

JSPR Special Issue on “The Influence of Multiple Socialization Agents on Prosocial Development”

The *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* is seeking manuscript submissions for a Special Issue, to be guest co-edited by Cara Streit (University of New Mexico), Meredith McGinley (University of Wisconsin-Parkside), and Gustavo Carlo (University of California-Irvine).

Background and Aims:

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in understanding the manifestation of prosocial tendencies. Prosocial development includes tendencies, such as empathy, sympathy, helping behaviors, prosocial values, prosocial moral reasoning, and forgiveness, that reflect a concern for, and benevolence towards, others. These tendencies are markers of healthy and normative social functioning but are also manifested under conditions of adversity. Moreover, prosocial tendencies form the foundations of positive interpersonal relationships, group cooperation, moral exemplary behaviors, and social justice. Furthermore, there is accumulating evidence that prosocial development can mitigate maladaptive and antisocial outcomes. Despite substantive research on the importance of parents in predicting youth prosocial development, there is little research on how multiple socialization agents are linked to prosocial development. The aim of this Special Issue is to highlight the manner in which two or more socialization agents (e.g., parents, siblings, extended family, peers, social media, schools, youth organizations, neighborhoods, communities) are linked prosocial development. Further, we are interested in papers that investigate intervening (i.e., mediating) or moderating mechanisms (e.g., cultural values, self-regulation, dispositional traits) that may help explain these relations and the conditions under which these influences operate. We are particularly interested in empirical investigations of diverse (e.g., minoritized groups, international samples), understudied (e.g., youth in high risk and adverse contexts), and underrepresented groups.

We encourage submissions that include a range of innovative methods and statistical analytic techniques, including longitudinal or panel designs, cross-national and cross-cultural studies, daily diary designs, social network analysis, person-centered approaches, and well-designed experiments (e.g., manipulations, interventions) that illuminate the dynamics among multiple sources of influence. Studies using a wide range of assessments and measurement approaches (e.g., multiple reporters, behavioral tasks, fMRI, social network analysis, observations) are also appreciated.

Topic ideas:

Although not a comprehensive list, here are some example research topics:

1. The interactive effects of parenting styles and violent video games on youth prosocial development.
2. The relations between religious involvement and prosocial values across diverse contexts.
3. A comparison of the efficacy of a school-based intervention versus a family-based intervention on youth empathy.
4. Profile analyses incorporating multiple interpersonal (e.g., sibling and peer relationship quality) and intrapersonal (e.g., temperament) characteristics and their associated effects on youth prosocial behaviors.

5. The longitudinal changes in peer networks and school culture associated with changes in prosocial moral reasoning.
6. The influence of social media and peer relationships on prosocial behaviors towards ethnic/racial ingroups and outgroups.
7. The effects of parenting on youth volunteering behaviors as a function of changes in local community laws or school policies.
8. The mediating role of cultural stress on the relations between parenting and peer group affiliation and prosocial tendencies.
9. The moderating effects of neighborhood characteristics on relations between mentors and civic engagement.

Deadlines and Procedures:

Potential contributors are invited to submit an extended abstract to [at cestreit@unm.edu] by [February 1, 2021]. The abstract should be no more than 500 words and include:

- Tentative title and author information (names, affiliation, contact details). This information will not be counted toward the 500 word limit.
- Description of the research question and hypotheses.
- Description of the sample characteristics and study design
- Summary of key findings and conclusions

By [April 5, 2021], authors will be informed of the results of the initial review and whether or not they are invited to submit a full manuscript for further review.

By [August 16, 2021], authors will submit completed manuscripts for peer review. All submissions must adhere to *JSPR'S* style requirements (please refer to our submission guidelines at <https://journals.sagepub.com/author-instructions/SPR>) and fall within a limit of 9,000 words.

We anticipate that this Special Issue will be published in [the January, 2022 issue, with articles published initially as Online First articles upon their acceptance].

For any questions, please contact Cara Streit at cestreit@unm.edu.