides a detailed account of the differences between relationships that last versus end. Commitment conceptualized as dependence affords an understanding of what occurs when maintaining a relationship is at odds with one's own well-being. Commitment conceptualized as a variable closely related to trust reveals how couple members can influence each other, namely how one person's pro-relationship acts instill in the other feelings of trust and thus a desire to reciprocate pro-relationship acts. Throughout, I

will try to combine a description of research findings with personal anecdotes, and discuss past work while also suggest what might lie ahead.

### **SP.06 Caryl, interdependence theory, and forgiveness**

Eli Finkel

*Northwestern University, Evanston, USA*

Perhaps not surprisingly, most forgiveness research focuses victims. Much of it seeks to understand which individuals are prone toward forgiveness rather than vengeance. The current presentation takes an alternative, Rusbultian perspective on the forgiveness process, summarizing a program of research inspired by Caryl's approach to understanding relational phenomena. First, it (a) explores the importance of relationship commitment and trust in promoting commitment and (b) speculates on the different psychological pathways through which each of these predictors does so. Next, it demonstrates the power of forgiveness to soothe not only the forgiver's physiological functioning (operationalized in terms of blood pressure reactivity), but also the perpetrator's. Finally, it explores the role of the perpetrator in (a) promoting victim forgiveness and (b) influencing whether forgiveness bolsters versus undermines victim's self-respect. All told, this research program illustrates the power of studying relational processes relationally, like Caryl taught us to do

### **SP.06 A tribute to Caryl Rusbult: The embodiment of Michelangelo phenomenon in action**

Madoka Kumashiro

*University of London, Goldsmith, United Kingdom*

Over the last three decades, Caryl Rusbult's groundbreaking research has had enormous impact on the field of relationships science. The talk will highlight her most recent line of research that deftly demonstrates the significance of close relationships to important self processes: the Michelangelo phenomenon (e.g., Rusbult, Finkel, & Kumashiro, 2009). Applying a beautiful metaphor of the renowned sculptor Michelangelo, the theory describes an interpersonal model of personal growth: Just as Michelangelo helped release the ideal form lying dormant within the stone, close partners are often instrumental in helping individuals move closer to their ideal selves through a process of affirming the self's own ideals. Rusbult herself exemplified the spirit of the Michelangelo phenomenon and brought out the best in others, including her students and collaborators. This talk will discuss how her nurturing and compassionate mentoring style influenced my research and convinced me of the value of considering the influence of close relationships on self and personality processes. I will also discuss the various lessons I learned from observing how Rusbult applied her artistic touch to generate comprehensive, innovative, and imaginative psychological models that were founded on solid scientific principles and presented eloquently.

### **SP.06 Being reminded that just focusing on pairs is not enough**

Margaret Clark

*Yale University, New Haven, USA*

My research has long focused on the now people's desire for close relationships influences the nature of their interdependence. When I began, focusing on relational context seemed an advance and I focused solely on how the desired nature of a relationship with one other person influenced social giving, seeking and reactions to those processes, Yet reading and absorbing Caryl's empirical work taught me, early on, that focusing on just two people was limiting. I had studied the interdependence

work of Kelly and Thibaut but I'd not absorbed how important that thinking was to understanding close relationships until I read the work which Caryl published in the early 1980's.

It was not enough to place a person within a particular relational context to understand that person's behavior, the relationship itself had to be placed into a larger situational context including, importantly, one's other relationships and situational constraints. In this talk I will discuss how Caryl's early application of interdependence theory to understanding close relationships, influenced and continues to influence my own thinking about the nature of communal relationships. So too will I touch on how Caryl's style of research and challenging questions have influenced my own thinking.

### **SP.06 Appreciating Caryl**

Phillip Shaver

*University of California, Davis, USA*

Caryl Rusbult was an inspiring combination of theorist, methodologist, and artist. By artist I mean two things. First, she took very abstract and (to me) dry principles from Thibaut and Kelley's interdependence theory and transformed them into lively concepts suitable for sexy, loving relationships, sometimes borrowing creatively from other fields and sometimes inventing her own constructs: exit, voice, loyalty, and neglect; commitment; investment; the Michelangelo phenomenon; derogation of alternatives; accommodating; forgiving transgressions. Second, she wrote like an artist - like an angel, really. No one else has combined such laser-like precision with such beautiful, graceful phrasing. And she did it in person as well as on paper. I never heard her utter an imprecise or ungraceful statement during a public talk or private conversation. Because my work is inspired by psychoanalytic theory and tilts heavily toward personality rather than situations, my intuitions and emphases sometimes clashed with hers, and we had energetic debates about our differences. She often favored economic metaphors and emphasized a dyad's location in a world of temptations and alternatives. I wanted to probe individuals' minds, viewing mentally represented relationships as at least as important as their actual forms. She refused to neglect the actual couple, and I learned much from her as a result. One of the ironies of our debates is that Caryl was a wonderful example of the potency of personality - always brilliant, dedicated, forceful, and either sweetly or devilishly funny regardless of context. She was an irreplaceable one of a kind.

### **SP.06 Rusbult's investment model and the self-expansion of the self-expansion model**

Arthur Aron, Elaine Aron

*Sate University of NY, Stony Brook, USA*

From the outset, our development of the self-expansion model was to a substantial extent explicitly in the larger context of interdependence theory; with the development of Caryl Rusbult's Investment Model, the role of interdependence ideas became more precise and more valuable in shaping the development of our theoretical and empirical work. Sometimes this shaping has resulted from needing to make more careful distinctions as between the role of including other in the self and transformation of motivation, or even the finer similarity/distinctiveness of including other in the self from her work with Agnew on cognitive interdependence. Another example has been ongoing work on integrating and distinguishing between the Michelangelo phenomenon and partner support for self-expansion. Perhaps the single biggest influence has been with regard to the role of the cognitive mechanisms of relationship

maintenance. Specifically, the main part of this talk will elaborate on two specific lines of our current research emerging from the interaction of Rusbult's model with ours: (a) the specific role of perceived relationship-based self-expansion as a possible cognitive mechanism for relationship maintenance and (b) the role of perceived relationship-based self-expansion offered by the partner in moderating attention to particular alternatives.

# ORAL SESSIONS

## Monday July 26

|                                                                                                      |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OG.01 The Dynamic of Changes in Family Life - Coping with Stress and Relationship Transitions</b> | Monday, July 26<br>9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L203 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

### **OG.01 The change of a range of parental custody and emotional bonds in the family**

Magdalena Blazek<sup>1</sup>, Maria Kazmierczak<sup>1</sup>, Aleksandra Lewandowska-Walter<sup>1</sup>, Gail Goodman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland;* <sup>2</sup>*University of California, Davis, CA, USA*

Parental rights and custody are regulated in Poland by the family and custody law. Parental custody should be realized in accordance with children's welfare and social interests. There are two types of interference in parental custody in Poland: limitation and deprivation of parental rights. From the psychological point of view limitation or deprivation of parental rights can be considered as a crisis influencing all the family members. The data for this research was gathered from 126 families: 63 families - limitation of parental rights, 63 families - deprivation of parental rights. Psychological diagnosis of emotional bonds in the diad: parent - child was carried out by 5 clinical psychologists (W-Kendalla = 0,83). Research indicate that mother-child bonds in both groups of families compared with father-child bonds are stronger. There was a stronger mother- second child bond amongst families with limitation of paternal authority trial comparing with 'the deprivation of parental rights' group - limitation of parental rights is a process, in which younger children are brought up in less emotionally friendly environment. Parental dominance attitude amongst fathers in a relation with a child is stronger in 'limitation of parental rights' group - a process. Parental dominance attitude amongst mothers (deprivation of parental rights group) and distance of fathers (limitation of parental rights) is positively associated with bonds with a child. Results of this study were compared with conclusions from American research.

### **OG.01 How do couples cope with personal and relational stressors? A family life-cycle perspective**

Lesley Verhofstadt, Fanny Weytens

*Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain, Belgium*

In recent theories of relationship functioning (see Bradbury & Karney, 2004) a central status is accorded to couples' /adaptive processes /or the way couples contend with relational and individual difficulties. Adaptive processes refer to partners' conflict-resolution skills as well as to partners' ability to provide emotional and instrumental support to each other. Studies have consistently shown that couples who deal more effectively with personal and relational stressors report more positive relationship outcomes than couples who are relatively poor at dealing with the stressors they encounter (Pasch & Bradbury, 1998). Theories of relationship functioning predict that couples' adaptive processes are shaped by the developmental transitions they

encounter within their family life-cycle (Karney & Bradbury, 1995). These transitional periods in relationship and family life include: transition to marriage, transition to parenthood, parenting of adolescent-aged children, and the empty nest period (see Lindahl, Malik, & Bradbury, 1997). We explored how couples from different stages in the family life cycle deal with the personal and relational stressors they encounter in a survey study involving 200 Belgian couples. Overall, the analyses seem to suggest that the family life cycle shapes, at least in part, couples' adaptive processes, both in terms of frequency of conflict and support, and in terms of couples' behavioral repertoires during conflict and support interactions. Emerging from the current data is the pattern of gradual decline of support frequency, positive support provision, and positive conflict behavior, beginning after the newlywed phases of relationships.

### **OG.01 Changes in the family system due to conduct disorders of adolescents**

Wojciech Blazek, Beata Pastwa-Wojciechowska

*University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland*

Fifty adolescents aged between 13-16 (30 male and 20 female) and their parents participated in the research. All of them (adolescents) completed the questionnaires and were interviewed during the psychological assessment. Parents completed a widely used in Poland Parental Attitude Questionnaire by M. Ziemska (1977) and was interviewed in accordance to conduct problems of their children. Parents were asked to describe the changes in the family system due to psychological disturbances. Participants (adolescents) fulfilled the following measures: Intelligence Scale by Wechsler WISC-R, Buss and Durkee Hostility Scale, Personality Inventory by H.J. Eysenck EPQ-R, Rotter Incomplete Sentences Blank. The results show that primary causes of malfunctioning of adolescents are among others: immaturity in fulfilling parental roles by the mother and father, alcohol abuse, sexual abuse and other pathological features of functioning (aggression). The results also indicate disturbances in mother- father and parents- children subsystems as well as deterioration in the family as a result of conduct disorders of adolescents. The aim of the presentation is to describe the dynamic of changes in analyzed families as well as to propose therapeutical interventions in order to help participants to function effectively in the society and to improve family relations.

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| <b>OG.02 Marriage Satisfaction</b> | Monday, July 26<br>9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L204 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

### **OG.02 Motivations for seeking treatment for ED: The woman's perspective**

Marita McCabe<sup>1</sup>, Helen Conaglen<sup>2</sup>, John Conaglen<sup>3</sup>, Elodie O'Connor<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Deakin University, Victoria, Australia*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Auckland, Hamilton, New Zealand*

There is increasing evidence that partners play a major role in treatment seeking behavior for men with erectile dysfunction (ED). The current study investigated the motivations of 100 females for seeking medical treatment for their partner's ED. Semi structured interviews focused on reasons for seeking treatment from the female's perspective. The themes that emerged from the data centered on the importance of sex in the relationship, with closeness and intimacy frequently being seen as more important than sex. The second major theme related to hope that females had in relation to the medication, particularly in relation to increasing their partner's

confidence and reducing his sexual frustration. Enhancement of the relationship as well as improving the females' own feelings of self-doubt and sexual frustration were also mentioned. The results of this study demonstrate the multi-faceted nature of the motivations that females express in terms of seeking help for their partner's ED.

### **OG.02 Understandings of relationship satisfaction: An interpretative phenomenological analysis.**

Matthew Colahan, Aneta Tunariu, Pippa Dell

*University of East London, London, United Kingdom*

In a culture of entertainment and entitlement where happiness and good sex are promoted as core ingredients of an accomplished lifestyle, 'relationship satisfaction' becomes a hard currency for personal appraisals of well being. Whilst featuring extensively as an outcome variable in psychological studies, the phenomenon does not lend itself easily to quantifiable explanations. This study presents an interpretative phenomenological account of 'satisfaction' in intimate long-term heterosexual relationships in an attempt to explore participant-defined understandings rather than researcher-imposed ones. Narratives generated via semi structured interviews with seven women and five men, aged between 25 - 42 years, were analysed using the principles of Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. Three master themes emerged. The first theme "knowing satisfaction" explains satisfaction as a journey of awareness about a state of being; here awareness of this state is experienced as a shift from satisfied pre-reflection to a preoccupation with relationship appraisals. The second theme "doing satisfaction" concerns the ethics of responsibility involved in partners' need fulfilment. The third master theme "managing satisfaction" explores the inherent tensions experienced by participants when their "relational philosophy" is incongruent with the actuality of a long-term dyad. This tension is seen through the lens of three relational dialectics; 'similarity and difference'; 'autonomy and co-dependence'; 'reasonable needs and unreasonable needs'. The study also considers the possible implications of these findings with regards to a cultural expectation for achieving a particular 'right' kind of satisfaction, which runs the risk of generating anxiety, dissatisfaction, and even self-pathology.

### **OG.02 Meta-analysis of Romanian studies on relationship influencing factors**

Mona Vintila, Daliana Istrat, Amalia Kuglis

*West University of Timisoara, Timisoara, Romania*

Couple dynamics and intimate relationship are influenced by factors that may belong to the couple or may be a part of the external environment. The welfare of the couple may be associated also with a number of individual aspects. In order to highlight some characteristic features of intimate relationship in Romania, we have made a complex analysis of 10 studies conducted in 2008-2009, that focused on this topic. A significant number of studies have focused on the influence of children on the intimate relationship. In couples with children, both females and males recorded higher levels of satisfaction ( $t(58) = 4.345, p < .01$ ), cohesion ( $t(58) = 15.628, p < .01$ ), consensus ( $t(58) = 9.708, p < .01$ ), emotional expressiveness ( $t(58) = 5.453, p < .01$ ) and marital happiness ( $t(58) = 2.146, p < .05$ ) compared with women and men in couples without children. Intimate relationship satisfaction of pregnant women is direct associated with the perinatal maternal attachment towards fetus ( $r(28) = .732, p < .01$ ) and with the period of breast-feeding the child after birth ( $r(63) = 0.555, p < .01$ ). Results have shown that health status and professional issues may be factors that distinguished couples in terms of relationship satisfaction and jealousy level. The

results provide an overview of the characteristics of couple in Romania and offer an opening for future studies.

## **OG.02 Marital Satisfaction: Comparisons among African Americans, Hispanics, Caucasians, Turkish and Asian**

Bernadette Marson

*Adelphi University, Hauppauge, NY, USA*

The aim of this study is to compare the overall marital satisfaction of African American, Hispanic, Caucasian, Turkish and Asian married individuals sampled from one geographic region in the North Eastern USA. The study was conducted using the ENRICH Marital Satisfaction Scale (EMS). A sample of married females and males participated in the survey. The findings suggest that there are differences in marital satisfaction among the married men and women within these groups. The highest indicator for marital satisfaction was constant among most groups. Additional analyses indicated that length of marriage explained part of the variance for differences in marital satisfaction. Implications of the findings were discussed.

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| <b>OG.03 Context Dependent Processes of Attachment Insecurity: New Foundations for Attachment-Embedded Psychotherapy</b> | Monday, July 26<br>9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L201 |
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## **OG.03 Priming attachment security and attachment insecurity: The cognitive vulnerability model applied to attachment theory**

Guy Bosmans, Marieke Dewitte, Caroline Braet

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

One of the cornerstones of attachment theory has always been the postulation that a secure or insecure attachment schema fully develops in line with the quality of early caregiver-child interactions during the first three years of life and later exerts a stable influence on a person's further development. However, longitudinal research has failed to provide strong enough evidence demonstrating cross-temporal stability of attachment security. Attachment theory has acknowledged the possibility that fluctuations in attachment security might occur across time due to the influence of significant life-events. However, the size of the cross-temporal variations seem to suggest that alternative explicatory processes exist. Consequently, it has been suggested that attachment security might as well have some state-like characteristics. Recent theory and research findings suggests that during the entire course of life the same person might have experiences with more and less secure relationships, leading to the development of multiple attachment schemas that differ in security-related content. Although a relational schema may exist latently, without influencing attachment behavior, schema-relevant contexts might reactivate the schema. This reactivated schema will lead to a change in a person's attachment behavior. This implies a process that resembles the diathesis-stress process that has been demonstrated for depressogenic cognitive schemas. Two experimental studies were designed to investigate this hypothesis and both studies confirmed the diathesis-stress hypothesis. These studies and their results will be described and discussed. It will be argued that these findings are important to understand longitudinal stability and have important implications for treating attachment-related psychopathology.

### **OG.03 Attachment priming as a moderator of negative social evaluations in avoidant and borderline personality disorder**

David Bowles

*University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom*

Attachment priming methods have been shown to moderate social cognitive-affective processes, such as promoting empathy, compassion and altruism. It is proposed by some that repeated exposure to secure primes may over time lead to a sustainably more secure attachment orientation. Avoidant and borderline personality disorder (PD) are both associated with negatively biased cognitive-affective reactions to social stimuli that may be in part explained by chronic attachment insecurity. In this paper we present two studies (Ns = 199 and 169 college students) in which attachment priming methods have been introduced in an attempt to reduce social cognitive negativity associated with these maladjusted variants of personality. The priming methods comprised overtly presented picture primes of both secure and insecure related stimuli (study 1), and covertly presented words relating to attachment secure base (study2). Participants self-reported PD features and attachment insecurity, and recorded reactions to social stimuli on Likert-type response scales. Strong negative biases in social evaluation were found in avoidant and borderline PD. Interaction analyses in both studies suggest that priming a sense of attachment security might attenuate negatively biased social evaluations associated with borderline PD, whereas negative social evaluations are particularly rigid and unresponsive to secure base primes in avoidant PD. These results suggests differential psychological context-dependency of social cognition in avoidant and borderline PD. Implications of these patterns of if...then context-specific cognitive-affective responses for definitions, theoretical conceptualisations, and therapeutic interventions should be discussed. Further empirical investigations into both immediate and cumulative effects of secure base activation are clearly in demand.

### **OG.03 Avoiding minds: Avoidant (but not anxious) attachment predicts poorer mental state decoding ability in adults**

Lance Slade<sup>1</sup>, Joe Levy<sup>1</sup>, Amanda Holmes<sup>1</sup>, David Bowles<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Roehampton University, London, United Kingdom, <sup>2</sup>University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom*

A central tenet of attachment theory is that attachment styles, which develop in infancy as a result of early caregiver-child experiences, and can be identified in adult close relationships, have a significant impact on social functioning. This involves not only how people behave socially but also their social understanding. Research has shown, for example, links between attachment orientation and poorer or differential processing of emotion in both children and adults. However, the link between attachment orientation and more complex social understanding is less known. This study investigated the link between avoidant attachment style, (characterized by a tendency to withdraw or avoid close and intimate contact with significant others) and the ability to infer or decode the mental or psychological states of others. 100 college students were given a measure of attachment orientation (the Experience of Close Relationships questionnaire, Brennan, Clark & Shaver, 1988) and a measure of mental state decoding which involves identifying the mental states of people from static images of their facial expressions (the "Reading the Mind in the Eyes" task, Baron-Cohen, Wheelwright, Hill, Raste, & Plumb, 2001), as well as a measure of emotion recognition and language ability. Results showed that performance on the "eyes" tasks was significantly correlated with levels of avoidant but not anxious attachment, even

after controlling for emotion understanding and language ability. Results will be discussed in terms of the implications of attachment-avoidant individuals' tendency to dismiss or withdraw from information of emotional significance.

### **OG.03 Counsellor attachment orientation and its relation with empathy, mental state understanding and perspective taking**

M Hill, Lance Slade, G Richards

*Roehampton University, London, United Kingdom*

A widely held view exists that the strength of the relationship between client and therapist is key to successful therapy and that this relationship is enhanced by a profound level of connectedness or engagement in the therapeutic dyad. The development of this relationship is seen by many as a parallel process to that involved in the formation of attachment relationships (or models for future relating) seen in infants and their primary carers. Individuals that received responsive and empathic caregiving have often experienced safety and comfort in relationships whereas those receiving remote or inconsistent care often display anxious or avoidant patterns in relating to others that reflect that. One of the aims of therapy, therefore, might be to readdress such attachment styles and provide the conditions for the client to change their relational style. Therefore, successful therapy may rely on the therapist's ability to occupy the role of security provider, and the therapist's own attachment style becomes key. Research will be presented that aims to investigate how attachment style may influence the connection or engagement between client and therapist by exploring the relation between therapist attachment style and other relational attributes that therapists may possess and that appear to be necessary in order to engage with clients: empathic ability, mental state understanding and perspective taking. Whilst it is known that individual differences exist in these relational aspects of the therapeutic relationship, it is not so well known how they relate to attachment styles, or inter-relate, particularly with respect to therapist groups.

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| <b>OG.04 Power and Sexual Behavior</b> | Monday, July 26<br>9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L102 |
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### **OG.04 The sunken part of the iceberg: What is not said in supervision meetings?**

Eliezer Yariv, Orit Forkosh

*Gordon College of Education, Haifa, Israel*

Relationships are built on formal or informal encounters in which the partners select aspects they wish to communicate and other issues they prefer to conceal. The current study examines, within the framework of supervision discussions among pedagogic supervisor, mentor teachers and a student teacher, what the participants prefer not to say. After observing 32 lessons delivered by student teachers and the following feedback discussion, the researchers held individual semi-structured interviews (N=78). The findings: students prefer not to discuss issues that might portray them negatively, avoid asking questions and unexpectedly refrain from addressing the good aspects of their performance. The supervisors omit much important practical information, such as a level of progress, strengths and difficulties. They do not try to get acquainted with the student's inner world and their personal concerns. All the three participants do their utmost not to release any statement that might be perceived by the others as a criticism. The subjects explained the causes for their hesitations and decision not to open many important subjects. When asked to guess what the other

party has tried to conceal, one third could not figure out even one subject and the others had difficulties to identify correctly such topics. Finally, we will describe a shining case of a very talented supervisor that all the participants share their thoughts and feelings. They admitted that her whole-heartedly empathetic support left no reason to conceal anything. The discussion describes and explains how concealment reflects and impacts the nature of relationships.

#### **OG.04 "Good reasons" for telling others' secrets: What are they and how are they influenced by relational quality?**

Anita Vangelisti, <sup>1</sup>Larrissa Roberts, Alexa Hampel

<sup>1</sup>*University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA*

Because revealing secrets can have substantial influences on individuals and their personal relationships, the criteria that people use in deciding whether to divulge secrets are important. Research suggests that people's decisions about whether to reveal a secret depend, in part, on their perceptions of the quality of the secret information and the quality of their relationship with target of their disclosure. Although the literature provides a relatively clear picture of the criteria individuals use in making decisions about divulging secrets, little is known about the way people evaluate these criteria. The current study was conducted to investigate what laypeople perceive as *good reasons* for telling secrets and to explore the factors that influence individuals' tendency to endorse some reasons or criteria over others. Results suggest that individuals evaluate reasons or criteria for revealing secrets on three levels. The first is a cultural level. At this level, good reasons for revealing secrets are those that help maintain cultural rules or norms. The second is a social level. Good reasons for revealing secrets at the social level focus on preventing harm to social groups such as families. Finally, the third level is the personal level. Efforts to promote the well-being of individuals drive good reasons for divulging secrets at the personal level. Analyses also revealed that people's tendency to endorse criteria for revealing secrets varies with regard to the quality of their relationships with the target of the secret and the person to whom they are revealing the secret.

#### **OG.04 Barriers to intimacy caused by self–other differences in perceptions of self-disclosures**

Emily Pronin

*Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA*

In close relationships, individuals yearn to feel known and understood. Often, the path to that feeling involves disclosing information about oneself. Unfortunately, differences in the way people perceive their own versus others' disclosures can prevent feelings of being known and understood. This talk describes two such differences. The first involves the tendency for disclosers, versus recipients of disclosures, to differ in their perceptions of what information is self-revealing. Experiments from my lab have found that people view their disclosures about what they care about and value (such as family, or health) as more revealing than do others. This asymmetry is rooted in disclosers' feeling that their values are "especially important" to them. This asymmetry can act as a barrier to intimacy. Disclosers can feel disappointed by others' failure to acknowledge the meaningfulness of their revelations, while those others can feel disappointed by disclosers' failure to open up about anything meaningful. Another self-other difference involves perceptions of disclosures of personal fears and insecurities. In seeking intimacy, people may fear revealing fears and insecurities and also yearn to reveal those things. Experiments

from my lab show that actors are overly concerned about revealing such information: they expect others to react more negatively than others in fact do. A source of this effect lies in disclosers' under-estimation of how much others will judge them based on their apparent honesty (rather than the negativity of the information disclosed). This asymmetry can prevent intimacy by leading would-be disclosers to unnecessarily hide parts of themselves.

#### **OG.04 The effects of mate-choice copying dynamics on human romantic and risky sexual behaviors**

Michael Cunningham, Anita Barbee, Lee Dugatkin  
*University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, USA*

In the evolutionary paradigm of mate-choice copying, members of a number of species were found to display increased sexual attraction to an opposite-sex target if they observed a conspecific displaying attraction to that target. Humans also were observed to display mate-choice copying in both scenario and live experimental paradigms, with females demonstrating that tendency more strongly than males. This experiment examined mate-copying as a function of the model, and the desirable and risky qualities of the target, focusing on selection of targets for a hook-up/one-night stand, a date, and a long-term relationship. The target's desirability was manipulated in terms of high versus low physical attractiveness, whereas the target's riskiness was manipulated through the portrayal of the target as sexually adventurous, with a few "close calls" with sexually transmitted diseases, versus sexual conservatism. Significant mate-choice copying was observed, which was qualified by a number of intriguing interaction effects. For example, females, and those low in dispositional sociosexuality, demonstrated more mate-copying when the model chose a conservative target, but less mate-copying when the model chose a risky target. By contrast, the mate-copying of males, and those low in sociosexuality, was not as strongly influenced by the target's restrictiveness. In addition, the target's physical attractiveness influenced mate-copying when the model chose a sexually restrictive target, but not when the model chose a sexual unrestricted target. Interactions with the intended type of relationship, and implications for evolutionary and social interpretations of mate-choice copying and sociosexual behavior, will be discussed.

#### **OG.04 Sexting...is it all about power?**

Susan Lipkins, Jaclyn Levy  
*New School for Social Research, NYC, NY, USA*

Introduction: Sexting, the act of sharing sexually explicit pictures of yourself via electronic devices, is an important topic for social scientists. It is considered a risky behavior that has caused two suicides in the USA, and has the potential to endanger lives. However, it is also a widespread phenomenon that is observed globally and is prevalent among people between the ages of 12-26; namely those who have grown up with digital technology. The purpose of this study is to better understand sexting behavior, and to explore its relationship to power and group dynamics. Why do people sext? Is sexting a new kind of 'mating call'? Is sexting a form of sexual harassment? Do people sext in order to improve or maintain their social status within their social network? Is sexting all about power? Method: Three hundred and twenty three (323) subjects, aged 13-72, entered an online portal and completed a psychological test known as the "power profile" and a survey on sexting experiences and attitudes. Result: Sexters had a significantly higher power score than non-sexters. Sexters have a strong desire for power and often take control in an aggressive manner. However,

statistically significant differences were found between those aged 13-26, and older participants. Conclusion: Age was a significant factor differentiating the reasons that people sext; and their attitude towards sexting. Sexual orientation and ethnicity were also relevant factors.

