American Psychology-Law Society
Annual Conference

March 6 – 8, 2014
New Orleans, Louisiana
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WELCOME AND CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Happy Mardi Gras, and welcome to New Orleans for the 2014 American Psychology Law Society Conference! We are excited that you are able to join us this year and hope that you will have the opportunity to learn, network, and enjoy all that New Orleans has to offer. We had a large number of excellent submissions and have worked to put together an academic program that we hope will interest all members. This program includes a full listing of the academic program, as well as special sessions and social events. Some of the highlights of the program are presented below.

**Continuing Education**

Several pre-conference continuing education workshops have been arranged for Wednesday, March 5, 2014, including two full-day workshops (8:30 am to 4:30 pm; 7 CEs) and two half-day workshops (8:30 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm; 3.5 CEs). Gina Vincent and Laura Guy will present a full-day workshop on *How to Rate the SAVRY and Use it for Risk Management*. Karen Salekin and J. Gregory Olley will present another full-day workshop on *Evaluation of Intellectual Disability in Capital Cases: Twelve years post Atkins*. Half-day workshops include *Grant Writing 101 for Psychology and Law*, presented by Christian Meissner, and *Cultural Competence in Forensic Assessment*, presented by Barry Rosenfeld.

**Plenaries**

We have organized an exciting opening plenary session that will take place on Thursday, March 6, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom. The session will feature Dr. Bruce Perry, Senior Fellow of the Child Trauma Academy. Titled, *Introduction to the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics*, this session will introduce members to a unique way of conceptualizing and treating child trauma. Opening remarks will include award announcements.

We are pleased to announce that on Friday, March 7, from 10:45 am to 12:15 pm in the Grand Ballroom, the Honorable Jed Rakoff, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, will present a plenary on the difference between plea bargaining in day-to-day court functioning and Supreme Court rulings. His talk is titled, *Plea Bargaining in Practice: Does the Supreme Court have a Clue?*

On Saturday, March 8, from 10:45 am to 12:15 pm in the Grand Ballroom, Jennifer Skeem, President of AP-LS, has organized an excellent presidential plenary session, *Do High Callous-Unemotional Traits in Children Compromise Early Parenting Interventions to Prevent Antisocial Behaviour? What Can We Do About It?* This session features Dr. Mark Dadds, Principle Research Fellow of the national Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, and Professor of Psychology and Director of the Child Behaviour Research Clinic at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

**Poster Sessions**

Poster sessions will be held Friday from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm and Saturday from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Armstrong Ballroom on the 8th Floor.
Special Sessions and Events
Many of the AP-LS committees have come up with interesting topics for this year’s conference, and we are pleased to announce the following special sessions and events. Please check the conference program and website for more information on each.

Thursday:
- The Student Section will host a Welcome Breakfast and Conference Orientation at 9:00 am in Edgewood AB, immediately followed by a Coffee Presentation session on International Careers in Forensic Mental Health, presented by Dr. Jay Singh.
- The Corrections Committee is hosting a session at 2:15 pm in Grand Chenier, presented by Dr. Ed Latessa, entitled, What Works and What Doesn’t in Reducing Recidivism: Some lessons from evaluating correctional programs.
- At 3:50 pm, please join the American Academy of Forensic Psychology in Grand Couteau to honor Dr. Matt Zaitchik with the Distinguished Service Award; his address, On Being a Teacher, should interest students and mentors alike.
- The Student Section will host a 5:00 pm panel in Nottoway, Advice on Early Career Success, presented by successful clinical and experimental early career psychologists, Drs. Natalie Anumba, Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Lisa Kan, Jennifer Eno Louden, Lindsay Malloy, and Sarah Manchak.
- All are welcome to attend the AP-LS Business Meeting from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm in Nottoway, followed by a Welcome Reception in the Armstrong Ballroom from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.
- From 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm, University of Massachusetts, Drexel University, and Fordham University will host a reception in the Gallery Ballroom.

Friday:
- Join us at the AP-LS Student Section Sponsored Fun Run at 7:00 am in the lobby to work off all that delicious New Orleans food and help support our students.
- Our President, Dr. Jennifer Skeem, will provide us with inspiration in her Presidential Address, Innovating Psychology & Law: Tackling bigger problems, more proactively, at 8:00 am in Nottoway.
- The Legal Scholars Committee is hosting two special panels on Friday, with Professor Christopher Slobogin as discussant. The first, presented from 9:15 am to 10:35 am in Grand Ballroom D, is entitled, Psycholegal Issues in Recent Legal Cases, and features a panel of experts, including the Honorable Jed Rakoff and professors Jennifer Robbennolt, Stephanos Bibas, and Kimberly Larson. A second panel of experts, chaired by Michael Perlin, including David Wexler, David Yamada, Heather Ellis-Cuculo, and Astrid Birgden, will present from 1:30 pm to 2:50 pm in Oak Alley. In their panel, Something’s Happening/and You Don’t Know What It Is”: Why the marginalization of lawyers and the law in AP-LS is bad for AP-LS, psychology, and the law, experts will discuss the shrinking representation of lawyers in AP-LS and provide “a call to membership to re-invigorate this collaboration.”
- The Minority Affairs Committee is hosting an Invited Luncheon from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm in the Gallery Ballroom.
- The Professional Development of Women and Early Career Psychologists Committees are co-hosting an interesting session in Grand Chenier from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm to discuss Funding Your Business/Practice with Drs. Eric Mart and Debra Deprato. Immediately following this session, they are hosting an informal gathering in the hospitality suite to socialize, network, and continue the discussion.
- Please join us in congratulating Saul Kassin, winner of the AP-LS Distinguished Contributions award. His address, entitled, False Confessions: Past, Present and Future, will resurrect older false confession cases, discuss new findings since the publication of the white paper in 2010 and propose new directions for research.
From 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, the University of California, Irvine, will host a social event in Maurepas, and Sam Houston State University will host a social event at Evangeline, a local restaurant. From 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will host their social event in the Gallery Ballroom and the Early Career Professional Committee will host their social event at Irvin Mayfield’s Jazz Playhouse (at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, 300 Bourbon St.

Saturday:
• The Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee is hosting a special panel from 1:30 pm to 2:50 pm in Nottoway. The panel, Teaching Psychology and Law in the 21st Century: Implementation and assessment of innovative teaching strategies devised to promote experiential learning, features Drs. Garrett L. Berman, Matt T. Huss, Scott E. Culhane, and Stephen J. Ross, discussing using new tools to teach psychology and law.
• Join us from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm in Estherwood to congratulate Dr. Lindsay Malloy on receiving the Saleem Shah Early Career Award; Dr. Malloy’s address is entitled What Children Say (and Don’t Say) and Why In Legal Contexts: Insights from the Field and the Laboratory.
• The Student Social will take place from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm in the Gallery Ballroom. The John Jay College of Criminal Justice Social will take place from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm at Le Bayou, 208 Bourbon Street.

We are sure that you will leave the conference stimulated and inspired! Enjoy!

Beth Caillouet and Allison Redlich
Conference Co-Chairs
MESSAGE FROM THE AP-LS PRESIDENT

Dear Attendees-

Welcome to New Orleans for the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS)!

Our program co-chairs, Beth Caillouet and Allison Redlich, have assembled a terrific program. The program represents both legacy topics (e.g., witness evidence, jury decision-making, forensic assessment) and exciting edges of our field (with forays into neuroscience, plea bargains, and intervention).

We especially encourage you to take part in the three plenary sessions (near the mid-point of each day), award addresses (for Kassin, Malloy, & Zaitchik), and many social events of the meeting. Students will discover a wealth of offerings from the Student Section and relevant committees.

Before the reception Thursday evening, please come to our business meeting and consider joining a committee in your area of interest. On Friday morning, I hope to see you at the Presidential Address, where I will highlight opportunities to broaden our field and deepen our impact on complex social problems. Later that day, the Legal Scholars committee will host a panel on (reversing) the marginalization of lawyers and the law in AP-LS.

Please thank our program co-chairs when you see them, and other hardworking experts who made this meeting possible. Those experts include Kathy Gaskey (our star administrator), Clyde Gaskey (her volunteer assistant), and the AP-LS committee members who strive to create valuable experiences for you.

Best wishes for an engaging and fulfilling meeting!

Jennifer Skeem
AP-LS President
# AP-LS Executive Committee and Committee Chairs (Aug 2013 – Aug 2014)

## Voting Members

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## Conference Co-Chairs

- **2014 APLS Conference Co-Chairs**: Allison Redlich (aredlich@albany.edu), Beth Caillouet (beth.caillouet@dbhds.virginia.gov)
- **2014 APA Conference Co-Chairs**: Preeti Chauhan (pchauhan@jjay.cuny.edu)
- **2015 APLS Conference Co-Chairs**: Amanda Zelechoski (Amanda.Zelechoski@valpo.edu), TBD
- **2015 APA Conference Co-Chairs**: Amanda Zelechoski (Amanda.Zelechoski@valpo.edu)
SPECIALTY REVIEW PANELS

The Conference Co-Chairs and Society express our sincere appreciation to the Specialty Chairs who coordinated the submission review process. The Panel Chairs recruited expert reviewers, assigned proposals for reviews, and made recommendations about the disposition of the submission based on blind reviews of the proposal.

Adult Witnesses: **Steve Charman**
Child Witnesses: **Jodi Quas**
Victims and Trauma: **Amanda Zelechoski**
Risk Assessment: **Kevin Douglas**
Other Forensic Assessment (Non-Risk): **Daniel Murrie**
Juvenile Non-Clinical: **Twila Wingrove**
Juvenile Clinical: **Jodi Viljoen**
Juries—System Variables: **Dennis Devine**
Juries—Estimator Variables: **Lora Levett**
Other Legal Decision Making: **Vanessa Edkins**
Law/Policy Analyses: **Chris Slobogin**
Psychopathy: **Diana Falkenbach**
Sentencing, Imprisonment, and Corrections: **Sarah Manchak**
Suspect Interviewing, Interrogations, and Confessions: **Maria Hartwig**

AD-HOC REVIEWERS

We thank the many people who agreed to serve as ad-hoc reviewers.

Beth Ahern  
Alissa Z. Anderson  
Ang  
Jacqueline Austin  
Cagla Aydin  
Tanjeem Azad  
Justin Balash  
Trevor Barese  
Sarah J. Beal  
Pamala Black  
Iris Blandon-Gitlin  
Margaret Blaustein  
Marc Boccaccini  
Angela Book  
Brian Bornstein  
Eve Brank  
Michael Brook  
Sonja Brubacher  
Ray Bull  
Curt Carlson  
Marianna Carlucci  
Rolando Carol  
David Caughlin  
Jennifer Cermack  
Yoojin Chae  
Nadia Chernyak  
Julia Clark  
Steve Clark  
Hayley Cleary  
Kevin Colwell  
Deborah A. Connolly  
Selby Conrad  
Travis Conradt  
Allana Cook  
Mark Costanzo  
Lisa Crosley  
Angela Crossley  
Keith Cruise  
Scott Culhane  
Brian Cutler  
Tarika Daftary-Kapur  
Greg DeClue  
David DeMatteo  
Sarah Desmarais  
Robert Dinerstein  
Amy Douglass  
Laura Drislane  
Vincent Drislane  
John Edens  
Meredith Emigh  
Jennifer Eno Louden  
Angela Evans  
Jacki Evans  
Andrew Evelo  
Linda Fentimian  
Ron Fisher  
Julian Ford  
Krista Forrest  
Adelle Forth  
Sarah Fransis  
Paul Frick  
Fiona Gabbert  
Stephen Garcia
The Community for Psychologists in Independent Practice

presents
2nd Annual Conference:
Forensic Psychological Assessment and Testimony
May 2-4, 2014
DoubleTree by Hilton | Chicago - Magnificent Mile, Chicago IL

Entire conference as well as one day rates available – register early and save!
7 CE credits available for full attendance per day

New for 2014—Mentoring/Case Conceptualization for beginning forensic practitioners

This symposium brings together the leading national experts in the forensic field to focus on:

- New Developments in psychological testing, risk assessment, and malingering
- Forensic Ethics, Decision-making, and Resolving Dilemmas in Expert Testimony and Assessment
- Cultural Considerations in Forensic Assessment

Specific applications to clinical and legal settings involving:
- Psychological Testing • Risk Assessment
- Expert Testimony • Trauma
- Ethics/Liability • Cross-cultural Issues
- Malingering • Violence in America
- Suggestibility • Case Conceptualizations - NEW! Additional 3 CE Credits

Optional Lunch Offering on Saturday—The Therapy Players Present:
A Comedy Revue: “Court Ordered Comedy”

Featured presenters:

Registration and full details at:
http://www.regonline.com/division42forensic2014

Contact info: Jeannie Beeoff at 602-284-6219 or email at div42apa@cox.net
From the Student Section Committee Chair

On behalf of the Division 41 Student Section Committee, welcome to the 2014 annual meeting of the American Psychology Law Society! The Student Section Committee has been busy at work in the hopes of making this year's conference welcoming, useful, and enjoyable for student attendees. My team and I hope that students were able to take advantage of our room share program, connect to peers with shared research interests using our interactive database, and submit for our student presentation awards. Students are encouraged to attend all of our events this year:

- Welcome breakfast to orient first-time attendees and recognize all of our dedicated campus representatives;
- Talk and Q&A on international collaboration and early career issues;
- Q&A panel about achieving early career successes, featuring successful ECPs;
- 5k Fun Run; and
- Student social—come for the free food and drinks and stay for the great music!

For more specific details about these events, as well as other useful information about the conference and New Orleans, be sure to download our student conference guide at [http://tinyurl.com/lgmeqzn](http://tinyurl.com/lgmeqzn). Student Section Committee officers will have stickers on their conference badges denoting them as such, so don’t be shy about approaching us with any questions or requests for assistance (or just to say “hi”). My team and I are here to help in any way that we can!

I’d also like to point out that the Student Section Committee has a variety of resources available online for graduate, professional, and undergraduate students alike. We encourage students to visit our webpage ([http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/education/students/index.aspx](http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/education/students/index.aspx)) and to "Like" our Facebook page ([http://tinyurl.com/kvsb756](http://tinyurl.com/kvsb756)) to access all of this content.

I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge this year's Student Section Committee officers for all of their hard work throughout the year: Casey LaDuke (Chair-Elect), Lauren Gonzales (Secretary), Joanna Weill (Communications Officer), Scholar Colbourn (Clinical Liaison), Erika Fountain (Experimental Liaison), Emily Haney-Caron (Law Liaison), and Alana Cook (Past-Chair). I would also like to thank our campus representatives and their faculty sponsors, our invited speakers (Drs. Natalie Anumba, Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Lisa Kan, Jennifer Eno Louden, Lindsay Malloy, Sarah Manchak, and Jay Singh), the Division 41 Executive Committee, Kathy Gaskey, and the conference co-chairs, Drs. Allison Redlich and Beth Caillouet. Finally, thanks are due to all of Division 41’s student and professional members—both for your support and for making Division 41 such a wonderful place for students to develop professionally.

Respectfully,

Christopher King
AWARDS

The following pages describe several awards presented by the American Psychology Law Society and the American Academy of Forensic Psychology this year.

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING TEACHING AND MENTORING IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY AND LAW

The Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee of the American Psychology Law Society is proud to announce the 2014 Award for Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring in the Field of Psychology and Law. The 2014 award is given to a teacher/mentor from an undergraduate-only or MA-terminus granting institution.

The 2014 award winner is Bradley D. McAuliff, Ph.D., of California State University, Northridge.

This competitive award is given to scholars in the field of psychology and law who have made substantial contributions in student teaching and mentoring, teaching related service and scholarship, development of new curricula, and, administration of training programs. Professor McAuliff’s record is outstanding in all of these ways and more. We congratulate him on this grand achievement. Professor McAuliff will receive his award at the Opening Plenary Session on Thursday, March 6, at 12 pm.