#### **OG.05 Relationship Quality and Satisfaction**

Monday, July 26  
9:00am-10:30am  
Room L103

#### **OG.05 Height, relationship satisfaction, jealousy and mate retention**

Gayle Brewer, Charlene Riley

*University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire, United Kingdom*

Male height is associated with high mate value. In particular, tall men are perceived as more attractive, dominant and of a higher status than shorter rivals, resulting in a greater lifetime reproductive success. Female infidelity and relationship dissolution may therefore present a greater risk to short men. It was predicted that tall men would report greater relationship satisfaction and lower jealousy and mate retention behavior than short men. Ninety eight heterosexual men in a current romantic relationship completed a questionnaire. Both linear and quadratic relationships were found between male height and relationship satisfaction, cognitive and behavioral jealousy. Tall men reported greater relationship satisfaction and lower levels of cognitive or behavioral jealousy than short men. In addition, linear and quadratic relationships were found between male height and a number of mate retention behaviors. Tall and short men engaged in different mate retention behaviors. These findings are consistent with previous research conducted in this area detailing the greater attractiveness of tall men.

#### **OG.05 Getting off to a bad start: The relationship between communication patterns in the initial episode of a serial argument and the number of subsequent episodes.**

Rachel Reznik<sup>1</sup>, Michael Roloff<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL, USA, <sup>2</sup>Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA*

Serial arguments consist of reoccurring, repetitive episodes over a given issue (Johnson & Roloff, 2002). Our goal is to describe the impact of role (initiator or target) during the initial argument, communication patterns, and aftermath of the initial argument on the long-term course of the serial argument. Specifically, this study of romantic relationships (N = 191) explores the relationships between features of an initial serial argumentative episode including role, the demand/withdraw pattern, and mutual hostility, and constructive outcomes and the number of subsequent argumentative episodes. Initiators of the initial episode report a self-demand/partner-withdraw pattern occurs and this pattern is positively related to the number of subsequent argumentative episodes. This pattern suggests that initiators may be prone to harsh initial startups that emotionally flood their partners who react by withdrawing from the interaction. This sequence prolongs the argument further beyond the initial episode. Also, targets of the initial episode report that in the first argumentative episode they engaged in partner-demand/self-withdraw and this pattern was positively related to their perception of constructive outcomes, but these constructive outcomes are not related to the number of subsequent episodes. Participants report that mutual hostility often results in partner-demand/self-withdraw, which is positively related to constructive outcomes. This model is produced in a sample of individuals in intact

relationships and replicated in a sample of participants in terminated relationships.

### **OG.05 Michelangelo phenomenon: Partner affirmation, target behavior, and personal growth**

Madoka Kumashiro

*Goldsmiths, University of London, London, United Kingdom*

Research on the Michelangelo phenomenon (Drigotas et al., 1998) has shown that partner affirmation, or close partners behaving toward the self in a manner congruent with the self's ideal, facilitates movement toward the self's ideal. Often, goals that are relevant to the ideal self are also some of the most effortful and time-consuming goals for targets to pursue and for partners to support. Little is known about what motivates partners to engage in an affirming manner for such challenging goals. For example, partners may be more likely to affirm a target whose goals require little sacrifice and who pursue their goals in a considerate manner. A cyclical model is proposed in which negative impact of target goals for partners and target's considerate behavior will influence partner affirmation. In turn, making goal progress as a function of partner affirmation will promote considerate target behaviors and reduce the negative impact of goal pursuits on the partner. In the current research, 139 couples completed a 8-day diary study followed by a longitudinal follow-up 6 months later. Findings using residualized lagged analyses and across-partner reports show support for the model. Experiencing personal growth as a function of partner affirmation promoted considerate target behavior, which in turn, facilitated partner affirmation the next day and promoted daily goal progress. Target consideration also reduced partner's report of negative impact of target goals 6 months later. Broader implications of the present research in understanding important partner dynamics for central self processes are discussed.

### **OG.05 Between the sheets and beyond: Relationship quality may improve, even when sex is unsatisfying**

Moran Mizrahi<sup>1</sup>, Gilad Hirschberger<sup>2</sup>, Gurit E. Birnbaum<sup>2</sup>, Mario Mikulincer<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel*

Previous studies have indicated a positive association between sexual satisfaction and relationship quality in intimate relationships. Yet, in the early stages of relationship formation, sexual satisfaction and relationship satisfaction seem to be inseparable, such that sexual satisfaction often serves as the litmus test of the quality of the relationship. On the other hand, other aspects of close relationships (e.g., support, intimacy) are considered as important for relationship formation and maintenance. The present research followed a sample of 38 newly dating couples over a period of 8 months and prospectively examined the longitudinal relationship between sexual satisfaction and relationship satisfaction. In three waves of measurement, at the beginning of the study, after four months, and after eight months, participants completed measures of sexual functioning and relationship satisfaction. In keeping with previous research, results indicated that high sexual satisfaction was associated with global relationship satisfaction at all three time points. However, when sexual satisfaction was low, relationship satisfaction was low only at time I. Over the period of 8 months, relationship satisfaction gradually increased to the extent that at Time III, it was not significantly different than the relationship satisfaction of individuals who reported high sexual satisfaction. The increase in relationship satisfaction over time suggests that although sexual satisfaction is a crucial element of relationship satisfaction, especially during the formation stage of close relationships, there seem to

be other aspects of the relationship that keep couples together, even when they are not sexually satisfied.

### **OG.05 Dyadic perception of relationship quality: How to consider the stereotype effect**

Semira Tagliabue, Margherita Lanz, Daniela Barni

*Catholic University, Milan, Italy*

Stereotype effect has been conceptualized as the "typical or normative responses persons tend to give for a set of variables (Kenny et al., 2006; p. 331). The stereotype effect is one of the sources of the perception of relationship quality within a dyad; the others are the idiosyncratic view of the perceiver and the perspective uniquely shared by the couple. Research on perception accuracy deals with the issue of how much stereotype effect influences the persons' responses using a dyadic centered approach. However most of the researchers do not investigate relational constructs, but individual ones, such as values (Barni & Ranieri, in press; Roest, et al. 2009). The aim of the present work is to go into the meaning of the stereotype effect. In particular, the research question is whether different stereotype effects can be found. Kenny and Acitelli (1994) proposed to investigate an individual stereotype based on the role within the dyad. However, other levels of stereotype effects are possible when the relationship quality is assessed by members of a family. In this case, stereotype effect concerning the different relational typologies (marital relationship, parent-child relationship) or the group (family stereotype effect) can be possible. Data from 177 families concerning family satisfaction, dyadic relationship satisfaction and dyadic conflict (FSS, Olson & Wilson, 1982; NRI, Furman & Buhrmester, 1992) have been used to investigate those issues and to present methods to detect the different stereotype effects presented in the rationale of the paper. Data analyses are currently being undertaken.

### **OG.05 Why did we breakup? Predicting explanations for romantic dissolution**

Juan Wilson<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Agnew<sup>2</sup>, Laura VanderDrift<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Región Metropolitana, Chile, <sup>2</sup>Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*

Past research has identified personal and situational predictors of romantic dissolution. Personal factors include low satisfaction, few investments, contemplating an alternative romantic relationship, and contemplating shifting the nature of the relationship from romance to friendship. Situational factors include marginalization by social network members and geographic distance between partners. An issue not previously studied is whether reasons for dissolution, elicited post-dissolution, can be predicted from earlier reports of personal and situational factors in the relationship. To study this issue, at Time 1 we collected reports on all the above factors.

Approximately 4 months later, intact/dissolved romance status was assessed; if dissolved, reasons for the breakup were ascertained. Results indicate that, except for geographic distance, all the Time 1 factors predicted romantic dissolution by Time 2. Multiple regression analyses showed that T1 situational factors predicted T2 situational reasons for the breakup, whereas T1 personal factors predicted T2 personal reasons for the breakup. As for the situational factors, T1 social marginalization and geographic distance predicted, respectively, T2 social marginalization and geographic distance as breakup reasons. As for the personal factors, T1 few investments, contemplating an alternative romantic relationship, and contemplating just being friends with the partner predicted, respectively, T2 few investments, preference for

being "single", and preference for a friendship with the partner as breakup reasons. Low relationship satisfaction did not predict T2 low satisfaction as a breakup reason. Finally, endorsement of the breakup reasons was rather low, suggesting people might explain their romantic breakups in other important ways not included here.

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>OG.06 Physiological, Behavioral, and Symptomatic Correlates of Attachment Orientations</b> | Monday, July 26<br>9:00am-10:30am<br>Room L104 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|

**OG.06 It's not me, it's you: Adult attachment, cortisol, and social support exchange in dating couples**

Kathryn Brooks, Theodore Robles, Christine Dunkel Schetter  
*University of California, Los Angeles, USA*

Despite evidence linking close relationship quality with physical health outcomes, the mechanisms involved remain poorly understood. This study investigates how an individual's attachment security, as well as that of his or her romantic partner, influences that individual's physiological response to a social support discussion with their partner. Dating couples (N = 29) completed measures of attachment anxiety and avoidance prior to a 20 minute discussion of things about themselves they wished to change. Cortisol, a hormone involved in the body's response to stress, was measured before, 40 minutes after, and 90 minutes after the discussion. Multilevel modeling revealed that an individual's own attachment did not predict his or her cortisol response, but that higher levels of a partner's attachment avoidance predicted higher cortisol. These results demonstrate that within dating couples, one partner's attachment security has meaningful effects on their partner's physiology, which contributes to our understanding of how individual differences in attachment moderate the effects of close relationships on health.

**OG.06 Effective reaction to danger: Attachment insecurities predict behavioral reactions to an experimentally induced threat above and beyond general personality traits**

Tsachi Ein-Dor<sup>1</sup>, Mario Mikulincer<sup>1</sup>, Phillip R. Shaver<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya, Herzliya, Israel, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*University of California, Davis, Davis, California, USA*

Current theory and research indicate that a person who is secure with respect to attachment has many adaptive advantages over insecurely attached individuals, who tend to be poorly adjusted in various social, emotional, and personality-related domains. Given the documented advantages of attachment security, it is surprising that almost half of living human beings in all age groups are insecure with respect to attachment. We proposed Social Defense Theory (SDT) as an explanation of this apparent paradox in contemporary attachment research. We devised a study in order to examine SDT's predictions concerning the advantages to a group of including members with different attachment patterns, including insecure ones. The behavior of 46 groups was unobtrusively observed in an experimentally induced threatening situation - a room gradually filling with smoke due to a malfunctioning computer. Results indicated that groups with a member high on attachment anxiety were quicker to detect the danger than groups with members low on attachment anxiety. Groups with a member high on avoidant attachment were quicker to respond to the danger once it had been detected, than groups with members low on attachment avoidance. Moreover, groups with members high on either attachment anxiety or avoidance were

rated as more effective in dealing with the demanding situation, than groups with members low on these measures. These results were significant even when extraversion and neuroticism were statistically controlled. We will discuss implications of the findings for theory and research concerning group processes, threat detection, and individual differences in attachment.

### **OG.06 Attachment security and daily cortisol rhythms**

Bulent Turan<sup>1</sup>, Sasha Gibbs<sup>2</sup>, Laura Carstensen<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA*

The relationship between attachment security and diurnal cortisol patterns was examined in a community sample. Cortisol was assessed three times a day for two consecutive days. Attachment security was assessed using two different methods: (a) the Experiences in Close Relationships Inventory and (b) the prompt-word outline method (by coding participants' narratives using the outline). Low attachment-related avoidance assessed with the ECR as well as high attachment security assessed with the prompt-word task was associated with a faster decrease in cortisol across the day. Previous studies suggest that this kind of fast decrease in cortisol is associated with better physical and mental health. The effect of attachment security was independent of (a) serotonin transporter gene polymorphism, (b) knowledge about support processes (assessed using participants' descriptions of animated film clips depicting a social support exchange), and (c) participants' affect throughout the day (assessed during a one-week experience-sampling phase several months before the cortisol assessment phase). Thus, the relationship between attachment security and cortisol patterns cannot be mediated by these constructs. On the other hand, participants' tendency to talk to others when distressed (assessed during the experience sampling phase) partially mediated the association between attachment security and faster decrease in cortisol across the day. Participants who are insecure had faster decrease across the day if they reported spending more time alone (in the experience sampling phase). This finding suggests that being with others is not only ineffective for insecure people; their daily cortisol pattern actually seems to be better if they are alone.

### **OG.06 Dismissing-avoidants are happier when not in a relationship: An international survey of attachment and life satisfaction**

Kimberly Johnson, Bjarne Holmes

*Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, United Kingdom*

Attachment theory provides a comprehensive framework for understanding differences in how individuals interpret, experience, and respond to their personal relationships and social environment. These differences have been shown to greatly influence individuals' subjective well-being (e.g. Murphy & Bates, 1997). The current study investigated the relationship between adult attachment and life satisfaction. Method: 14,629 participants completed the Experiences in Close Relationships-Revised (Fraley, Waller & Brennan, 2000) and Satisfaction with Life Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larson & Griffin, 1985) online as part of a larger study. Results: Consistent with previous research (e.g. Hwang, Johnston, & Smith, 2009), linear regression revealed participants low in avoidance and anxiety (secure) reported the highest life satisfaction, followed by participants with high avoidance/low anxiety (dismissing-avoidant) and high anxiety/low avoidance (preoccupied). High anxiety/high avoidance (fearful-avoidant) participants reported the lowest life satisfaction. However, relationship status was found to moderate this association; when entered into the

regression equation, it was found that of those not in a relationship, dismissing-avoidant individuals reported the highest life satisfaction, followed by secure, preoccupied, and fearful-avoidant. Additionally, while secure, preoccupied, and fearful-avoidant participants in a relationship reported higher life satisfaction than their single counterparts, dismissing-avoidant participants' life satisfaction was lower. Conclusion: Attachment theory describes individuals characterised as dismissing-avoidant as experiencing discomfort with closeness and as valuing their independence. The current study is the first to demonstrate that dismissing-avoidant individuals report lower life satisfaction when in a relationship than when not. These findings are discussed within the context of dismissing-avoidants' aversion to intimacy and desire for autonomy.

#### **OG.06 A geometri cal analysis of attachment in personality disorders**

Olivier Laverdière, Jean Descôteaux

*Universite de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada*

Various models of personality disorders stress the importance of interpersonal disturbances, both for the aetiology of disorders and for conceptualization of current relational difficulties. Attachment theory provides a methodologically and empirically strong framework to study interpersonal disturbances exhibited by individuals presenting personality disorders. Recent theoretical formulations (e.g. Lyddon & Sherry, 2001; Meyer & Pilkonis, 2005) translated features of each personality disorders into attachment features. However, thorough investigations of those formulations are scarce, and quite often limited to borderline psychopathology. The current study aims to examine relationship of all personality disorders in relation to attachment dimensions. The sample consisted of 385 participants that were surveyed using the Personality Diagnostic Questionnaire 4+ (Hyler, 1994) and the Experience in Close Relationship (Brennan, Clark, Shaver, 1998). Specific relations of personality disorders with area of the attachment circumplex were tested according to geometrical assumptions. Results indicate significant relations between attachment areas and personality disorders. However, some specific hypotheses were not supported, as some areas of the circumplex were not related to specific personality disorders. Moreover, two of the personality disorders were not projected onto the attachment dimensions. Results are discussed according to their clinical and theoretical implications.

#### **OG.07 Social Support Across Different Contexts**

Monday, July 26  
9:00am-10:30am  
Room A110

#### **OG.07 The role of relationships of women in poverty persisting in higher education goals**

Charlene A. Lutes

*Northwestern Michigan College, Traverse City, MI, USA*

Research has revealed very little about the role of positive and negative relationships of first-generation college women in poverty who seek higher education goals without a formal support system. These low-income learners are at risk because the culture of poverty influences their persistence in what to them is a foreign land---the traditional college landscape. The purpose of this study was to examine the circumstances of these first-generation college learners in the light of poverty as they attempted to reach their higher education goals. A grounded theory, qualitative approach was used

to flesh out a common set of propositions about these women's experiences, which had one overall identifying theme: relationships are key to persistence. As they pursued their dream of an education, they learned how to respond to adversity in new ways in order to stay in school, and they saw how their generational poverty backgrounds could negatively influence their future if they allowed it. While this study found that women identified and developed new relationships that helped them succeed, they also identified the one relationship that became the significant barrier to persistence in achieving their college goals: their mothers. The study features stories of struggle and gain in order to become the first college graduates of families in poverty. These findings reflect that these naturalistic inquiries can help higher education institutions understand retention and create learning environments that facilitate persistence.

#### **OG.07 The importance of social support in pediatric settings: Links to the quality of life of children/adolescents and their family caregivers**

Carlos Carona, Carla Crespo, Neuza Silva, Cristina Canavarro

*Coimbra University, Cognitive Psychology Institute, Coimbra, Portugal*

**Aims.** (1) To analyze the relationship between different types of social support (SS) and the quality of life (QL) of children/adolescents with chronic conditions and their family caregivers (FC); (2) to assess the mediation effect of SS in the relationship between perceived burden of care and FC's QL; (3) to assess the mediation effect of SS in the relationship between psychological difficulties and QL of youths with chronic conditions. **Method.** Sample included 57 children/adolescents with asthma ( $n=32$ ) and epilepsy ( $n=25$ ), and their primary FC, attending two central public Portuguese hospitals. SDQ, Satisfaction with SS Scale for Youths and DISABKIDS-37 were administered to the youths; WHOQOL-BREF, Satisfaction with SS Scale, and The Revised Burden Measure were administered to the FC. Correlation matrixes were obtained to examine the association between variables; mediation effects were tested using the internet version of MedGraph-I. **Results.** Social Intimacy was the only SS subscale related to all QL domains of the FC ( $r_s$  from .45 to .51,  $p=.01$ ). Overall SS was associated with all domains of children/adolescents' health-related QL ( $r_s$  from .28,  $p=.05$  to .58,  $p=.01$ ). Social Intimacy mediated the relationship between Caregiving burden and Psychological and Social Relationships QL domains. Overall SS partially mediated the relationship between Psychological difficulties and General HRQL of children/adolescents. **Conclusions.** Interventions targeting the reduction of caregiving burden of FC and the psychological symptoms of youths with chronic conditions, may foster their SS satisfaction and social relationships and improve their QL.

#### **OG.07 Interpersonal relationships and cooperation in the constitution and maintenance of a co-operative in Brazil**

Raquel Miranda<sup>1</sup>, Agnaldo Garcia<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Federal University of Viçosa, Rio Paranaíba, Minas Gerais, Brazil,*

<sup>2</sup>*Federal University of Espirito Santo, Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil*

Interpersonal relationships in organizations are still under-investigated in developing countries. This work investigated personal relationships in the constitution and maintenance of a co-operative, focusing on cooperation and related issues as reciprocity, trust, communication, conflict and satisfaction, in a small community in Ilha de Caieiras, Brazil. Based on in-depth interviews with 12 participants, direct observation and document analysis, the historical development and the current

situation of interpersonal relationships in the group were investigated. Established in 1999, the company was proposed by local authorities to improve the financial income and social conditions of a very poor area of Vitoria, grouping women who worked with the crab processing. In order to understand the changes in relationships due to the development of a new economic activity, the authors interviewed the participants about their family, community and work relationships in the past, how they changed with the establishment of the new company and their current situation, with emphasis on cooperation processes. The data were organized and analyzed according to the theoretical proposals of Robert Hinde, emphasizing description and the consideration of different levels of organization (interpersonal, group and community levels) and also the physical environment and social and cultural structures. Considering relationships, three major points are highlighted: the historical overlapping of family, community and work relationships; the transposition of family and community relationship patterns to work relations; and, the need to reorganize personal relations at work to achieve economic success in a competitive market. Personal relationships and community development in developing countries are briefly discussed.

#### **OG.07 Social support in a stressful situation enhances later attachment security with the provider**

João Moreira, Patrícia Gamboa

*University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal*

A number of recent studies have shown that attachment representations are subject to short-term influences, which can produce many of the positive effects of a stable secure style. Most of these, however, have been short-term experimental studies employing priming techniques, and few studies have shown similar effects in longer-term, naturalistic environments. In the current study, perceived social support and attachment style in a specific, close relationship (a romantic partner in 78% of the cases, a parent in 9%, a friend in 8%, a sibling in 3%, another relative in 3%) were assessed twice, in a sample of 107 nursing professionals, aged between 29 and 53 ( $M = 39.25$ ), 84% female, that were taking a stressful exam. Data were analyzed by means of structural equation modeling, and indicate that social support perceived from that person during the stressful pre-exam period influences attachment security with him/her two months later. The effect was stronger for Avoidance ( $-.50$ ), than for Anxiety ( $-.28$ ), but both were significant. Importantly, the reverse was not true, i.e., attachment style during the stressful period did not influence later perceptions of support. These results seem to indicate that the enhancement of a secure attachment style, with its numerous known benefits, may be one of the mechanisms of social support effects, i.e., that social support effects are mediated by attachment style. Such an effect opens varied avenues for applied research, e.g., the study of how best to teach potential providers to communicate support so as to enhance security.

**OG.08 Relationship commitment and condom use in young adults at risk for HIV**

Christopher Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Laura VanderDrift<sup>1</sup>, Jocelyn Warren<sup>2</sup>, Marie Harvey<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA*

Past research has consistently shown that condom use is less likely within ongoing relationships than within casual partnerships (e.g., Anderson, 2003; Misovich et al., 1997). Rather than being more careful in sexual relations with a more well-known partner, the available evidence suggests that the opposite is the case: one's physical defenses appear to drop. However, the theoretical underpinnings regarding why this is so remain unarticulated and largely unexplored. We propose that one particular psychological variable, relationship commitment, helps to account for differential rates of condom use in different kinds of partnerships. Specifically, we hypothesized that greater levels of commitment lead to lower rates of condom use, mediated by perception of invulnerability to harm from partner and by condom use intentions. We tested our hypotheses with data derived from POPD. Above and beyond a number of important control variables (including gender, race, cohabitation status, number of lifetime sexual partners, ever having a sexually transmitted disease, and current use of oral contraception by self or partner), results from structural equation analyses provide support for the hypothesized model, with relationship commitment found to be a negative, significant predictor of condom use over the preceding 4 months, mediated by perceived invulnerability and intentions. Alternative model tests as well as multiple group analyses (by gender and by race) will also be presented. Results will be discussed in the context of an overall model of commitment processes, with implications for a greater understanding of not only condom use but also relationship power.

**OG.08 Predicting concurrent sexual behavior: Who steps out and why?**

Laura VanderDrift<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Marie Harvey<sup>2</sup>, Jocelyn Warren<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA*

One known risk factor for STI and HIV acquisition is engaging in independent sexual relationships with multiple partners during the same time period (or having a sexual partner who is involved in such concurrent sexual relationships). Little is known, however, about the interpersonal dynamics that give rise to the occurrence of concurrent sexual behavior. Focusing on individuals who initially reported sexual behavior exclusively with only one partner, we used longitudinal data from POPD to predict which study participants would initiate sexual relations with an additional partner over time. At Time 1, measures of commitment to and investments in the relationship with the sexual partner, as well as proportion of condom-protected acts of intercourse with that partner, were collected. Four months later, at Time 2, data on the status of that relationship (intact vs. dissolved), and involvement / protected acts with an additional sexual partner were obtained. Commitment level at Time 1 significantly predicted whether the initial partnership had remained intact or dissolved, and whether the participant initiated a new sexual relationship between Time 1 and 2. Investment at Time 1 significantly differentiated those who initiated a

new sexual relationship. With respect to risky behavior, it would appear that some participants remained committed enough to their original partner to largely forego condom use in that relationship, but not committed enough to remain sexually exclusive. Moreover, although participants' rate of protected acts was relatively high in the new relationship (> 60%), it remained disturbingly low with the original partner (< 33%).

#### **OG.08 Power over condom use intentions and behavior within sexual dyads**

Marie Harvey<sup>2</sup>, Jocelyn Warren<sup>2</sup>, Christopher Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Laura VanderDrift<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA*

According to the integrative model for HIV prevention, the most proximal predictor of an individual's behavior is the individual's behavioral intention. Although this supposition is reasonable for independent behaviors, it is necessary to determine the collective intention of a dyad in order to best predict interdependent behavior. Condom use is an example of an interdependent behavior because it requires the participation of both members of a dyad. Issues of power and control are particularly important when considering interdependent behaviors. The goal of this study was to determine what factors predict whose condom use intention is most associated with the dyad's joint condom use intention and prospectively predicts condom use. Several variables were hypothesized to predict which dyad member will have more relative power over condom use, including gender, dispositional dominance, relationship power, and the relative relationship alternatives of each dyad member to the current partner. Data were collected from each member of the dyad separately and together at Times 3 and 4. The study sample included 146 couples at T3. Preliminary findings indicate that, among couples that disagreed with regard to their individual intentions to use condoms, relationship power and relative alternatives significantly differentiated which of the partners' intentions is more predictive of the couple's joint intention and subsequent condom use. Interestingly, gender and dispositional dominance (individual-level factors) do not predict which partner's intention will be more predictive of the couple's intention, thus emphasizing the importance of considering the relational context of interdependent behavior.

#### **OG.08 Characteristics of sexual partnerships: Demographic versus relational descriptors**

Jocelyn Warren<sup>2</sup>, Marie Harvey<sup>2</sup>, Laura VanderDrift<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Agnew<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*, <sup>2</sup>*Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA*

Interpersonal relationships have particular relevance for sexual health because the behaviors of interest often take place within the context of an interpersonal relationship. Moreover, prior research indicates that relationship variables are associated with sexual behaviors and outcomes. The understanding of how heterosexual relationships influence sexual behaviors is, however, limited because the nomenclature/measures used to categorize relationships do not capture the diversity of relationship types experienced by men and women at the beginning of the 21st century (e.g., steady versus casual). Although relationships may be understood as having both demographic (e.g., duration, cohabitation status) and interactive characteristics (e.g., commitment, power), most sexual health research has focused on the former. The specific aims of this presentation are to 1) describe demographic and interactive characteristics of different types of sexual partnerships (e.g., friend, dating

casually, dating exclusively) among a diverse sample (N=393) of unmarried heterosexual men and women aged 18-30 at increased risk of HIV; and 2) compare the characteristics of these categories by gender and race/ethnicity. This study uses data from in-person interviews at Time 1. Preliminary findings indicate that non-exclusive relationships differed from exclusive relationships on most demographic (e.g., duration, cohabitation status) and interactive measures (e.g., commitment, power, attachment, closeness, quality of alternatives). Within non-exclusive relationships, partnerships described as “just friends” did not differ from those described as “dating casually” on demographic characteristics. They did, however, significantly differ on most interactive measures. Effects of gender and race/ethnicity on variations among relationships types and implications for sexual health will be discussed.

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| <b>OH.01 Sibling and Twin Relationships in Early Childhood and Later Life</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L203 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

**OH.01 Twin relationships in early childhood: A comparison across MZ twins, DZ twins, and singletons**

Keren Fortuna, Ariel Knafo

*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel*

Twin relationship research is still scarce despite the increasing prevalence of twinning and the unique influence it entails for individual and family functioning. We report about levels of mother-reported closeness, conflict, dependence, and rivalry between 3-year-old twin pairs with the largest twin sample to date to address this issue (N = 1281 dyads), and examine a sibling relationship typology among twins. We further describe the ways in which characteristics of sibling relationships vary as a function of genetic relatedness and sex, and investigate twins-singletons differences. Results indicate that twins are very close, though most relationships also involve moderate conflict. Identical (monozygotic, MZ) twins were more likely to be part of high-closeness relationships relative to fraternal (dizygotic, DZ) twins, and were depicted as having higher levels of co-twin dependence. This finding holds even when mothers are mistaken about their twins' zygosity, implying that it is likely not simply driven by maternal expectations. As compared with a matched sample of 84 singletons and their siblings, DZ twins' relationships were described as closer and more interdependent. Same-sex twin dyads were found to have higher levels of rivalry and lower dependence as compared with twins of the opposite sex. Finally, while DZ twin girls are reported to be closer than boy dyads, MZ boy pairs are seen as more dependent on each other than girls. Findings lend support for evolutionary premises regarding the effects of genetic similarity in shaping relationships.

**OH.01 Prosocial behavior in twin children pairs in a resource allocation task**

Salomon Israel, Keren Fortuna, Ariel Knafo

*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel*

Prosocial behavior - behavior intended to benefit others - is often considered the basis of human relationships, and an important prerequisite for the functioning of society. Evolutionary perspective (Hamilton's Kin Selection theory) and past research has shown that increased genetic relatedness is associated with higher levels of cooperation. Twins are ideal for testing effects of genetic similarity on relationships as we compare siblings who are either 100% genetically alike (MZ twins) vs. those who

share only about 50% of their genes (DZ twins). Therefore, in this study we tested inter-twin prosocial behavior, employing an economic game paradigm. During a laboratory session, each twin was individually administered a child version of the Dictator Game. Children were given a series of choices about allocating a treat (chocolate coins) between them and their twin. For example, in one trial children had to choose between receiving one coin and giving that coin to their twin. Another dilemma was between receiving one coin while the twin receives none and each receiving one coin. Participants' choices were assessed for whether they made a self-favoring choice versus a twin-favoring or an egalitarian choice. We tested 371 participants at age 3.5 and 190 at age 5. Overall, children tended to choose the self-favoring options, though proportions of prosocial acts increased with age. Interestingly, the effects of zygosity differed by sex; among girl pairs, MZ twins tended to make more prosocial choices than DZ twins, while DZ boys made more prosocial choices relative to MZ boys.

### **OH.01 Siblings in middle and late adulthood: The new hot topic**

Paula Avioli<sup>2</sup>, Victoria Bedford<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA,*

<sup>2</sup>*Kean University, Union, New Jersey, USA*

Adult sibling relationships have typically been given short shrift in social science research due to much greater attention paid to spousal and parent-child ties. Recently, however, there appears to be a growing fascination with this pervasive, but "invisible" tie (i.e., the tie is not acknowledged by society). The purpose of this paper is to highlight concepts and findings from a comprehensive literature review currently in process, which focuses on the sibling literature in middle and later life over the past 15 years. Using a meta-analytic technique, the most blatant trend is the surge of research on the topic. Reasons for the trend are many, but one reason can be inferred from research that claims that the sibling tie is growing in importance. For instance, increased importance may be due to greater longevity, which, in turn, results in siblings sharing parent care. A second trend to be addressed is a focus on original family experiences as a determinant of the later life sibling relationship, with an emphasis on birth order and parental favoritism. Further, new topics, identified from the current literature, are addressed, such as defining siblings inclusively, expanding an understanding of the social support functions of siblings, and differentiating the relative importance of possible contributing factors to these behaviors, such as marital status, parent status, age, country, education, SES, and race/ ethnicity. Finally, some new theorizing about useful frameworks for understanding this complex relationship will be discussed, with an emphasis on the life course, ambivalence, and feminism.

### **OH.02 Implications of Attachment Styles at Various Life**

#### **Stages**

Monday, July 26  
11:15am-12:45pm  
Room L204

### **OH.02 Relationship as a condition for higher functioning**

Mimi Wellisch, Jac Brown

*Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW, Australia*

Development of attachment to a primary care-giver is a fundamental psycho-biological process with long term effects on physical, socio-emotional and cognitive functioning. Attachment research indicates that securely attached children are well adjusted, whereas insecurely attached children often have ongoing educational and

social problems (Prior & Glaser, 2006). There is, however, a dearth of research on the effects of attachment on gifted development. The literature indicates that gifted children's educational and adjustment problems are symptomatic of their asynchronistic, uneven gifted development. Therefore, this mixed-mode study was designed to test the hypothesis that cognitive development, socio-emotional adjustment and learning disabilities are affected by attachment style, regardless of giftedness. Participating 7-10 year old children with completed WISC-IV assessments and their parents were recruited. Participants (currently n=50) have been drawn from a New Zealand psychology clinic specializing in gifted children, the Macquarie University Rod Power Psychology Clinic, the NSW Association for Gifted and Talented Children, and Catholic Education Office primary schools from the Parramatta Diocese. Data collection included a general background questionnaire, the Experience in Close Relationships Scale (Brennan, Clark, & Shaver, 1998), the Attachment Style Classification Questionnaire for Latency Age Children (ASCQ)(Finzi et al.,1996), and the Child Behavior Checklist (Achenbach, 2001). Preliminary findings indicate a positive trend correlating higher IQ with secure the attachment, and where Perceptual Reasoning Index scores are higher than Verbal Comprehension Index scores, it appears more likely that children will be avoidently attached, correlating positively with externalizing, internalizing and total problems. Implications of findings will be presented.

## **OH.02 Attachment in psychosis and the effect of threats to self-esteem on the instability of persecutory ideation**

Sara Melo<sup>1</sup>, Richard Bentall<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Birmingham University, Birmingham, United Kingdom*, <sup>2</sup>*Bangor University, Bangor, United Kingdom*

**Objectives:** To investigate attachment styles associated with paranoia and associations between deservedness, self-esteem and attributions. **Background:** Psychosis has been found to be associated with avoidant attachment (Berry et al., 2007). Melo et al.'s (2006) findings suggest deservedness is changeable. No studies have investigated the relationship between deservedness and attachment. **Methods:** The study took place in Portugal and included 30 paranoids and 20 controls. Participants completed the Persecution and Deservedness Scale (PaDS), measures of attachment and self-esteem. Participants were later subjected to two computer games simulating a successful and an unsuccessful outcome, before and after which participants completed brief measures on mood, deservedness of persecution, attribution and self-esteem (Mikulincer et al., 2003). **Results:** Paranoids scored higher on negative self-esteem and dismissive-avoidant and anxious-ambivalent attachment than the controls. No significant correlations were found between PaDS deservedness and attachment within the clinical sample. The computer tasks showed a stronger self-serving bias for paranoids compared with controls. Scoring higher on PaDS deservedness was associated with becoming more 'bad me' following the 'success' game, but with becoming more 'poor me' following the 'failure' game. Becoming more 'poor me' following the 'success' game correlated with higher internal attributions. **Conclusions:** Our study suggests that paranoid individuals tend to have an insecure attachment, and some of them may be more sensitive to daily events and have more negative self-esteem. Changes in deservedness of persecution were consistent with attributions, in what may be a defensive attempt to protect the self against the impact of negative events (Bentall et al., 2001).

## **OH.02 Romantic attachment, life satisfaction, and shared goals: A predictive model of marital satisfaction**

Itziar Alonso-Arbiol<sup>1</sup>, Fernando Molero<sup>2</sup>, Itziar Fernandez<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian, Spain,* <sup>2</sup>*National Distance-Education University, Madrid, Spain*

Both anxiety and avoidance dimensions of romantic attachment have been repeatedly observed to be related to partners' marital satisfaction. However, the extent to which the relationship between avoidance and marital satisfaction is mediated or moderated by shared activities and goals of partners has not fully depicted yet. Likewise, regarding anxiety romantic attachment, and based on its relationship with neuroticism, a direct association between this attachment dimension and satisfaction with life could be posed. Alternatively, a meaningful moderating effect of satisfaction with life on the links between anxiety and marital satisfaction may be also expected. In the present study, we aimed at disentangling the moderating/mediating effects of couple shared goals and of individuals' satisfaction with life in the understanding of marital satisfaction. The sample was composed of 279 participants (134 male, 145 female) involved at a close relationship at the time of the study (age range between 17 and 73). Following path analytic strategies and using AMOS, we tested a model in which marital satisfaction was predicted from romantic attachment, but moderated by shared activities and goals of the couple. In this model, satisfaction with life acts as a moderator of the links between anxiety attachment and marital satisfaction. The model was confirmed for both genders. The clinical implications of these findings are discussed.

## **OH.02 Attachment style and working alliance predict depression outcomes among women with childhood sexual abuse histories**

Phillip Smith, Stephanie Gamble, Nancy Talbot

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

Depressed women with sexual abuse histories often experience persistent depressive symptoms despite active treatment. Identifying patient factors that affect treatment response could guide efforts to develop more effective therapeutic approaches. Sexual abuse increases risk for severe disturbances in interpersonal relationships, which could affect the therapist-patient alliance and depression outcomes. This study examines the relationship of self-reported attachment styles to working alliance and depressive symptoms (Beck Depression Inventory [BDI], Hamilton Depression Rating Scale [HDRS]) among 106 women with Major Depression and childhood sexual abuse. Multiple regression analyses controlled for comorbid PTSD and borderline personality disorder, baseline depressive symptom severity, marital status, race, session attendance, and treatment group (Interpersonal Psychotherapy vs. usual care psychotherapy). Lower Avoidant attachment was significantly and independently related to lower depressive symptom severity at week 36 (BDI  $b = .325$ ,  $p < .05$ ; HDRS  $b = .304$ ,  $p < .05$ ). Higher overall alliance was significantly and independently related to lower depressive symptom severity at week 36 (BDI  $b = -.256$ ,  $p < .05$ ; HDRS  $b = -.253$ ,  $p < .05$ ). In a second set of analyses, we are examining the moderating effects of treatment group on those relationships. Findings to date suggest that: a more Avoidant (but not Anxious) attachment pattern and weaker working alliance are associated with poorer depression outcomes over and above the influence of treatment type, session attendance, and other covariates. The effect of attachment on depression is not mediated by the working alliance. Implications for treating women with sexual abuse histories will be discussed.

## **OH.02 Parental attachment anxiety and avoidance in predicting attachment to parents in middle childhood**

Burak Dogruyol, Nebi Sumer

*Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey*

One of the basic tenets of attachment theory is the intergenerational transmission of attachment patterns. Parental sensitivity and responsiveness those were assumed to result in the development of child's internal working models of attachment are closely linked with parents' own attachment orientations. Recent conceptualizations in attachment theory claimed that attachment related anxiety and avoidance are the two fundamental dimensions. These attachment orientations are believed to guide the expectations, emotions, and behaviors in all sort of intimate relationships including parent child interactions. Considering the cultural relevance of these dimensions, the present study aimed to test (a) both main and interactive effects of attachment anxiety and avoidance of mothers and fathers on child attachment security, (b) whether possible associations between parental attachment orientations and child security systematically differ considering the gender of both parents and the child, in middle childhood. For this purpose study was conducted on a large sample to investigate all of the possible interactions and additive effects of gender, by obtaining data from mothers, fathers, and their children (1270 mother-father-child triads). For parents reworded version of ECR-R and for their children Kerns Attachment Security Scale were used. Mother avoidance predicted boys' attachment to mother and father anxiety predicted girls' attachment to father. Among the interaction terms, mother anxiety-avoidance, mother-father avoidance, and mother anxiety-father avoidance predicted boys' attachment to mothers and fathers. Results were discussed in the light of attachment theory and culture-specific relationship patterns.

## **OH.02 Blinded by love: Thinking about relationships influences attentional capacity in highly anxious individuals**

Sarah C. E. Stanton<sup>1</sup>, Lorne Campbell<sup>1</sup>, Timothy J. Loving<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Texas, Austin, Austin, TX, USA*

Prior research has found that in the early stages of attraction and relationships, individuals experience more attachment anxiety (Eastwick & Finkel, 2008). This heightened anxiety may result in proximity-seeking behaviors, or increased thinking about the partner or relationship. Indeed, in the early months of a new relationship, individuals thinking about their romantic partner have higher cortisol reactivity than those thinking about a friend (Loving et al., 2009). We tested the hypothesis that in newly established relationships more anxiously attached individuals would be "blinded" by love when asked to think of their partners. Specifically, a 3 (Condition: control vs. friend vs. partner) X 2 (Attachment Anxiety: high vs. low) design was implemented to determine if the attentional capacity of more anxiously attached individuals was limited after they visualized their partner and relationship. Participants underwent a guided imagery task designed to activate thoughts about a friend, their current romantic partner, or no guided imagery (control), and then completed a Stroop interference task to measure attentional capacity. Results revealed a Condition X Attachment Anxiety interaction effect on Stroop interference scores. Specifically in the partner imagery condition, individuals high in attachment anxiety ( $M = 224.54$ ,  $SD = 352.41$ ) exhibited significantly higher Stroop interference scores relative to individuals low in attachment anxiety ( $M = 77.16$ ,  $SD = 81.74$ ),  $F(2, 65) =$

3.43,  $\eta^2 = 0.10$ ,  $p < 0.04$ . In new relationships, therefore, highly anxious individuals were unable to devote attention to another task requiring cognitive effort when asked to visualize their partner and their relationship.

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| <b>OH.03 Prosocial Behavior in the Context of Relationships</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L201 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

### **OH.03 Altruism towards anyone often operates via self-other inclusion, and thus is in a “relationship context**

Art Aron

*SUNY-Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY, USA*

In this talk, I argue and review results of relevant studies in support of the following points: 1. Prosocial behavior occurs for at least three reasons: (a) perceived personal or social benefits (e.g., expected reciprocation, being seen as a good person, reducing distress), from acting prosocially, (b) socially prescribed appropriate behavior (e.g., meeting needs in relationships socially defined as implying they are “communal”), and (c) treating the other’s outcomes as one’s own due to having “included the other in the self.” Prosocial behavior in contexts due to a or b is typically not considered “altruistic.” 2. Inclusion of other in the self (1c above) has been shown to be a key factor in prosocial behavior towards others of all types: (a) close relationship partners, including friendships, family, and friendships; (b) strangers in need; and (c) members of outgroups (even when the outgroups were initially disliked, and even when one only has a direct, or even vicarious and imagined vicarious, relationship with a single member of the outgroup—that is, including other in the self is argued to be a central mechanism in contact and extended contact effects). (Note: The logic and data related to this point is the main part of the talk.) 3. Inclusion of other in the self is the essential nature of personal relationships. Thus, altruistic behavior is often in the context of relationships—even when it is not about a standard relationship partner.

### **OH.03 Killing your relationship with kindness: Women’s perceptions of their romantic partners’ pro-social acts**

Laura Vander Drift, Sara Branch, William Graziano

*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA*

Past research aimed at identifying the predictors of romantic attraction has found that women are maximally attracted to men who are pro-socially oriented. In the current studies, we sought to determine whether this association holds uniformly in the context of ongoing romantic relationships, or if the interdependent nature of such relationships, and the individual differences of the partners involved, leads pro-social acts to be differentially evaluated. In the first study, we examined whether women evaluate pro-social acts by a romantic partner differently depending on the cost of that act to the relationship, as well as her own level of empathic concern. In the second study, we devised a minimal interdependence situation to eliminate many of the plausible alternative explanations for our findings that are inextricably present in ongoing romantic relationships (e.g., assortative mating, jealousy, relationship-specific attachment style). Finally, in the third study, we tested our hypotheses in ongoing romantic relationships, asking participants to report on an actual pro-social act their partner engaged in and rate how positively they viewed the act. Taken together, the results of our studies indicate that women are not uniformly positive in their evaluations of their romantic partners’ pro-social acts, and that aspects of the

situation, as well as their own individual differences, influence their evaluations. The results are discussed in terms of the transformation of motivation process of interdependence theory, in which the interdependent nature of relationships leads the subjective experiences of events to potentially differ from the objective events.

### **OH.03 Can security-enhancing interventions overcome barriers to empathic caregiving in couple relationships?**

Mario Mikulincer<sup>1</sup>, Philip Shaver<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*IDC-Herzliya, Herzliya, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*University of California at Davis, Davis, California, USA*

Previous studies conducted in our laboratories revealed that the experimental activation of a sense of attachment insecurity ("security priming") increases empathy, compassion, and altruistic helping; heightens the salience of prosocial values; and diminishes hostile reactions to members of outgroups. We also found that chronic attachment insecurity (dispositional attachment anxiety and/or avoidance) are related to deficiencies in empathy and altruism and to lack of tolerance for outgroup members. In this lecture, we will present data from a new study examining the generalizability of previous findings to couple relationships. Israeli and American dating couples completed scales tapping attachment orientations, self-control, and self-esteem. Then couples were informed that they will be videotaped during an interaction in which one of them (the "care-seeker") discloses a personal problem to the other (the "caregiver"). Whereas the care-seeker chose and wrote about the personal problem he or she chose to discuss, the caregiver performed a cognitive task in which security or neutral representations were subliminally primed and depletion of resources (yes, no) was manipulated. Then couple members were videotaped while they talk about the problem the care-seeker chose to discuss and the videotaped interactions were coded for sensitive and responsive caregiving behavior. In this way, the study examined whether (a) security priming strengthens the sensitive provision of care in couple relationship, and (b) it is capable of overcoming the inhibitory effects that lack of self-control, low self-esteem, and ego depletion have on sensitive caregiving.

### **OH.03 My child's keeper: Parental motives and helping**

Louis Penner

*Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, Michigan, USA*

Social psychological research on prosocial actions has focused much more on aid provided to strangers than to intimates. In contrast, our research draws on theories of prosocial actions to study the causes and consequences of variability in parents' motives to provide care when their children confront aversive stimuli. Specifically, we study families of pediatric cancer patients and measure: both parents and children's personal attributes several weeks before cancer treatment episodes, parents' motives immediately before the treatment episodes, and the communication patterns between parents and children and the children's pain and distress during the episodes. As expected, treatment episodes elicit both personal distress and empathic concern-related motives among the parents, but only the latter is reliably associated with parents' communication patterns and children's responses to the treatments. High parent empathic concern is associated with a decreased likelihood that a parent will ridicule and/or invalidate the child and with less child pain and distress. We have identified some parent and child attributes associated with parental motives and children's pain/distress. Most notably, child resilience is negatively associated with

pain/distress, but this relationship is almost totally mediated by parental empathic concern at the time of treatment. We believe that beyond their potential clinical relevance, our findings also speak to more general questions of what motivates parent to provide sustained and costly care to their children and the potential evolutionary advantages for children whose parents experience empathic concern in response to their distress.

### **OH.03 When do we offer more help than we seek in relationships?**

Lindsey Beck, Margaret Clark

*Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA*

Close relationships such as friendships and romantic relationships call for mutual prosocial responsiveness in support of each person's welfare. The mutuality of these relationships suggests that people ought to be as willing to seek support when needed as they are to offer equivalent support when a partner needs such support. Yet seeking help involves revealing vulnerabilities and possibly appearing selfish whereas offering support does not and can convey that one is kind and generous. This suggests that we will offer more support than we seek whenever we are uncertain of a partner's commitment. It follows that people should offer more support than they seek during relationship initiation but not following the establishment of the relationship and mutual commitment. The results of two studies support for these predictions. In one laboratory study relatively new college friends were placed in a situation in which they either could offer to trade a desirable task assigned to them for a less desirable one assigned to their partner or to trade an undesirable task assigned to them for a more desirable one assigned to their partner. They offered more support than they sought. In a second, survey study, participants reported they would be more likely to offer a variety of types of help (e.g. a ride to the train session) than they would seek identical types of help but only when they were reporting on new relationships. The asymmetry disappeared for established relationships.

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| <b>OH.04 Examination of Perceived Emotional Impressions and Relational Equity</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L102 |
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### **OH.04 More good for others or more good for oneself? – Gratitude in relationship formation**

Malgorzata Szczesniak, Agnieszka A. Nieznanska, Cristina Mastrodascio

*Pontificia Facoltà di Scienze dell'Educazione, Rome, Italy*

For centuries, theorists from different disciplines have believed gratitude to be crucial for developing social relationships (Bartlett & DeSteno, 2006; Nelson, 2009). For example, some scholars have hypothesized that positive relations are built on love and gratitude (Yoshida et al., 1966). Other investigators have described gratitude as an emotion that strengthens people's social resources on the basis of its "broaden-and-build" capacities (Fredrickson, 2004). Others, such as Shiota and collaborators (2004), have maintained that gratitude offers information, evokes emotional responses, and imparts incentives for prosocial behavior. Although these convincing theoretical insights are present in psychological research, empirical literature is still silent on the role of gratitude in interpersonal relationships; in fact, only a few studies have explored its functions and have provided some evidence that gratitude is associated with relationship formation (Algoe, Haidt, & Gable, 2008). The present study aims to improve our understanding of how dispositional gratitude is related to other relevant

personality characteristics, which influence the quality of human relationships. The research was conducted on three different groups of participants (758 Polish, 222 American, and 260 Italian students). We applied three separate values scales (Scheler Values Scale; Rokeach Value Scale; Portrait Value Questionnaire by Shalom Schwartz) and GQ-6 measuring gratitude as a trait (McCullough, Emmons, & Tsang, 2002). The results obtained illustrate that gratitude is negatively correlated with hedonism and conformity, and positively connected to morality, religiousness, and benevolence. Such outcomes lead us to suppose that gratitude may play an essential role in adopting behaviors that sustain meaningful relationships.

#### **OH.04 Caregiving and service relationships**

Savion Orr-Moravkin, Shiri Lavy

*Ariel University Center, Ariel, Israel*

A main implication of the current growth of service-providing companies in the market is a shift of the organizational focus towards customer experience, which is mainly based upon the interpersonal interaction, i.e. the relationship, between customer and service-providing employee. Empathy, attentiveness and relationship communication characteristics may be effected by personality characteristics of the people involved and by situational factors. Previous studies showed that caregiving qualities such as willingness and ability to respond to, and care for others are important in adult long-term close relationships, but also in short-term relationships (e.g., helping a stranger). The current study's goal was to examine the effects of caregiving on service-providing employees in service relationships. To reduce artifacts but maintain external validity, we conducted an experimental field study: Experimenters called 60 secretaries of academic units in various universities, impersonating a potential student taking interest in the application procedure. In the experimental condition, the caregiving system was activated by interrupting the conversation with a baby's cry and an explicit parental response. The two control conditions included an empathy eliciting condition (a cup of coffee spilled on the experimenter), and a neutral condition without disturbances. Two judges ranked the secretaries' responses on given parameters of service quality. Results showed significant differences between caregiving and control conditions in listening, patience and response to customer needs. Thus, activation of the service-provider caregiving system may have positive influence on service quality. The role of caregiving in service relationships will be further explored in a survey study of 120 service-providing employees.

#### **OH.04 Emotional intelligence and emotion regulation**

Magdalena Smieja - Necka<sup>1</sup>, Katarzyna Jedzokova<sup>2</sup>, Dorota Kobylinska<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland*, <sup>2</sup>*Laboratory and Co, Warsaw, Poland*,

<sup>3</sup>*Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*

Two studies explored the moderating role of emotional intelligence (EI) in emotion regulation. We assumed that people who are high in emotional intelligence use more adaptive regulatory strategies, which makes them resistant to undesirable effects of emotion on cognition. In two laboratory experiments we manipulated anger induction and examined whether IE (measured by performance test) influenced the intensity of emotion experience (PANAS), physiological responding (EEG, GSR and EMG) and behavioral reactions. In Experiment 1 anger made low IE participants "punish" unknown person by decreasing the assessment of his/her work. The effect disappeared among high EI people, their evaluations were stable and resistant to anger induction.

In Experiment 2 we explored that phenomenon within the context of close relationships. This time angry low IE participants increased the evaluation of their partner's performance. In both studies high IE prevented the influence of negative emotion on judgment, whereas low IE did not. The results suggest that emotional intelligence may play an important role in effective emotion regulation, and subsequently - in better social functioning.

#### **OH.04 Sensory processing sensitivity is associated with boredom in close relationships**

Elaine Aron, Arthur Aron, Jadzia Jagiellowicz, Jennifer Tomlinson

*State University of New York at Stony Brook, Stony brook, NY, USA*

The trait of sensory processing sensitivity (E.N. Aron & Aron, 1997) is found in about 20% of humans (and over 100 other species) and has been characterized as an innate strategy of processing information more deeply. Early research, resulting in the standard Highly Sensitive Person Scale (HSP Scale) for this trait, found it was associated with greater awareness of subtleties and being more easily overwhelmed by strong sensory input. The Scale also includes items referring to "a complex inner life" and "being deeply moved by the arts or music," suggesting to us the hypothesis that those high on the trait would be more likely than others to find relationships boring. (Previous research found links of sensitivity with diverse relationship variables [e.g., E.N. Aron, 2004], but its association with relationship boredom has not been previously studied.) A sample of mainly undergraduate women reporting on current and past romantic relationships (mean length 5.35 yrs) completed the 27-item HSP Scale, Strong's (2008) 15-item Relationship Boredom Scale, and standard measures of variables often correlated in past research with sensitivity (neuroticism, introversion, attachment anxiety and avoidance, self-esteem), plus a standard relationship satisfaction scale. Controlling for all potential sensitivity correlates, HSP-Boredom  $pr=.47$  ( $p<.01$ ); controlling also for satisfaction,  $pr=.46$ . These results suggest that temperament has important effects on relationship quality, specifically on relationship boredom, as well as validating the theory that the underlying individual difference is not at the level of sensitivity to sensate stimuli, but at the level of the elaboration of cognitive processing.