Past winners of this prestigious award include:

- 2013 Roderick C.L. Lindsay
- 2012 Amye R. Warren
- 2011 Brian Bornstein
- 2010 Mark Costanzo
- 2009 Ronald Roesch
- 2008 Edie Greene
- 2007 N. Dickon Reppucci
- 2006 Beth Schwartz
- 2005 Bette Bottoms and Jim Ogloff
- 2004 Margaret Bull Kovera

CONFERENCE AWARD ADDRESSES

The following awards will be presented during the Conference:

APLS Distinguished Contributions to Psychology and Law Award

Dr. Saul Kassin (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)

The AP-LS Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology and Law honors those who have made distinguished theoretical, empirical, and/or applied contributions to the field of psychology and law. Dr. Kassin will give an award address, titled “False Confessions: Past, Present, and Future” on Friday, March 7, from 5:20 pm to 6:20 pm in Estherwood.

Abstract

When it comes to false confessions, things are never as they seem. Traveling through time, this lecture will aim to achieve three purposes: (1) to bring to light new facts about riveting old cases not previously studied or known, historical events from which much can be learned; (2) describe current, post-White Paper research and ongoing cases winding their way through the courts that may well influence policy and practice; and (3) propose new directions for future studies that address the causes, consequences, and prevention of false confessions.
**Saleem Shah Award for Early Career Excellence in Psychology and Law**

**Dr. Lindsay Malloy (Florida International University)**

The Saleem Shah Award is co-sponsored by the American Psychology Law Society and the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. The award is for early career excellence and contributions to the field of psychology and law. Dr. Malloy will give an address, titled “**What Children Say (and Don’t Say) and Why in Legal Contexts: Insights from Field and Lab Research**,” on Saturday, March 8, from 3 pm to 4 pm in Estherwood.

**Abstract**

Each year, thousands of youth come into contact with the legal and social service systems around the world. Crucial decisions affecting their own and others’ lives may be made based on their statements. However, various developmental constraints limit the effective participation of young victims, witnesses, and suspects in legal contexts. In this talk, I will review my research at the intersection of developmental psychology and the law, with a focus on false denials and false admissions. I will emphasize how evidence from both naturalistic and experimental studies contributes to theory, practice, and future directions concerning children and the law.

**AAFP Distinguished Contributions to Forensic Psychology Award**

**Dr. Matt C. Zaitchik (Roger Williams University)**

The Distinguished Contributions to Forensic Psychology Award is granted annually at the discretion of the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. Dr. Zaitchik will give an address, titled “**On Being a Teacher**,” on Thursday, March 6, from 3:50 pm to 4:50 pm in Grand Couteau. He will discuss his personal journey and insights regarding the relationship between life experiences and career goals and the characteristics of being a teacher/mentor.

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**AP-LS DISSERTATION AWARD WINNERS**

Dissertation Award winners will receive their awards at the Opening Session of the conference on Thursday at 12 noon and will present their work at the Saturday evening Poster Session from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

**1st place: Taeko Wachi, University of Cambridge**
Police Interrogations and Confessions in Japan
Advisor: Michael E. Lamb

**2nd Place: Rebecca Weiss, Fordham University**
Differentiating Genuine Versus Feigned Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in a Sample of Torture Survivors
Advisor: Barry Rosenfeld

**3rd Place: Heather Butler, Claremont Graduate University**
Debiasing Juror Perceptions of the Infallibility of Forensic Identification Evidence: The utility of educational and perspective-taking debiasing methods
Advisor: Mark Costanzo
AP-LS AWARD FOR BEST UNDERGRADUATE PAPER

Undergraduate Paper Award winners will receive their awards at the Opening Session of the conference on Thursday at 12 noon and will present their work at the Friday evening Poster Session from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

First place:
Dana Formon, Drexel University
The Social Impacts of Being an Offender with Mental Illness
Mentor: David DeMatteo

Second place:
Nikoleta Despodova, John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Homosexuality is not on Trial: Jury decision making in same sex intimate partner sexual violence cases
Mentor: Elizabeth Jeglic

Third place:
Alan Butters, Creighton University
An Analysis of an Intensive Supervision Program for Sex Offenders
Mentor: Matthew Huss

AP-LS GRANTS-IN-AID

The Grants-in-Aid Committee strives to encourage research across a range of psycholegal research topics. The committee consists of two forensic clinical and two social/experimental psychological professionals. Committee members are employed across both academic and non-academic settings in order to promote research in underdeveloped areas of basic and applied research. This group has been proud of its ability to fund proposals for graduate level research across a range of institutions while maintaining a balance between applied and theory-driven research pertinent to law and psychology. The Grants-in-Aid Committee has two annual funding cycles with deadlines in January and September. Please submit any inquiries to Dr. Stephanie Penney at Stephanie.penney@camh.ca

The Grants-in-Aid Recipients for the Spring 2013 Cycle were:

- Jordan Bechtold, University of California, Irvine, Under the Radar or Under Arrest: How does contact with the juvenile justice system affect delinquency and academic achievement?
- James (Tripp) Driskell, University of Central Florida, Interviewing to Detect Deception: A team-level approach
- Kristin Fenwick, Carleton University, Educating the Jury: Mental illness and criminal responsibility in the Canadian courtroom
- Melodie Foellmi, Fordham University, Violence Risk Screening in Psychiatric Settings: An investigation of clinician decision-making practices
- Josh Haby, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, The Effect of Situational Factors and Defendant Demographics on Plea Bargain Evaluations
- Anthony Hopley, University of New Brunswick, A Comprehensive Typology of Substance Misusing Offenders: Towards the understanding of offender diversity
- Pi-Ju (Marian) Liu, Claremont Graduate University, It is not Getting Old: Identifying risk and protective factors of elder financial exploitation
• Laura McManus, Carleton University, The Effects of Defendant Race, a Trail’s Race Salience, and Regional Differences in the Canadian Courtroom.
• Sarag Mordell, Simon Fraser University, The Intensive Support and Supervision Program: Implementation and outcomes
• Becky Nichols, University of California, Irvine, Are all False Memories Created Equal?
• Justin Sevier, Yale University, Testing the “Testimonial Infirmitues” of Hearsay Evidence
• Adina Thompson, University of Florida, The Aftermath: Two comparisons of the social consequences of DNA and non-DNA exoneration
• Daniella Villalba, Florida International University, Rapport-building in Investigative Interviews with Children
• Catherine Wilson, Simon Fraser University, Reliability of Item Ratings and Case Formulations in Assessments of Sexual Violence Risk
• Skye Woestehoff, University of Texas at El Paso, The Influence of Case-specific Expert Testimony on Juror Sensitivity to Confession Evidence

EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONALS GRANTS-IN-AID

The American Psychology-Law Society Committee on Early Career Professionals funds four to five grants annually, each up to $5,000. The purpose of the award is to support AP-LS members who are within seven years of receiving their last degree to conduct research related to psychology and law.

The ECP Grants-in-Aid Recipients for 2013-2014 were:

Curt Carlson, Ph.D., Texas A&M University – Commerce
The influence of perpetrator distinctiveness on the weapon-focus effect and simultaneous versus sequential lineup performance: An ROC analysis

Jennifer A.A. Lavoie, Ph.D., Laurier-Brantford University
Inside Insight pilot project: Gender differences in mental health and coping in incarcerated youth

Lindsay C. Malloy, Ph.D., Florida International University
Memory and suggestibility in children with Attention Deficity Hyperactivity Disorder

Galit Nahari, Ph.D., Bar-Ilan University
Verifiability: A new approach for detecting lies

2014 AP-LS STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD WINNERS

Sara Appleby, John Jay College/CUNY Graduate Center
Ashley Batastini, Texas Tech University
Kaila Bruer, University of Regina
Yael Granot, New York University
Leigh Greiner, Carlton University
Josh Haby, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Natalie Harrison, University of Alabama
MINORITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AWARDS

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) facilitates activities and develops opportunities within AP-LS that embrace, respect and value diversity. Each year, we administer three competitive award programs, with the aim of increasing the recruitment and retention of diverse students and faculty into the field of psychology and law and encouraging research by AP-LS members on issues related to diversity in the legal system. We are pleased to announce our 2014 award winners.

The APPLE program is a competitive award to support undergraduate students from underrepresented groups and to encourage faculty mentorship of these undergraduate students. Our 2014 APPLE Scholars are:

- Rose E. Aime, St. Joseph’s College
- Evan McCracken, University of Evansville
- Wendy A. Garcia-Nava, University of Southern California
- Shams Lalani, St. Joseph’s Healthcare
- Paloma Molina, Florida International University
- Tyler Plogher, University of Evansville

The Diversity Travel Award is a competitive travel award to students from underrepresented groups who are presenting research at AP-LS Conferences. Our 2014 winners are:

- Alisha Caldwell, University of Nebraska
- Alexander Rivera, Pitzer College
- Michelle Jones, University of Alabama
- Sarah Malik, University of Evansville
- Nicole Arores-Gococo, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine
- Missy Wolfman, Victoria University of Wellington
- Jacklyn Nagle, University of Alabama
- J. Folk, George Mason University
The Diversity Research Award is a competitive award to encourage research on topics related to diversity in psychology and law and to support research by investigators from underrepresented groups. Our 2014 winners are:

- Mauricio J. Alvarez, *University of Nevada, Reno*
- Sarah A. Filone, *Drexel University*
- Laura McManus, *Carleton University*
- Lucas Mirabito, *The University of North Carolina at Wilmington*
- Yan Lin Lim, *Simon Fraser University*
CONCEPT is pleased to offer Continuing Education credit for some of the sessions at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society. CE-eligible sessions are denoted by shading and a CE # on the Conference Program. Up to 21.25 CEs may be earned during this Conference. There is an administrative fee of $30 for this service.

Here’s How it Works

1. Register your contact information with CONCEPT

Register your contact information and pay the administrative fee at http://www.concept-ce.com/apls. During the checkout process, you will create a username and password. Once the conference begins (Thursday morning), you will be able to use these login credentials (a copy will also be emailed to you) to access the CONCEPT site. Upon login (found in the top, right corner of the website), you will be directed to the Dashboard, which is where you will complete an Evaluation Form for each CE-eligible session you attend. You can also get to the Dashboard by clicking the link on the drop down menu under Programs at the top of the webpage.

2. Complete an Evaluation Form ONLINE for each CE-eligible session you attend

During the conference (session), or shortly thereafter, you will login to the CONCEPT website to complete an Evaluation Form for each CE-eligible session you attend.
• Login to the CONCEPT website (login link in top, right corner)
• From the Dashboard page, please select the timeslot during which the session took place (you will then be presented with a list of eligible sessions during that timeslot)
• Select the CE-eligible session that you attended and hit the “start quiz” button to begin the Evaluation Form
• Once you have completed/submitted the Evaluation Form, you will be able to download and print your Certificate of Attendance (these do not have to be downloaded or printed right away…. you can come back to download and print at your convenience)
• To move to an Evaluation Form for another session you attended, you will select the timeslot from the right side of the page and proceed as above.
• You can log in and out multiple times; all your evaluations/certificates will be saved

3. Download and print your Certificate(s) of Attendance at your convenience

Once you get home from the Conference you can simply login to the CONCEPT website and then click the links to download and print your Certificate(s) of Attendance. All Certificates must be downloaded and printed within 1 year.

CONCEPT is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. CONCEPT maintains responsibility for its programs and their content.