#### **OH.04 How do beginning teachers cope with impression management?**

Hayuta Yinon

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

The purpose of this paper is to suggest a new perspective for understanding the first years of teaching in Israel, through the lens of *Impression Management*. This concept, which is based on Goffman's dramaturgical approach, refers to the variety of ways through which we try to make sure that the people we interact with will get a desirable impression of us. Although Impression Management is widely used in many disciplines for understanding social phenomena, and although it seems very relevant for teachers, this concept is rarely used in educational research. This paper will try to fill in this gap based on my PhD dissertation, which used Impression Management as a lens for interpreting the experiences of seven male teachers, who were interviewed retrospectively regarding their first years of teaching. Data analysis revealed the complexity of the process of Impression Management for beginning teachers. Since beginning teachers in Israel are in a test period of at least three years, the impressions they make during these years are crucial for their future careers. The need to interact simultaneously with multiple audiences (pupils, parents, colleagues, principals,

supervisors, etc), and the different nature of these interactions, complicates matters even further. In addition, it is not always clear to these teachers which impression will be later on taken into account by decision makers. Hence, beginning teachers find themselves struggling to understand how to manage the impressions they make successfully.

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| <b>OH.05 Attraction and Contentment in Interpersonal Relationships</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L103 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

**OH.05 I trust you because you are able to exert control on yourself: The role of perceived self-control on interpersonal trust**

Francesca Righetti, Catrin Finkenauer

*Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*

Trust is a dyadic process that involves two individuals, the trustor and the trustee. To understand the reasons why trust develops, we need to consider the characteristics of both individuals. Existing research mostly focused on the trustor's dispositions (see Simpson, 2007 for a review), whereas we know surprisingly little about how trustors' level of trust varies as a function of their perception of the trustee's characteristics. The present research examines, perceived level of trustee's self-control, as one key characteristic that trustors may use as a gauge to assess trustworthiness. We sought to investigate whether, both in interactions between strangers and in established relationships, individuals detect the level of another's person self-control which, in turn, affects trust. Results of five studies supported this hypothesis. The first three studies revealed that others that are perceived to possess high dispositional self-control are trusted more than others that are perceived to possess low dispositional self-control trait. Additionally, Study 3 examined how people form an impression of another person dispositional self-control. This study revealed that the observation of four behaviors diagnostic of self-control (i.e., forgiveness, respect, reliability and goal achievement) affect people's assessment of their partner's dispositional self-control. Studies 4 and 5 revealed that people can detect the temporary depletion of self-control in another person which, consequently, influenced their judgment of the other's trustworthiness. In line with previous research, these findings support the beneficial value of self-control for relationships, highlighting the functional role of perceived self-control for the development of a fundamental relationship factor: trust.

**OH.05 Disentangling the effects of workplace friendships: A framework for explaining how and why friendships affect job outcomes**

Hilla Dotan

*Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel*

This study advances research on workplace friendships by suggesting and testing a framework that can help explain not only *how* friendships affect job outcomes but *why*. Using a random sample of 1057 US employees, I demonstrate that the antecedents leading to formation of a workplace friendship can explain the differential effects of workplace friendships on several job outcomes. Specifically, the findings illustrate that: 1) friendships that were formed as a result of affective reasons have the strongest effects (positive or negative) on job outcomes, 2) friendships that were formed as a result of affective reasons which involve much emotional intimacy are the most detrimental in terms of their effects on outcomes, 3) individuals who form friendships for instrumental reasons are more likely to be absent from work and leave

the organization, 4) friendships that were formed on the basis of trust are the most beneficial for organizations. Overall, this research contributes to our understanding of the causes and consequences of workplace friendships. More generally, it contributes to our understanding of the role informal social relationships play in organizations; why individuals seek them, what purposes they serve, and how they influence key job outcomes. The theoretical implications for research and the practical implications for managers in facilitating/inhibiting the formation of relationships within their organization are discussed.

#### **OH.05 "My friends are great but sometimes...": An exploration of letdowns and disappointment in friendship**

Emily Langan

*Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, USA*

Friendship is often characterized as a voluntary, personal relationship based on affinity (Rawlins, 1992). But, relationships that bring great satisfaction can also be sources of intense pain (Arglye & Furnham, 1983; Vangelisti, 1994) and while some researchers have explored sources of conflict in friendship (Samter & Cupach, 1998), more limited investigations have explored the nature of disappointment. Being let down by one's trusted ally may result in discontentment with the person or re-evaluation of the relationship. In order to more fully understand the nature of friendship, both its joy-giving potential and its disappointments must be discussed. In this exploratory study, one primary goal was to classify the types of letdowns experienced in friendship and see if patterns emerged regarding sex or relational status. 2071 people (mean age = 24.3, SD = 10.6) from a mid-size liberal arts institution participated in a study of friendship, providing 1342 open-ended responses regarding the nature of letdowns or disappointments in their friendships. Answers were later coded in eighteen, emergently derived categories with lack of depth or superficiality, connection or acceptance, time or availability, and openness the most frequently reported disappointments. In addition, responses were coded for source of disappointment (self, other, or mutual) to assess perceived responsibility. Significant main effects were found for sex, relational status, and responsibility. However, no interaction effects were found for either sex or relational status on attributed responsibility for disappointments. Results and implications are discussed in light of Solomon and Knobloch's (2004) relational turbulence model.

#### **OH.05 Perceived and actual similarity of sense of humor in relationships**

Michael Maniaci, Harry Reis

*University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA*

Two studies examined the role of actual and perceived similarity of sense of humor in different types of interpersonal relationships. In study 1, 155 undergraduate participants received answer sheets, ostensibly from a same-sex stranger, that were manipulated so that the stranger's ratings of a set of jokes were either very similar, moderately similar, or very dissimilar to the participant's own ratings. Participants reported liking the stranger significantly more when they appeared to share a more similar sense of humor. Study 2 examined the correlates of perceived and actual similarity of sense of humor using dyadic data from existing relationships. Both members of approximately 300 dyads (including friends, spouses, and dating couples) independently rated a set of jokes based on how funny they found them, how funny they thought their partner or friend would rate them, and how funny they thought their partner or friend would believe that they would rate them. These ratings were used to

calculate within-couple intraclass correlations representing actual and perceived similarity, as well as actual and perceived partner accuracy in judging one's sense of humor. The results indicated that participants tended to overestimate both how similar their sense of humor was to their partner's sense of humor and how accurately their partners could judge their sense of humor. Perceived similarity of sense of humor and perceived partner accuracy were both more strongly related to relationship satisfaction among married couples, while actual similarity and actual accuracy were more strongly related to satisfaction among dating couples.

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| <b>OH.06 Marital Relations</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room L104 |
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#### **OH.06 Factors leading to marital commitment in Chinese interethnic couples**

Xinmiao Zhong, Duncan Cramer

*Loughborough University, Loughborough, United Kingdom*

Interethnic marriages are more and more common, but little is known of this group. This paper investigated whether Rusbult's Investment Model (Cox et al., 1997) can be applied to Chinese interethnic married couples. Specifically, whether quality of alternatives, investment size, social prescriptive support are the factors leading to commitment. Given the salient difference of people from different ethnic groups and the higher divorce rate of interethnic couples, a new variable - couple cultural identity - was proposed to be one of the factors leading to commitment. How cultural differences affect such relationship were also investigated. An interview study was carried out to answer these questions. Participants did not agree on "investment" in the same way as it was defined by Rusbult, and "couple cultural identity" was one of the factors leading to commitment for interethnic married couples.

#### **OH.06 Darling, I must google that! An examination of how adults' romantic relationships and compulsive Internet use influence each other**

Catrin Finkenauer, Peter Kerkhof

*VU University Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands*

Over the last decade, the Internet has invaded people's lives and revolutionized the way people communicate with each other. As compared to other groups (e.g., single adults), married-with-children households have the highest use of new technologies: Two thirds have broadband Internet and 93% have a computer (Kennedy et al., 2008). In 76% of these households, both spouses are online (OECD, 2009). In sharp contrast to these impressive statistics, we know surprisingly little about how Internet use affects couples. To fill this gap in our knowledge, we examined how and why Internet use affects marital well-being in a longitudinal study among newlywed couples ( $n = 195$ ).

We predicted that Internet use takes away attention, time, and interest that people would otherwise invest in their partner (cf. Kraut et al., 1998), reducing not only the Internet user's relationship quality but also his or her partner's relationship quality. Importantly, we predicted that compulsive Internet use should be more harmful than the mere frequency of Internet use. Compulsive Internet use describes Internet use with addictive characteristics, including cognitive and behavioral withdrawal reactions when Internet use is impossible (van den Eijnden, et al., 2008). Consistent with our prediction, compulsive Internet use, but not the frequency of Internet use, affected Internet users' relationship quality for both husbands and wives.

Importantly, compulsive Internet use predicted a decrease in partners' behavioral investments in their relationship and feelings for their partner. These findings provide first insights why compulsive Internet use may have deleterious effects on relationships.

#### **OH.06 A spouse in distress: A study on motivation, empathic accuracy and support provision**

Lesley Verhofstadt<sup>1</sup>, Mark Davis<sup>2</sup>, William Ickes<sup>3</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, <sup>2</sup>Eckerd College, St Petersburg, Florida, USA, <sup>3</sup>University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX, USA*

The present study examined the hypothesized associations between support motivation, support performance, mind-reading motivation, and mind reading performance (i.e., empathic accuracy) in the context of marital support interactions. To test our hypotheses, a laboratory-based observational study was conducted. The 60 married couples in this study first completed several questionnaires. They then participated in a videotaped social support interaction, after which they completed a video-review task designed to measure the support provider's empathic accuracy. The videotaped interactions were subsequently coded for the presence of emotional, instrumental, and negative types of support. We'll present the major conclusions that can be drawn from this research and some possible theoretical and applied implications.

#### **OH.06 When marital partners travel for work, how do couples talk about their relationships?**

Anisa Zvonkovic, Andrea Roets, Jennifer Rojas-McWhinney, Katherine Gerst-Lyons  
*Texas Tech, Lubbock, TX, USA*

As part of a multi-method study of couples that includes a marital partner who travels at least 20 nights per year for work, couples responded to open-ended questions about their marriages and marital partners (N=34). The premise of the project is that frequent work travel interrupts routines and relationship patterns; consequently, couples having to deal with such interruptions are in a unique position to describe their personal and relationship qualities. The underlying conceptual framework is the Close Relationships book by Harold Kelley and colleagues (1983; 2002). Responses were categorized according to CR dimensions (such as Personal Characteristics, P-O interaction, P x O Relationship Properties, Social and Physical Environment). Grounded theory methods with theoretically-derived categories guided analysis. Most codes fell into the P x O Relationship Properties dimension (58.8% mentioned roles), the P-O Interaction dimension (23.5 % mentioned time to interact and 29.4% mentioned communication), and characteristics of the individuals and the partners (e.g., 82.3% discussed self or partner emotion, 41.2% discussed personality dimensions such as flexibility, organization). Our dyadic data demonstrated little couple congruence. Differences can be found between couples depending on which partner traveled (man or woman or both). Roles are emphasized in couples when men traveled, especially if the husband was the only partner to travel for work, reflecting gendered breadwinning norms. Emotion, possibly due to the interruption of routine (Berscheid, 2002), was a prominent theme. The unique insights of this population on their couple interaction and relationships will be highlighted via participant narratives and conceptual analysis.

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| <b>OH.07 Funding opportunities through USA National Science Foundation – Expert information</b> | Monday, July 26<br>11:15am-12:45pm<br>Room A110 |
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Kellina M. Craig-Henderson, *Program Director, Social Psychology*  
*National Science Foundation Arlington, VA, USA*

A questions and answers session will be led by an NSF expert. The National Science Foundation is a government agency that provides support for research in many fields such as mathematics, engineering, computer science, education and the social sciences. Relationship research conducted by researchers affiliated with US-based institutions has been supported by several programs within NSF. This session will provide information about available funding opportunities at NSF for researchers in this area. In addition, relevant steps to proposal preparation will be covered.

# POSTER SESSIONS

## Friday July 23

### PA.01 Development and Maintenance of Long Term Relationships

Friday July 23  
Arison/Lauder  
Building Lobby

#### PA.01 Past and present attitudes toward love and romantic relationships

Weronika Styczynska

*Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Warsaw, Poland*

My research is focused on the past and present attitudes toward love and romantic relationships in Poland. I have been interviewing two groups of Poles: 20-30 years olds, and 60-70 year olds. Questions were referring to both: their opinions and experiences. I also have analyzed their cultural background: magazines' articles, movies and novels. During the last 20 years Poland has changed extremely, not only politically but also in terms of social scripts and norms. The Western lifestyle became very popular and Poles tend to glorify everything with the US label on: fashion, music, movies and also values. The church became less important for the young people and attitudes to sex and relationships evolved. In my research I have been trying to analyze these changes in detail. How do older people feel today about their relationships? Do the young people completely rejected the traditional way of life? Here I would like to present preliminary results of the study.

#### PA.01 Turning points in marital relationship dissolution

John Humblet<sup>1</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>1</sup>, Peter Rober<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium, <sup>2</sup>Catholic University Leuven, Leuven, Belgium*

Several researchers have used the concept of turning points as a unit of analysis in understanding developmental processes in relationships. Turning points can be defined as ad hoc mental representations of events that people attribute relational change to. The change can either be "positive" or "negative", and moves the relationship respectively forward (breakthrough) or causes it to drift backwards (breakdown). The populations that are most frequently used in turning-point related research can be roughly divided into two groups: romantic relationships (e.g., Baxter & Bullis, 1986) and post-divorce/post-dissolutional relationships (e.g., Graham, 1997; Koenig Kellas, Bean, Cunningham, & Cheng, 2008). The purpose of the present qualitative study is to illuminate the process of marital relationship dissolution by identifying turning-point types that characterize it. Instead of using a college student sample, approximately 300 participants who are in the midst of a divorce (ecological validity) have filled out an electronic questionnaire in which they are asked to sum up all the turning points they have experienced during the breakdown of their relationship (only participants who explicitly state that they did not want the divorce in any way, are excluded). In the present study, a thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) is used to make a bottom-up analysis of the data. As with the aforementioned authors, the goal of the research is to categorize all the given turning points into fitting turning-point types, which represent the major moments of change in the breakdown of a marital relationship.

**PA.01 An examination of attitudes and beliefs towards consanguineous marriages in a Dutch population**

Ashley Hoben, Abraham Buunk

*University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands*

Choice of marriage partners in humans is a topic of interest across many disciplines. One type of marriage partner that tends to be ignored in the literature is consanguineous partners. Consanguineous marriages continue to occur at an extremely high rate in various parts of the world, with certain areas as high as 50%, while in other areas of the world this practice is nonexistent and forbidden. Since this type of marriage is between individuals who are genetically related, it tends to evoke strong feelings of disgust in those individuals who do not practice it. Many people also believe that this type of marriage is immoral. One of the main arguments against cousin marriage is the possible negative impacts that it can have on subsequent offspring. Such negative effects include cardiovascular and central nervous system malformation. Using a questionnaire, we examined the attitudes and beliefs regarding consanguineous marriage in a Dutch sample. Preliminary results show that participants were very disapproving at the suggestion of any type of intimate relationship with a cousin. Furthermore, females reported significantly higher disapproval towards cousin marriage than did males.

**PA.01 Maintaining close relationships in hard times: The role of needs and feelings**

Claudia Chiarolanza, Ritagrazia Ardone

*Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy*

Maintaining a satisfying close relationship is difficult for all the couples, especially for newly formed ones. In fact, partners have to face situations that are potentially harmful to the romantic relationship stability, in which they must solve mutual problems of interdependence that could result in the breakup of relationship. As already Rusbult and colleagues showed (1998), the attractiveness of alternatives with the possibility to form new ties is an established result of the research in this field. At the same time, a critical factor for relational stability regards the ways in which people integrate emotional experiences with needs in the context of their relationships. The present research examined how the three factors of the Investment Model are clearly associated with commitment but also with needs' satisfaction, especially those related to the companionship. Again, we analyzed the role of feelings to understand how partners regulate and integrate emotional experiences: this is central to the definition of relational well being and romantic stability (La Guardia & Ryff, 2003). Results are discussed according to the idea that hard times for the couples are connected not only to relational threats and challenges, such as an alternative partner, but also a decrease in needs' satisfaction and a missing correspondence in feelings expression.

**PA.01 Determinants of relationship quality: The role of relationship between parents, previous romantic experiences, attachment and self-disclosure of both partners**

Margareta Jelic, Zeljka Kamenov, Ana Zlatar

*University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia*

The primary aim of this study was to determine the role of some situational and personal characteristics on the perception of the relationship quality. Perception of relationship between parents and one's previous romantic experiences were included as situational variables, whereas attachment and self-disclosure to romantic partner were included as personal variables. Another aim was to determine the role of partner's characteristics (above the effect of participants' own characteristics) in explaining the perception of the relationship quality. Sample consisted of 161 romantic couples aged between 18 and 40 years. The questionnaire consisted of the shortened version of Experience in Close Relations Inventory (Kamenov & Jelic, 2003), The Revised Scale of Self-disclosure (Wheeles & Grotz, 1976), Quality of Marriage Index (Norton, 1983) as well as information on previous romantic relationships (number, duration of the longest relationship and satisfaction with past romantic experiences), perception of relationship between parents (positive and negative interactions between parents, perceived parental satisfaction with their marriage and perceived quality of parental relationship) and demographic data. Regression analyses were conducted separately for each gender. Past romantic experiences proved to be the most important predictor of current relationship quality for both genders, whereas gender differences were found for all other included variables. Further more results have shown that one's own personal and situational characteristics are more important for the evaluation of the relationship quality than characteristics of the partner. However, partner's experiences and characteristics have certain effect on the perception of the relationship quality.

**PA.01 Expressing annoyance of partner behavior is better for the marriage**

Heather Setrakian, Amy Strachman, Gian Gonzaga

*eHarmony Labs, Pasadena, CA, USA*

As romantic relationships intensify, partners may find each other's previously innocuous behaviors as aversive. Defined as social allergens, those in dating relationships with higher allergen impact scores reported lower relationship satisfaction (Cunningham, Shamblen, Barbee, & Ault, 2005). The current research looks at whether these low-level forms of negativity influence satisfaction in marriages. A national online survey completed by 1036 married heterosexual couples included measures of marital satisfaction, perception of their partner's annoying behaviors in the previous day, and expression of their annoyance to their partner. Individuals who perceived their spouse as annoying reported lower levels of marital satisfaction. However, wives who expressed their annoyance to their husbands reported higher levels of marital satisfaction. Husbands who expressed their annoyance also had wives who reported higher levels of marital satisfaction. Next, two hundred and fifteen engaged couples reported relationship satisfaction and then seven days of daily reports on if they were annoyed with their partner and if they expressed their annoyance to their partner. Relationship satisfaction was assessed again three months after their wedding. As predicted, partners who experienced annoyance reported lower levels of concurrent satisfaction. Women who expressed their daily annoyance reported higher levels of concurrent satisfaction than those who kept silent. Males who expressed their annoyance had a slight increase in satisfaction

at the follow up assessment while those who did not had a significant decrease in satisfaction over time. These findings suggest that annoyance in marriage, when experienced, is best expressed in order to maintain relationship satisfaction.

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| <b>PA.02 Close Relationships Dealing with Violence and Conflict</b> | Friday July 23<br>Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
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**PA.02 A comparison of the Rahim organizational conflict inventory and the focus of communication questionnaire**

Terry Bowles

*School of Behavioural and Social Sciences and Humanities, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia*

The aim of the research was to compare two models and measures of communication. The well researched Rahim Organizational Conflict Inventory (ROCI-II) was compared with the newer Focus of Communication Questionnaire (FOCQ). The factors of the two questionnaires were analysed with gender and cultural differences as the independent variables. Using responses from 187 tertiary students analyses showed that the ROCI-II and the FOCQ had satisfactory structure as defined by confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). Further analysis showed that the circularity of the factors of the ROCI-II was poor and did not reflect the order expected from the theoretical explanation of the relationship of the factors. By contrast, the FOCQ formed a circumplex structure reflecting the previously reported relationship of factors. Analysis of the differences between Australian and Asian students' communication styles showed that the FOCQ was the more discriminating of the two measures with male students indicating they were more confusion, task, and success focused. Australian students were less confusion and more success focused compared to Asian students.

**PA.02 "I killed her, but I never laid a finger on her" - The difference between wife-murder and wife-battering**

Dalit Yassour-Borochowitz, Ruchama Goussinsky

*Emek Yezreel College, Emek Yezreel, Israel*

Twenty five years of research in the domain of intimate murder has consistently shown that the dynamics surrounding the phenomenon of wife killing often revolve around the woman threatening to or actually separating from her dating or marital partner. The murder is mostly considered as the escalated end of an emotionally and physically violent relationship. Consequently the lethal act is not conceived as a separate phenomenon from intimate violence but as a pick-point on the same continuum. Based on the findings of two qualitative, life-history researches - with men who murdered their wives and with batterers - we want to propose that whereas wife-murder is undoubtedly the most extreme manifestation of male violence, it is not a "natural" continuation of that violence, nor is it the "inevitable" end of a path of male violence. Thus, wife-battering and wife-murder should be regarded as separate phenomena. In our talk we will look at the different motivation that underlies these two phenomena: Intimate violence against women is described as a strategy for gaining control by the man over his partner; it is aimed at achieving obedience and expressing authority and control. Wife - murder is intended at a completely different aim: The complete annihilation of the woman. The difference in motivation will be illustrated through verbatim quotes of participants, as well as the relevant literature.

## **PA.02 Emotional needs – Why Europe fails to engage in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.**

Christopher Schilling

*University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany*

Israel needs to come out of the vicious circle of conflict, and to do so it needs to stop seeing the rest of the world as its enemy. But, how could Israel solve this narcissistic disorder if it does not get the empathy it feels it deserves? As a child must first get before it can give, Israel needs to receive empathy from the countries in the world, meaning they have to understand its fears of the actual fact that others wanted and want to destroy the Jewish state. The European Union does not give the support it could. It more often tries to impose its opinion on Jerusalem. Israel and the European Union regard each other with very high expectations. What Israel expects from Europe is understanding, sympathy, and support - not only materially but also politically. But, the leaders of the European countries berate Israel for its treatment of the Arab population and for its antiterrorist incursions into neighbouring countries. So, even if there are many economic relations between Israel and Europe, the understanding of the emotional needs of the Jewish state is not very strong in most of the countries of the European Union, which explains why their engagement in the peace process is less effective. Europe should understand that its opinion is not extremely important in the given context, but rather it should make Israel feel safe. And then Israel gets the support I needs to make peace.

## **PA.02 Interpersonal conflict between Brazilian and foreign workers in the workplace: the case of multinational companies in the Brazilian Amazonia**

Gizelly Martins<sup>1</sup>, Agnaldo Garcia<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Federal University of Amazonas, Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil,*

*<sup>2</sup>Federal University of Espirito Santo, Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil*

Intercultural conflicts in organizations are one of the results of globalization which allowed the contact of workers from different countries and cultures. The objective of this research was to investigate interpersonal conflicts among Brazilian employees and between Brazilian and foreign employees in the Free Zone of Manaus, in the Brazilian Amazonia. Fourteen Brazilian workers aged 21 to 65 years old have been interviewed about the triggering factors of conflict, the episode of conflict and its consequences. The triggering factors of conflict were the following: factors related to productivity and efficiency; factors related to the methodology of work and planning; factors related to hierarchy and control or leadership; the company or institutional issues; problems of communication and interpersonal relationships; ethical and moral problems; cultural differences and different education. The interpersonal conflicts were also related to cultural factors, especially when people with different cultural and educational background worked together. The conflict was typically part of an ongoing relationship and not a specific interaction and showed positive and negative consequences according to the participants. Cultural differences were recognized and they were more conspicuous in the relationship with foreigners and, to a smaller extent, with Brazilians from other states. Conflicts with foreigners showed greater diversity and intensity, but more positive outcomes when compared to interpersonal conflicts among Brazilians. It may be concluded that cultural differences affect interpersonal conflicts but these differences are present not only in the relationship between Brazilians and foreigners but also among Brazilians of different origins.

## **PA.02 The effects of values and ambivalent sexism on marital relationships: A couple data analysis**

Ayça Özen, Nuray Sakalli-Ugurlu

*Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey*

This study examined the interplay between value types, ambivalent sexism, conflict resolution styles, and marital adjustment by using couple data. First, the relationship between value types and ambivalent sexism was examined. Second, the association between ambivalent sexism, conflict resolution styles and marital adjustment was investigated. 156 couples ( $M_{age}=36.03$  for wives, 39.94 for husbands) completed the measures of Schwartz's Value Survey, Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, Conflict Resolutions Styles, and Dyadic Adjustment Scale. Results revealed that while husbands' hostile sexism was positively predicted by husbands' power value type, husbands' benevolent sexism positively predicted by husbands' tradition and wives' power value. Husbands who had higher scores on hostile sexism showed more negative and less positive conflict resolution style. Those hostile husbands' wives also showed more negative behaviors. Additionally, hostile husbands and their wives also reported lower levels of marital adjustment. Benevolent husbands, on the other hand, showed more subordination and avoidant conflict resolution style and also had higher levels of marital adjustment. Further, there might be a third factor that could explain the husbands' negative conflict resolution style. Thus, the effect of wives' education level was examined on the relationship between ambivalent sexism and husbands' negative conflict resolution style. The moderation analysis revealed that husbands were more likely to use negative conflict resolutions style when they had lower levels of benevolent sexism and when their wives also had lower education than when their wives had higher education. The findings have implications in understanding the effects of ambivalent sexism on marital relationship quality and conflict.

## **PA.02 Theoretical perspectives on conflict in close relationships**

Daniel Lord

*University of Alaska Southeast, Sitka, Alaska, USA*

Researchers of close relationships analyze, and often categorize, conflict from a wide variety of perspectives. These perspectives include whether the source is internal or external in nature, what is the particular level of the cause of conflict, gender and conflict, by age and gender, and by attributions or perceptions of why partners did what they did. This short presentation reviews these various perspectives, and provides an alternative approach to understanding the cause of conflict in close relationships. The alternative approach set forth in this short presentation is that conflicts reflect disunity in close relationships. Most researchers concentrate on interpersonal conflicts in and of themselves, and on how to resolve or live with them with the expectation that unity will then be achieved. It is disunity itself that should be the focus of inquiry. Disunity in close relationships will be considered from cognitive and socio-emotional perspectives. Self and relational power, and the nature of negative emotions are explored as contributing factors to basic disunity in close relationships. This short presentation concludes with a discussion of unity as a prerequisite to well-established conditions associated with long-lasting or successful marriages, communication and equality in the relationship.

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| <b>PA.03 Comparing Men and Women: From First Dates to Committed Romantic Relationships</b> | Friday July 23<br>Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
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**PA.03 Temporary identity constructed in a "romantic" conversation: The case study of an initial "small talk".**

Ewa Kalecinska-Adamczyk

*University of Wroclaw, Psychology Department, Wroclaw, Poland*

The research was done in one of the clubs in the centre of Wroclaw. The research assistance (girl) was picked up by a boy. The first 10 minutes of the conversation was the subject of investigation.

The case of a „romantic" conversation was analysed through the context of some theories of interpersonal communication. Based on the Symbolic Interactionism (Mead, 1934; 1975) and the Coordinated Management Meaning Theory (Pearce & Cronen, 1980; Philipsen, 1995) the nature of temporary identities of the man and woman engaged in the „small talk" was revealed. The dynamic and changing meanings of the situation were negotiated in the process of interaction. The linguistic forms and specific words used by the couple had the key meanings for establishing relationship. Interpersonal Deception Theory (Buller & Bergun, 1996) and the Two Component Model of Self-presentation (Leary & Kowalski, 1990) helped to follow the way of impression managing. In the end, the trial of answering the question about people's motivation to talk was undertaken: Did the couple go to interaction in order to reduce uncertainty (Berger, 1987; 1997) or to maximize some profits and minimize the cost (Altman & Taylor, 1987), rather?

**PA.03 How much will you invest? Trade offs in first dates**

Evyatar Shpilman, Nurit Gur-Yaish, Yonathan Kroyttenberg

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

Every first date has its' practical price, most of the times it comes in the form of the bill. How much people would like to invest in first dates that lead to long term relationships? This question is depended on how much they consider their date partner to be attractive. In the current study we investigated the price of beauty versus intelligence as elements of attractiveness. We hypothesized that participants will be willing to invest the most in partners that are similar to their own self perception of beauty and intelligence. In addition, the current literature portrait gender differences regarding mate preferences. We propose that those differences are apparent already in first dates that lead to long term relationships. We hypothesized that beauty will be more significant factor than intelligence, and that those differences will be stronger for males verses females. 120 participants fill out questionnaires via the internet. First participants rated themselves in terms of beauty and intelligence. Then they saw one of three dating partners varying in the degree of beauty and intelligence. For each partner they were asked to indicate how much they will be willing to invest in a first date. Economic theories suggest that people would and should invest in the best possible option. This study suggest that in the romantic market people are less economical and more practical and would invest more in partners that are comparable to their level of attractiveness.

### **PA.03 Dating in the digital age**

David Levin

*College of Management, Tel Aviv, Israel*

Nowadays, people are torn between the need of using technologies in order to meet dyadic partners and the growing awareness about the dangers on the net. In this context, I want to suggest a useful notification made by Michel de Certeau to describe the measures taken by the participants. De Certeau made a distinction between the "strategies" of institutions that represent power and control and the creative "tactics" of ordinary people who strive for independence from those institutions. This kind of relations is central to dating in the digital age. My research, consisted of reading internet forums and making content analysis of dating sites, enabled the portrayal of two pathways, which are paved by "strategists" and "tacticians". Increasing control by "science" - "Strategies" take the form of accurate measurements characteristically found in professional dating sites. Ordinary users' "tactics" are "self made" models of accuracy: gaining information via Google or reading "between the lines" to decipher the other's personality. Decreasing control by gaining daily like information-Users' "tactics" focus on gaining "anthropological" information about partners by using social networks. This pathway (that can be seen as a "rebellion" against "accuracy") was recently adopted as a dating industrial strategy by the most prominent dating sites and combines accurate tools and social networks. The co-existence of the two pathways and the continuing dialogue between "strategies" and "tactics" represent the ever-growing tension between "control" and "creative" self expression, both of which are a combination that symbolizes emotional life.

### **PA.03 Romantic relationship dissolution: The role of gender differences in love components**

Magdalena Mokwa

*Warsaw School of Social Psychology, Gdańsk, Poland*

The triangular theory of love (Sternberg, 1986, 1988) holds that love can be understood in terms of three components: intimacy, passion and decision/commitment, differing in their nature and dynamics. This contribution presents an empirical study on gender differences in the three love components and their decreases over time as predictors of relationship termination. Men and women who had experienced a dissolution of their close relationship filled the scales measuring intimacy, passion and commitment for the best and the last moment of their relationship. The results showed comparable decreases of all love components among men. In contrast, a decrease of intimacy was the major correlate of ending the relationship among women. Findings are discussed and suggestions are made for future research.

### **PA.03 I see your true colors: Partner concept complexity in long distance romantic relationship**

Wei-Chuan Cheng, Amy Kuo, Pei-Ying Lin, Ya-Ling Wang, Yi-Cheng Lin

*Department of Psychology, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan*

What is the key of maintaining long distance romantic relationship(LDRR)? Previous researches argued that partner idealizing help them maintain their relationship. However, this beauty bobble burst while they reunion (Stafford& Merolla, 2007). In this study, We redefined the concept of "idealize" and proposed that people with higher partner concept complexity (PCC) including integrated partner constructs, balanced partner trait perceived, and confidence toward the partner can overcome

difficulties and are more likely to survive in LDRR. Many indexes were computed representing PCC, and most of them supported our hypothesis. We found that (1) even though number of negative partner concepts can positively predict conflict frequency, couples with more complex partner concept are less likely to initiate conflicts. (2) Though people who idealize their partner in LDRR feel closer and have more passion, only those who can construct their partner in a balance point of view (some positive traits also with some negative traits) are more likely to stay and make commitments in the relationship after four months follow up. These results revealed that PCC is also important for LDRR couples.

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| <b>PA.04 Developing Close Relationships</b> | Friday July 23<br>Arison/Lauder<br>Building Lobby |
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#### **PA.04 Effect of daily hassles on the desire for physical proximity and emotional closeness in couples**

Yoav Lavee

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

In recent years, the focus on short-term dyadic processes has given rise to several theoretical approaches that attempt to explain what transpires in couples in times of stress. The present paper attempts to contribute to this line of research by examining the extent to which three common types of daily hassles - *self-related*, *relational*, and *external* sources of stress are associated with one's own and the partner's seeking and achieving dyadic closeness. Data were collected from 272 couples who completed self-report measures of individual and couple characteristics (e.g., personality variables, marital quality), followed by maintaining a seven-day diary of daily hassles, mood, and relationship variables. In the current paper, we focus on two outcome measures: desire for physical proximity and perceived emotional closeness. We used a multivariate multilevel statistical model for matched pairs to assess the effect of each spouse's daily stress on their own (actor effect) and their spouse's (partner effect) desire for and perceived closeness over the 7-day period. We also tested the effect of individual and couple characteristics on the outcome variables. The findings show that for men, their own and their spouses' relational and external stress, as well as their spouses' self-related stress is associated with lower desire for closeness. For women, their own self-related and relational stress, as well as their spouses' external stress, is associated with a decreased desire for physical closeness. The findings are discussed in terms of emotional transmission and distance regulation in couples under stress.

#### **PA.04 Friendship relationships of shy early-adolescents**

Lucia Ponti, Franca Tani

*University of Florence, Florence, Italy, Italy*

Peer relationships, particularly friendships, provide one of the most important social contexts for child emotional and social development (Berndt, 2002). Nevertheless, few researchers have considered the peer relationships of shy subjects. The aim of this study was therefore to examine, from both a quantitative and qualitative point of view, the friendship relationships of shy early-adolescents. Participants were 330 early-adolescents, aged 11 to 13 ( $M = 12.31$ ,  $SD = .71$ ). Shyness was assessed using the Italian version (Ponti & Tani, 2009) of the Revised Cheek and Buss Shyness Scale (RCBS; Cheek, 1983). Reciprocal friendships were measured using friendship nominations (Bukowski, Hoza, & Boivin, 1994) and friendship qualities were

assessed via the Italian version (Tani, Guarnieri, & Ponti, submitted) of the Friendship Qualities Scale (FQS; Bukowski et al., 1994), which assesses 5 dimensions: Conflict, Companionship, Help, Security, and Closeness. No quantitative differences emerged: shy early-adolescents had the same number of reciprocal friends as non-shy respondents. On the contrary, results showed significant differences in qualitative aspects of friendships. Specifically, shy participants perceived their friendship relationships as being of a lower quality. That is, characterized by a lower level of closeness, security, help and companionship, than did non-shy youth. Overall these results are consistent with studies which had highlighted that the quantitative aspects of friendship do not vary as a function of shyness, but that, on the contrary, the qualitative aspects of reciprocal friendships vary significantly between shy and non-shy individuals (Rubin et al., 2006).

#### **PA.04 Self-disclosure, mediated communication and relationship development**

Suzanne Kurth

*University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, USA*

Self-disclosure entails risks and rewards whether between relative strangers or long-term relationship partners. In the formative stage of relationships, people may be more cognizant of both the potential risks and rewards than they typically are in other relationship stages. Yet, as self-disclosure is a widely recognized means to further the development of relationships (e.g., by increasing a sense of intimacy or sharing), people are going to actively engage in it. But, when self-disclosing they may do so in ways that let them perceive they are reducing their risks or at least their costs. Traditional strategies include gradually introducing riskier or more intimate information, so that the other's reaction to the information transmitted can be continually monitored. Yet, strangers (interested in quicker results) may find electronically mediated communication desirable to minimize "risks" when seeking romantic partners (e.g., through eHarmony or Match.com) or to share special interests. Some people apparently do not experience the revelation of private information (including nude photos) as risky when not face-to-face in part because they cannot see the other person's non-verbal responses and they do not have to worry about retreating from the situation. This analysis is theoretical but weaves in survey, secondary, and observational data.

#### **PA.04 Female selection criteria for sperm donor versus life partner**

Debra Zeifman, Jennifer Ma

*Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, USA*

The current study examined differences in women's mate preferences when choosing a sperm donor versus a life partner. Heterosexual women (N = 100) ages 18 - 25 were randomly assigned to sperm donor or life partner condition and asked to construct an ideal man, choose between four profiles varying in desirable characteristics, and rate the importance of indicators of good genes, good parenting ability, good partner potential, and good resources in a mate. Women in both conditions placed the most importance on traits associated with good parenting and the least importance on traits associated with good resources. Similarly, profiles of men with good parenting and partnering potential were preferred over profiles with good genes and resources by women in both groups. Women choosing sperm donors, however, placed greater value on good genes and less value on partnering than women choosing life partners. Women choosing donors also sought a higher degree of physical resemblance to their own features than women considering life partners. These results are discussed in

terms of a growing body of evidence suggesting that women adjust mate selection criteria depending on the context while continuing to attend to attachment-relevant cues even in short-term mates.

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| <b>PA.05 Family Relationships</b> | Friday July 23<br>Economics<br>Building Lobby |
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### **PA.05 Longitudinal associations between adolescent self-efficacy, behaviour problems and perceived family relationships**

Jelena Lubenko

*University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia*

The goal of this study was to examine longitudinal associations between adolescent externalizing and internalizing behaviour problems, self-efficacy, and characteristics of family relationships. A sample of 554 pupils from secondary schools in Latvia, 12-14 years of age, completed questionnaires regarding self-efficacy (Children's Perceived Self-Efficacy Scale, SPSE; Bandura, 2006), behaviour problems (Youth self-report, YSR; Achenbach, 2001) and family environment (Family Environment Scale, FES; Moos & Moos, 2002). Data were collected in two assessments 1 year apart. The preliminary results indicate that family cohesion is positively associated with three aspects of self-efficacy: academic self-efficacy, social self-efficacy and self-regulative efficacy, and negatively with adolescents' behaviour problem ratings. The associations are reversed for family conflict. The relationships between perceived family environment characteristics and adolescents' behaviour problems are partially mediated by adolescents' self-efficacy in that a stronger sense of self-efficacy predicts fewer internalizing and externalizing behaviour problems.

### **PA.05 Attribution style as a predictor of autonomy supportive parental practices.**

Pazit Gabay-Elgi<sup>1</sup>, Anat Moed<sup>1</sup>, Yaniv Kanat-Maymon<sup>2</sup>, Avi Assor<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, Herzliya, Israel*

Autonomy Supportive Parental Practices (ASPP), as defined by Self Determination Theory (SDT, Ryan & Deci, 2000) are argued to promote children's well being. Indeed, ASPP such as providing choice and taking the child's perspective, were found to predict children's sense of being unconditionally accepted by their parents. This study focuses on one personal disposition assumed to promote ASPP: Child Serving Attribution Style (CSAS). Individuals scoring high on CSAS attribute their child's positive behaviors to stable, global and internal causes, and their child's negative behaviors to unstable, local and external causes. We hypothesized that high CSAS parents would adopt more autonomy supportive parental practices, which in turn would predict child's sense of unconditional acceptance. Based on an extant instrument (Johnston & Ohan, 2005), we developed and validated a CSAS scale, which assesses the extent to which parents tend to interpret children's behaviors in a positive way. Results from 132 participants (66 7<sup>th</sup> graders and their mothers) supported the hypotheses. First, our finding replicated previous results indicating that ASPP such as providing choice and taking the child's perspective predict children's sense of unconditional acceptance. Next we found that maternal report on CSAS predicted ASPP as well as children's sense of unconditional acceptance by their parents. Lastly, we demonstrated that the association between CSAS and the child's

sense of unconditional acceptance is mediated by mothers' inclination to use ASPP. Discussion focuses on implications for understanding the personal and inter-personal dynamics underlying parents' capacity to support their children's autonomy.

#### **PA.05 The quality of life and interpersonal relations in partner relationships**

Teresa Rostowska, Aleksandra Lewandowska-Walter, Anna Jarmolowska

*University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland*

Reports from studies appearing lately in reference works world-wide can be treated as a signal, indicating the need to single out a new theoretical construct in research on family, in the psychological realm that is "family life quality". The presented part of the studies focused on finding answers to two research questions: 1. Does gender condition the assessment of family life quality? 2. Does the type of relationship condition the level of declared family life quality? The author's own tool - The Family Life Quality Questionnaire - was used in the study, obtaining satisfactory parameters. Among the 290 respondents were 145 women and 145 men. Participants of the research formed couples remaining in one of the three relationship types: marriage (42 couples), cohabitation (73 couples) and couples living separately (30 couples). The obtained result testified to the main effect of the relationship type, in the scope of assessing the relations with the generational family and with the partner, as well as in the case of assessing the way of spending free time and the religious aspects in life. However, the main effect of gender revealed itself in subscales concerning general self-disposition and relations with the partner. Analysis of the results of the present studies brought conclusions, which may significantly contribute to the understanding of the specificity of functioning of partners in various types of relationships, particularly indicating the possible areas requiring aid, as well as areas which may constitute the resources of couples supported therapeutically.

#### **PA.05 Managing emotions and conflict in post-divorce relationships**

Claudia Chiarolanza, Ritagrazia Ardone, Milena Lombardi

*Sapienza University, Rome, Italy*

Many researchers have been interested in cognitive, emotional and behavioral processes that come with marital dissolution: much attention has been notably addressed to emotions before, along and after divorce (Kaslow, 1984). Whereas children are involved, the studies about post-divorce relationships have focused on parents ability to maintain a constructive, committed and trusting orientation toward his/her co-parent (Margolin et al., 2001; Baum, 2003). With regard to this area, this paper aims to analyze the effect of emotions - such as anger, disillusion, sadness - toward the former partner on co-parenting and collaborative abilities in children caring and education in 60 divorced Italian couples. As parental conflict has been showed to shape children adjustment (Amato & Cheadle, 2005), the role of conflict management strategies will also be tested. Results will be discussed in the light of perspectives that aim to identify the relational abilities needed for couples to better adjust themselves to divorce.

**PA.06 The relation between subjects and their personal possessions**Edo Litmanovitch*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel*

The main focus of my presentation is the emotional attachment that subjects develop towards their material objects - a relationship that they perceive as one between them and their possessions. I believe that in order to comprehend this relation and to reconstruct owners' beliefs, one ought to examine the metaphors they use to explain and interpret their experiences. Furthermore, I argue that subjects who feel emotionally attached to material objects view these objects in ways similar to the way by which farmers may view their farm animals, and owners may view their pets. The ambiguous status of animals positions them as distinct from humans, yet allows for the expression of love towards them; one may both possess an animal and has a relationship with it. It seems to me that owners of possessions find themselves in a similar position. They view themselves as being involved in a relationship between two unequal parties: they love their material possessions, yet master them; they feel dependency on their possessions, but control them. According to my resolution, owners who find themselves in such situation may endow their material possessions with quasi-personality. In other words, they treat them as though they were animals. Understanding this is only a metaphor, owners may develop and maintain long-term relationships with inanimate possessions. My presentation is based on the theoretic works of Walter Benjamin and Gabriel Marcel.

**PA.06 Attachment and leadership: Attachment and leadership: The relationship of subordinate's attachment to the leader with leadership style and work satisfaction**Fernando Molero<sup>2</sup>, Marina Milantoni<sup>1</sup>*<sup>1</sup>Spanish Open University, Madrid, Spain, <sup>2</sup>National Distance-Education University, Madrid, Spain*

The concept of attachment has been used to describe and explain the ties between children and caregivers, partners in a romantic relationship and more recently between people and their groups. In this vein, Smith, Murphy and Coats (1999) created and validated a 25-item questionnaire to assess the attachment bonds that people make with some important groups they belong. They found that group attachment insecurities (anxiety or avoidance) predict several important outcomes related to emotions and behaviors toward the group. In this research we go a step forward to investigate the influence that subordinate's attachment insecurities to his/her leader has on both, subordinates' leadership perception and subordinates' work satisfaction. Our prediction is that insecure attachment ties (avoidance or anxiety) to the leader will affect negatively both, subordinates' perception of their leader and subordinates' work satisfaction. To accomplish our objective we adapted Smith's et al. scale to assess subordinates' attachment (i.e. "I find it difficult to allow myself to depend on my leader"). Good reliability indices were found for the dimensions of anxiety ( $\alpha = .76$ ) and avoidance ( $\alpha = .89$ ) in a sample of 264 Spanish participants. According to our predictions we found negative correlations between subordinates' avoidance and both, transformational leadership and work satisfaction ( $r = -.68$  and  $r = -.48$ ;  $p < .0001$ , respectively). However, there were no significant relations between subordinates'

anxiety and transformational leadership or work satisfaction ( $r = -.09$  and  $r = -.12$  respectively). Results are interpreted according to attachment theory (e.g. Mikulincer and Shaver (2007), and transformational leadership theory (e.g. Avolio y Bass, 2004).

**PA.06 Attachment and depressive symptoms in middle childhood and early adolescence: testing the validity of the emotion regulation model of attachment.**

Katrijn Brenning, Bart Soenens, Caroline Braet, Guy Bosmans

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

Objective: One of the most important developmental tasks in middle childhood and young adolescence is the development of emotion regulation. Maladaptive emotion regulation processes (e.g. suppression, dysregulation) play an important role in the development of psychopathology, more specifically depressive symptoms. Early interactions with attachment figures form a critical context for the development of emotion regulation. In this study, we investigate whether children's and adolescents' attachment representations of their parents are related to depressive symptoms and whether emotion-regulation functions as a possible mediator. Further, this study examines parenting (i.e., responsiveness and autonomy-support) as an antecedent of attachment and emotion regulation. Method: Two studies were conducted to examine the mediating role of emotion regulation in associations between attachment and depressive symptoms. A battery of self-report questionnaires were administered to a sample of non-clinical children and adolescents (Study 1,  $N = 339$  and Study 2,  $N = 746$  at Time 1 and  $N = 385$  at Time 2). Structural equation modeling with latent factors was used to test the mediational hypotheses. Conclusion: Both studies provide evidence for the mediating role of emotion regulation in associations between attachment and depressive symptoms. The effect of anxious attachment on depressive symptoms was specifically mediated by emotional dysregulation whereas the relation between avoidant attachment and depressive symptoms was specifically mediated by emotional suppression. The two parenting dimensions studied here were differentially related to the attachment dimensions, with perceived autonomy-support relating uniquely (and negatively) to attachment anxiety and with both autonomy-support and responsiveness relating negatively to attachment avoidance.

**PA.06 Empathy: The mediating link between attachment avoidance and prejudice**

Elle Boag, Katherine Carnelley

*University of Southampton, Southampton, Hampshire, United Kingdom*

Dispositional and primed attachment security are associated with high empathy (e.g., Britton & Feundeling, 2005; Wayment, 2006) and low prejudice (e.g., Mikulincer & Shaver, 2001; van Oudenhoven & Hofstra, 2006). Empathic ability is associated with lower prejudice (e.g., Batson et al., 1997; Pederson, Beven, Walker, & Griffiths, 2004) Furthermore, we have found that empathic ability mediates the relationship between attachment avoidance and prejudice toward Muslims (Boag & Carnelley, 2008). Our aim was to investigate the mediating roles of perspective taking and empathic concern (subscales of empathy) in the relationship between primed attachment style (Bartz & Lydon, 2004) and prejudice. Data were collected from 89 volunteers (91% students, 83% female;  $M_{age} = 23.9$ ,  $SD = 8.7$ ) online. Empathy was measured using a modified version of Davis' (1980) Interpersonal Reactivity Index (subscales: perspective taking, empathic concern, and personal distress). Prejudice was measured using Pittinsky, Rosenthal, and Montoya's (2007) Allophilia Scale. Overall empathy was higher and prejudice was lower for secure-primed versus

avoidant-primed participants. Perspective taking and empathic concern were higher and personal distress lower, in secure-primed participants than both avoidant- and anxious-primed participants. Higher global empathy, perspective taking, and empathic concern were associated with lower prejudice. Furthermore, the relationship between primed attachment avoidance and higher prejudice (compared to secure prime) was fully mediated by empathic ability (overall empathy, perspective taking and empathic concern). This suggests that people with a secure attachment style are less prejudiced because of their increased empathic ability.

#### **PA.06 The role of attachment anxiety - avoidance and submissive acts on relationship stability**

Ezgi Besikci, Ayda Buyuksahin Sunal, Fatma Beyza Yavuzer

*Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey*

The current study aimed to explore the role of attachment anxiety-avoidance and submissive acts on relationship stability (including commitment, satisfaction, investment, and quality of alternatives dimensions as indicated in Investment Model by Rusbult (1983) ) of 200 individuals who were married. It was expected that spouses' attachment anxiety and avoidance will have impact on relationship stability of spouses which will be mediated by their submissive acts. More specifically, higher levels of attachment anxiety were expected to lead to increases in submissive acts which in turn results in decreases in relationship satisfaction, and evaluation of quality of alternatives. On the other hand, increases in submissive acts caused by higher levels of attachment anxiety were expected to result in increases in level of investment and commitment to the relationship. Higher levels of attachment avoidance were expected to lead to decreases in submissive acts which in turn results in decreases in relationship stability. Path analysis will be conducted to test the hypotheses. Results will be discussed on the basis of accumulated literature. Data collection process is proceeding.

#### **PA.06 Perceived friendship opportunities mediate the association between avoidant attachment and instrumental functioning in teams**

Shiri Lavy<sup>1</sup>, Roi Granot<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ariel University Center, Ariel, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel*

Group work is becoming increasingly common in organizations, resulting in increased interest in the factors underlying group effectiveness. Previous studies indicated that personal and group characteristics (e.g. group cohesion & group conflicts) were associated with various aspects of group functioning. More specifically, a limited number of studies of attachment orientations and group work revealed that, unexpectedly, avoidant attachment was linked with lower instrumental functioning. This link was not tempered, and even exacerbated when group cohesion was high. The present study's goal was to identify mechanisms explaining this association between avoidant attachment and low instrumental functioning in groups. Sixty participants completed an online survey about group-work experiences, tapping participants' perceived group cohesion, instrumental functioning, job characteristics (variety, autonomy, dealing with others, and friendship opportunities), and also participants' attachment orientations.

Analysis revealed that the perceived opportunity to make friends at work mediated the negative association between avoidant attachment and instrumental functioning, and the positive association between avoidance and perceived group cohesion. Moreover, the perceived friendship opportunity also mediated the association between cohesion

and instrumental functioning. These results suggest that, counter-intuitively, close interpersonal relationships with other members at the work group influence avoidant individuals' instrumental functioning. We discuss the implication of these findings in the context of attachment theory and group research.

## **PA.07 Children's Relationships**

Friday July 23  
Economics  
Building Lobby

### **PA.07 On the links between patterns of close relationships, aggressive behavior and loneliness among non-clinical boys**

Michal Al-Yagon

*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*

This study explored multifaceted associations between children's aggressive behaviors and loneliness feelings, by identifying subgroups of children with different individual profiles, and also examined whether profiles associated differently with children's quality of close relationships with mothers and peers. Participants were 145 non-clinical boys (8 to 11 years) sampled from two public elementary schools: 41 third graders, 51 fourth graders, and 53 fifth graders. Using k-means clustering methods based on overall teacher-rated aggression and child-rated loneliness feelings, four distinct clusters emerged. Tukey HSD and Scheffe procedures validated the clusters, revealing significant inter-cluster differences on child's secure/insecure attachment to mother and on quality of friendship with a best friend. Discussion focused on understanding different relationship patterns among these subgroups of school-age boys.

### **PA.07 The association between protégés' attachment style and mentoring relationship success**

Limor Goldner

*<sup>1</sup>University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel and Oranim College, Tivon, Israel*

The developmental trajectory of children is intimately linked to various personal relationships with different adult figures that afford tangible and emotional support. The present study focuses on mentoring relationships and explores the association between protégé's attachment style and the success of the mentoring intervention. An identification of the protégé's characteristics, which contribute to the success of relationship, is especially important, since the relationship serves as a main vehicle to promote youth well-being and functioning. In addition, the findings from the field of mentoring can shed a light on the interpersonal mechanisms underlying other types of caregiving relationships such as teacher-child or guide-child relationships. The current study was conducted in Perach - the Israeli nationwide mentoring program). The methodological approach was based on a quantitative research design with three assessments. Data was collected from 187 children, their parents, teachers and mentors. Before the beginning of the mentoring protégés filled out questionnaires regarding their attachment to their mother and their socio – emotional functioning (e.g. self competence, friendship, depression, loneliness and school membership) and report again on their functioning at the end of the mentoring. Teachers and parents filled out questionnaires on children's adjustment before the beginning and at the end of the mentoring, and mentors filled out the same questionnaire at the end of the mentoring. Protégés, with a dependent relationship with their mothers, exhibited the greatest improvement during the mentoring intervention, while protégés with a secure

attachment showed the highest level of functioning at the end of the mentoring.

#### **PA.07 Proposed revision for the security scale**

Kathryn Kerns, Brittany Mathews

*Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA*

In middle childhood (ages 6 to 12 years), attachment is critical for children's healthy adaptation, and parents function as primary attachment figures (Kerns, 2008). The most common method to assess attachment in preadolescence is questionnaires, and the measure used most frequently is the Security Scale (Kerns, Aspelmeier, & Gentzler, 2001). This 15 item instrument assesses security of a child's attachment to a particular parent. Although this measure has shown evidence of reliability and validity (e.g., Dwyer, 2003; Kerns et al., 2005), there have been few attempts to assess the instrument's item content. This poster addresses this limitation in two ways. First, data from 10 samples were analyzed to identify individual items that have consistently not performed well. Second, we propose additional item content that will more fully sample the attachment construct. Children were between 8 and 14 years. Mother-child attachment was assessed in every sample (father-child attachment in two samples). Scale reliability was good (Cronbach alphas .79 to .88) except for 8 - 9 year-olds' reports of mothers (alpha = .64). Examination of individual items revealed 4 with consistently low item-total correlations,  $r < .40$ , which could be dropped from the scale. The current item content- like other attachment questionnaires- focuses primarily on safe haven interactions rather than secure base support. In a pilot interview study, adolescents frequently spontaneously referred to parents as supporting exploration. We are currently testing a revised questionnaire with a separate secure base scale (e.g., feels mother encourages them to try new things).