16765 FishHawk Blvd, #304 Lithia, FL 33547 | www.concept-ce.com | 888.709.4448 | info@concept-ce.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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</table>
| 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | Pre-Conference Workshop A  
How to Rate the SAVRY and Use it for Risk Management  
Nottoway  
4th Floor  
Drs. Gina Vincent and Laura Guy |
| 8:30 am - 4:30 pm | Pre-Conference Workshop B  
Evaluation of Intellectual Disability in Capital Cases: Twelve Years Post Atkins  
Bayside C  
4th Floor  
Drs. Karen Salekin and J. Gregory Olley |
| 10:35 am - 10:45 pm | Coffee Break  
Fourth Floor Foyer |
| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | Pre-Conference Workshop C  
Grant Writing 101 for Psychology and Law  
Bayside A  
4th Floor  
Dr. Christian Meissner |
| 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm | Pre-Conference Workshop D  
Cultural Competence in Forensic Assessment  
Bayside A  
4th Floor  
Dr. Barry Rosenfeld |
| 3:00 pm - 3:15 pm | Coffee Break  
Fourth Floor Foyer |
## THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Nottoway 4th floor</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting&lt;br&gt;Ellendale 4th Floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Oak Alley 4th floor</td>
<td>Student Section Welcome Breakfast and Conference Orientation&lt;br&gt;Edgewood AB 4th Floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom D 5th floor</td>
<td>Student Section Coffee Presentation Session&lt;br&gt;International Careers in Forensic Mental Health&lt;br&gt;Edgewood AB 4th Floor&lt;br&gt;Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom E 5th floor</td>
<td>Opening Plenary&lt;br&gt;Introduction to the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics&lt;br&gt;Dr. Bruce Perry&lt;br&gt;Grand Ballroom 5th Floor&lt;br&gt;(CE #1A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 pm</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
<td>Forensic Use of Static-99R&lt;br&gt;Zavodny&lt;br&gt;DeClue&lt;br&gt;DeClue&lt;br&gt;Murrie&lt;br&gt;(CE #2A)</td>
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<td>2:35 pm</td>
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<td>Expert Witness Bias&lt;br&gt;Hunt&lt;br&gt;Neal&lt;br&gt;Vera&lt;br&gt;Perillo&lt;br&gt;Greene&lt;br&gt;(CE #2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:50 pm</td>
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<td>Advances in Jury Decision-Making and Emotion&lt;br&gt;Wiener&lt;br&gt;Farnum&lt;br&gt;Simon&lt;br&gt;Choi&lt;br&gt;Greene</td>
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<td>3:05 pm</td>
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<td>RCN: Understanding Plea Bargains&lt;br&gt;Bushway&lt;br&gt;Pielh&lt;br&gt;Redlich&lt;br&gt;Johnson</td>
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<td>3:35 pm</td>
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<td>APLS Corrections Committee&lt;br&gt;What Works and What Doesn’t in Reducing Recidivism&lt;br&gt;Dr. Ed Latessa&lt;br&gt;(CE #2C)</td>
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<td>3:50 pm</td>
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<td>Improving Children’s Recall and Reports&lt;br&gt;Camparo&lt;br&gt;Canning&lt;br&gt;Cleveland&lt;br&gt;Klemfuss&lt;br&gt;Goodman&lt;br&gt;(CE #2B)</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
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<td>Teen Dating Violence&lt;br&gt;Reppucci&lt;br&gt;Guarnera&lt;br&gt;Nagel&lt;br&gt;Walker&lt;br&gt;(CE #2D)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:35 pm</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
<td>Coffee Break&lt;br&gt;Grand Ballroom Foyer&lt;br&gt;(CE #3A)</td>
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<td>3:50 pm</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
<td>Detecting Deception&lt;br&gt;Fenn&lt;br&gt;Sporer&lt;br&gt;Juodis&lt;br&gt;Choi&lt;br&gt;(CE #3A)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:20 pm</td>
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<td>Child Witnesses&lt;br&gt;Wolfman&lt;br&gt;Brubacher&lt;br&gt;Malloy&lt;br&gt;Nathanson&lt;br&gt;(CE #3A)</td>
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<td>4:45 pm</td>
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<td>Juvenile Offender Outcomes&lt;br&gt;Strohmaier&lt;br&gt;Cavannaugh&lt;br&gt;Guy&lt;br&gt;Cohn&lt;br&gt;(CE #3A)</td>
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<td>5:10 pm</td>
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<td>Privacy and the Law&lt;br&gt;Carolan&lt;br&gt;Groscup&lt;br&gt;Brank&lt;br&gt;Estoup</td>
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<td>5:35 pm</td>
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<td>Personality Disorders and Psychopathy&lt;br&gt;Lim&lt;br&gt;Viljoen&lt;br&gt;Rogstad&lt;br&gt;Layden&lt;br&gt;(CE #3B)</td>
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<td>5:50 pm</td>
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<td>AAFP Distinguished Service Award On Being a Teacher&lt;br&gt;Dr. Matt Zaitchik&lt;br&gt;(CE #3B)</td>
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<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>APLS Student Section Advice on Early Career Success&lt;br&gt;Anumba&lt;br&gt;Books&lt;br&gt;Holliday&lt;br&gt;Kan&lt;br&gt;Eno Louden&lt;br&gt;Malloy&lt;br&gt;Manchak&lt;br&gt;(CE #4A)</td>
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<td>6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Suspect Abilities and Strategies&lt;br&gt;Scherr&lt;br&gt;Luke&lt;br&gt;Van Dyke&lt;br&gt;Ertelt&lt;br&gt;(CE #4A)</td>
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<td>6:55 pm</td>
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<td>Sex Offenders: Predictors and Perceptions&lt;br&gt;Wevodau&lt;br&gt;Panza&lt;br&gt;Norwood-Strickland&lt;br&gt;Wijetunga&lt;br&gt;(CE #4A)</td>
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<td>7:20 pm</td>
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<td>Competency and Decisional Capacity&lt;br&gt;Kois&lt;br&gt;Karas&lt;br&gt;Kolva&lt;br&gt;(CE #4B)</td>
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<td>7:45 pm</td>
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<td>Expert Testimony and Juries&lt;br&gt;Butler&lt;br&gt;Yarbrough&lt;br&gt;Pica&lt;br&gt;Houston&lt;br&gt;(CE #4B)</td>
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<td>8:10 pm</td>
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<td>Development and Psychopathic Traits&lt;br&gt;Clark&lt;br&gt;Anderson&lt;br&gt;Hawes&lt;br&gt;Mugno&lt;br&gt;(CE #4B)</td>
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<td>8:35 pm</td>
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<td>Juvenile Justice System&lt;br&gt;Dismukes&lt;br&gt;Fondacaro&lt;br&gt;Warner&lt;br&gt;(CE #4D)</td>
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<td>6:00 pm -</td>
<td>AP-LS Business Meeting</td>
<td>Nottoway 4th Floor</td>
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<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>All are welcome to attend!</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm -</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
<td>Armstrong Ballroom 8th Floor</td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>University of Massachusetts, Drexel University, and</td>
<td>Gallery Ballroom 1st Floor</td>
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<td>11:00 pm</td>
<td>Fordham University Reception</td>
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<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Nottoway 4th floor</td>
<td>APLS STUDENT SECTION SPONSORED FUN RUN</td>
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<td>7:50 am</td>
<td>Oak Alley 4th floor</td>
<td><em>Meet in Hotel Lobby</em></td>
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<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom D 5th floor</td>
<td>APLS President Address</td>
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<td>Innovating Psychology and Law</td>
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<td>Dr. Jennifer Skeem</td>
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<td>(CE #5A)</td>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom E 5th floor</td>
<td>APLS Interviewing and Interrogation Techniques</td>
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<td>Options for Offenders with Mental Illness</td>
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<td>Symptom and Performance Validity</td>
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<td>Juror Characteristics</td>
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<td>Risk Assessment I</td>
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<td>9:15 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
<td>Not Criminally Responsible</td>
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<td>10:35 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom D 5th floor</td>
<td>APLS Legal Scholars Committee</td>
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<td>Special Panel I: Legal updates</td>
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<td>Psychopathy and Victimology</td>
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<td>Application of NeuroScientific Methods</td>
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<td>Punishing Adolescent Sexual Behavior</td>
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<td>10:35 am</td>
<td>Oak Alley 4th floor</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>Gallery Ballroom</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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<td>Plea Bargaining in Practice: Does the Supreme Court have a clue?</td>
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<td>The Honorable Jed Rakoff</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom 5th floor</td>
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<td>(CE #7A)</td>
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<td>12:20 pm</td>
<td>Gallery Ballroom</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>(Note: Lunch is NOT included. Please plan accordingly)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Gallery Ballroom</td>
<td>Minority Affairs Committee Invited Luncheon</td>
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<td><em>Gallery Ballroom 1st Floor</em></td>
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<td>1:30 pm - 2:50 pm</td>
<td>Nottoway 4th floor</td>
<td>Guilty Pleas and Other Responsibility Taking</td>
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<td>Oak Alley 4th floor</td>
<td>APLS Legal Scholars Committee Special Panel II: Marginalization of lawyers</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom D 5th floor</td>
<td>Questioning Alleged Victims of Child Abuse</td>
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<td>Grand Ballroom E 5th floor</td>
<td>Multi-Cultural Issues in Forensic Psych</td>
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<td>Grand Chenier 5th floor</td>
<td>Gender Specific Issues in Juvenile Justice</td>
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<td>Grand Coteau 5th floor</td>
<td>Conditional Release with Forensic Patients</td>
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<td>Estherwood 4th floor</td>
<td>Risk Assessment II</td>
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<td>Investigator Decision Making</td>
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<td>2:50 pm - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<td>3:00 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Judging Police and Confessions</td>
<td>The Impact of Investigator Decisions</td>
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<td>Jurors’ Responses to Evidence</td>
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<td>Conduct Disorder</td>
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<td>APLS PDW-ECP** Funding Your Business/Practice</td>
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<td>Risk Assessment II</td>
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<td>Investigator Decision Making</td>
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<td>4:10 pm - 5:10 pm</td>
<td>Obesity and the Law</td>
<td>Emerging Areas</td>
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<td>Suicide, PTSD, and Victimization</td>
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<td>Evidence and Juries</td>
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<td>Sex Offender Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>Investigator Decision Making</td>
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<td>5:20 pm - 6:20 pm</td>
<td>Mental Health Treatment in a Juvenile Court Clinic</td>
<td>Social Psychology and the Law</td>
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<td>Forensic Assessment</td>
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<td>Eyewitnesses:</td>
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<td>APLS Distinguished Contributions Address: False Confessions: Past, present, and future</td>
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**Please note, following the APLS PDW-ECP Special panel with Drs. Mart and DePrato, there will be an informal gathering in the hospitality suite from 4:00 to 5:00pm**
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Friday Evening Poster Session</strong></td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>University of Nebraska-Lincoln Social</strong></td>
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<td><em>Gallery Ballroom</em></td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Early Career Professional Social</strong></td>
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<td>11:00 pm</td>
<td><em>Irvin Mayfield’s Jazz Playhouse</em></td>
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**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2014**

- **Coffee Break**
  *Grand Ballroom Foyer*

- **Presidential Plenary Session**
  *Do High Callous-Unemotional Traits in Children Compromise Early Parenting Interventions to Prevent Antisocial Behaviour? What Can We Do About It?*
  *Dr. Mark Dadds*  
  *Grand Ballroom 5th floor*  
  *(CE #14A)*

- **Lunch Break**
  *(Note: Lunch is NOT included. Please plan accordingly)*

- **APLS Teaching, Training, Careers Committee Special Panel: Teaching in the 21st Century**
  *Berman Ross Culhane Huss*

- **Risk, Sanctions, Treatment in Juvenile Justice**
  *Skeem Vincent Schubert MulveY*

- **Examining Callousness Among Youth**
  *Waller Schuberth White Hawes Pardini*

- **The Atkins Decision**
  *deLacy Wood Salekin deLacy Chen DeMatteo*

- **Current Advances in Investigative Interviewing II**
  *Russano Kelly Sivasubramaniam Vredevelt Brandon*
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>2:50 pm</td>
<td><strong>Coffee Break</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Grand Ballroom Foyer</strong></td>
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<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Juvenile Impulsivity and Resilience</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Donley, Beneteau, Wall, Campbell</td>
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<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Exchanging Risk Assessment Models</strong></td>
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<td>Brooks Holliday, King, Kroner, Goodwin</td>
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<td><em>(CE #16B)</em></td>
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<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Civil and Trial Law Issues</strong></td>
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<td>Vallano, Kimble, Cramer, Toomey</td>
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<td><em>(CE #16C)</em></td>
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<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Trauma</strong></td>
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<td>Stimmel, Rohlehr, Reid</td>
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<td><em>(CE #16D)</em></td>
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<td>4:10 pm</td>
<td><strong>Eyewitnesses: Showups and lineups</strong></td>
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<td>Smith, Carlson, Goodsell, Price</td>
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<td>5:10 pm</td>
<td><strong>Child Witnesses and Truth Telling</strong></td>
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<td>Hritz, Williams, Warren, Johnson</td>
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<td>5:20 pm</td>
<td><strong>Saleem Shah Early Career Award</strong></td>
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<td><strong>What Children Say (and Don’t Say) in Legal Contexts</strong></td>
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<td>Dr. Lindsay Malloy</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Understanding and Treating Juveniles</strong></td>
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<td>Peterson, Greiner, Javdani</td>
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<td>4:10 pm</td>
<td><strong>Judicial Decision Making and Trial Evidence</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Factors in Recidivism</strong></td>
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<td>Sadeh, Putney, Blanchard, McDougall</td>
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<td><strong>Witness Interviewing</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Child Witnesses and Memory</strong></td>
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<td>Moore, Gomes, Mattison, Roberts</td>
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<td><strong>Death Penalty Decision Making</strong></td>
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<td>Devine, Whited, Schweitzer</td>
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<td><strong>Influence of Race and Religion on Jurors</strong></td>
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<td>Hunt, Martin, Yelerman, Granot</td>
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<td><strong>Efforts Towards Preventing Delinquency</strong></td>
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<td>Gillen, Harrison, Holt, Nguyen</td>
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<td><strong>Sex Differences and Gender Expectations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Issues Impacting Testimony</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Competency Restoration</strong></td>
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<td>Graziani, McMahon, Langley, Therson</td>
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<td><strong>John Jay College of Criminal Justice Social</strong></td>
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Providing comprehensive statistical descriptions of tool performance can help give researchers, clinicians, and policymakers a clearer picture of whether structured assessment instruments may be useful in practice (Singh, 2013). We report positive predictive value (PPV), negative predictive value (NPV), number needed to detain (NND), and number safely discharged (NSD), along with associated confidence intervals (CIs), for each value of the Static-99R, for one data set. Values reported apply to detected sexual recidivism during a five-year fixed follow-up for the samples that the Static-99R developers consider to be roughly representative of all adjudicated sex offenders (Phenix, Helmus, & Hanson, July 26, 2012).


In 2001, Petrita and Otto wrote: “Perhaps most important, there [are] no data on the validity of adjusted actuarial assessment of risk for sexual reoffending, the technique used by almost all professionals who employ actuarial tests in their assessments” (p. 3-8). A decade later, there are data, and the data thus far show that clinical adjustments or overrides reduce the accuracy of actuarial-based risk prediction. What then must we do?

Forensic Use of the Static-99R: Part 4. Risk communication. Gregory DeClue; Denis Zavedny, GA Department of Behavioral Health & DD.

We draw on recent research and the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists to provide succinct answers to six basic questions regarding the use of the Static-99R in forensic cases. Should I report risk for sexual recidivism, or risk for detected sexual recidivism? Should I report individual, or group, risk? Which group risk should I report? How can risk be clearly and accurately conveyed to fact finders? Do clinical adjustments or overrides enhance the accuracy of sexual-recidivism risk predictions? Is there any objective procedure that can allow me to reliably and validly predict that someone is more-likely-than-not to sexually recidivate?

Chair: Gregory DeClue
Discussant: Daniel Murrie, University of Virginia School of Medicine

006. Expert Witness Bias
2:15 to 3:35 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

Vulnerability of Psychologists to Bias and Decision Making Errors in Clinical Forensic Evaluation. Elizabeth Hunt, University of South Florida; Randy Otto, University of South Florida.

The judiciary is becoming increasingly concerned about the reliability/validity of experts’ testimony and how their judgments and opinions are affected by non-substantive case factors. Regarding mental health professionals’ involvement in legal proceedings, some researchers have examined the impact the adversarial process has on expert testimony, whereas others have studied the effects of examiners’ attitudes/beliefs. We examined forensic examiners’ vulnerability to two well-known decision making errors (anchoring effects, bias bias) that cognitive psychologists have demonstrated negatively affect human judgment. Findings indicated some vulnerability to such errors. The practice implications of these findings and recommendations for future research are offered.

Markers of Potential Bias in a Sample of Forensic Reports. Tess Neal, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center.

Independent raters coded 122 redacted capital case criminal responsibility reports for potential indicators of bias (opinion direction [NGRI possible vs. not], report length, sources of information, language valence and dominance, discussion of alternative hypotheses, and treatment of the “ultimate” issue). Unexpectedly, results indicated no variation in opinion direction – not a single report supported an NGRI defense. Correlations emerged as expected between language with report length and with discussion of alternative hypotheses. Hierarchical Linear Models showed individual evaluators accounted for large portions of variance in degree of discussion of alternative hypotheses, report length, and level of “ultimate” opinion provided.
Do Defendants appear to have Different Personality Traits when Being Interviewed by Allied and Opposing Evaluators? Lauren Vera, AP-LS; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Alexandra Burks, Sam Houston State University; Stephanie Kline, Sam Houston State University; Cindy Mena, Sam Houston State University; Hayley Wechsler, Sam Houston State University; Daniel Murrie, University of Virginia School of Medicine.

This study examined whether defendants appear to have different personality traits when being interviewed by an allied or opposing evaluator. Students who failed to complete a required task were interviewed twice, once by a clinician on their side and once by a clinician representing the university. Participants completed a self-report measure of psychopathic traits and each clinician rated each participant on six items derived from the Psychopathy Checklist Revised. The ratings from non-allied clinicians were more strongly correlated with participants' ratings of their own levels of psychopathy, suggesting that opposing evaluators were more accurate in their ratings of participant psychopathy.

Remedying adversarial allegiance? An Investigation of the Impact of Concurrent Testimony from Referral through Testimony. Jennifer Perillo, Winston-Salem State University; Anthony Perillo, The Graduate Center and John Jay College, CUNY; Margaret Kovera, John Jay College – CUNY.

The presentation of concurrent expert testimony is a proposed remedy for expert adversarial allegiance. We examined whether experts testifying concurrently or as court-appointed experts would show less partisanship than typical adversarial experts. We also investigated whether adversarial allegiance strengthens or weakens through the trial process as a function of testimony type. Participants were trained in criminal responsibility evaluation, conducted a mock evaluation of a defendant, wrote a report, and testified in a mock trial. Experts' opinions generally were stable across time. Adversarial allegiance influenced both concurrent and adversarial experts' evaluation of case materials but not the evaluations of court-appointed experts.

Chair: Tess Neal, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center Discussant: Thomas Grisso, University of Massachusetts Medical School

007. Advances in Jury Decision-Making and Emotion

2:15 to 3:35 pm

Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

Anticipated Affect and Sentencing Decisions in First Degree Murder. Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska.

Two studies examine the effects of anticipated emotion on the sentencing judgments in a reenactment of a capital murder trial. The studies examined the assumption in the Eighth Amendment that the law guides jurors' discretion by directing them to avoid their own sentiments and instead balance aggravation and mitigation to reach a penalty decision. Across studies using scenarios with identical sentencing phase facts, forecasters who anticipated feeling more intense positive emotions after a death sentence were more likely to invoke a death sentence even though their actual positive feelings post-sentence were less intense than they had anticipated.

Stereotype Content Model and Juror Decisions in Age Discrimination Claims. Katlyn Farnum, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska.

Age discrimination can result when employers endorse stereotypes about older workers – such as low competence for core job tasks. Recently, the Supreme Court held that discrimination cases brought under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) are distinct from those under Title VII. ADEA cases must use “but-for” causality jury instructions while “mixed motive” instructions are available under Title VII. The current study found “but for” instructions favored defendants relative to mixed motive instructions regardless of whether fact patterns supported plaintiffs, defendants, or neither. Stereotype Content Model emotion measures (i.e., warmth) helped explain liability differences resulting from different instructions.

The Coherence Effect: Blending cold and hot cognitions in legal decision making. Dan Simon, USC; Douglas Stenstrom, California State University, Los Angeles; Stephen Read, University of Southern California.

The current studies extend the coherence effect to encompass hot cognitions: emotions, motivation, and affect. Study 1 found that manipulating one evidence item in a criminal case altered judgments of the defendant’s guilt, evaluations of all other evidence items, and also emotions and other hot cognitions. Study 2 demonstrated a reverse pattern: manipulating the emotions towards a defendant altered judgments of guilt, evaluations of 13 pieces of ambiguous evidence, and also resulted in concurrent hot cognitions. These results suggest an intricate, bi-directional interconnection that maximizes coherence among the myriad of both hot and cold cognitive facets of the task.

Can we Trust Emotional Jurors? The Role of Emotion on Jurors’ use of Standards of Proof. Yumon Choi, University of Nebraska; Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska; Michael Holte, U.S. Department of State.