#### **PA.07 Assessing attachment anxiety and avoidance in middle childhood and early adolescence: The development of a child version of the experiences in close relationships scale-revised**

Katrijn Brenning, Bart Soenens, Caroline Braet, Guy Bosmans

*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*

The investigation of attachment processes during middle childhood and early adolescence has been hampered by the relative lack of measures for this age group differentiating between two fundamental attachment dimensions, that is, anxiety and avoidance. In this study, we developed and validated a child version of the Experiences in Close Relationships Scale-Revised (referred to as ECR-RC), a self-report questionnaire measuring attachment anxiety and avoidance. Two studies (Study 1,  $N = 514$  and Study 2,  $N = 296$ ) were conducted to examine the internal structure and construct and predictive validity of the ECR-RC. Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis on the items of the ECR-RC yielded two factors, representing attachment anxiety and avoidance. Construct validity was addressed by examining the correlations between attachment as measured by the ECR-RC and attachment as assessed by other relevant attachment questionnaires. As regards the predictive validity, both ECR-RC attachment dimensions were found to relate to depressive symptoms and emotion regulation strategies in theoretically expected ways. The ECR-RC appears to be a promising instrument to measure attachment. In our view, the ECR-RC has a number of important advantages over extant measures of attachment in middle childhood and early adolescence, as it (a) explicitly distinguishes between anxiety and avoidance instead of providing an overall assessment of attachment insecurity, (b) has a clear and interpretable factor structure and scales with strong

internal consistency, and (c) is similar to the ECR-R used for adults, so that it is useful in longitudinal research examining development in attachment.

#### **PA.07 Exploring intergenerational transmission of romantic attachment in young adults and their parents in a Chilean sample**

Rosario Spencer<sup>1</sup>, Itziar Alonso-Arbiol<sup>2</sup>, Andres Fresno<sup>3</sup>, Francisca Calquin<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Catholic University of Maule, Talca, Chile*, <sup>2</sup>*University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian, Spain*, <sup>3</sup>*University of Talca, Talca, Chile*

Intergenerational transmission of attachment has been studied within parent-child bonds. Yet, less attention has been devoted to the transmission of romantic attachment in couple relationships. An exploratory study (Obegi, Morrison, & Shaver, 2004) looked at the issue in mother-daughter dyads, acknowledging a modest relationship in the avoidance dimension. Nevertheless, these preliminary findings have not been confirmed in subsequent studies. Likewise, the extent to which this link is found within father-son dyads is unknown yet. The aim of the present study was to explore the transmission of romantic attachment among 159 Chilean young adults (mean age of 20.7 years; 108 women and 51 men) and their fathers and mothers. All participants completed the Experiences in Close Relationships inventory (ECR; Brennan, Clark, & Shaver, 1998). Correlations between the two attachment dimensions were calculated controlling for young individuals' relationship status. No relationship was found between mothers' and daughters' attachment dimensions. Only for the subset of young men who were not involved in a relationship ( $n = 25$ ), anxiety scores of sons and fathers were positively correlated ( $r = .41$ ), and sons' avoidance scores were negatively correlated with fathers' anxiety scores ( $r = -.33$ ). While the nature of the study is preliminary, obtained findings are discussed in light of the more salient family ties among men in the Latino culture.

#### **PA.08 Being Alone is Good, Unless One is Always Alone**

Friday July 23  
Economics  
Building Lobby

#### **PA.08 Distinctions in attachment status and style**

Mary Campa

*Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, USA*

Early attachment researchers made a distinction between the quality of infant attachment relationships and the presence of the attachment bond. Although adult attachment research primarily focuses on the qualitative aspects of attachment (i.e., attachment styles), there is reason to believe that adult attachments also include quantitative components. Recent attempts to measure adult attachment relationships using continuous scales parallel to the attachment style literature, however may mask this distinction. Data from 249 young adults ( $m: 18.7$  years; 33% male) about a randomly selected close relationship indicates that measuring adult attachment is most valid when done categorically. Participants completed the ECR and two measures of attachment. To account for measure differences participants responded to the same questions on two scales (counter-balanced), one asking participants to name the individuals they rely on to meet their attachment needs and a second asking to rate the extent to which they relied on them. Participant's reports of general ( $r = .25$ ) and relationship-specific ( $r = .71$ ) attachment avoidance was highly correlated with the continuous measurement of attachment whereas it was relatively unrelated to the categorical measure (general:  $r = .00$ ; relationship specific:  $r = .13$ ). Results for

attachment anxiety followed a similar pattern. Furthermore, these results held when controlling for number of close relationships, gender, age and across relationship types (e.g., parent, friends). Overall these results suggest that adults make distinctions between close relationship partners based on attachment needs and that these distinctions are unique from the quality of the relationship and an individual's overall attachment orientation.

#### **PA.08 The Italian version of the inventory of parent and peer attachment**

Franca Tani, Silvia Guarnieri, Lucia Ponti

*Department of Psychology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy*

The Inventory of Parent and Peer Attachment (IPPA) developed by Armsden and Greenberg (1985) allows measurement of attachment style via assessment of the following 3 dimensions: trust, communication, and alienation. The main aim of this study was to: 1) adapt the three versions of the IPPA (Armsden & Greenberg, 1985) for mother, father, and peer respondents for the Italian population; and 2) to verify the validity of the attachment style classifications suggested by Armsden and Greenberg (1985) and Vivona (2000). The Italian version of the IPPA was administered to 784 participants (407 males and 377 females) aged 12 to 19 years ( $M = 15.07$ ;  $SD = 2.71$ ). In relation to the second aim, the Parental Bonding Instrument (PBI; Parker, Tupling & Brown, 1979), Network of Relationships Inventory (NRI, Furman & Buhrmester, 1985), Youth Self Report (YSR; Achenbach, 1991), Rosenberg Self-esteem Scale (RSE; Rosenberg, 1965), and Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS; Pavot & Diener, 1993) were employed to assess the construct validity of the classifications. Confirmative analyses verified the original structure in the three IPPA versions. The internal consistency coefficients of the three scales were satisfactory. Further, the present study provided support within the Italian context for both the parent and peer attachment style classifications provided by Armsden and Greenberg (1985) and Vivona (2000).

#### **PA.08 Attachment styles and the three response levels: Cognitive, affect, and behavioral correlates**

Remedios Melero<sup>1</sup>, Itziar Alonso-Arbiol<sup>2</sup>, M Jose Cantero<sup>1</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain, <sup>2</sup>University of the Basque Country, San Sebastian, Spain*

Adult attachment, by means of underlying mental models, serves the purpose of regulating, interpreting, and predicting both the attachment figure and the self's attachment-related feelings, thoughts, and behaviors (Bretherton & Munholland, 1999). In a similar way, cognitive theories (Beck, 1964, 1976; Ellis, 1958, 1962) also assumed a link between feelings, thoughts, and behavior. However, therapeutic interventions behind these theories do not tend to integrate these three response levels. Thus, cognitive-based interventions usually focus their treatment in promoting emotional self-sufficiency and equating affective bonds to emotional dependence. From the attachment viewpoint, cognitive treatment revolves around love dependence and the need for approval. In order to provide support for a more integrative therapeutic approach, the aim of this study was to explore how each of the four attachment styles had different consequences in the three psychological response levels (cognitive, affective, and behavioral). We also wanted to analyze the consequences of these responses over the relationship quality. The sample was composed of 166 participants (79 men and 87 women) involved in a close relationship, with an age mean of 29.4 years old (18-57 range). Using equation

structural modelling, it was possible to test a model of relationship that would account for the three response levels, and where attachment styles revealed a differential path. The confirmation of this model shows the relevance of integrating the three response levels in attachment theory-based interventions or other cognitive therapeutic proposals.

#### **PA.08 Conceptual and methodological issues on attachment research: A cultural point of view**

Paula Mena Matos

*Faculty of Psychology and Education - University of Porto, Porto, Portugal*

The current poster identifies some theoretical and methodological issues present in attachment research in adolescence and adulthood and discusses their implications from a cultural point of view. The content will be organized according to following topics: (a) cultural adaptation of attachment measures vs construction of new measures: risks and opportunities; (b) anxiety and avoidance as major constructs in attachment research: benefits and implications for advancing in the conceptual development and operationalization of attachment security; (c) the need for intercultural dialogue on the meaning and adaptativeness of different attachment patterns; (d) the secure vs insecure saturated dichotomie: the need for looking at the processes that mediate the link between attachment and psychosocial development; and (e) obstacles and implications for publishing.

#### **PA.08**

##### **Distance as a double-edged sword: The hot, cool, and cold systems of self regulation in attachment**

Ya-Ling Wang, Yi-Cheng Lin

*National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan*

Kross, Ayduk, & Mischel (2005) found that participants adopted a self-distanced perspective gained beneficial effects psychologically and physiologically compared with a self-immersed perspective. This is referred to as a "cool" response. We predicted that this effect, however, would be moderated by attachment styles. That is, securely attached individuals would benefit from psychological distance due to the use of cool system. However, anxiously attached and avoidantly attached ones would not benefit from psychological distance because of the exertion of hot and cold systems. 83 participants completed measures that assessed their adult attachment orientations and their perceptions of the quality of their current dating relationships upon arrival. After completing these measures, participants read a conflict scenario and rewrote the story using designated pronouns. Participants in the first experimental group wrote from the 1<sup>st</sup> person perspective (the self-immersed condition), whereas the second group wrote from the 3<sup>rd</sup> person perspective (the distanced group). Results showed that looking from a distance at a interpersonal conflict reduced negative emotions. Psychological distance generally served positive functions of emotion regulation. However, as predicted, for insecurely attached people, they suffered from the psychological distance manipulation instead. An integrative model of hot, cool, and cold systems corresponding to the attachment theory was proposed.

**PA.08 Global vs relationship-specific attachment as predictors of compassionate love for a romantic partner**

Beverley Fehr<sup>1</sup>, Susan Sprecher<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, MB, Canada*, <sup>2</sup>*Illinois State University, Normal, USA*

The goal of this research was to contribute to knowledge of the factors that promote, or are associated with, compassionate love in a relational context by examining the degree to which both dispositional attachment and relationship-specific attachment are associated with compassionate love for a romantic partner. Participants (N=378) completed measures of global attachment orientation, relationship-specific attachment, and compassionate love for their romantic partner. Results indicated that global attachment security was positively associated with compassionate love for one's partner, whereas dispositional avoidance was negatively associated with compassionate love, although these effects were modest. Analyses of relationship-specific attachment revealed stronger links to compassionate love. Specifically, the avoidance dimension was strongly negatively correlated with compassionate love for a romantic partner. Relationship-specific anxiety was not associated with compassionate love in the sample overall. However, analyses by relationship type revealed that although relationship-specific anxiety was not associated with compassionate love for those in more committed, serious relationships, it was a positive predictor of compassionate love for those in casual relationships. Mediation analyses revealed that the association between dispositional attachment and compassionate love was mediated by relationship-specific attachment avoidance. It was concluded that attachment may play a role in compassionate love by activating the caregiving system.

# POSTER SESSIONS

## Sunday July 25

### **PB.01 Consequences of Attachment**

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#### **PB.01 Attachment and emotional abilities of substance users**

Zoe Maka<sup>1</sup>, Effrosyni Mitsopoulou<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, United Kingdom*, <sup>2</sup>*University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece*

In two studies we examined relationships between attachment, emotional skills and psychosocial outcomes in substance users. The first study involved 98 individuals from two rehabilitation programs that completed the Experiences in Close Relationship scale (Fraley et al., 2000), emotion perception of own and others' emotions (using the Mayer Salovey & Caruso emotional intelligence ability test), and scales measuring depression, mental health and self-esteem. The results from hierarchical linear regressions demonstrated that anxious and avoidant attachment were positively associated with lower psychosocial outcomes and the two emotional abilities (recognizing other and own emotions) had unique predictive power on substance users' psychosocial outcomes (going, however, on different directions). In the second study, we extended research by looking at the effects of attachment using the same scale and the possible mediatory role of emotion regulation, use of emotion using an emotional self-efficacy scale (Wong Law, Emotional Intelligence scale) in a sample of 80 substance users. Emotional self-efficacy partially mediated anxious attachment relationships with psychosocial outcomes. Interestingly, emotion perception of others' emotions was also found to predict lower psychosocial outcomes. The results are important for understanding the role of relational factors and related emotional capabilities in the social and interpersonal functioning of substance users.

#### **PB.01 Adult attachment and caregiving in substance abusers under treatment: A Portuguese adaptation of the caregiving questionnaire**

Diogo Oliveira<sup>1</sup>, Nuno Torres<sup>2</sup>, Ana Ramalho<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*ISPA, Lisbon, Portugal*, <sup>2</sup>*UIPCDE- ISPA, Lisbon, Portugal*

The caregiving system is one of the major behavioral systems hypothesized by John Bowlby to complement relationship partners' attachment systems. The caregiving system is thought to become activated in response to the emotional needs of others and to play a role in providing for others' needs for a secure base, autonomy, and emotional wellbeing. Previous studies have shown that substance abuse is associated with insecure attachment and with disturbed relational patterns with intimate partners. However, research on the caregiving system is relatively recent, and its role in the relationship patterns of drug abusers is unknown. We would like to report a study in which the participants were 116 drug abusers (72% males, 28% females) under treatment in three therapeutic communities (N=65) and two methadone programs (N=51). Their average age was 36 years. They completed the Adult

Attachment Scale (Collins & Read, 1990) - Portuguese Version (Canavarro, Dias, & Lima, 2006) and a Portuguese adaptation of the Caregiving Questionnaire (Kunce & Shaver, 1994). Analysis of the factor structure, internal consistency, and interscale correlations of the Portuguese caregiving questionnaire indicated the satisfactory psychometric properties of the scales. There were significant correlations between the attachment scales and the caregiving scales consistent with theoretical expectations and previous research. Attachment-related anxiety was positively associated with controlling and compulsive caregiving strategies and negatively associated with proximity and sensitive caregiving strategies. The Methadone subgroup had significantly lower scores than the Therapeutic Community group on the questionnaire scales of attachment-related anxiety and compulsive and controlling caregiving strategies.

**PB.01 The relationship between attachment styles, preferences of meeting settings for mate selection and relationship commitment in a sample of Turkish young adults**

Ezgi Besikci, Ayda Buyuksahin Sunal, Selda Seker

*Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey*

The main objective of the study was to examine how do young adults having different attachment styles differ from each other in terms of their preferences of meeting setting for mate selection, and b) their commitment to relationship. It was hypothesized that ; 1) individuals who have secure attachment styles will prefer interaction settings which allow face-to face communication to find their romantic partners, whereas individuals who have insecure attachment styles will prefer online and common friend network settings, and 2) individuals with secure and insecure attachment styles will differ from each other in terms of their relationship stability, including relationship commitment, satisfaction, investment, and evaluation of quality of alternatives. Hypothesis will be tested via Chi-square tests and MANCOVA. The study is in data collection process.

**PB.01**

**Inner working models in intimate relationships – adult attachment and time perspective**

Aleksandra Huic, Zeljka Kamenov

*University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Psychology, Zagreb, Croatia*

Depending on whether we have positive or negative inner working models of self and others, our behavior, emotions and judgment in intimate relationships will be different. Recently, another inner working model - time perspective (TP) - re-emerged as a construct which is claimed to have an important influence on human behavior. TP is conceptualized as a process by which we organize our experiences in temporal categories (past, present, future) to give order, meaning and structure to different events in our lives. Individual differences in these frames are thought to lead to differences in judgement, emotions and action. This study tested the relationship between these two kinds of inner working models. We hypothesized that securely attached individuals will also be past-positive, present-hedonistic and future oriented. These TP dimensions are associated with good adjustment and absence of pathology. Other attachment styles should be related to past-negative and present-fatalistic orientations. We were also interested in whether the hypotheses made for these individual differences will be confirmed on the behavioral level. 300 students and

young adults, that are currently in romantic relationships, participated in the study. Modified version of Brennan's Experience in Close Relationships Inventory (Kamenov and Jelic, 2003) and Zimbardo Time Perspective Inventory (Zimbardo and Boyd, 1999) were administered. We also asked participants about specific habits and behaviors they exhibit in their current relationship. Relations between attachment styles and TP dimensions (operationalized both with inventories and specific behaviors) are discussed.

### **PB.01 Adapting interpersonal psychotherapy for older adults at risk for suicide**

Marnin Heisel<sup>1</sup>, Paul Duberstein<sup>2</sup>, Nancy Talbot<sup>2</sup>, Deborah King<sup>2</sup>, Xin Tu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada,* <sup>2</sup>*University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY, USA*

Older adults have high rates of suicide and employ lethal means of self-harm. The present study reports on the final results of an uncontrolled pre-post-treatment study, funded by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, to adapt and pilot test a 16-week course of individual Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) for older outpatients at elevated risk for suicide by virtue of current suicide ideation or recent suicidal behavior. As with our preliminary findings (Heisel, Duberstein, Talbot, King, & Tu, 2009), our final data support the feasibility, tolerability, and safety of the adapted intervention with at-risk older adults. Study participants reported significant pre- to post-treatment reductions in suicide ideation, death ideation, loss of personal and social worth, and severity of depressive symptoms, and significant improvement in perceptions of meaning in life, psychological well-being, and social functioning. The present study reports on final results of this study with the complete sample and includes 3-month follow-up assessments. Representative clinical case vignettes will be provided, to help elucidate the therapeutic approach with older adults at-risk for suicide and enhancement of their relationships with others. At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will have greater familiarity with a psychotherapeutic intervention targeting at-risk older adults.

### **PB.01 Aftermath of break up in romantic relationship: Coping, attachment and partner's intimacy**

Tal Wiseman-Nave, Ruth Sharabany

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

We examined the process of coping following a break-up in romantic relationship. Break up was defined as an ending of a relationship with a romantic partner. It is known from the literature that break up often is experienced as a loss (Quinodoz, 1993). The coping was examined relying on Bowlby's theory of attachment, and on the dual process model of bereavement (Rubin, 1993). We hypothesized that anxious insecure attachment will be related to greater distress following the breakup, and that the greater closeness and intimacy in the relationship will be related to a greater distress. Participants were 121 single students were asked about their reactions following one and six months after the break up. Measurements included: Experience in Close Relationship Scale, Intimacy Scale (Sharabany, 1994), Including Other in the Self (Aron & Aron, 1992), and a new special questionnaire Coping with Break up (depression, somatization, non-acceptance, anger, and positive internalization). Results showed sex differences in coping reactions. Men who had been more intimate with partner and harbored positive feelings reported greater depression and somatization, but not women. In contrast, women who endorsed anxious attachment reported greater distress. Anxious attachment was related to somatization for men and

to depression among women.

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| <b>PB.02 Age and Gender Differences in Love, Sex, and Relationships</b> |
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**PB.02 Evidence to suggest that female copulatory vocalisations are not a reflexive consequence of orgasm**

Gayle Brewer<sup>1</sup>, Colin Hendrie<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire, United Kingdom,

<sup>2</sup>University of Leeds, Leeds, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom

The current studies were conducted in order to investigate the phenomena of human copulatory vocalisations and their relationship to orgasm in females. Data revealed that orgasm was most frequently reported by females following self manipulation of the clitoris, manipulation by the partner, oral sex delivered to the female by the male and least frequently seen during vaginal penetration. More detailed examination of responses during intercourse revealed that whilst female orgasms were most commonly experienced during foreplay, copulatory vocalisations were reported to be made most often before and simultaneously with male ejaculation. These data together clearly demonstrate a dissociation of the timing of female experiencing orgasm and making copulatory vocalisations and indicate that these responses are to a large extent under conscious control providing females with an opportunity to manipulate male behaviour to their advantage.

**PB.02 Romantic relationships during emerging adulthood**

Alice Bonechi, Silvia Guarnieri, Franca Tani

*Department of psychology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy*

Romantic relationships are central to individual social life. Such relationships become increasingly significant in the lives of young people as they move from late adolescence to early adulthood, promoting social and emotional development and contributing to overall good health and well-being (Collins, 2003; Furman & Shaffer, 2003; Meier & Allen, 2009; Seiffge-Krenke, 2003). Despite this, few studies have analyzed romantic relationship quality during emerging adulthood. The present cross-sectional study therefore aimed to: 1) analyze changes in romantic relationship quality during emerging adulthood; and 2) verify gender differences. The overall sample consisted of 434 participants who were divided into two groups: 241 late adolescents (78 males e 163 females) aged 16 to 19 ( $M = 17.63$ ;  $SD = .76$ ), and 193 young adults (64 males e 129 females) aged 21 to 28 ( $M = 24.33$ ;  $SD = 4.18$ ). To measure romantic relationship qualitative dimensions the Italian version (Guarnieri & Tani, in press) of the Network of relationships Inventory (NRI) developed by Furman and Buhrmester (1985) was administered. Results revealed significant differences in some positive qualitative dimensions. Specifically, young adults perceived their romantic relationships to be characterized by more companionship, affection, admiration and reliable alliance than late adolescents. No significant differences emerged in negative qualitative dimensions. Therefore, romantic relationships reflected higher levels of emotional intensity with age. Results also showed significant gender differences. In particular, women perceived their romantic relationships as being characterized by higher levels of companionship, instrumental aid and intimacy, and by lower levels of punishment than men.

**PB.02 Dating relationships and psychological consequences of sex in late adolescence: An event-level analysis**

Sara Vasilenko, Eva Lefkowitz, Jennifer Maggs

*Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, USA*

Although adolescents engage in sex with different types of relationship partners and experience both positive and negative consequences, research has focused on whether sex in adolescence is harmful. Focusing on contexts of the sexual experience, such as the nature of the relationship with a partner, can provide information about what circumstances are associated with both positive and negative consequences. We used daily diary data from an ethnically diverse sample of college students (N=679 days; N=209 people) to examine whether consequences of sex differed by gender and relationship with sexual partner. On days that participants engaged in penetrative sex, they reported their relationship with their partner (recoded dating v. non-dating) and whether they experienced each of 7 positive and 12 negative consequences of sex. Logistic multi-level models showed that sex with a dating partner was associated with a greater likelihood of feeling close to the partner and a lesser likelihood of worrying about health, feeling guilty, or feeling not ready for sex, compared to sex with a non-dating partner. Men were more likely to report positive consequences, such as feeling physically satisfied or better about themselves, after sex with a dating, as opposed to non-dating, partner. Women were less likely to report negative consequences, such as worrying about health and feeling they weren't ready for sex when with a dating, as opposed to non-dating, partner. Sex with a dating partner may protect young women from negative consequences of sex, whereas sex with a dating partner enhances positive consequences for men.

**PB.02 Older couples' dyadic coping and relationship satisfaction**

Melanie Peter-Wight

*University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland*

Several studies have shown that differences in dyadic coping are related to differences in relationship satisfaction in younger and middle aged couples. However, little is known about the association between dyadic coping and relationship satisfaction within older spousal dyads. Therefore, with N = 138 older couples (M age = 68.3), we examined (a) if wives' and husbands' dyadic coping strategies are significantly associated with their marital satisfaction, (b) if wives' and husbands' perception of the partner's coping would be more important for their relationship satisfaction than actual coping of the partner. Using the dyad instead of individual dyad members as the unit of analysis, we examined if (c) older couples' dyadic coping strategies are significantly associated with older couples' marital satisfaction. Our results demonstrate that older wives' and husbands' dyadic coping is significantly associated with their relationship satisfaction and that especially older wives' and husbands' perception of partners' dyadic coping is important for their own relationship satisfaction. Main predictors of couples' relationship satisfaction are partner's supportive dyadic coping, mutual dyadic coping, and partner's negative dyadic coping.

**PB.03 What a difference some pay makes: Comparisons between paid staff and volunteers on interpersonal dimensions related to job satisfaction.**

Barry J Fallon, Simon M Rice

*Australian Catholic University, Victoria, Australia*

There are many factors which have been shown to be associated with job satisfaction. The present research focussed on the ways in which a range of organisational interpersonal factors related to job satisfaction. Also of interest was whether such associations are equivalent for paid staff and for those who volunteer within the same organization - a community based emergency services organization in an Australian state. Useable data was collected from 274 paid staff and 2306 volunteers. The variables utilised, in addition to job satisfaction, were supervisor support, welfare, recognition and respect. There were statistically significant differences on all variables with the volunteer means greater than the paid staff means. The multiple regressions predicting job satisfaction resulted in adjusted  $R^2$ s of .58 and .42 for the volunteers and the paid staff respectively. For the volunteers supervisor support, welfare, recognition, and respect were each significant predictors. For the paid staff while supervisor support, welfare and respect were significant predictors recognition was not. The present research highlights the importance of how differences in individuals' psychological contract with an organization effect the relationship between interpersonal dimensions and job satisfaction. Recognition e.g., the pat on the back for a job well done, is clearly not the same for those receiving payment for their employment compared to those who volunteer their labour.

**PB.03 Stereotypes and emotions towards single persons as a function of their age, gender and whether they choose to be single**

Gal Slonim, Nurit Gur-Yaish, Ruth Katz

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

The latest research on social perception shows that old and younger singles in western countries (USA, Germany) are targets of discrimination and stereotyping. People not involved in a romantic relationship are more likely to be seen by others as having negative characteristics, a phenomenon termed "Singlism". The existence of Singlism is surprising. One could expect that stereotypes against singles will be minimized or completely gone nowadays, as non-traditional family patterns (such as single-parent women) become more common, and professional development often postpones family formation. This research investigated whether there is a difference between the stereotyping level of persons with different characteristics - single or in a relationship, young or old, man or woman, and single by choice or not. The emotional reaction (sad or angry) to different types of singles will also be analyzed as a possible explanation for the differences in stereotyping. 300 students participated in the research, filled in a short demographic questionnaire, a questionnaire for the measurement of stereotyping levels towards a target person (Hertel, Schutz & DePaulo, 2007) and an emotional reaction questionnaire (Badahdah & Alkhder, 2006). The contribution of this study is by exploring the influence of the single's characteristics on the level of stereotyping and by suggesting that emotions mediate this link.

### **PB.03 A measure for the study of social networks: The Italian version of the Network of Relationships Inventory**

Silvia Guarnieri, Franca Tani

*Department of Psychology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy*

The main aim of the present study was to adapt the five versions of the Network of Relationships Inventory (NRI) developed by Furman (1996) relative to mother, father, sibling, best friend and romantic-partner relationships for the Italian population. The NRI allows measurement of the quality of these close relationships by assessing 11 dimensions, assigned to one of the two factors, namely Social Support (Companionship, Instrumental aid, Intimacy, Nurturance, Affection, Admiration, Satisfaction, and Reliable alliance) and Negative Interaction (Conflict, Antagonism and Punishment). The Italian version was administered to 707 respondents (423 females and 284 males) aged 16 to 28 ( $M = 20.04$ ;  $SD = 3.93$ ). Confirmative analyses showed the original structure in the five NRI versions. The internal consistency coefficients of the scales and factors were satisfactory. Therefore, the present study verified the presence of the same general qualitative dimensions within the Italian context in mother, father, best friend, and partner relationships (genotypic similarity), dimensions that are manifested differently in these different types of close relationships (phenotypic dissimilarity).

### **PB.03 Politeness and psychological distance: A construal level perspective**

Elena Stephan<sup>1</sup>, Nira Liberman<sup>1</sup>, Yaacov Trope<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel*, <sup>2</sup>*New York University, NY, USA*

Politeness theory (Brown & Levinson, 1987) views politeness in language as means to reflect and regulate social distance. We examine politeness regularities associated with social distance, applying Construal Level Theory (CLT; Liberman, Trope & Stephan, 2007). According to CLT, stimuli that are not part of one's direct experience of "oneself, here and now" are psychologically distant in terms of social, spatial or temporal dimensions. Distal stimuli can not be perceived and have to be mentally construed (remembered, imagined). Psychological distance on any dimension is associated with a more abstract, higher level of construal that captures features of stimuli that remain relatively invariant with increasing distance, and thus enable prediction across distance. CLT also proposes that social, temporal and spatial distances are interrelated, as they have a common psychological meaning (being different ways of diverging from direct experience) and are inherently linked to mental construal. Based on Politeness Theory and CLT, we predicted that politeness, implying social distance, may be associated with abstract construal and with greater temporal and spatial distances. Eight studies supported this prediction. Politeness increased when the addressees were construed abstractly (Study 1), were temporally distant (Studies 2, 3), and were spatially distant (Study 4). It was also found that increasing politeness produced abstract construals (Study 5), greater temporal distance (Study 6), and greater spatial distance (Study 7, 8). These findings shed light on the way politeness operates in different cultures and is conveyed in different languages, supporting the idea that dimensions of psychological distance are interrelated.

### **PB.03 Personal communication in brainstorming group: Determinants and effects**

Sergey Yagolkovskiy

*State university - Higher school of economics, Moscow, Russian Federation*

Our study focuses on cognitive and emotional aspects of the personal communication. The process of participants' interaction in brainstorming group was analyzed. We assessed influence of ideas sharing on particular parameters of individual creativity, as well as relations among factors which determines to a considerable degree the effectiveness of the brainstorming process: personal innovativeness, creativity, average intelligence, and sensation seeking. The sample consisted of 609 students. The following parameters of creativity were analyzed: productivity, flexibility, and originality. Effects of ideas sharing on individual creativity were assessed in an idea exposure paradigm. Stimulus ideas were subdivided into 4 semantic categories: with high level of novelty; with low level of originality; of aggressive content; "silly". Experimental data showed the most intensive changes ( $p < 0.05$ ) of originality scores in the group where "silly" stimulus ideas were exposed. We explained it by cognitive stimulation effects which could be regarded as results of dialogical communication. These effects take place when subject considers others' ideas as examples of getting over boundaries of the stereotypic thinking. We also analyzed particular cognitive and emotional mechanisms of interaction among participants in brainstorming groups. In this analysis others' ideas were considered as mediators of personal communication. We have not found any significant correlations among personal innovativeness, individual creativity, average intelligence, and sensation seeking. The only exception was the relation between personal innovativeness and sensation seeking ( $p < 0.01$ ). Results of the study could be used in the practice of stimulation of creativity and innovativeness.

### **PB.03 A method for assessing reliability invariance in cross-group relationship research**

James Graham

*Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, USA*

Cross-group comparisons in relationship research assume that the psychometric characteristics of the variables involved are consistent across groups. If the measures vary across groups, findings involving group comparisons are inherently flawed and potentially misleading. Psychometricians often test for item and factor invariance by using techniques such as multi-group confirmatory factor analysis to compare the relative fit of a series of nested models. While very useful, analyses such as these are often impractical or unfeasible for researchers examining substantive, rather than psychometric questions. In the present study, I present a simple procedure for testing whether a set of results are robust to violations of cross-group reliability invariance. Data from existing reliability generalization meta-analyses demonstrate how the reliability of scores obtained from well-established measures can vary widely across groups, and can have a deleterious impact on cross-group comparisons. Because reliability serves as the upper limit for validity, reliability that varies across groups can make it appear as if group membership moderates the relationship between study variables. I present a simple method for testing the equivalence of reliability coefficients and for correcting the study correlations for variant reliability to determine if the effects would still exist under conditions of invariant reliability. I use data from 413 U.S. and 265 Chinese married individuals to illustrate the proper calculation, interpretation, and reporting of reliability-corrected results. This method

provides of means of testing measurement invariance in cross-group relationship research that is well within the means of a substantive researchers to accomplish.

### **PB.03 Business partnership in local government**

Eti Sarig *The Open University, Raanana, Israel*

The partnership between local government, business sector and non-profit organizations was first conceived as a specific result of the financial difficulties of the local municipalities. In an attempt to cope with this difficulty, the municipalities realised that economic development could provide them with alternative sources of funds, one of which was the widening of the municipal tax base. Simultaneously, increasingly negative views about far-reaching intervention of the local municipality in business aspects of municipal management, and also the infiltration of new managerial values, emphasized the need for flexibility in municipal activities, and for new thinking regarding alternative methods for service delivery, thus accelerating the partnership between local municipalities and the business sector. This development, although not without its risks, enables the local municipality, using local enterprise, to improve the quality of the services delivered to its citizens, increasing their welfare and consequently enhancing the city's attractiveness. In exploration of local government partnerships behaviour, this study tests the predictive ability of number factors, including development policy, municipality size, geographical location, type of service, national priority and characters of the municipal and her leader. The research model tests the influence of these institutional, individual and environmental factors on the scope of municipal business partnerships. The study suggest that politics factors are still dominant in the local decision making process and there is a dramatic rise in business partnerships and mixed public private delivery (joint contracting) of city services.

**PB.04 Encouraging disclosure about patient roles and relationships in medical interviewing: A Communication Privacy Management framework for encouraging or inhibiting disclosure**

Ashley Duggan<sup>1</sup>, Ylisabyth Bradshaw<sup>2</sup>, Wayne Altman<sup>2</sup>, Kathleen Chanatry<sup>1</sup>, Colleen Coburn<sup>1</sup>, Shannon Carroll<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Dunn<sup>1</sup>, Aisling Francoeur<sup>1</sup>, John Glass<sup>1</sup>, Natalie Swergold<sup>1</sup>, Sarah Weintraub<sup>1</sup>, Hilary Weismann<sup>1</sup>, Kathryn Zioto<sup>1</sup>

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Physician / patient research extends the boundaries for valid medical conversation topics to acknowledge patients' roles and relationships as an important component of comprehensive medical assessment and treatment. Thus, physician / patient communication extends beyond addressing biomedical symptoms and includes talk about the patient's life beyond biomedical symptoms and the interconnections with patient relationships. The current study uses the framework of Communication Privacy Management (Petronio, 2002) to examine disclosure about patient relationships in videotaped interactions between third and fourth year medical students and patients in two types of interactions (N=320 dyads). These healthcare interactions included addressing a patient with a visibly-apparent disability, and a patient seeking nutrition and lifestyle counselling. Interactions were videotaped as part of a training program for medical students to negotiate a treatment plan and were simulated such that "patients" were trained standardized patient educators. One interaction included a patient with a visually-apparent disability (e.g., cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, blindness, quadriplegia); the educator role-played a shoulder pain complaint, plus their own disability. The second interaction included a patient seeking to make changes in diet and lifestyle to decrease heart attack risk. The current study addresses the extent to which medical students asked questions and encouraged disclosure about interconnections between presenting concerns and relationships with previous health providers, with family members, with co-workers, and with relational partners. The presentation includes illustrations of the ways medical students ask questions and probe for disclosure, or, on the contrary, the ways their communication inhibits disclosure. Implications for privacy management are discussed.

**PB.04 Me and my unborn child as a mirror to past and present close relationships: The role of gender**

Ora Gazit, Miri Scharf

*University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel*

The research examined future parental representations of women and men during pregnancy and their connection to past relationships with parents and couple relationships, while focusing on two central themes: closeness and separateness. Male identity is characterized by separateness and autonomy, while female identity is directed towards belonging and interpersonal closeness (Chodorow, 1978). These differences are also likely to play an important role in shaping perceptions related to future parenthood (Gage & Krik, 2002). This work is based on preliminary results of 63 couples in the last trimester of their first pregnancy. Measures examined their closeness and separateness in three relationship systems: parents (including attachment), partners, and with respect to the unborn child. Results showed that

women report greater closeness to the fetus than men. Surprisingly, men report more merging with the future child, while women expect greater separateness between themselves and the child. In addition, the associations between the relationships with the parents and the future relationships with the child were stronger for women than for men. Closeness and separateness in couple relationships were positively connected to closeness to the unborn child, but were stronger among men than women. Additional analyses will examine moderating and mediating variables in the connection between relationships with parents/partner, and representations of the fetus/child. The meaning of the findings and their implications for the theory of close relationships and fantasies about them prior to their creation, as well as their application to professionals working with prospective parents will be discussed in detail.

#### **PB.04 Breaking the mold: Evaluating the effectiveness of a non-punitive violence rehabilitation program**

Erin Crockett, Timothy Loving

*The University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA*

The occurrence of physical and/or emotional violence within the context of romantic relationships, unfortunately, is prevalent (Johnson, 2000). In an effort to reduce domestic violence, violent partners are often required to attend a batterer intervention program (BIP). Despite their widespread use, however, there is little evidence that traditional BIPs successfully reduce violence perpetration (Gondolf, 1998).

Considering the limitations of traditional BIPs, LifeWorks Resolution Counseling (LWRC) developed psychoeducational groups for abusive men and women. Unlike traditional BIPs, which are typically punitive in nature and focus primarily on issues of power and control, LWRC focuses on teaching individuals the skills they need to maintain healthy relationships and encourages individuals to view their group as an essential source of support. To test the effectiveness of the LWRC program, 144 participants (35 women; 109 men) completed a comprehensive survey prior to beginning and after completing the 8-12 week LWRC program. Pre-post test analyses provide preliminary support for the effectiveness of the LWRC program. Specifically, program clients reported favorable changes across a host of variables identified as associated with the use of physical and/or emotional violence, including (a) accountability for violent and abusive behavior, (b) use of controlling behavior, (c) adaptive communication and conflict resolution skills, (d) managing emotions nonaggressively, (e) perceived stress, and (f) desire for change. Additionally, the program resulted in statistically significant reductions in reported levels of domestic violence. In short, this new and innovative BIP appears effective and could serve as a model for BIP development.

#### **PB.04 Sense of coherence and parental caregiving system as resources to promote the health and adjustment of adolescents with chronic disease: Adolescents with type 1 diabetes and their parents**

Alon Goldberg, Hadas Wiseman

*Haifa University, Haifa, Israel*

This research examines salutogenesis as a wellness model. Sense Of Coherence (SOC), the primary component of salutogenesis, is defined as an orientation expressing an enduring feeling of confidence by which the individual can understand and manage reality by understanding how to cope (Antonovsky, 1987). The study examines how parents' sense of coherence is related to parental representations and

parental resolution of their child's illness in the context of adolescents diagnosed with juvenile diabetes (IDDM). Moreover, the study investigates the contribution of the parents' SOC to the adolescent's physical health and social-emotional adjustment. Method: Participants included 75 diabetic adolescents and their parents (mother & father) recruited through diabetes clinics and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The adolescents and their parents completed questionnaires regarding SOC, adolescents' physical health and emotional health (CBCL). The Parenting Representations Interview (Scharf & Mayseless, 1997/2000) and Reaction to Diagnosis Interview (Pianta & Marvin, 1992) were conducted. Metabolic balance was determined by the HbA1c (Glycosylated Haemoglobin) level reported by parents and/or clinic. Findings: Parents with a strong sense of coherence were marked by positive parenting representations (positive parent-child relationship and emotions) and by resolution of the child's illness. The mothers' and fathers' SOC was found to correlate significantly with adolescents' physical health and internalizing problems on the CBCL. Conclusions: Parents' sense of coherence as a general orientation for life characterized parenthood with positive relations and emotions. Promoting parents' SOC may help parents resolve the child's` diagnosis as diabetic, creating a resource for the child's' physical and emotional health

#### **PB.04 Analysis of psycho-social functioning of teenage pregnant mothers based on sample of girls displaying antisocial behaviors**

Magdalena Blazek

*University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland*

Twenty nine girls participated in the research (mean age= 15.5 yrs. with SD= 0.95). All of them completed the questionnaires and were interviewed. Participants fulfilled the following measures: Intelligence Scale by Wechsler WISC-R, Buss and Durkee Hostility Scale, Personality Inventory by H.J. Eysenck EPQ-R. All of them was also interviewed as well as their behavior and reactions were observed by two clinical psychologists. The results of the study indicate that the pregnant girls come from the below average environment considering income, education and living conditions of their parents. Most of the girls come from pathological families. The results revealed that one third of the group of girls admitted to taking drugs, more than fifty percent drink alcohol and smoke cigarettes on regular basis. They also scored lower than average in Wechsler's Scale. They are also more aggressive than average especially when it comes to physical, verbal aggression and their sense of guilt is lower. They scored above average in EPQ-R, precisely they showed higher psychotism, neuroticism and tendency to lie. According to the data gained during the interview and observation they show more signs of social maladjustment such as truancy, addictions, are a direct result of negligence as well as are expressions of seeking social support outside family settings. That seeking takes up (among other factors) a form of sexual activity which real aim is to find a satisfying emotional relationship. In the group all girls formed unstable relationships, as they were "substitutes" for emotional needs.

#### **PB.04 Physical and psychological self image in pregnancy**

Maria Kazmierczak

*Institute of Psychology, University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland*

100 pregnant women participated in the research (mean age = 27,9 yrs.; SD = 3,5 yrs.). All women completed the questionnaires during their third trimester of pregnancy (ranged from 28 to 39 weeks' gestation). All of them participated in classes

in seven different 'Schools of Birth' in Poland. Participants fulfilled the following measures: 1. The Body Self Questionnaire (Polish questionnaire by Mirucka, 2005) - body as the essential element of self structure; dimensions: acceptance of one's body, disclosure of femininity, experience of intimate relations with persons of the opposite sex, and attitude towards eating and body weight, 2. Feminine Gender Role Stress /FGRS/ by Gillespie & Eisler (1992); 3. Psychological femininity - masculinity - the Psychological Sex Inventory (IPP) by Kuczynska (1992); 4. The Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale. Various theoretical models were tested. Results indicate that the higher the level of FGRS, the lower scores in Body-Self scale as in its two scales are observed: the acceptance of one's body and positive experience of intimate relations with persons of the opposite sex. In contrary, masculinity and androgyny are associated with positive body - self during pregnancy. All dimensions of body-self as defined in the study are associated with self-esteem - the higher the self-esteem, the more positive perception of one's body.

**PB.04 Experiences of women and men with gender related physical, sexual and psychological violence: a national survey in the Belgian population**

Sabine Hellemans<sup>1</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium* <sup>2</sup>*Université de Liège - CLEO, Liège,*

*Belgium* Objectives: A range of information, based on the Belgian population, was gathered in order to explore the size of women and men that were victim of physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated in different contexts (couple, family, public space). This information permits us to elucidate the number of victims of interpersonal violence, "the dark number". Investigating the risk factors and opening new perspectives for primary and secondary prevention were two other orientations of this research. Methods: A telephone survey was conducted within a randomized selected group of the Belgian population. Analyses are based on the answers of 2014 people aged between 18 and 75 years. Results: Nine percent of the women and 3.2 % of the men were a victim of sexual violence before the age of 18. Approximately one third of all participants declared to be a victim of violence since the age of 18. Fifteen percent of the women and 10 % of the men declared to be the victim of at least one act of violence by their (ex-)partner during the last year. Women became more than men the victim of physical, psychological and sexual partner violence but the number of men becoming a victim of psychological violence cannot be ignored. Both women and men separated within the last year were more frequently a victim of all forms of violence than married couples. Conclusions: This study makes clear that (partner) violence is an important public health concern and that for both women and men.

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| <b>PB.05 Children's Relationships and Adjustment</b> | Sunday July 25<br>Economics<br>Building Lobby |
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**PB.05 Socioemotional and behavioral adjustment among children with LD: The moderating role of maternal personal resources**

Michal Al-Yagon

*Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel*

This study aimed (a) to investigate maternal personal resources' role in moderating the effects of LD on children's socioemotional and behavioral adjustment, and (b) to extend the scarce literature on attachment in this population by focusing on maternal attachment measures' moderation (Baron & Kenny, 1986) of LD's effects on

children's secure attachment. Participants were 110 mother-child dyads: 59 mothers and their children with LD; 51 mothers and their typically developing children from the same schools. Preliminary analyses documented effects of children's LD on their socioemotional and behavioral adjustment and attachment, and also demonstrated significant associations between children's disabilities and several maternal personal resources. Further sets of analyses examined maternal factors' moderation of the effects of children's LD on each socioemotional/behavioral adjustment measure. Mothers' low use of avoidant coping strategies and less avoidance in close relationships with significant others moderated effects of children's disabilities on children's loneliness, hope, and secure attachment.

**PB.05 An observational study of the interactions of children with and without ADHD and their close friends**

Sebastien Normand<sup>1</sup>, Barry H Schneider<sup>1</sup>, Philippe Robaey<sup>2</sup>, Sally Kuehn<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada,* <sup>2</sup>*Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Ottawa, Canada*

Previous studies indicate that children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder have few friends. Inattention, hyperactivity, and impulsivity are likely to interfere with the communication skills needed. The purpose of this study was to observe the executive functions of children with ADHD and their close friends. The participants were 85 children with ADHD (7 to 13 years old) and their friends from various clinical settings and a control group of 60 children without ADHD. The participants were recorded with their friends participating in four semi-structured tasks; deciding which game to play at the end of the session; discussing how each of the friends could resolve a problem they have had with another peer; and negotiating the selection and sharing of five prized trading cards. The coding included Affect, Conflict, Self-disclosure, Balance of Communication and Power, Initial proposal, Subsequent proposal, Sensitive counter-proposal, New proposal, Total acceptance, Partial acceptance, Rejection, Aggressive solutions, Assertive solution or Passive solutions. We expect the results to confirm that the interpersonal processes observed in the ADHD-friend dyads will be characterized by more negative affect, more conflict, less self-disclosure and less balance of communication and power than the conversations of comparison dyads.

**PB.05 The role of self-perception and perception of friendship in susceptibility to peer pressure**

Marija Lebedina-Manzoni, Martina Lotar

*University of Zagreb, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Zagreb, Croatia*

Susceptibility to peer pressure is often defined as a group influence by offering desirable awards to those who conform to group norms and/or undesirable sanctions to those who resist them (Berndt & Ladd, 1989). Lebedina-Manzoni, Lotar & Ricijaš (2009) found that perceptions of peer pressure are clustered in 5 domains: 1. Relations with peers; 2. Adjustment of appearance; 3. Relations with parents; 4. School activities and 5. Misconduct. These findings are similar to those of Brown, Clasen, & Eicher (1986). Lebedina-Manzoni, Lotar & Ricijaš (2008) have shown that students with lower self-esteem emphasize importance of peer group for positive self-image development, and are more prone to changing their opinions, values and attitudes under peer pressure. They also fear of negative group evaluation. The aim of this research is to determine how well is adolescents' susceptibility to peer pressure

explained with their perception of themselves and perception of relationships with their friends. It is expected that susceptibility to peer pressure is better explained with adolescents' perception of peer pressure and their attachment to friends than with their self-perception and social anxiety. Sample consists of 1000 elementary and high-school students from four major cities in Croatia (13 to 18 years of age). The following instruments were applied: Susceptibility to Peer Pressure Scale and Perception of Peer Pressure Scale (Lebedina-Manzoni et al., 2009), Experiences in Close Relationship Inventory (Brennan et al., 1998), Self-Perception Profiles for Adolescents (Harter, 1998), and Anxiety Scale for Children and Adolescents (Vulić-Prtorić, 2003). Data analysis is still in progress.

## **PB.06 Ever Changing Friendships**

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Building Lobby

### **PB.06 Sibling relationships in adulthood**

Lorenzo Bellettini, Silvia Guarnieri, Franca Tani

*Department of Psychology, University of Florence, Florence, Italy*

Sibling relationships play an important role in human development, promoting cognitive, social and emotional competence and contributing to overall well-being over the lifespan. To date, only a handful of empirical studies have analyzed changes in sibling relationship quality during adulthood. The present study therefore aimed to compare the quality of sibling relationships among younger and older adults and to test for gender differences. The overall sample consisted of 185 participants who were divided into two groups. The first group comprised 93 young adults (43 males and 50 females) aged 20 to 30 ( $M = 22.72$ ;  $SD = 2.46$ ) and the second comprised 92 adults (40 males and 52 females) aged 40 to 50 ( $M = 45.50$ ;  $SD = 3.47$ ). To measure sibling relationship qualitative dimensions the Adult Sibling Relationship Questionnaire (ASRQ) developed by Lanthier and Stocker (1992) was administered. This questionnaire assesses three macro qualitative dimensions, namely warmth, conflict, and rivalry. Results revealed that adult sibling relationships were characterized by fewer negative aspects, linked to dominance, competition, antagonism, quarrelling, and rivalry, than were young adult sibling relationships. At the same time there were no differences between young adults and older adults in positive sibling relationship aspects, that is in terms of intimacy, affection, knowledge, acceptance, similarity, admiration, and emotional and instrumental support. Therefore, older adult siblings perceived their sibling relationships as being of a better quality than did young adult siblings. Furthermore, results showed that women perceived their relationships to be warmer than did their male contemporaries.

### **PB.06 Rethinking “sustainable” cross-sex relationships: Managing (un)certainly and accountability in close relationships with the opposite sex**

Masahiro Masuda

*Kochi University, Kochi, Kochi, Japan*

This paper is aimed at identifying principal factors which substantially contribute to initiation and maintenance of various kinds of male-female relationships, including platonic cross-sex friendships, ongoing and/or would-be romantic relationships, and post-dissolution relationships. This study mainly investigates major factors which enhance repeated interactions with members of the opposite sex, especially focusing on certainty and uncertainty in their relational status, and accountability of their

relationship to their social network members. The present study also examines similarities and differences in anticipated relationship interactions and understandings of relationship status between partners. The discussion of this paper is based on two empirical studies. One was designed to examine lay people's concept of post-dissolution relationships (PDRs), that is, newly established platonic friendships between ex-romantic partners through analyses of legitimating accounts of PDRs. The author's previous research on PDR partners' accounts in US samples identified five major arguments for their PDRs. A questionnaire survey was administered in Japan, and respondents were requested to think of persuasive communication legitimating a PDR and to fill out "speech balloons" of characters in a cartoon describing a PDR situation. The text data were content-analyzed and the five major arguments were found to be accountable also in Japan. The other study introduced in this paper focused on uncertainty and accountability in initial stages of cross-sex relationships. Through psychology classes in Japan, pairs of questionnaire were distributed to partners of romantic or platonic cross-sex relationships, who individually responded to the questions about their relationship status and their anticipated interactions with their partner.

**PB.06 Relationship formation in the transition to adulthood: A perspective for responsible, stable adulthood**

Joseph Lah Lo-oh

*University of Buea, Buea, Cameroon*

Global youth transitions have become increasingly prolonged so that many young people today stay longer in education, marry much later, and have their first child much later than in the past. The case of Africa seems worse as most young people's vision for adulthood is ill-fated by difficult economic, social, political, cultural, health and psychological conditions. As a result majority of Africa's transitioning youth are lavishing in abject poverty, unemployment, and a difficult labour market economy. With this it has increasingly become difficult to manage the economics of adulthood including autonomy, financial independence, personal and social responsibility, and emotional stability. As a result, the formation of quality social relationships during the transition period becomes an important variable for quality, sustainable and responsible adulthood. Prior research indicates that social competence in adulthood is related to a successful transition from adolescence to adulthood. This poster examines young Cameroonian university students in transition. It highlights their beliefs, attitudes and practices of relationship formation and perceived implications for responsible adulthood. The hypothesis is that positive and supportive relationships formed during the transition period could lead to responsible, stable adulthood. This may also increase their social and executive functioning abilities to maintain employment, sustain their family contact, make new friends while maintaining old ones, and maintain personal growth while supporting others. Finally, quality relationship formation before full adulthood may also be an effective mechanism for African youth in particular to wrestle with today's challenges of adult life, which largely requires partnership, collaboration and community effort.

**PB.06 Fat Talk between friends: Co-Rumination about physical appearance**

Jonathan Rudiger & Barbara Winstead

*Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, USA*

In recent years, there has been a growing interest in the study of social and interpersonal factors that influence emotional adjustment and body image. Co-

rumination refers to discussing problems excessively and sharing negative feelings within the context of a close relationship. In the body image literature, the term "fat talk" was coined to describe a negative, appearance focused dialogue that may take place in female social circles. The present study attempted to unite the relatively new constructs of co-rumination and fat talk, while making unique contributions to their respective literatures. The purpose of this study was to examine the influence of appearance-specific co-rumination (i.e., fat talk between friends; FTBF), specifically as it relates to women's body image, emotional adjustment, and friendship quality. Undergraduate women (N = 209) completed an online battery of questionnaires. The results revealed that FTBF was directly related to body image cognitive distortions and disturbed eating attitudes, yet it was paradoxically also directly related to perceived friendship quality. FTBF was not found to be associated with appearance evaluation, appearance investment, self-esteem, or depression. In addition to these results, exploratory analyses were conducted to examine the differences between FTBF and non-ruminative fat talk (i.e., normative fat talk). These discrepancies are evaluated and discussed, especially with respect to limitations and future directions for research.

#### **PB.06 Attachment, intimacy and self-disclosure in same-gender and cross-gender friendships**

Marina Taslak, Zeljka Kamenov

*Department of psychology, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia*

The aim of this study was to test the differences in the levels of attachment, intimacy and self-disclosure towards the best friend with respect to the dyad type, as well as to determine the accordance on the variables among friends in regard to dyad type (same-gender and cross-gender friendship). We also tested whether this accordance was at lower or higher levels of measured variables considering the dyad type. We examined attachment dimensions (anxiety and avoidance), dimensions of intimacy (knowing a friend, self-sufficiency of a friendship, confidence and loyalty) as well as self-disclosure dimensions (amount, depth, honesty, intent and positive/negative self-disclosure). The study included 244 dyads (pairs of best friends) aged between 18 and 25. The modification of the Experiences in Close Relationship Inventory (Kamenov and Jelić, 2003), Sharabany Intimacy Scale (1994), and The Revised Scale of Self-Disclosure (Wheeless and Grotz, 1976) were applied. Results have shown the highest anxiety in female-female dyads, while the highest avoidance is present in male-male friendships. Female-female friendships are characterized by the highest levels of intimacy, as well as by the amount and depth of self-disclosure. Men among themselves share more negative information than women. The results on variables accord higher in same-gender than in cross-gender friendships. In male dyads the accordance was on lower level of variables while in female dyads this accordance was on higher level, with the exception of avoidance and negative information sharing, where the situation was opposite.