Empirical research suggests that jurors struggle to understand different standards of proof. This research showed that one fundamental source of confusion is jurors using different decision processes depending on their transient emotions. Sad mock jurors used rational decision processing and applied standards of proof as the law intended. In contrast, angry mock jurors relied on intuitive processing, which resulted in the misapplication of the standard of proof and underutilizing strong incriminating evidence. These results, which demonstrate coherence shifts as a function of incidental emotion, suggest that simplifying jury instructions might not be sufficient to reduce misunderstanding of standards of proof.

Chair: Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska Discussant: Edie Greene, UCCS

008. Research Coordination Network: Understanding plea bargains

2:15 to 3:35 pm

Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor


Guilty pleas account for 95% of convictions in the US, yet this process has received almost no research attention. This presentation will describe the vision and organization of an NSF Research Coordination Network. The RCN seeks to 1) resurrect the focus on pleas that sparked in the 1970s but failed to ignite; 2) expand the pool of researchers who study pleas, and 3) share methodological, theoretical and practical insights across disciplines. The RCN includes three cores focused on decision-making of the defense, prosecution, and institutional workgroup. Presenters will lay out what they view as key opportunities in the years ahead.

Research Coordination Network on Pleas: Prosecutorial decision-making core. Anne Piehl, Rutgers University.

The research agenda of the RCN Prosecutorial Decision-Making core is broad – to consider goals of prosecution, the interactions of judges and prosecutors, the qualities of the bargaining space, and the effect of resources on outcomes. One goal is to investigate the role of policy variation in sentencing outcomes. Past research has documented the extent of plea bargaining and the variation across geography in its use. However, there has been little success in attributing part of this variation to prosecutorial policies. Work in progress on this question is discussed here, with evidence drawn from federal and state data sources.

Research Coordination Network on Pleas: Defense decision-making core. Allison Redlich, University at Albany (SUNY).

The goal of the RCN Plea, Defense Decision-making core is to understand the plea decision-making process—and the surrounding circumstances that impact the process—primarily from the perspectives of the defendant and the defense attorney. To illustrate the type of research that will be conducted within this core, the proposed presentation examines the content and comprehensibility of tender-of-plea forms, forms which review defendants’ rights and consequences of the plea decision. A total of 208 forms were analyzed, finding that forms are indistinguishable between adult and juvenile court defendants, and that they are largely incomplete
that higher amounts of parental monitoring were associated with less recurrent physical victimization even after accounting for gender, age, total number of relationships and social support. There were no significant associations between family and social support and recurrent physical perpetration. Findings have implications regarding parental involvement in policy and interventions.

Chair;  
N. Dickon Reppucci, University of Virginia

010. Beyond Free Recall: Next steps to improving children’s event recall and narrative reports  
2:15 to 3:35 pm  
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor  
Enhancing School Children’s Narrative Quality and Resistance to Suggestion with the Narrative Elaboration Interview. Lorinda Camparo, Whittier College; Karen Saywitz, UCLA.

Kulikovsky and Klemfuss (2008) found descriptive quality of preschoolers’ narratives (NQ) predicted suggestibility. We examined school children’s NQ for staged and fictitious events, comparing a standard protocol (SP) with two variations of the Narrative Elaboration Interview: NE-S (Streamlined) = narrative elaboration practice, free recall, visual cues for four categories of forensically-relevant information; NE-V = free recall, verbal cues for same four categories. With SP, NQ predicted acquiescence to suggestive questioning about the fictitious event. NE-S results indicated resistance to suggestive questioning about the staged and fictitious events. NE-V results were mixed, necessitating further exploration. Age differences and implications will be discussed.

Streamlining the Narrative Elaboration Technique: Helping young children become better eyewitnesses. Heather Canning, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Carole Peterson, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Stephanie Kelly, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Emily Pond, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The Narrative Elaboration Technique (NET) has been shown to help children provide more information in response to free recall questioning by using cards with line drawings as prompts. In an effort to streamline this technique for use in real-world settings, pre-school (three to five year-old) and primary school (five to seven year-old) children were shown a staged presentation and later interviewed with one of four interviews. Although NET was not helpful for the pre-school children, the primary school group performed just as well in a streamlined NET interview involving no pre-training or cards as in the full NET interview.

Narrative Enhancement and Young Children’s Recall Productivity. Kyndra Cleveland, University of California Irvine; Jodi Quas, UCI; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law.

Although children’s recall reports are typically quite accurate, they are also often incomplete, and minimal attention has been devoted to how best to increase children’s productivity. We tested narrative enhancement strategies, vocatives and back-channel utterances, on 159 3-8-year-olds’ recounting of a prior event. Preliminary analyses on a subset of children revealed no main effects of enhancement. However, a positive correlation, r=.44, p=.001, emerged (age controlled) between enhancement use and recall. Subsequent analyses will examine, in detail, the enhancement effects on productivity and accuracy.

Scaffolding Children’s Testimony: Relations of narrative structure and format of attorney questions with child witness responses. J. Zoe Klemfuss, Florida International University; Kyndra Cleveland, University of California Irvine; Jodi Quas, UCI; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law.

Previous research has demonstrated that attorney question format relates to child witness’ response productivity. However, little work has examined the relations between the narrative structure among attorney questions and children’s responding. In the present study we coded criminal court transcripts (50% ending in conviction) involving child witnesses (5-17 years) for narrative structure, question format, and productivity in children’s responses. Prosecutors and defense attorneys varied substantially in both narrative structuring and question format; however, only question format was related to the productivity of children’s responses. Findings are discussed in relation to developmental theory and legal implications.
011. APLS Corrections Committee Session—What Works and What Doesn’t in Reducing Recidivism: Some lessons from evaluating correctional programs.

Edward J. Latessa, University of Cincinnati

2:15 to 3:35 pm

Grand Chenier, 5th Floor

This workshop will focus on what works and what doesn’t in reducing recidivism among offenders by focusing on some key lessons learned from over 35 years of evaluating, studying, and working with correctional agencies. Included will be a discussion: what works (and doesn’t) in reducing recidivism; the major predictors of criminal behavior; the importance of understanding assessment; the most effective treatment models; why we need to do things well; and some of the barriers that often get in the way.

Chair: Karen Saywitz, UCLA

J. Zoe Klemfuss, Florida International University

012. Detecting Deception

3:50 to 4:50 pm

Notatoway, 4th Floor

Imposing Cognitive Load Reduces Accuracy When Detecting Intention.

Elise Fenn, Claremont Graduate University; Mollie McGuire, Claremont Graduate University; Sara Langben, Claremont Graduate University; Iris Blandon-Gitlin, CSU Fullerton.

According to assumptions underlying the Imposed-Cognitive-Load Approach, a cognitively demanding interview leads to better lie detection because it elicits behavioral differences between liars and truth-tellers. We tested the feasibility of this approach in contexts where lying and truth-telling are both cognitively demanding. Evidence suggests that imagining oneself in a future scenario—forming an intention—is a challenging task. Data from two experiments revealed that an Imposed-Cognitive-Load-Approach reduced accuracy detecting intentions and led truth-tellers to look more like liars compared to a control interview. These results suggest that the Imposed-Cognitive-Load-Approach may be less useful when interviewing to detect intent.

Weighting Guidelines for Content Cues to Deception: Do they improve accuracy?

Siegfried Sporer, University of Giessen.

Using 108 accounts judged by 36 raters (16 with guidance, 16 without), we aimed to (1) test the validity of an integrated set of verbal content criteria to detect deception; (2) test whether raters followed the guidelines offered for integrating these criteria; (3) assess the accuracy of judgments and response bias using signal detection theory parameters. Results showed medium effect size discrimination as predicted for some criteria and above chance classification of guided raters’ judgments compared to control group raters. Brunswikian lens model analyses are presented to explain deficits in judgmental processes to use the criteria as instructed.

Subtyping the Behavioral Effects of Deceit and the Implications for Deception Detection.

Marcus Juodis, Dalhousie University; Stephen Porter, University of British Columbia – Okanagan.

Most behaviors believed to be indicative of lying have weak or no empirical relationships with deception (DePaulo et al., 2003). Complicating lie detection further are observations that different individuals display different behavioral cues to deceit (Vrij, 2008). Two experiments involving undergraduates and offenders were conducted to identify possible subtypes of liars based on verbal and non-verbal behavior changes when comparing truth-telling to lying. ‘Fluid’ and ‘laboried’ liars were identified in both experiments, reflecting large differences between the subtypes for speech disturbances. Factors explaining the manifestation of these subtypes are highlighted. Implications for deception detection research, theory and practice are addressed.

The Effect of Mirror on Liars and Truth-tellers in Detecting Deceit.

Seung-Hyuk Choi, Korea Univ.; Leo Yang, Korea University; SoEun Choi, Korea University; Seung Kyung Baek, Korea University; Taekyun Hur, Korea University.

The present study aimed to investigate the effect of increased self-awareness activated by the presence of a mirror on psychological difference in liars and truth-tellers. 88 participants were randomly allocated into veracity (truth/tell) and mirror (presence/absence) conditions. Our results confirmed Vrij’s three factor model of deception; liars were more aroused, cognitively burdened, and attempted to control behavior more than truth-tellers. Of more importance, the presence of mirror amplified the effects. The results supported the mirror’s expected psychological impacts and its potential functions for lie detection with caution for false-alarms, considering the unexpected result that truth-tellers reported increased cognitive load.

Chair: Iris Blandon-Gitlin, CSU Fullerton

013. Child Witnesses

3:50 to 4:50 pm

Oak Alley, 4th Floor

Exploring the Effect of Interview Aids on Verbal Interactions between Interviewers and Children during Investigative Interviews.

Missy Wolfman, Victoria University of Wellington; Paul Jose, Victoria University of Wellington; Deirdre Brown, Victoria University of Wellington.

Little is known about how interview aids (e.g., dolls, body diagrams, sketch plans) may influence subsequent interactions between interviewers and children. Extant evidence suggests when interviewers use aids they use non-optimal questioning strategies. We will use sequential analysis to determine whether the relationship between interviewers’ questions and children’s responses in investigative interviews of sexual abuse allegations (n = 103) differs in interviews that employed aids compared to those that did not. Understanding the impact of aids on how the interview is constructed and progresses will contribute to evidence-based guidelines for how and when they should be employed with children.

Thoughtless Pointing to Body Diagrams is Associated with Individual Differences in Cognitive Control.

Sonja Brubacher, Central Michigan University; Debra Poole, Central Michigan University; Jason Dickinson, Montclair State University; Allison Liberty, Central Michigan University; Amanda Kauke, Central Michigan University.

Even when used in the absence of suggestive questioning, props remain problematic for a minority of children who generate false reports with interview aids. In the current study, children talked about a previous visit with “Mr. Science: Germ Detective,” answered questions about touch using body diagrams, and completed a battery of cognitive tasks to elucidate differences between accurate and false reporters. Utilization, Response Conflict, and Theory of Mind tasks predicted false reports of touching better than age did and correctly classified 90.16% of the children as typical witnesses or “exuberant” (more than 3) false reporters.

A Detailed Investigation of Recanted Child Sexual Abuse Cases.

Lindsay Malloy, Florida International University; Allison Mugno, Florida International University; Jillian Rivard, Florida International University; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law; Jodi Quas, UC Irvine.

The underlying reasons for recantation in children’s disclosure of traumatic experiences, most notably child sexual abuse, have been hotly debated in recent years. Most prior studies have focused on prevalence rates rather than determining the potential correlates of recantation, and have neglected to investigate children’s disclosure patterns post-recantation. In the present study, we examined the largest sample of substantiated CSA cases involving recantations to date (n = 58 cases). Specifically, we investigated predictors of recantation in recanters and a matched sample of non-recanters and examined children’s disclosure patterns post-recantation in detail.

Increasingly, children are becoming involved in the legal system. However, concern over the emotional trauma they experience has led some to question the extent to which children should be involved in legal proceedings. The trauma children experience may be due, in part, to their lack of knowledge about the process. A pretest-posttest design was used to evaluate the effects of Kids’ Court School (KCS) on children’s anxiety, as measured by the Court-Related Stress Scale. One-hundred, eighty-nine 4-17-year-old children participated in the study. Children rated court-related experiences as significantly less stressful after attending KCS.

Chair: Jason Dickinson, Montclair University

014. Juvenile Offender Outcomes
3:50 to 4:50 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

Incidence and Correlates of Animal Maltreatment in a Community Sample. Heidi Strohmaier, Drexel University; Amanda NeMoyer, Drexel University; Megan Murphy, Drexel University; Sarah Filone, Drexel University; David DeMatteo, Drexel University.

Animal maltreatment has a demonstrated, but poorly understood, relationship to other antisocial behaviors and psychopathic traits. This study explored correlations between animal abuse and several relevant variables (i.e., interpersonal family violence, bullying, psychopathic traits). Results support a link between animal and family violence, and provide further evidence that childhood animal maltreatment is a precursor to adult interpersonal violence. Witnessing animal maltreatment, but not engaging in bullying, correlated with several negative experiences and personality traits. Both witnessing and perpetrating animal abuse during childhood were associated with animal maltreatment in adulthood. Implications and future directions are discussed.

Knowledge is Power: Parents and juvenile probationary success. Caitlin Cavanagh.

Mothers and their first-time offending sons (N=522) were interviewed longitudinally to determine (1) how mothers’ knowledge of, and attitudes toward, the juvenile justice system are associated with engagement in youths’ court proceedings, and (2) the relation between maternal engagement and youth recidivism. Mothers, particularly disadvantaged women, knew little about the justice system. Mothers’ increased knowledge (but not attitudes) was associated with greater engagement in youth legal proceedings, which predicted reduced youth re-offending after six months. A youth’s first arrest may be a critical juncture at which to educate families about the justice system to improve parental engagement, and ultimately reduce youth recidivism.

Impact of SAVRY Training on Juvenile Probation Officers’ Knowledge about Risk Assessment and Inter-rater Agreement. Laura Gay, UMass Medical School; Rachael Perrault, UMass Medical School; Bernice Gershenson, UMass Medical School; Gina Vincent, UMass Medical School; Thomas Grisso, University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) in the MacArthur/OJJD “Risk Assessment and Mental Health Screening for Youth” study attended a SAVRY workshop and completed four standardized practice cases over 3 months. A fifth case was completed following booster training 9 months later. Knowledge tests administered before and after workshops showed JPOs’ knowledge about risk assessment increased post-training. Overall, rater accuracy improved over time. Agreement for ratings of individual item presence was better than that for item relevance for violence. Despite receipt of individualized feedback following each practice case, significant and frequent rating errors in JPOs’ rating rationales persisted over time.

Parental, Teacher, and Police Legitimacy: A longitudinal test of the procedural justice model of socialization. Ellen Cohn, University of New Hampshire.

Legitimacy of police authority plays an important role in the procedural justice legal socialization model as a mediator between procedural justice and rule-violating behavior. We tested a longitudinal model that used parental, and teacher legitimacy as well as police legitimacy as mediators between procedural justice and rule-violating behavior. Middle school (n=300) and older adolescents (n=384) completed surveys at three one year intervals. Results found support for the procedural justice model for police, parental and teacher legitimacy. The findings suggest that police, parental and police legitimacy should be included in future legal socialization models along with procedural justice.

Chair: Dave DeMatteo, Drexel University

015. Privacy and the Law
3:50 to 4:50 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Beyond Choice or Consent: A law and psychology approach to privacy protection. Eoin Carolan, University College Dublin.

This paper argues that the choice-or-consent approach used to regulate privacy protection in most jurisdictions is inadequate. This law assumes that requiring consent demonstrates adequate respect for the autonomy and privacy of that person. This paper argues that an approach based on consent ignores issues of understanding, foresight and/or commensurability that reflect natural cognitive limitations; and, critically, that it ought to be replaced by an approach which reflects the way in which individual cognition and social interaction actually occur. The paper critically examines recent EU legislation on privacy and the right to be forgotten as alternative approaches.

Give me a Home Where the Drug Sniffing Dog Doesn’t Roam: Privacy expectations for canine searches. Jennifer Groscurp, Scripps College; Alex Rivera, Pitzer College; Lori Hoetger, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Recent Supreme Court cases considered whether a “sniff” by a law enforcement dog should constitute a search based on expectations of privacy and other factors. The purpose of the current research was to determine if expectations of privacy and perceptions of dog sniffs differ across situations and target of the sniff. Participants (N = 955) read vignettes based on actual dog sniff cases where the situation varied. Results indicate that context of the sniff, target of the sniff, and whether evidence of illegal behavior is found influence perceptions in ways that are not always consistent with courts’ assumptions.

I know what I know: The effect of knowledge on 4th Amendment rights. Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Jennifer Groscurp, Scripps College; Lori Hoetger, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

In the U.S. a person has the right to refuse consent to a police search, yet field and lab studies document very few instances of refusals and complete understanding of rights. Through a three-phase study, the current research first takes on the task of documenting baseline 4th Amendment knowledge. Second, the research borrows from educational research to find the most effective way to teach people about their legal rights in a search situation. Third, the research focuses on whether an increase in testable “book” knowledge will improve decision making related to searches and consenting behaviors in an in-lab study.

Using Internet and Social Media Data as a Collateral Source in Forensic Evaluations. Ashley Estoup, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Gianni Pirelli, Independent Practice; Randy Otto, USF.

The advent of social media sites has led employers, and medical and mental health professionals to gain information quickly and easily about applicants and patients. The extant literature typically addresses the frequency with which Internet-based data are used to gain information about applicants and patients, as well as the utility of such use. Despite the burgeoning body of literature discussing implications for psychologists, no literature exists pertaining to the use of Internet-based data in forensic mental health assessments. We discuss issues related to use of such information and set forth a call for research and commentary in this area.

Chair: Eve Brank, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
016. Personality Disorders and Psychopathy
3:50 to 4:50 pm
Grand Chienier, 5th Floor
Core Symptoms of Psychopathic PD: A prototypicality study. Yan Lim, Simon Fraser University; Alana Cook, Simon Fraser University; Simone Viljoen, Simon Fraser University; Brianne Layden, Simon Fraser University; Kate Bousfield, Simon Fraser University; Stephen Hart, Simon Fraser University.

The aim of this paper is to (1) provide an overview of the project, which all four papers in the symposium are based, and (2) present the results of a prototypicality analysis of the Comprehensive Assessment of Psychopathic Personality (CAPP) as rated by 73 mental health professionals and graduate students. The results were consistent with past research on the CAPP. Specifically, results suggest that the vast majority of CAPP symptoms are highly representative of PPD, supporting good content validity of the CAPP instrument and good sensitivity of CAPP items to the construct of PPD.

Where are the Borders of Borderline PD? Simone Viljoen, Simon Fraser University; Yan Lim, Simon Fraser University; Alana Cook, Simon Fraser University; Brianne Layden, Simon Fraser University; Kate Bousfield, Simon Fraser University; Stephen Hart, Simon Fraser University.

In this paper we present the results of a prototypicality analysis to evaluate if the CABP model captures Borderline or Psychopathic Personality Disorder Traits in a sample of 122 mental health professionals and graduate students. Results showed a significant difference between the prototypicality ratings of the CABP items when rated on how characteristic they are for BPD vs. PPD. Specifically, of the 27 CABP items, 16 were rated significantly more typical of BPD than PPD, 4 (which where overlap symptoms) were rated significantly more typical of PPD than BPD, and 7 items did not differentiate between PPD and BPD.

Psychopathy and Cluster B Traits: Using competing hypotheses to evaluate risk in female psychiatric patients. Jill Rogstad, Mendota Mental Health Institute; Richard Rogers, UNT; Jennifer Steadham, UNT.

Psychopathy's association with antisocial conduct has rendered it a premier predictor of negative behavioral outcomes. However, outcome disparities have emerged between psychopathic males and females (e.g., Salekin et al., 1998). This paper presents the first attempt to compare female psychopathy with broader Cluster B pathology, including risk for aggression and suicide-related behavior. In a sample of female inpatients, impulsive antisociality and narcissistic and histrionic interpersonal style were critical dimensions underlying psychopathy and Cluster B traits. However, APD and BPD proved more discerning of premeditated and impulsive aggression, respectively, than psychopathy. Findings highlight the importance of competing hypotheses in psychopathy research.

Developing a Conceptual Map of Borderline Personality Disorder. Brianne Layden, Simon Fraser University; Simone Viljoen, Simon Fraser University; Yan Lim, Simon Fraser University; Alana Cook, Simon Fraser University; Kate Bousfield, Simon Fraser University; Stephen Hart, Simon Fraser University.

In this paper, we present the results of a prototypicality analysis of the Comprehensive Assessment of Borderline Personality (CABP), as rated by 46 mental health professionals and graduate students internationally. The results suggest that 15 of the 27 CABP symptoms were highly representative of BPD and, in contrast, 3 of the CABP symptoms were found not to be representative. Overall, the CABP model appears somewhat less robust in representing the construct of BPD as compared to the CAPP model in representing PPD. Possible reasons for this are explored in further detail.

Chair: Richard Rogers, University of North Texas

017. AAFP Distinguished Service Award—On Being a Teacher
Dr. Matthew Zaitchik, Roger Williams University
3:50 to 4:50 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor
Dr. Zaitchik, the recipient of the AAFP Distinguished Service Award, will discuss his personal journey and insights regarding the relationship between life experiences and career goals and the characteristics of being a teacher/mentor.

Chair: Lois Condie, Harvard University Medical School

018. AP-LS Student Section Committee Special Panel--Advice on Early Career Success from Successful Early Career Professionals.
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor

The AP-LS Student Section Committee will host a panel featuring both clinical and experimental early career professionals who have had different forms of early career success. Panelists will discuss how they obtained their current professional appointments and field audience questions. Featured clinical panelists are Drs. Natalie Anumba, Stephanie Brooks Holliday, and Lisa Kan, and featured experimental panelists are Drs. Jennifer Eno Louden, Lindsay Malloy, and Sarah Manchak. This panel will be of particular value to undergraduate and graduate students, clinical students currently on internship, and early career professionals.

Chairs: Christopher King, Drexel University
Casey LaDuke, Drexel University

019. Suspect Abilities and Strategies
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

The World is not Fair: An examination of innocent and guilty suspects' waiver decisions. Kyle Scherr, Central Michigan University; Andrew Franks, Central Michigan University.

Miranda was a landmark criminal procedure decision, yet little research has examined suspects’ pre-interrogation decision-making. This research tested whether two speculated factors, just world beliefs and social proof pressures, differentially influence innocent and guilty individuals' waiver decisions. An initial three-way interaction among guilt status, social proof, and just world beliefs on participants’ (N=162) waiver decisions was observed. Additional comparisons indicated that social proof pressures influenced all guilty participants and innocent participants who weakly endorsed just world beliefs; however, innocent individuals’ decisions who strongly endorsed just world beliefs were unaffected by social proof pressures. Implications for pre-interrogation administrations are discussed.

Suspect Counter-interrogation Strategies: The effect of prior knowledge of the interviewing techniques. Timothy Luke, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Maria Hartwig, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; Benjamin Shamash, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Pär Anders Granhag, University of Gothenburg.

This experimental study tested the effects of knowledge of interviewer tactics on counter-interrogation strategies. Participants (N = 149) were either innocent or guilty and took part in a richly detailed mock terrorism task or an analogous benign task. Some were given information about the Strategic Use of Evidence (SUE) technique and others were not. Guilty suspects who were given information about the SUE technique were significantly more forthcoming with information compared to guilty suspects who were uninformed.
Examining Interrogative Suggestibility and Decision-Making Ability in Adults in the Community. Darci Van Dyke, University of North Dakota; Troy Ertelt, Assessment and Therapy Associates of Grand Forks, PLLC; Thomas Petros, University of North Dakota; Brianna Battles, University of North Dakota.

Interrogative suggestibility—the tendency to yield to leading questions and change answers in response to negative feedback—has been found to be related to individual difference variables such as branch of the military. Similar variables are also related to decision-making competence. While suggestibility and decision-making theoretically have similar components, very little research has investigated the relationship between these two variables. The current study examined decision-making between community members who demonstrated high and low levels of suggestibility. Results indicated that those with low levels of suggestibility more consistently appraised their risk in decision making and learned from their experiences more quickly.

Examining Interrogative Suggestibility and Decision-Making Competence in Incarcerated and Community Adults. Troy Ertelt, Assessment and Therapy Associates of Grand Forks, PLLC; Darci Van Dyke, University of North Dakota; Thomas Petros, University of North Dakota; Beth Klithermes, University of North Dakota; Kristin Matson, University of North Dakota; Brianna Battles, University of North Dakota; Sheryl Holter Vogel, University of North Dakota.

Interrogative suggestibility has become an increasingly popular topic of study. Despite considerable construct overlap with decision-making competence, little empirical research has examined the relationship between these two attributes. The present study sought to examine the relationship of these two attributes in order to better understand the decision-making capabilities of those who are highly suggestible and more susceptible to interrogative pressures and possibly false confessions. Preliminary results indicated that incarcerated individuals, regardless of overall suggestibility, had higher Shift scores on the Gudjonsson Suggestibility Scales than did community participants. Highly suggestible individuals, regardless of incarceration status, demonstrated poorer decision-making skills.

Chair: Maria Hartwig, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

020. Sex Offenders: Predictors and perceptions
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

A Psychometric Evaluation of the Community Attitudes Toward Sex Offenders (CASTO) Scale Among Potential Jurors. Amy Wevodau, Sam Houston State University/University of Massachusetts Medical School; Tess Gemberling, Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; John Clark, University of Texas Tyler.

The present study employed the Community Attitudes Toward Sex Offenders (CASTO) Scale to achieve two objectives: evaluate the psychometrics of the CATSO in its intended population and evaluate its predictive validity in a trial situation with jury-eligible community members. Results indicated: a) a two factor structure, consisting of Capacity to Change and Social Isolation factors, b) CATSO scores were related to several demographic and attitudinal variables, and c) belief in capacity for change predicted sentencing decisions, perpetrator/victim blame, and recommendations for probation and security level. Implications for public policy and applied practices are discussed.


Following the establishment of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, the Sex Offender Certification Review Branch (SOCRB) was created within the Federal Bureau of Prisons to aid in making commitment decisions for sexual offenders whose sentences were due to expire. This study provides a first look at the cases that have been reviewed by the SOCRB since its inception. A summary of the SOCRB process is presented along with an overview of certification decisions to date and data for the Static-99/99R for this population. Comparisons are made with other US prison populations and the Static-99/99R normative data.

Race, Attachment Styles, and Family Structure Differences among Juvenile Delinquents with and without Sexual Offenses. Ashley Norwood-Strickland, Auburn University; Rebecca Fix, Auburn University; Hugo Morais, Auburn University; Peggy Buckley, Auburn University; Barry Barkhart, Auburn University.

Previous research indicates differences between delinquent youth with and without sexual offending histories. Although risk factor research is prevalent, less is known concerning the impact of attachment and family structure related to the juvenile sexual offender. In addition, literature on racial differences in regards to these areas as well as exposure to violence in conjunction with sexual offending is also limited. Nine-hundred-forty three incarcerated youth were interviewed and results indicate family structure and racial differences are present between juveniles with sexual offending patterns and delinquent juveniles. Finally, group differences were observed with regard to peer attachment and exposure to violence.

Predictive Validity of the J-SOAP-II across Discharge Settings and Offender Characteristics. Charity Wijetunga, Fordham University; Barry Rosenfeld, Fordham University; Ricardo Martinez, Fordham University.

Clinicians frequently assess juvenile sex offenders’ (JSOs) risk of reoffense before making treatment decisions. The J-SOAP-II is designed to assist in this assessment. Yet research supporting the predictive validity of the J-SOAP-II is mixed, and the offenders for whom it has the greatest clinical utility have not been identified. This study assessed the predictive validity of the J-SOAP-II utilizing a retrospective file review of 156 JSOs. It was a better predictor of recidivism for JSOs released to their homes than for those released to residential facilities, and was a stronger predictor among JSOs with apparent deviant sexual arousal.

Chair: Amy Wevodau, Sam Houston State University/University of Massachusetts Medical School

021. Competency and Decisional Capacity
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Distinguishing Characteristics related to Opinions of Competency and Sanity in Joint Evaluations. Lauren Kots, John Jay College and the Graduate Center; Janet Warren, University of Virginia; Freeti Chaush, John Jay College, City University of New York; James Wellbeloved-Stone, University of Virginia.

While the psycho-legal constructs of competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility (i.e., sanity) are distinct with regard to the law and the referral question, they are similar in their clinical correlates. We explored which psycho-legal, demographic, psychological, criminogenic, evaluation, and evaluator characteristics are related to forensic evaluators’ opinions of competency and sanity in joint evaluations (i.e., competent and sane, incompetent and sane, competent and insane, and incompetent and insane). Psycho-legal and psychological characteristics held strong relationships with opinions; however, they differed according to defendants’ gender and evaluators’ training and discipline. Explanations for these differences in opinion are discussed.

States’ Standards for Training and Certifying Evaluators of Competency to Stand Trial. Alexandra Karas, University of Denver; William Gowensmith, University of Denver; Debra Pinals, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.

How do states select and certify their forensic evaluators? We surveyed 39 states about their policies and statutes regarding the selection, certification, and retention of evaluators of competency to stand trial (CST). Results revealed more differences than similarities among states. Primarily, 56% of states did not require potential CST evaluators to complete a formal certification process to become certified; of those that did, certification requirements varied greatly. Only 38% of states required ongoing training or certification requirements after initial certification. State processes, administrative oversight, and payment also varied greatly. Implications for public mental health system CST evaluation practice are discussed.
Prevalence and Patterns of Medical Decision-making Impairment in Terminally Ill Cancer Patients. Elissa Kolva, Fordham University; Barry Rosenfeld, Fordham University.

Purpose: This study examines decisional capacity in patients with terminal illness relative to common legal standards of competence. Method: Fifty-five terminally ill adults completed a measure of decisional capacity relevant to existing legal standards. Results: Decisional impairment was common, but not universal. More participants were impaired on standards that are regarded as more complex and heavily reliant on verbal abilities. Physicians tended to underestimate decisional impairment. Conclusions: Accurate assessment of decisional capacity in terminally ill patients with regard to legal standards is necessary to balance clinicians’ responsibility to respect patient autonomy while safeguarding patients from harm.

Chair: William Gowensmith, University of Denver

022. Expert Testimony and Juries
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Grand Coteau, 5th Floor


Many experts report that there is a mystical aura of infallibility surrounding forensic identification evidence, and yet faulty forensic evidence is the second leading cause of wrongful conviction in the United States. This experiment used two methods (educational expert testimony, perspective-taking) to counteract juror perceptions regarding the infallibility of forensic evidence. The quality of the forensic evidence (weak or strong) and the presence of the two debiasing methods were manipulated. Mock jurors (n = 211) who received the expert testimony, and those who received the (experiential) perspective-taking task, were more sensitive to the quality of the forensic evidence.

Can Expert Testimony Sensitize Jurors to the Coerciveness of Interrogation Tactics? Angela Yarbrough, John Jay College and the Graduate Center; Steve Penrod, John Jay College – CUNY.

We sought to examine the impact of expert testimony concerning coercive interrogation tactics on jurors’ verdicts and impressions that the confession was involuntary. The presence of four interrogation tactics and expert testimony were manipulated to test for juror sensitivity to such tactics with and without expert testimony. Preliminary results provide some evidence that expert testimony induces both sensitivity and skepticism effects for some of the interrogation tactics. These results are discussed in the context of expert testimony effectiveness.

Secondary Confessions: Do incentive size and social science expert testimony influence juror decision making? Emily Pica, Carleton University; Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University.

The goal of this research was to determine whether the size of incentive (none, small, medium, or large, in terms of sentence reduction) a jailhouse informant receives for testifying and expert testimony from a social science expert regarding the fundamental attribution error influence mock juror decision-making in criminal trials. Both expert testimony and size of incentive had no direct influence on verdicts; however, the presence of an incentive did influence decision making. Mock juror attributions for the informant’s decision to testify varied as a function of incentive. The paper will both discuss and offer explanations for these findings.

Expert Testimony on Eyewitness Evidence: In search of commonsense. Kate Houston, University of Texas at El Paso; Lorraine Hope, University of Portsmouth; Amina Memon, Royal Holloway, University of London; J. Don Read, Simon Fraser University.