**PB.07 The role of partner characteristics and relationship properties in the provision of spousal support: a large-scale survey**

Fanny Weytens, Lesley L. Verhofstadt

*Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium*

How spouses help each other cope with personal difficulties, and how they provide everyday support to one another is an important domain for understanding how marriages succeed and fail (Bradbury, Fincham, & Beach, 2000). However, relatively little is currently known about the determinants of social support provision in marriage (Verhofstadt, Buysse, Ickes, Davis, & Devoldre, 2008). The aim of the present research was to explore the potential relevance of spouses' personal characteristics (including attachment, personality, social competence, empathy) as well as properties of the marital relationship (including intimacy, conflict, marital satisfaction) in the prediction of support provision within couples. Therefore, a sample of 250 married couples participated in the study. Data were collected using on-line questionnaires. At present, data-analysis is in progress. The findings will be discussed in light of the existing research on social support in couples.

**PB.07 Directional measurement of social support in toxic emotional work context: An empirical study on distributors of multi level marketing occupation**

Jack Chih Ming Chou, Jiang Liang Chen

*Department of Psychology, Catholic Fu-Jen University, No.510, Zhongzheng Rd., Xinzhuang City, Taipei County, Taiwan*

Frost (2004) deemed that some behaviors of organization and leadership would affect employee feeling negative. And also, Beehr and Newman (1978) recognized that it is another main stressor in organizational characteristic and conditions. Kao et Al. (2007) had tested the moderator effect of social support between Toxic Emotion and Job Satisfaction, and inferred that the social support may increase the toxic emotion. In this research, the results showed that the employee in toxic emotion work situation may actively ask for support, but unfortunately, it would not be ameliorated the job satisfaction.

**PB.07 Refusing advice: Exploring the nature and correlates of advice rejection in personal relationships**

Jil Kelly, John Daly

*University of Texas, Austin, TX, USA*

In any relationship, people often offer others advice. Sometimes, recipients of advice treasure the input. Other time, though, recipients dismiss or even try to ignore the advice. While there has been research on the nature of advice, who gives it, and why (e.g., Goldsmith & MacGeorge, 2000; Yaniv & Milyavsky, 2007) there is surprisingly little research on why people sometimes reject proffered advice. This project first examines the various reasons people have for rejecting. Major clusters included (1) message content (e.g., perceived irrelevancy of the advice), (2) source characteristics (e.g., the source's style of delivering advice), (3) context, (e.g., the timing of the advice), (4) relational characteristics, (e.g., the relationship history between source and recipient), (5) recipient characteristics (e.g., already knowing how they will the issue). While some previous studies have explored a few of these individually (Feng,

2006; Feng & MacGeorge, 2009), our project looks at them as a multidimensional construct. After identifying primary categories of reasons for rejecting advice (via a factor analysis of 89 potential reasons), we examined personality and demographic correlates of those factors including gender, self-esteem, age, and rejection sensitivity. In a follow-up study we explored how people go about rejecting advice when proffered. We find that rejection strategies vary on avoidance (e.g., walk away) directness e.g., subject change), explanation (e.g., not the right time), complexity (e.g., "you don't know the full story."), and feigned interest (e.g., politely saying thank you and ignored afterwards).

#### **PB.07 Gender differences in marital support provision: An overview of multi-method evidence**

Lesley Verhofstadt<sup>1</sup>, Inge Devoldre<sup>2</sup>, William Ickes<sup>3</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>2</sup>

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A popular view holds that women receive less support from their spouses than men, and that the support they receive is less helpful than what they provide to their husbands (Steil, 2000). However, the characterization of wives as better providers of support to their husbands should be called into question because the evidence for this so-called marital support gap is inconsistent (Verhofstadt, Buysse, & Ickes, 2007). The aim of the current research was to examine the support gap hypotheses in marriage by improving upon existing research in the following ways: (1) we tested the marital support gap hypotheses within samples of married couples, (2) it was analyzed if husbands and wives differ in their levels of perceived support as well as in their actual exchange of spousal support, (3) a combination of self-report questionnaires, behavioral observation in controlled settings, naturalistic diaries, and vignettes were used.

#### **PB.07 How does provider empathy contribute to support provision? Integrating evidence from self-report, observational, and diary research**

Inge Devoldre<sup>1</sup>, Lesley Verhofstadt<sup>2</sup>, Ann Buysse<sup>1</sup>, Mark Davis<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium*, <sup>2</sup>*Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium*, <sup>3</sup>*Eckerd College, St-Petersburg, USA*

Social support researchers as well as clinicians have repeatedly expressed the need for identifying the antecedents of social support provision within close relationships (Verhofstadt, Buysse, Devoldre, & De Corte, 2007). A particular characteristic put forward as a likely contributor to social support is empathy (Reis & Collins, 2000). Therefore, the focus of this investigation is on the dispositional empathy of the support provider, and the ways in which it influences support provision in romantic relationships. More specific, the aim of the present study was to investigate to what extent individual differences in cognitive empathy (Perspective Taking) as well as affective empathy (Empathic Concern and Personal Distress) are predictive of social support provision in couples. To test this link, a multi-method design was put up consisting of self-report questionnaires, naturalistic diaries and vignettes. The findings will be discussed in light of existing theory and research on empathy and social support in marriage.

**PB.07 Social network substitution: Reliance on minor children for support**

Kristin Mickelson

*Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA*

What happens when we cannot turn to our social network for support? Support network substitution theory (Rook & Schuster, 1996) proposes that when traditional sources of support are unavailable due to loss or deficits, individuals will find others to take their place. While in some instances these substitutes can compensate for the loss of traditional support sources (Zettel & Rook, 2004), I argue that when substitution occurs because of social network deficits there is an exacerbation of stress. In the case of poor mothers, they often rely on their minor children for support (instead of more traditional adult sources), because their family and friends lack tangible and emotional resources due to their similar life situations. This form of support substitution should not result in compensatory effects because minor children are not an equal substitute for adult support sources. I hypothesized that low-income mothers experiencing high levels of acute stress would be more likely to rely on their minor children for emotional and instrumental support, and this reliance on minor children would be related to worse health outcomes through its negative impact on the minor child's well-being. In a community study of 116 low-income mothers, structural equation modeling showed acute stress was related to greater reliance on minor children for support and the negative impact on minor children's well-being mediated the link with low-income mothers' worse mental and physical health outcomes. These results suggest that the reason for and type of social network substitution may determine whether compensatory benefits are realized.

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**PB.08 "Thanks, the same to you." A quasi-experimental study of gratitude and reciprocity among adolescents**

Malgorzata Szczesniak, Francesca Consoli, Agnieszka A. Nieznanska

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Experiments and everyday experiences alike illustrate that "humans are the champions of reciprocity." In fact, we often show the common tendency to return beneficial and damaging acts in kind, in accordance to the old saying "You scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours" (Nowak & Sigmund, 2005). What about gratitude? Are we equally brave in being thankful and appreciative as we are mutually reciprocative? Popular thinking often equates gratitude and reciprocity. As a matter of fact, we habitually use polite formulas such as "Thanks, the same to you" or "Many thanks, to you too," repaying thus someone else's kindness. However, theoretical and empirical studies seem to emphasize that although gratitude and reciprocity have many things in common, they are relatively distinct from each other. They both facilitate experience of relatedness, but gratitude can lead to reciprocity and not vice versa (Cohen, 2006; Froh, Yurkewicz, & Kashdan, 2009). The present research intends to verify how adolescents understand gratitude and reciprocity. The research was conducted on a group composed of 320 Italian high school students. Participants were given "If someone gives me something good..." questionnaire measuring their beliefs about gratitude, GQ-6 measuring gratitude as a trait (McCullough, Emmons, & Tsang, 2002), and Personal Norm Reciprocity (Perugini & Gallucci, 2001). The results obtained illustrate that gratitude is perceived by adolescents mainly as reciprocation,

an outcome that confirms widespread opinion. Moreover, there were observed some interesting correlations between positive reciprocity and dispositional gratitude which may shed new light on their mutual relationship.

### **PB.08 Reciprocal intergroup emotions and empathy: what we feel and what we think they feel**

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The study examines how interethnic contact relates to empathic emotions. Evidence on intergroup emotions suggests that majority group members tend to attribute to minority groups emotional reactions different from those that they themselves feel towards the OG, particularly on the primary-secondary emotion distinction (Leyens et al., 2001; Palladino, 2002). Also, awareness of being disparaged produces stress on intergroup relationships and induces minority members to feel insecure about how they are perceived by the dominant group (Stangor & Swim, 1998). The OUR aim is to compare the reciprocal emotions felt by a majority group (Italians; 123, 52F) and by a minority group of (Muslim immigrants; 94, 48F). Some crucial parameters of interethnic relationships, such as ethnic attitude, perception of threat coming from the OG (Cottrell & Neuberg, 2005) and intergroup contact were measured, as well as the emotions reciprocally felt by Italians and Muslims and the emotions that each group believed the other group felt toward the ingroup, via a meta-attribution task. We examined: 1) differences between felt and other-attributed emotions; 2) the effect of contact and perceived threat on both felt- and other-attributed emotions. Results show that intergroup contact has fewer effects on minority-groups members, and even worsens the pattern of emotions attributed to the majority-group members. The two groups show a different pattern of emotions, but attitude valence seems to have greater impact than distinction on primary vs. secondary ones. Reciprocity of judgment and expectations emerges only in the perception of the respective OG as highly threatening.

### **PB.08 The subjective experience of disappointment in the context of personal relations**

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Interpersonal relations may be a source of security and satisfaction. Even so, sometimes they may also cause emotional stress and pain. Disappointment is defined as "a psychological reaction to an outcome that does not match up to expectations" (Bell, 1985, p.1). In recent years several studies have explored the experience of disappointment (Dijk, Zeelenberg, & Pligt, 1999; Zeelenberg, Dijk, & Pligt, 2000). These studies explored the experience of disappointment mainly in the context of behavioral decision outcomes, and used self-report measurements of specific feelings, thoughts, action tendencies, actions and motivational goals, that were assumed to constitute the response to a disappointing condition (Zeelenberg et al., 1998). The purpose of the present study was to contribute to the understanding of subjective disappointment experiences in the context of interpersonal relations. Specifically, this study had three goals: (a) to reveal the structure of interpersonal disappointment experiences using as a starting point a phenomenological approach; (b) to construct an assessment tool in order to tap the experiential facets of disappointment; and (c) to explain individual differences in the experience of disappointment. one-hundred-and-five participants were asked to openly describe their experience in an event in which

some other person has dissatisfied them. Their narratives were content analyzed, and a Likert-type questionnaire was constructed based on statements derived from those narratives. Factor analyses (N=465) revealed seven factors of the experience of disappointment (56.4% explained variance). Correlations will be presented between the different facets of disappointment experiences and some other related personality and interpersonal constructs.

#### **PB.08 Expressing remorse: Perceptions of partner sincerity following transgressions in romantic relationships**

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This study examines how verbal and nonverbal expressions of remorse influence perceptions of partner sincerity following transgressions in romantic relationships. Undergraduate participants (N=311) completed questionnaires about a significant relational transgression in a romantic relationship and reported their own communication, perceptions of their partner's remorseful communication, perceptions of their partner's sincerity, and reasons why their partner's behavior was perceived as sincere or insincere. Results indicated that perceptions of sincerity are influenced by both verbal and nonverbal components of remorse. Partners perceived as being sincerely remorseful following a relational transgression were more likely to use apologies, explanations, affection, and nonverbal displays of distress. In contrast, partners perceived as less sincerely remorseful were more likely to avoid discussing the event. Expressions of regret, relational commitment, low status behaviors, and gifts/appeasement did not influence victims' perceptions of their partner's sincere remorse following a significant relational transgression. In addition, several common themes emerged from the data to explain reasons why partners' remorse behavior was perceived as sincere or insincere. Partners perceived as insincere in their remorse were more likely to have committed the transgression in the past, and to have denied responsibility for the event. Partners perceived as sincere were more likely to change their behavior.

#### **PB.08 Emotional resilience following a breakup: The effects of positive emotions on subsequent dating behavior**

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The emotional experience following a breakup can be an extremely complicated experience consisting of a wide range of negative emotions such as anger and sadness while in some instances, positive emotions such as happiness and relief may be experienced. Research indicates that positive and negative emotional experiences may operate independently of each other and that during stressful situations; the ability to still experience positive emotions could benefit the recovery process (Zautra, Johnson, & Davis, 2005). This study applied the Dynamic Affect Model (DAM) (Zautra, Smith, Affleck, & Tennen, 2001) in order to examine the role of positive emotions following a breakup and whether they can protect an individual from the onslaught of negative emotions experienced following a breakup. Participants completed a survey about their most recent romantic relationship breakup including information on characteristics of the former relationship, characteristics of the breakup process (e. g., initiator of the breakup, communication tone), emotions at the time of breakup, current relationship with the former partner, current emotions about the breakup, and current dating attitudes and behaviors. Hierarchical regression analyses indicated that

for men, an increase in positive emotions over time about the breakup predicted a decrease in dating behaviors that avoid commitment (e.g., "I prefer to 'date' casually"; "I am currently dating multiple partners"). These findings begin to shed light on the role of emotional resilience following a breakup and how the experience of positive emotions over time can protect individuals from the array of negative emotions that follow a breakup.

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| Mason, Ashley E        | OA.01                                    |
| Mastrodascio, Cristina | OH.04                                    |
| Masuda, Masahiro       | PB.06                                    |
| Mathews, Brittany      | PA.07                                    |
| Mayseless, Ofra        | OA.04, OD.06, OF.04, OF.04               |
| McCabe, Marita         | OG.02                                    |
| Mead, Nicole           | OF.05                                    |
| Melero, Remedios       | PA.08                                    |
| Melo, Sara             | OH.02                                    |
| Mena Matos, Paula      | PA.08                                    |
| Meneses, Linda         | OA.06                                    |
| Merz, Eva-Maria        | OF.03                                    |
| Mickelson, Kristin     | OF.01, PB.07                             |
| Micklewright, Daniel   | OD.03                                    |
| Migerode, Femke        | OB.06                                    |
| Mikulincer, Mario      | OA.03, OD.07, OF.07, OG.05, OG.06, OH.03 |
| Milantoni, Marina      | PA.06                                    |
| Millings, Abigail      | OC.05, OD.03                             |
| Miranda, Raquel        | OG.07                                    |
| Mirzoeff, Charlotte    | OD.07                                    |
| Mitchell, Alexis L     | OA.06                                    |
| Mitsopoulou, Effrosyni | PB.01                                    |
| Mizrahi, Moran         | OG.05                                    |
| Moed, Anat             | PA.05                                    |
| Mokwa, Magdalena       | PA.03                                    |
| Molero, Fernando       | OH.02, PA.06                             |

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| Mollidor, Claudia           | OA.05               |  |
| Monaci, Maria Grazia        | PB.08               |  |
| Mongeau, Paul               | PB.08               |  |
| Moore, Katrina              | OF.05               |  |
| Morad, Mohammed             | GRP                 |  |
| Moreira, João               | OB.02, OE.05, OG.07 |  |
| Mor, Nilly                  | OB.04               |  |
| Nagy, Mary                  | OA.04, OF.05        |  |
| Nakao, Tatsuma              | OB.02               |  |
| Neff, Lisa                  | OE.06, OF.06        |  |
| Nelson, David               | OB.07, OB.08        |  |
| Netzer, Olek                | OE.06               |  |
| Neumann, Eva                | OB.02               |  |
| Ng, Kok-Mun                 | OB.02               |  |
| Ngo-Metzger, Quyen          | OA.05               |  |
| Nieznanska, Agnieszka A     | OH.04, PB.08        |  |
| Nimrod, Galit               | OC.05               |  |
| Normand, Sebastien          | PB.05               |  |
| O'Connor, Elodie            | OG.02               |  |
| Oliveira, Diogo             | PB.01               |  |
| Orbuch, Terri               | OF.01               |  |
| Orr-Moravkin, Savion        | OH.04               |  |
| Özen, Ayça                  | PA.02               |  |
| Özgüle, Emine Tuna          | OD.08               |  |
| Oznobishin, Olga            | OD.06               |  |
| Palgi, Yuval                | GRP                 |  |
| Pastwa-Wojciechowska, Beata | OD.08, OG.01        |  |
| Pearson, Mathew             | OB.03               |  |
| Peetz, Johanna              | OC.02               |  |
| Pelach-Galil, Ricky         | OE.02               |  |
| Penner, Louis               | OH.03               |  |
| Perrez, Meinrad             | OF.06               |  |
| Peterson, Julie             | OC.04               |  |
| Peter-Wight, Melanie        | PB.02               |  |
| Petronio, Sandra            | OB.06               |  |
| Pierce, Thomas              | OF.08               |  |
| Pollmann, Monique           | OF.05               |  |
| Ponti, Lucia                | PA.04, PA.08        |  |
| Possick, Chaya              | OD.03               |  |
| Prager, Karen               | OC.04               |  |
| Pronin, Emily               | OG.04               |  |
| Pronk, Tila                 | OC.02               |  |
| Pryor, Jan                  | OB.07               |  |
| Psouni, Elia                | OF.04               |  |
| Quirin, MarKus              | OC.01               |  |
| Rafaeli, Eshkol             | OB.04, OD.04        |  |
| Ramalho, Ana                | PB.01               |  |
| Ram, Daphna                 | OE.03               |  |
| Rehman, Uzma                | OD.04               |  |
| Reicherts, Michael          | OF.06               |  |

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Reis, Harry               | OD.04, OE.03, OF.07, OH.05 |
| Reis, Harry T             | OC.02                      |
| Reizer, Abira             | OD.03                      |
| Rempel, John              | OD.05                      |
| Rempel, Lynn              | OF.05                      |
| Rennie, Charlotte         | OD.03                      |
| Reznik, Rachel            | OG.05                      |
| Rice, Simon M             | PB.04                      |
| Richards, Andrea          | OE.03                      |
| Richards, G               | OG.03                      |
| Rieck, Miriam             | OE.06                      |
| Righetti, Francesca       | OH.05                      |
| Riley, Charlene           | OG.05                      |
| Riva, Paolo               | OE.06, OF.08               |
| Robaey, Philippe          | PB.05                      |
| Rober, Peter              | PA.01                      |
| Roberts, Larrissa         | OG.04                      |
| Robles, Theodore          | OG.06                      |
| Roets, Andrea             | OH.06                      |
| Rohrbaugh, Michael        | OA.05                      |
| Rojas-McWhinney, Jennifer | OH.06                      |
| Roloff, Michael           | OG.05                      |
| Rook, Karen               | OA.05, OF.01               |
| Rosenmann, Amir           | OB.05                      |
| Rossetto, Kelly           | OE.03                      |
| Rostowska, Teresa         | PA.05                      |
| Roth, Guy                 | OC.03                      |
| Rowe, Angela              | OD.03                      |
| Rowe, Angela C            | OD.03, OD.03               |
| Rubin, Harris             | OD.04                      |
| Rudiger, Jonathan         | PB.06                      |
| Rusbult, Caryl E          | OC.02, OE.03, OF.06        |
| Russouw, Lauren           | OD.03                      |
| Safir, Marilyn P          | OB.05, OF.05               |
| Sagiv-Reiss, Dafna M      | OF.05                      |
| Sakalli-Ugurlu, Nuray     | PA.02                      |
| Salem, James              | OF.01                      |
| Sanderman, Robbert        | OC.06                      |
| Sarig, Eti                | PB.04                      |
| Sbarra, David A           | OA.01 OC.01                |
| Scharf, Miri              | OF.04, OF.04, PB.03        |
| Schilling, Christopher    | PA.02                      |
| Schneider, Barry H        | OE.01 PB.05                |
| Schoenfeld, Elizabeth     | PB.02                      |
| Schoenfeld, Joshua        | OA.05                      |
| Seker, Selda              | PB.01                      |
| Selcuk, Emre              | OA.01, OA.01, OA.01        |
| Seri, Haggay              | OE.07                      |
| Setrakian, Heather        | OC.04, PA.01               |
| Shadmi, Efrat             | OF.04                      |

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|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Shalev, Ronit             | OD.02                  |
| Sharabany, Ruth           | OD.02, PB.01           |
| Shaver, Phillip R         | MEM, OB.02 OG.06 OH.03 |
| Shirvani, Forouz          | OC.04                  |
| Shoham, Varda             | OA.05                  |
| Shpilman, Evyatar         | PA.03                  |
| Shrout, Patrick           | OA.01                  |
| Sibley, Chris             | OB.02                  |
| Siegel, Jason             | OD.08                  |
| Silva, Neuza              | OG.07                  |
| Simpson, Jeffry           | OB.01                  |
| Sing Tse, Wai             | OB.02                  |
| Sinoff, Gary              | OF.04                  |
| Slade, Lance              | OG.03, OG.03           |
| Slonim, Gal               | PB.04                  |
| Smieja - Necka, Magdalena | OH.04                  |
| Smith, Adam               | OE.03, PB.08           |
| Smith, Phillip            | OH.02                  |
| Snyder, Kenzie            | OA.01                  |
| Soenens, Bart             | PA.06, PA.07           |
| Solomon, Zehava           | OA.02                  |
| Sommerfeld, Eliane        | PB.08                  |
| Sorkin, Dara              | OA.05, OA.05           |
| Spencer, Rosario          | OB.02, PA.07           |
| Spielmann, Stephanie      | OF.03                  |
| Spitzberg, Brian          | OB.03, OF.08           |
| Sprecher, Susan           | PA.08                  |
| Stadler, Gertraud         | OA.01                  |
| Stallard, Paul            | OC.05                  |
| Stanton, Sarah C E        | OH.02                  |
| Stephan, Elena            | PB.04                  |
| Stephens, Mary Ann        | OF.01                  |
| Stern (Hazan), Shlomit    | OB.08                  |
| Stopa, Lusía              | OD.03                  |
| Stough, Con               | OD.06                  |
| Strachman, Amy            | PA.01                  |
| Styczynska, Weronika      | PA.01                  |
| Sue, Chin-Chun            | OC.05                  |
| Suleiman, Ramzi           | OB.05                  |
| Sumer, Nebi               | OD.08, OE.05, OH.02    |
| Sümer, Nebi               | OD.08                  |
| Swann, William            | OE.06                  |
| Swergold, Natalie         | PB.03                  |
| Szczesniak, Malgorzata    | OH.04, PB.08           |
| Szepesenwol, Ohad         | OD.07                  |
| Tabory, Ephraim           | OB.08                  |
| Tagliabue, Semira         | OG.05                  |
| Talbot, Nancy             | OF.08, OH.02, PB.01    |

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|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Tal-Or, Nurit            | OF.07                                    |
| Tani, Franca             | PA.04, PA.08, PB.02, PB.04, PB.06        |
| Tartakovsky, Eugene      | OE.04                                    |
| Taslak, Marina           | PB.06                                    |
| Tassy, Farrah            | OB.03                                    |
| Theiss, Jennifer         | OA.04, OE.07, OF.05                      |
| Tishby, Orya             | OE.02                                    |
| Tomlinson, Jennifer      | OH.04                                    |
| Torres, Nuno             | PB.01                                    |
| Trachtman, Erez-Lavie    | OE.04                                    |
| Tran, SiSi               | OB.01                                    |
| Trentin, Rosanna         | PB.08                                    |
| Trope, Yaacov            | PB.04                                    |
| Tse, Wai Shing           | OB.02                                    |
| Tunariu, Aneta           | OG.02                                    |
| Turan, Bulent            | OG.06                                    |
| Tu, Xin                  | PB.01                                    |
| Valor-Segura, Inmaculada | OD.05                                    |
| VanderDrift, Laura       | OG.05, OG.08, OG.08, OG.08, OG.08, OH.03 |
| van der Lippe, Tanja     | OB.07                                    |
| van de Vijver, Fons      | OB.02, OB.02                             |
| Vangelisti, Anita        | OG.04                                    |
| van Steenberg, Elianne F | OB.07                                    |
| Varma, Madhulika         | OE.04                                    |
| Vasilenko, Sara          | OD.07, PB.02                             |
| Verhofstadt, Lesley      | OC.06, OG.01, OH.06, PB.07, PB.07        |
| Verhofstadt, Lesley L    | PB.07                                    |
| Vintila, Mona            | OG.02                                    |
| Vitoroulis, Irene        | OE.01                                    |
| Wang, Ya-Ling            | PA.03, PA.08                             |
| Ward, Dianah             | OD.01                                    |
| Ward, Erin               | OF.08                                    |
| Warren, Jocelyn          | OG.08, OG.08, OG.08, OG.08               |
| Waters, Courtney         | OD.07                                    |
| Weinstein, Netta         | OC.03                                    |
| Weintraub, Sarah         | PB.03                                    |
| Weismann, Hilary         | PB.03                                    |
| Wellisch, Mimi           | OH.02                                    |
| Weng, Xuchu              | OD.07                                    |
| Westphal, Maren          | OE.08                                    |
| Weytens, Fanny           | OG.01, PB.07                             |
| Wiedmaier, Benjamin      | OB.05                                    |
| Wietzker, Anne           | OE.03                                    |
| Wigboldus, Daniel        | OC.02                                    |
| Wilkinson, Ross          | OC.04, OC.07, OD.01                      |
| Wilkinson, Ross B        | OB.07                                    |
| Williams, Kipling D      | OE.06, OF.08                             |
| Wilson, Juan             | OG.05                                    |
| Winstead, Barbara        | OB.03, OB.03, PB.06                      |
| Wiseman, Hadas           | OA.02, PB.03                             |

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| Wiseman-Nave, Tal          | PB.01        |
| Witham, Blake              | OB.03, OF.08 |
| Xu, Xiaomeng               | OD.07        |
| Yagolkovskiy, Sergey       | PB.04        |
| Yang, Kang-lin             | OB.04        |
| Yariv, Eliezer             | OG.04        |
| Yassour-Borochowitz, Dalit | PA.02        |
| Yavuzer, Fatma Beyza       | PA.06        |
| Yinon, Hayuta              | OH.04        |
| Zayas, Vivian              | OA.01, OA.01 |
| Zeifman, Debra             | PA.04        |
| Zelniker, Tamar            | OA.06        |
| Zhang, Shuangyue           | OE.01        |
| Zhong, Xinmiao             | OH.06        |
| Zioto, Kathryn             | PB.03        |
| Zisberg, Anna              | OF.04        |
| Zlata, Ana                 | PA.01        |
| Zvonkovic, Anisa           | OH.06        |