Legal professionals and jurors can be insensitive to factors detrimental to eyewitness accuracy. The current research assessed the extent to which, judges, an underrepresented sample with the literature, are aware of factors which may undermine the reliability of eyewitness evidence. The knowledge of a jury eligible sample of the general public (drawn from the same population as the judges) was also assessed. Judges and jurors demonstrated a reasonable level of knowledge regarding general eyewitness memory issues. However, the consistency of jury responses with expert opinion was significant influenced by whether they completed a multiple choice or response generation survey.

Chair: Kate Houston, University of Texas, El Paso

023. Developmental Issues and Psychopathic Traits
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Grand Coteau, 5th Floor

Comparing Adult and Adolescent Offenders in the Relation between Psychopathic Traits and Response Modulation Deficits. Stephanie Clark, Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley.

Response modulation (RM) deficits have been posited to underpin psychopathy, however, recent research demonstrates a similar association with externalizing traits. Confusion over the specificity of RM deficits becomes more problematic during adolescence when development processes may account for observed deficits. We examined whether the association between RM and psychopathy is driven by affective, interpersonal, and/or externalizing traits among adult and adolescent offenders. Results indicated that affective traits were associated with RM deficits among adults, whereas externalizing traits were associated with enhanced RM among adolescents. This raises questions about the generalizability of the RM hypothesis and assessment of psychopathy during adolescence.

Differential Associations of DSM-5 Section III Disinhibition and Antagonism Personality Domains with Externalizing Behaviors. Jaime Anderson, University of Alabama; Alexandria Johnson, University of Alabama; Martin Selbhom, Australian National University.

The current study examined the association of the DSM-5 Section III personality model, and specifically the Disinhibition and Antagonism trait domains, with various aspects of antisocial/externalizing behaviors. We used a community sample (n = 214) weighted for externalizing proclivities, in which participants were administered a detailed psychosocial background interview, the MMPI-2-RF, Personality Inventory for the DSM-5 (PID-5), and the Antisocial Behavior Questionnaire (ABQ). Both correlation and regression analyses showed that the DSM-5 Section III Disinhibition and Antagonism domains, and their corresponding trait facets, had significant associations with externalizing behaviors, with an expected pattern of differing magnitudes.

Psychopathic Features across Development: Longitudinal invariance, stability and change, and prediction of adulthood offending. Samuel Hawes, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; Amy Byrd, University of Pittsburgh; Donald Lynam, Purdue University; Dustin Pardini, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

The current study addresses issues of longitudinal measurement invariance, stability and change, and predictive utility of psychopathic features (PF) among three cohorts of boys followed from childhood into adulthood (N = 1517). Findings indicated that PF remained longitudinally invariant across time (ages 7-16). Significant individual variability in the rates of change in PF were found with evidence also indicating that initial levels and change in PF were associated with adult offending. This study emphasizes the importance of examining PF using multiple informants to provide an in-depth and multi-faceted examination of stability and change in these characteristics.

Caught in a Lie: An experimental examination of lie-telling among children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders. Allison Magno, Florida International University; Lindsay Malloy, Florida International University; Victoria Talwar, McGill University; Dan Waschbusch, Penn State University.

Research on children’s lie-telling has focused almost exclusively on typically-developing children. The topic is surprisingly understudied among children with significant behavioral problems, a subset of children who are disproportionately involved in the legal system and who may use lying as a strategy to maintain their antisocial behavior. The current study used an experimental paradigm to examine lie-telling and its relation to various cognitive factors among children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders and typically-developing children of the same age. Results advance knowledge concerning individual difference and cognitive factors in children’s lying.
which may be useful in designing interventions to promote children’s honesty.

Chair: Samuel Hawes, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

024. Juvenile Justice System
5:00 to 6:00 pm
Estherwood, 4th Floor

Early Life Stress and Callous-Unemotional Traits Influence Testosterone’s Diurnal Rhythm: Implications for juvenile justice. Andrew Dismukes, University of New Orleans; Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University; Megan Johnson, University of California-Berkeley; Yoojin Lee, University of New Orleans; Elizabeth Shirtcliff, University of New Orleans.

Testosterone is a social hormone whose diurnal rhythm changes in response to context; two contexts where this might occur are callous-unemotional (CU) traits and life stress exposure. This investigation assessed the impact of CU traits and life stress exposure on T diurnal rhythm (within ten saliva samples across two days) in incarcerated adolescent males. CU traits predicted a steeper testosterone diurnal decline, whereas life stress exposure predicted a flatter testosterone diurnal decline. Documenting these contextual factors on the social hormone testosterone and its diurnal change is important for understanding biological processes within incarcerated youth and potential for treatment and change.


I will provide an overview of the diminished culpability model of juvenile justice, acknowledging some of the practical gains associated with the embrace of this model. I will then point out some of the scientific, legal, and social costs associated with uncritical advocacy of this approach. Finally, I will discuss alternative justifications for treating juveniles differently than adult offenders. I conclude that the reason for differential treatment should not rest on the idea that they are less mature, but because the emerging lesson from empirical research is that we should not be treating adult offenders the way we do.

Using a Community Psychological Model to Alleviate Racial Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System: The value of working in an applied legal setting. Todd Warner, University of Virginia; Tammi Walker, University of Virginia; N. Dickon Reppucci, University of Virginia.

In his presidential address to APLS, Roesch (1995) argued that community psychology models allow for a shift in perspective from individual deficit based models to more broad, system level changes. This paper will provide a real-world example of how adopting such a framework can have a more direct impact on creating policy change in the legal system. Data will be presented on a city-wide initiative to improve racial disparities in the juvenile justice system. Results suggest black youth are overrepresented at multiple points in the juvenile justice system. Strategies for working in an applied legal setting will also be discussed.

Chair: Mark Fondacaro, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

025. APLS Business Meeting
6:00 to 6:30 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

026. Welcome Reception
6:30 to 8:00 pm
Armstrong Ballroom, 8th Floor

027. University of Massachusetts/Drexel University/Fordham University Reception
8:00 to 11:00 pm
Gallery Ballroom, 1st Floor

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# FRIDAY, MARCH 7

028. APLS Student Section Sponsored Fun Run
7:00 to 7:50 am
Meet in Hotel Lobby

029. APLS Presidential Address-- Innovating Psychology and Law: Tackling bigger problems, more proactively
Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley
8:00 to 9:00 am
Nottoway, 4th Floor

Psychology and law is bigger than ever…and is having impact. Eyewitness research – prototypic of legal psychology – is informing justice policy (Wells, 2003). Forensic psychology is an established specialty with its own guidelines, assessment tools, and programs for training clinicians to be useful to the courts (Heilbrun & Brooks, 2010). Still, as observed by past APLS presidents, the influence of the field as a whole on law, policy, and psychological science is limited. In this talk, I share new thoughts on advancing old goals of (a) broadening the discipline, and (b) becoming less “silo-ed” and more relevant to social justice and problem-solving.

Chair: Margaret Kovera, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

030. Interviewing and Interrogation Techniques
8:00 to 9:00 am
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

The Development of the Rapport Scales for Investigative Interviews and Interrogations. Misty Duke, University of Texas at El Paso; James Wood, University of Texas at El Paso; Matthew Scullin, University of Texas at El Paso; Julie LaBianca, University of Texas at El Paso.

This presentation describes the development of the Rapport Scales for Investigative Interviews and Interrogations (RS3i), which were designed to measure rapport in investigative interviews and interrogations. One hundred eighty-seven participants each viewed two simulated investigative interviews and rated them for rapport. Exploratory factor analyses of the 374 ratings were used to develop 8 scales reflecting different dimensions of rapport. The scales’ internal reliability was found to be adequate or good in a new sample of 246 interview ratings. Evidence of validity was mixed. The RS3i is recommended as a starting point for future research on rapport in investigative interviews.

Evidence Disclosure Strategies in Interviews with Suspects: A study of beliefs and practice. Dave Walsh; University of Derby.

Studies show that a framework, introduced for the interviewing of suspects in England and Wales, avoids tactics argued to possibly prompt false confessions. Nevertheless, there remains an absence of scientific endeavor in examining the framework. The present study examined how evidence is disclosed in interviews by firstly asking 259 investigators for their preferred evidence disclosure mode (EDM), finding that a gradual EDM was favoured. When comparing these views to 70 field interviews it was found that a gradual EDM was used more often, and its usage was associated with the obtaining of significantly more comprehensive accounts. Implications are discussed.

Police Interrogations and Confessions in Canada: Recent legal developments. Marc Patry, Saint Mary’s University; Steven Smith, Saint Mary’s University; Nicole Adams, Saint Mary’s University.

The Supreme Court of Canada recently issued a trilogy of decisions pertaining to suspects’ right to legal representation (R. v. Sinclair, 2010, R. v. McCrimmon, 2010, & R. v. Willier, 2010). This paper summarizes these decisions, and other recent rulings related to confessions and draws comparisons between Canadian, U.S., and international procedure with respect to a suspect’s rights. We present preliminary data on Canadian citizens’ misunderstanding of criminal suspects’ right to counsel, and also Canadian legal professionals’ opinions about the right to counsel.

Interviewing to Elicit Information: Using priming to promote disclosure in intelligence interviews. Evan Dawson, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Maria Hartwig, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; Laure Brimbal, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Charles Leps, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY.
Research on implicit cognition has found that activating mental concepts can lead people to behave in ways that are consistent with the primed concept. In an experimental study, we tested whether activating openness concepts by priming a candidate relationship would influence people’s forthcomingness. 102 participants delivered a flash drive to a confederate who exposed them to details of a mock eco terrorism conspiracy. Prior to being interviewed, half of participants were primed; the other half were not. Results showed that primed participants disclosed significantly more information than those who were not primed.

Chair:  

**Maria Hartwig**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

### 031. Options for Offenders with Mental Illness

#### 8:00 to 9:00 am

**Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor**

Courts, Cops, Clinicians and Community Corrections: Differences in understanding violence risk in the mentally ill. **William G wiresmith, University of Denver**; **Ashleigh Tassin, University of Denver**.

How do different professional disciplines, each working with a similar forensic population, understand violence risk? We collected 261 surveys from professionals in mental health, community corrections, law enforcement, and the judiciary. Professionals ranked the relative importance of violence risk factors from a list of 25 factors pulled from multiple risk assessment instruments. Results revealed significant disagreement on 11 of the 25 risk factors, including both well-validated risk factors (i.e., previous violence, criminal thinking) and poor predictors (i.e., recent hospitalization, clinical treatment appraisal). Factor analyses revealed little agreement both within and among professional disciplines.

**Model Penal Code § 305.7: Sentence modification options for offenders with serious mental disorders. Lea Johnston; University of Florida Levin College of L.**

Proposed Model Penal Code Section 305.7 authorizes the judicial modification of a sentence of imprisonment when an individual’s mental disorder renders his punishment disproportionate or inhumane. This Article explores one shortcoming in 305.7: its provision of too few dispositional options to judges at resentencing. The Article investigates theoretical and practical issues surrounding the exercise of three sentence modification options and reveals that these options are appropriate for only a subset of offenders. In response, it proposes that states authorize judges to modify prisoners’ conditions of confinement when continued confinement would be disproportionate, but neither immediate nor conditional release is feasible.

**Physical and Mental Health Status of Clients in a Mental Health Jail Diversion Program. Robin Telford, University of South Florida; Sarah Desmarais, North Carolina State University; Richard Van Dorn, RTI International; Candalyn Rade, North Carolina State University; Evan L owder, North Carolina State University; John Petrila, University of South Florida.**

Justice-involved adults with serious mental illness (SMI) are at risk for poor physical health and frequently lack appropriate physical healthcare. Though research shows that jail diversion programs decrease recidivism and improve mental health outcomes, little is known about the physical health status of jail diversion participants. We compare the self-reported physical health of jail diversion participants to that of the general population and non-justice-involved adults with SMI. We also examine associations of substance use and psychotic symptom severity with self-reported physical health. Analyses suggest poor health status, but a limited contribution of substance use and psychotic symptoms to this phenomenon.

**Effectiveness of Telepsychology in Correctional and Forensic Practice: A research synthesis and meta-analysis. Ashley Batatini, Texas Tech University; Christopher King, Drexel University; Nina MacLean, Texas Tech University; Stephanie Van Horn, Texas Tech University; Robert Morgan, Texas Tech University.**

Telepsychology is gaining increasing popularity particularly in psychosocial and correctional contexts. Research examining the ability of telepsychology to provide effective mental health services has shown promise, but no attempts have been made to synthesize the empirical evidence on behavioral and psychological treatment outcome variables. Results from 12 studies were pooled in a meta-analysis. Coding of eligible studies is currently in progress and will conclude by November 30, 2013. It is hypothesized that pooled effect sizes will further demonstrate the benefits of using telepsychology in forensic and correctional practice to provide more quality services to an in-need population.

Chair:  

**Sarah Desmarais**, North Carolina State University

### 032. Symptom and Performance Validity

#### 8:00 to 9:00 am

**Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor**

The SIRS-2 IF Scale as a Measure of Feigned Cognitive Impairment. **Laura Grossi, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Debbie Green, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Brian Belfi, Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center; Joseph Brand, Fordham University.**

This study examines the utility of the Improbable Failure scale (IF) of the SIRS-2 in identifying feigned cognitive impairment (FCI) in a forensic psychiatric sample. The IF is a screening measure of FCI, and a performance validity test designed so that there is a low probability of failure, regardless of true cognitive impairment (i.e., floor effect). Analyses evaluated the base rates of feigning on the IF and TOMM, classification at various cut-offs of the IF, and the relationship between intelligence and IF scores. Findings suggest that the IF rarely detects FCI as identified by the TOMM in this setting.

An Examination of Behavioral Speech Characteristics Distinguishing Feigned and Genuine Schizophrenia. **Gina Najolia, Louisiana State University; Tracey Auster, Louisiana State University; Alex Cohen, Louisiana State University.**

Currently-utilized standardized schizophrenia malingering detection methods generally focus on explicit endorsement of improbable/exaggerated symptoms. This project examined potential supplemental malingering assessment variables by comparing schizophrenia patients, community participants instructed to feign symptoms, and an honest community control group on behavioral speech characteristics indicative of thought disorganization and negative symptoms under experimentally-manipulated conditions of affective reactivity and cognitive load. Feigning and schizophrenia groups were distinguished by feigners’ inability to successfully mimic speech disorganization during affective reacticity conditions, excessively impaired use of formant inflection (indicative of flat affect) during affective reactivity and cognitive load conditions, and excessively impaired cognitive task performance.

Qualitative Scoring of the Rey-15 Item Memory Test in Criminal Malingerers. **Lindsey North.**

The Rey-15 Item Memory Test is a screening tool used to detect memory malingering. Quantitative scoring of the Rey has low sensitivity and is vulnerable to intelligence, age, and psychiatric illness. Qualitative scoring was developed to increase discriminant ability and decrease impact of subject variables. The hypothesis of the current study is that use of qualitative scoring will increase sensitivity. Both scoring methods were examined in a sample of malingering criminal defendants. Sensitivity of the Rey in detecting malingerers was improved with qualitative scoring. These findings confirm usefulness of the Rey in detecting malingering and support addition of qualitative scoring.
Do Social Desirability Biases Statistically Affect the Relationship between Psychopathy and External Criteria? Ashley Watts, Emory University; Scott Lilienfeld, Emory University; John Edens, Texas A&M University; Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University.

Psychopathy has long been associated with deceit and honesty (Cleckley, 1941). We examined whether the relations between self-reported psychopathy and objective indicators of psychopathy were both moderated and suppressed by indices of response bias, specifically social desirability, among a sample of offenders (N = 1661). In most cases, preliminary analyses are inconsistent with the popular notion that the validity of self-report measures of psychopathy is markedly diminished by social desirability, at least in terms of their relations with external criterion (e.g., crime, treatment outcome, laboratory tasks).

Chair: Gina Najolia, Louisiana State University/ Patton State Hospital

033. Juror Characteristics, Attitudes, and Bias

8:00 to 9:00 am

Grand Coteau, 5th Floor

The Inability of Jurors to Self-Diagnose Bias. David Yokum, University of Arizona.

The Supreme Court (Skilling, 2010) has told courts how to identify biased jurors: simply ask them. This paper reports two experiments indicating that jurors are completely incapable of accurately self-diagnosing bias as the Court presumes. Mock jurors were, first, exposed to either negative pretrial publicity (NPP) or not and then, second, asked during voir dire whether they could be impartial, before finally adjudicating a videotaped medical malpractice trial. Jurors exposed to NPP were twice as likely to find against the defendant, and this bias was not mitigated whatsoever by excluding jurors as courts prescribe (OR = 2.17, CI: 1.10 – 4.24).

Exploring Attitudes toward Mental Illness as an Influential Factor in Juror Decision-Making: A comparison of sample types. Annik Mosstire, University of Saskatchewan; Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University.

To explore the influence of stigma towards mental illness on juror decision-making outside of an insanity-trial context, two studies (student and community samples) manipulated the defendant’s mental illness in a mock-robery trial. Participants read a trial transcript and were asked to make decisions regarding the guilt of the defendant, as well as complete a questionnaire about their verdict confidence, sentencing, and attitudes toward mental illness. Contrary to expectations, neither attitude ratings nor mental illness type had a significant effect on juror decisions in either study. The paths through which jurors reached their decisions did differ by sample type.

Deliberating with Similarly versus Dissimilarly Biased Individuals: Influence on jurors’ decisions and impressions. Christine Rava, University of South Florida; Sarasota- Manatee; Theana Cunningham, University of South Florida; Felicia Cimaszewski, University of South Florida; Darcy McCoy, University of South Florida.

This research is part of two large studies exploring how deliberations and decisions of jurors consisting of jurors exposed to the same type of pretrial publicity (PTP; pure exposure) differ from those having mixed PTP exposure (e.g., half exposed to PTP and half not exposed). Preliminary findings suggest that PTP exposure at both the juror- and jury-levels matters. Specifically, the composition of PTP bias in mixed juries resulted in individual jurors’ guilt assessments and impressions differing from those of similarly PTP-exposed jurors deliberating on pure juries. Additionally, jurors’ impressions of the defendant, victim, and attorneys had significant mediational effects.

The Continuing Significance of Death Qualification. Craig Haney, University of California, Santa Cruz; Eileen Zurbriggan, University of California, Santa Cruz; Joanna Weill, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Building on earlier research, Haney, Hurtado, & Vega (1994) demonstrated that death qualified jurors continued to significantly differ from “excludables” who were not permitted to serve on capital juries. The present study examines whether these differences remain significant in light of the decline support for the death penalty. Two recent statewide surveys indicate that they are. Death qualified jurors continue to be demographically and attitudinally distinct, attach less significance to mitigating and more significance to aggravating circumstances, and have less accurate knowledge about the operation of the modern system of death sentencing.

Chair: David Yokum, University of Arizona

034. Risk Assessment I: Reliability and validity

8:00 to 9:00 am

Grand Coteau, 5th Floor

Evaluating the Reliability, Validity, and Utility of the HCR-20V3. Jacqueline Howe, Fordham University; Barry Rosenfeld, Fordham University; Melodie Foellmi, Fordham University; Stephanie Stern, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Lily Bopp, Fordham University; Merrill Rotter, Bronx Psychiatric Center.

This study examined how mental health professionals make decisions about violence risk using the recently published HCR-20V3. HCR-20V3 risk ratings were completed for 38 psychiatric inpatients. Preliminary results showed that the HCR-20V3’s three summary risk ratings (SRRs) were only moderately correlated with the HCR-20’s final risk judgment. HCR-20V3 items such as past violence, violent ideation, and living situation were significantly correlated with SRRs. For these items, combined severity/relevance estimates showed significant association with SRRs. These results offer support for using a multiplicative model to study how risk factor severity and relevance interact with one another to predict SRRs.

Reliability of the Multi-level Guidelines (MLG) for the Assessment and Management of Group-based Violence. Alana Cook, Simon Fraser University; Stephen Hart, Simon Fraser University.

In this paper we present the first reliability findings of a new set of structured professional judgment (SPJ) guidelines for the assessment and management of group-based violence: the Multi-level Guidelines, or MLG (Cook, Hart, & Kropp, 2013). Group-based violence is violence by an individual whose decisions and behavior are influenced by a group they are affiliated with, such as a gang or terrorist group. We evaluated the reliability of the guidelines through training courses of criminal justice and mental health professionals. The evaluation results supported our hypothesis: the reliability of the MLG is comparable to those found with other SPJ tools.

Examining the Validity of the SAPROF in a Civil Psychiatric Population. Simone Viljoen, Simon Fraser University; Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia; Nathalie Gagnon, Kwantlen University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University; Johann Brink, BCMHA Forensic Services.

The Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for Violence Risk (SAPROF) is a structured professional judgment risk assessment measure intended to be used in conjunction with a measure of risk factors, (i.e. HCR-20). The SAPROF has been investigated in samples of forensic psychiatric patients and offenders. Presently there are no studies investigating the validity of this measure in a civil psychiatric population. Results showed that the best prediction of future violence and verbal aggression was the using HCR-SAPROF combined measure. Findings suggest that risk assessment and management might be advanced by a consideration of protective factors in combination with risk factors.


Violence is a problem for a subset of veterans. This study reports on a brief screening tool for violence in veterans. Baseline data on risk factors and one-year follow-up data on violence were collected in a national random sample survey of 1090 Iraq/Afghanistan veterans and in-depth interviews of 198 dyads of Iraq/Afghanistan veterans and collaterals. Baseline financial instability, violence history, combat exposure, PTSD, and alcohol misuse predicted increased violence in the next year. Combining scores provided a valid screen for violence in the national survey (AUC=.82) and in-depth interviews (AUC=.76). Issues assessing and managing violence among veterans will be discussed.
Chair: Barry Rosenfeld, Fordham University

035. Aids to Jurors’ Understanding of Eyewitness Identification
9:15 to 10:35 am
Nottoway, 4th Floor
The Legal Engine that Couldn’t: Cross-examination fails to correct for feedback effects on evaluations of eyewitness testimony. Laura Smalarz, Iowa State University; Sarah Norris, Iowa State University; Gary Wells, Iowa State University.
Confirming post-identification feedback eliminates evaluators’ abilities to discriminate between accurate and mistaken eyewitness testimony (Smalarz & Wells, in press). The present research examined whether cross-examination, the supposed “greatest legal engine for the discovery of truth” (Wigmore, 1970), improves discrimination. Although the majority of cross-examined witnesses who received feedback admitted that some or all of their testimony might have been influenced by the feedback, evaluators’ belief held steadfast. Cross-examination failed to improve evaluators’ abilities to discriminate between accurate and mistaken eyewitnesses when feedback was delivered, suggesting that it is an insufficient legal safeguard for feedback effects on eyewitness testimony.

Helping Jurors Understand Eyewitness Identifications: Deliberations and judicial instructions. Amanda Nicholson, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Angela Yarbrough, John Jay College and the Graduate Center; Marlee Berman, John Jay College Graduate Center, CUNY; Cora Hui, John Jay College, Graduate Center, CUNY; Steve Penrod, John Jay College – CUNY.
Jury-eligible community members participated in a study to test the efficacy of case-specific judicial instructions and deliberations in sensitizing jurors to factors that influence the reliability of eyewitness identifications. The quality of system and estimator variables were manipulated, along with the presence of the case-specific eyewitness instructions. Overall, deliberations pushed judgments towards innocence. The system and estimator variables, however, interacted with deliberations. For system variables, deliberations had a greater impact on the trend towards innocence when the conditions for the identification were bad. However, the estimator and time interaction revealed an unexpected, and opposite, pattern.

Do Issue-Specific Judicial Instructions Sensitize Jurors to Eyewitness Identification Accuracy? Marlee Berman, John Jay College Graduate Center, CUNY; Angela Yarbrough, John Jay College and the Graduate Center; Amanda Nicholson, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Cora Hui, John Jay College, Graduate Center, CUNY; Steve Penrod, John Jay College – CUNY.
Based on the fact that eyewitness mis-identifications are a leading cause of wrongful convictions in the United States, courts have established procedural safeguards to help jurors evaluate the reliability of an eyewitness identification. One of these safeguards is judicial instruction. This study sought to examine whether research-based issue-specific judicial instructions (currently being utilized in New Jersey) sensitize jurors to variations in eyewitness identification accuracy. Results suggest that the instructions cause an overall skepticism effect and do not sensitize jurors to variations in eyewitness identification.

Chair: Steve Penrod, John Jay College—CUNY
Discussant: Gary Wells, Iowa State University

036. The National Trajectory Project: Individuals found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder (NCRMD)
9:15 to 10:35 am
Oak Alley, 4th Floor
Profiles, Processing and outcomes of mentally disordered offenders: An examination of the Canadian forensic system. Anne Crocker, McGill University; Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia; Michael Seto, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group; Yanick Charette, University of Montreal; Gilles Cote, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières; Malijai Caulet, Douglas Mental Health University Institute.
Internationally, there has been a dramatic growth in the rates of admissions to forensic mental health services. The National Trajectory Project examined the operation of current criminal justice provisions for individuals found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder (NCRMD) and held under the jurisdiction of a provincial/territorial review board in Canada. The analysis of characteristics and processing of 1800 men and women found NCRMD from 3 provinces reveals a heterogeneous population in terms of socio-demographic, mental health, and criminological profiles; regions with the most NCRMDs were more likely to have lower severity levels of index offenses.
The women of the National Trajectory Project: Examining profiles and recidivism through a gendered lens. Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia; Anne Crocker, McGill University; Michael Seto, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group; Yanick Charette, University of Montreal; Catherine Wilson, University British Columbia, Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission; Gilles Cote, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières; Malijai Caulet; Douglas Mental Health University Institute.
Many experts assert that the management and treatment of justice involved women requires consideration of “gender-specific” risk factors, however, few studies can inform this debate with regard to forensic patients. The National Trajectory Project studied 1,800 forensic patients and found significant gender differences between the 1,506 men and 294 women across all domains that were examined: psycho-social, mental health and criminal justice histories and recidivism. Women presented with significantly less criminogenic needs than men, supporting a gender-specific approach to forensic psychiatric services.

The Influence of Intermediary Housing on the Recidivism Patterns of Individuals Found Not Criminaly Responsible on Account of Mental Disorder. Leila Salem, Douglas Mental Health University Institute; Anne Crocker, McGill University; Yanick Charette, University of Montreal; Michael Seto, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group; Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia; Gilles Cote, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières.
The goal of this study was to investigate the factors that predict housing placement (supervised vs. unsupervised) upon conditional discharge of individuals found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder (NCRMD), and to evaluate the role of housing in the trajectories of these accused as they reintegrate into the community. Data for this study was extracted from the National Trajectory Project (Crocker et al., 2013; Crocker, Nicholls, Seto, Côté, & Latimer, 2009). Results show that reduced psychiatric hospitalisations and criminal recidivism were related to placement in supervised housing.

Risk Factors Associated with Review Board Disposition Decisions for NCRMD Accused. Catherine Wilson, University British Columbia, Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission; Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia; Anne Crocker, McGill University; Michael Seto, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group; Gilles Cote, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières; Malijai Caulet, Douglas Mental Health University Institute.
In Canada, Review Boards (RB) are responsible for rendering disposition decisions for individuals found Not Criminally Responsible on Account of Mental Disorder (NCRMD). In deciding the appropriate disposition, it appears that RBs rely on diverse information; however, it is unclear to what extent a consideration of established violence risk factors informs their decisions (e.g., HCR–20, VRAG variables). Data from NCRMD accused (N = 1800) suggest RBs, in general, adhere to the relevant legislation as they consistently consider risk factors associated with mental health (e.g., active symptoms of mental illness, insight) and implement greater restrictions for individuals at increased risk.

Chair: Anne Crocker, McGill University
Discussant: Ron Roesch, Simon Fraser University
037. APLS Legal Scholars Committee Special Panel I—
Psychological Issues in Recent Legal Cases
Jed Rakoff, Federal District Court Judge—New York; Jennifer Robbennolt, University of Illinois Law School; Stephanois Bibas, University of Pennsylvania Law School; Kimberly Larson, University of Massachusetts Medical School
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor
Panelists are likely to discuss the following cases: (1) a case dealing with whether psychiatrists have any valid basis for determining whether a felon who has been incarcerated for decades is a danger to the community; whether there are any objectively-verifiable bases for making such a determination; whether any meaningful treatment exists for various kinds of sexual offenders; and the state’s liability for erroneous involuntary hospitalization; (2) a case involving the difficulties of translating psychological concepts into legal arguments in eyewitness and interrogation cases; (3) a case looking at whether “liking” something on Facebook is “speech” protected by the 1st Amendment, where psychological research could address how people use social media and its implications for identity and notions of privacy; (4) a case in which a district court judge rejected a $285 million settlement between Citigroup and the SEC because Citigroup refused to admit or deny the SEC’s allegations, which raises questions about the psychology of settlement negotiation, admission of wrongdoing or responsibility, public accountability, and the negotiation behavior of regulators; (5) Laffer v Cooper and Missouri v Frye, two recent Supreme Court cases, to be used as jumping-off points for discussing the psychology of plea bargaining and how defense counsel’s framing of issues, loss aversion, and the like skew defendants’ sentences based not on blameworthiness but on tactics and psychology; (6) Ryan v. Gonzalez & Tibbs v. Carter, Supreme Court cases dealing with competency to pursue post-conviction appeals; and (7) and Matthew v. Lancaster, a Supreme Court case dealing with the relationship of mens rea to insanity.
Chair and Discussant:
Christopher Slobogin, Vanderbilt University Law School

038. Psychopathy and Victimology: An examination of victim experiences and the relationship between psychopathy and perceptions of victim vulnerability
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor
Do Psychopathic Traits Enable Victim Selection? Angela Book, Brock University; Nathalie Gauthier, Brock University.
Four studies examined the relationship between psychopathic traits (PTs) and judgment of vulnerability. Study 1 found that PTs in student, community, and inmate samples related to accurately judging assertiveness after viewing a dyadic interaction. Studies 2, 3, and 4 focused on vulnerability judgments based on gait. Targets were taped walking and asked about victimization. Videos were rated on vulnerability by undergraduate and inmate participants, who also gave reasons for their ratings. PTs were measured with the SRP-III and the PCL-R. PTs correlated positively with accuracy. Mention of fear as a reason related to PTs in inmates but not students.
Perceptions of Victim Vulnerability: The role of personality and abuse experiences. Mary Ritchie, Carleton University; Julie Blais, Carleton University; Adelle Forth, Carleton University; Angela Book, Brock University.
The present study aims to gain a better understanding of factors that may enhance perceptions of victim vulnerability. The sample will consist of 350 undergraduate students from a Canadian university. The presence of psychopathic and other personality traits will be assessed in conjunction with the accuracy in perceiving a target’s vulnerability to victimization. To assess whether certain experiences enhance perceptions of vulnerability, participants who have experienced victimization will be compared to those who have not. Recognizing non-verbal cues that make people vulnerable to victimization, we can begin developing intervention strategies that may aid in preventing future incidences of victimization.
Psychopathic Traits and the Fear Enjoyment Hypothesis. Ashley Hosker-Field, Brock University; Angela Book, Brock University.
Research suggests that psychopaths lack fear, which is supported by findings that they have impaired fear acquisition, fear-potentiated startle, and atypical physiology. We suggest that psychopaths may enjoy fear. 114 students completed the SRP-III-R, described how they typically feel when experiencing fear, and rated the extent to which they experienced positive/negative adjectives after 2 videos. Students with psychopathic traits gave higher ratings to positive adjectives and lower ratings to negative adjectives after the fear video. They also provided more positive descriptors when describing emotional/physiological fear experiences. Findings suggest that psychopathic traits are associated with positive appraisal of fear.
Surveying Student Experiences with Psychopathy. Emily MacDougall, University of Alabama; Randall Salekin, University of Alabama.
Although research typically focuses on the etiology of the individual with psychopathy, there is a lack of knowledge regarding the victims of psychopathic behavior in the community. This descriptive study surveyed the experiences of students at a large University in the U.S., and results revealed that many of those identified as psychopathic had committed acts of violence and transgressions against the respondents and others. Furthermore, few psychopathic individuals reportedly received or sought out treatment, nor were respondents satisfied with treatment attempts. The implications of survey results with regards to services and educational resources for victims of psychopathy are discussed.
Chair: Julie Blais, Carleton University
Discussant: Martin Sellbom, Australian National University

039. Application of Neuroscientific Methods and Research to Psycho-Legal Questions
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Chienery, 5th Floor
Callous-unemotional conduct disordered youth (CU-CD) have more severe and earlier onset drug use than other drug abusers. They may have a reward system that is non-selectively activated to drugs. This fMRI methodology to examine brain activation in response to drug craving among stimulant addicted youth in a juvenile correctional facility (N = 54), 30% of which had CU-CD. Regression analyses indicated CU-CD traits were negatively related to hemodynamic activity in many areas of the brain implicated in drug craving (e.g., insula, amygdala, anterior cingulate). Implications for substance abuse treatment of stimulant addicted youth with CU-CD traits will be discussed.
The Value of Psychopathy: Aberrant computation of subjective value during intertemporal choice in incarcerated males with psychopathy. Joshua Buckholtz, Harvard University; Hayley Dorfman, Harvard University; Erik Kastman, Harvard University; Kent Kiehl, Mind Research Network.
Brain imaging research has found heightened activity and dopamine transmission in the ventral striatum following monetary and drug rewards (respectively) in community volunteers with impulsive-antisocial traits. We examined 49 incarcerated male offenders using fMRI and found a significant relationship between psychopathy severity and striatal activity when participants were asked to choose between a sooner-but-smaller reward and a larger-but-later reward. While these data represent a significant advance in our understanding of the neurobiology of antisocial behavior generally, neuroscience in its current state cannot provide legally or forensically useful information about individual defendants.
Neuroimaging of Deception: What we know, need to learn, and can apply practically. Justin Baker, Center for Law, Brain and Behavior / Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School; Judy Edersheim, Center for Law, Brain and Behavior / Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School; Ekaterina Piyovarova, Center for Law, Brain and Behavior /
Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School; Bruce Price, Center for Law, Brain and Behavior / Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

In recent years, there has been an explosion of research in neurolaw. Of particular interest has been examination of deception using imaging techniques. In our study, we reviewed all empirical investigations (N=31) that used fMRI to study deception in humans. Analyses of brain activity indicated that there was greater activation in the frontal and parietal cortices when lying, specifically in ventrolateral prefrontal cortex (VLPFC), dorsomedial prefrontal cortex (DMPFC), dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DCLPFC), and posterior parietal cortex (PPC). The discussion will examine limitations of these findings and what it means for forensic assessment.


As neuroscience and its related technologies advance, the opportunities for using neuroscience-based evidence in court are dramatically increasing. Neuroimages in particular are both gaining popularity and receiving criticism for their potential roles in criminal and civil trials. Recognizing that the influence of neuroimages as evidence is an empirical question, scientists have begun to test mock neuroscientific evidence in courtroom contexts. However, whether or not neuroimaging evidence should be admitted is a legal inquiry. Accordingly, the empirical findings of the effects of neuroimages on jury decision-making behavior must be contextualized within the normative legal framework.

Chair: Ekaterina Pivovarova, Center for Law, Brain, and Behavior/Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School
Discussant: Scott Lilienfeld, Emory University

040. Should Adolescents’ Consensual Sexual Behavior be Punished Under Sex Offender Laws? This Ambiguity Breeds Modern Bias Against Stigmatized Groups
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor

Adolescent Racial Composition Shapes Perceptions of Juvenile Sex Offenders. Margaret Stevenson; Katiyn Farnum, University of Nebraska Lincoln; Amy Romain, University of Evansville; Ady Shea, University of Evansville; Amanda Dzuario, University of Evansville.

We studied the influence of juvenile defendant and victim race (Black, White) by presenting participants with a vignette depicting a 15-year-old boy convicted of aggravated child molestation of a similarly aged girl (consensual, yet illegal oral sex). Participants supported registration more when the offender and victim were different races than the same race, reflecting lingering societal lack of acceptance of interracial relationships.

Gender Bias in Perceived Criminality of Adolescent “Sext” Offenders. Alex Jay, Arizona State University; Jessica Salerno, Arizona State University; Mary Murphy, Indiana University; Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Consensual sexting among minors has severe legal consequences. The ambiguity surrounding the appropriateness of registering juveniles as sex offenders for sexting and sexual double standards produce ideal conditions for female sexting to be perceived as more criminal than male sexting. Community members rated the criminality of two juveniles’ behavior when either a girl sent a photograph to a boy who forwarded it to others, or vice versa (i.e., boy sender/girl forwarder). Participants, held standards for criminal behavior shifted such that they labeled whichever behavior the girl exhibited as more criminal than whichever behavior the boy exhibited in each scenario.

Why Are We More Lenient on “Lipstick Lesbians” than Other Gay Offenders? Differences in Perceived Sexuality Malleability and Intent Predict Punishment. Jessica Salerno, Arizona State University; Alicia DeVault, University of Nevada-Reno; Justin Stevens, Arizona State University.

We investigated whether people might punish subgroups of gay juveniles for “sexting” differently because they hold different perceptions of their sexuality. Participants read about a juvenile charged with child pornography, who was either male/female, gay/straight, and depicted as either feminine/masculine, participants reported their perceptions regarding the malleability of the offender’s sexuality, sexual intentions, and punishment. Participants perceived a feminine (versus masculine) lesbian has having less fixed sexuality and less sexual intent, which both predicted their support for sex offender registration. Yet, participants perceived a feminine (versus masculine) gay boy as having equally fixed sexuality and equal sexual intent.

Anti-Gay Attitudes, Sexual Orientation, and Exposure to Gays Predict Juvenile Sex Offender Registration Support. Sarah Malik, University of Evansville; Margaret Stevenson.

Because anti-gay attitudes predict negative reactions toward violations of traditional family roles, anti-gay attitudes might also predict negative reactions toward adolescent sexual activity, which also violates traditional family roles. As hypothesized, participants who were gay had less negative affect toward an adolescent sexual offender. Also as expected, participants with gay friends (compared to those without gay friends) had more negative affect toward an adolescent sexual offender, believed the offender posed less of a threat, and supported registration less. Controlling for anti-gay attitudes eliminated all effects of sexual orientation and having a gay friend on registration support.

Chairs: Margaret Stevenson; Jessica Salerno, Arizona State University
Discussant: Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago

041. Plenary Session--Plea Bargaining in Practice: Does the Supreme Court have a clue?
The Honorable Jed Rakoff
10:45 to 12:15 pm
Grand Ballroom, 5th Floor

Jed S. Rakoff has been a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York since 1995. He holds degrees from Swarthmore (B.A.), Oxford (M.Phil.) and Harvard (J.D.). He currently co-chairs the National Academy of Sciences’ Committee on Scientific Approaches to Eyewitness Identification and previously served on the Governing Board of the MacArthur Foundation’s Project on Neuroscience and the Law. He is an adjunct professor at Columbia Law School, where one of the four courses he teaches is on Science and the Courts, and he was a member of the Committee that prepared the 3rd edition of the federal judges’ Reference Manual on Scientific Evidence. He is the co-author of 5 books and the author of over 115 published articles, many dealing with the interplay of science and the law. More about Judge Rakoff can be found here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jed_S._Rakoff

Chair: Allison Redlich, University at Albany, SUNY

042. Minority Affairs Committee Invited Luncheon
12:30 to 1:30 pm
Gallery Ballroom, 1st Floor

043. Guilty Pleas and Other Legal Responsibility Taking
1:30 to 2:50 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor


Introducing a letter versus spirit of the law framework, we define the letter...
of the law as the formal rule (i.e., speed limit of 55 miles per hour) and the spirit of the law as the perceived intention of the law (i.e., speed limit ensures public safety). Experimentally testing predictions that distinguish the letter from the spirit of the law, we also reveal how people tend to over-report their guilt when the spirit of the law is broken, even when the letter of the law is not technically broken, and under-report their guilt when only the mere letter is broken.

True and False Guilty Plea Decision-Making. Reveka Shteyenberg, University at Albany, SUNY; Allison Redlich, University at Albany (SUNY).

Every day, thousands of juvenile and adult defendants must decide whether to plead guilty. In the proposed presentation, we examine how guilt vs. innocence, no jail time vs. some jail time, good vs. fair plea label, and age and gender, influence willingness to plead guilty. When innocent, jail time did not influence plea rates, but did so when guilty. In contrast, when innocent, plea label, participant age, and gender all influenced the decision to plead guilty, but not when guilty. Implications regarding true and false guilty pleas will be discussed.


Although a great deal of attention has been focused on the kinds of evidence that lead to wrongful convictions at trial, less is known about factors that cause innocent people to plead guilty. We propose that one such risk factor is a prior false confession. Using a novel two-staged paradigm, we investigate whether a laboratory-induced false confession increases the subsequent rate at which innocent people plead guilty and agree. Preliminary results support our hypothesis and will be discussed in terms of implications for how confessions, even if recanted, can short-circuit the truth-seeking process.

Race and homicide in Florida: 30 Years after Radelet & Pierce, has anything changed? Vanessa Edkins, Florida Institute of Technology.

The current research investigates homicide cases in Florida over a five-year period. Thirty-one counties will be represented, eight are included in the preliminary analysis here (data is collected for the remaining but coding is not complete). For the 232 homicide cases, African-Americans were overrepresented (47.4% of offenders) compared to population proportions. Black defendants were underrepresented for “guilty” pleas (overrepresented for trials and “no contest” pleas). For sentencing, planned contrast showed those killing Black victims (all but one were Black offenders) received longer sentences. The full data set will allow for investigation into multiple factors affecting charging and sentencing decisions.

Chair: Allison Redlich, University at Albany (SUNY)

Discussant: Saul Kassin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

044. APLS Legal Scholars Committee Special Panel II—"Something's Happening/And You Don't Know What It Is": Why the marginalization of lawyers and the law in AP-LS is bad for AP-LS, psychology, and the law

David Wexler, University of Puerto Rico Law School; David Yamada, Suffolk Law School; Heather Ellis-Cucolo, New York Law School; and Astrid Birgden, Deakin University Psychology Department, Australia

1:30 to 2:50 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

There has been a tectonic shift in AP-LS in the past 25 years. Each year, fewer lawyers present, fewer lawyers attend, and the relevance of AP-LS for lawyers diminishes. These changes have marginalized "the law" and lawyers -- academics, practitioners, judges, and legislators in AP-LS -- to the point where they have become nearly invisible. The irony is that this has happened at the same time that therapeutic jurisprudence -- a movement begun by law professors -- has expanded its reach to psychologists, criminologists and other behaviorists in overtly inclusive ways and during which, in other contexts, the legal academy increasingly accepts the significance of empirical work to law. It is not clear why this has happened in AP-LS. But the reality is that it has happened and that, if we are not past the "tipping point," we are perilously close. Scholars in other disciplines have begun to explore the issue of "knowledge translation" -- the extent to which our research actually transfers new and creative ideas to relevant interested communities -- and we believe this insight applies equally to AP-LS. One of the traditional strengths of AP-LS was the symbiotic ways that lawyers and psychologists collaborated on papers and other projects. We offer this symposium as a call to the membership to seek new ways to re-invigorate this collaboration. This symposium will include papers on (1) how psychology can best inform the law -- on a wide range of topics -- including, but not limited to, criminal law, correctional law, family law, international law, institutional law, lawyering practices -- and the positive "payoffs" we can expect from this process, (2) lawyers' perspectives on what aspects of the psychological literature typically generated by AP-LS members (especially junior AP-LS members) are useful or not useful to "the law" (again, including both legal practice and legal scholarship), (3) why it is important that "standard" AP-LS presentations be informed by legal policy so as to best insure a "real life" value to such presentations, (4) why guidance in legal thinking, legal procedures and legal roles is valuable to psychologists in forensic practice.

Chair: Michael Perlin, New York Law School

045. Questioning Alleged Victims of Child Abuse: Insights from field and laboratory research
1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

“She Told me ‘What Happened?’” Young Children’s Misuse of the Verbs “Ask” and “Tell” in the Lab and in Court. Stacia Stolzenberg, USC Gould School of Law; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law; Christen Philips, USC Gould School of Law; Jennifer Mascia, USC Gould School of Law.

“Ask” and “tell” distinguish requests from commands, answers from questions. Confusion can lead the jury to infer force instead of seduction during abusive acts, and coaching during prior disclosures. Study 1 examined 98 8- to 11-year-olds’ understanding of “ask” and “tell,” finding that children do not consistently discriminate until age 11. Study 2 examined 100 5-12-year-olds’ trial testimony in child sexual abuse cases and found that attorneys used “ask” and “tell” in an ambiguous fashion over 80% of the time and in yes-no questions over 70% of the time, limiting the ability to observe when children confused the terms.

Interviewer Behaviour and its Effects on the Reluctance of Alleged Child Abuse Victims: Comparing the Revised and Standard-NICHD Protocols. Elizabeth Ahern, University of Cambridge; Uri Blasbalg, University of Haifa; Irit Herschkowitz, University of Haifa; Michael Lamb, University of Cambridge; Alice Winstanley, University of Cambridge.

Interviewer support and children’s reluctance were examined in 199 forensic interviews of 4-to-13-year-olds who disclosed maltreatment. Half of the children were interviewed using a Protocol that emphasized rapport-building (RP), the others using the Standard NICHD Protocol (SP). RP interviewers provided more support, including proportionally more support in response to reluctance, than SP interviewers. Interviewers in both conditions became more supportive when children were reluctant but only the RP interviewers were less likely not to be supportive in response to reluctance than would be expected by chance. Interviewer support did not increase the likelihood that reluctant children would become more responsive.

Evaluating the NICHD Investigative Interview Protocol: A laboratory study. Deirdre Brown, Victoria University of Wellington; Michael Lamb, University of Cambridge; Charles Lewis, Lancaster University; Yael Orbach, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Margaret-Allen Pipe, Brooklyn College; Missy Wolfman, Victoria University of Wellington.

Field studies of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Investigative Interview Protocol have demonstrated its effectiveness in improving interviewing quality and children’s responding. The accuracy of information elicited has not been
directly examined. Using a staged event we evaluated the amount and accuracy of information elicited by different prompt types within the NICHD Interview Protocol, and the effect of preparation on children's responding. Broad open prompts elicited more detailed responses than "wh" prompts without reducing accuracy. Children were most responsive when they had received prior practice in recalling a recent event in response to open-style prompts.

Children's Responses to Feelings Questions about Sexual Abuse. Elizabeth Ahern, University of Cambridge; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law; Brittany Younger, USC Gould School of Law.

Questions about children’s feelings “during,” “after,” and “when going to the bathroom” was examined in 61 investigative interview transcripts of 4-16-year-olds alleging sexual abuse. Children appropriately responded to feelings questions. The number and type of details provided depended on question-type. Children provided more details, including more emotional details, to “after” than “bathroom” questions. Children provided more physical sensation details to “bathroom” than “during” questions. Although children’s initial responses to feelings questions contained one detail, followup prompts elicited additional information. Findings suggest the importance of asking children various feelings questions along with followups to elicit new subjective information.

Chair: Elizabeth Ahern, University of Cambridge

046. Multicultural Issues in Forensic Psychology: Past research and future directions 1:30 to 2:50 pm

Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Risk Assessment and Cultural Diversity: A study space analysis. Ernie Gonzalez Jr., Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Tatjana Damjanovic, Sam Houston State University; Jason Lawrence, Sam Houston State University.

The current study utilized a study space analysis, a quantitative methodological approach, to examine the current risk assessment literature’s consideration of multicultural and diversity related variables. The current study space encompassed the PCL-R (Hare, 2003), the VRAG (Harris et al., 1993), and the HCR-20 (Webster et al., 1997). Observed aggregated totals suggest when sample characteristics are provided, minority group members are largely underrepresented. Further, the use of racial/ethnic minority status is infrequently utilized as a moderator in statistical analyses of recidivism. These findings suggest a limited incorporation of culturally relevant considerations among published findings in the risk assessment literature.

A Study Space Reviewing Research on Multicultural Concerns in Malingering Assessment. Jennifer McLaughlin, Sam Houston State University; Lisa Kan, Sam Houston State University; Brett Gardner, Sam Houston State University; John Manning, Sam Houston State University; Brittany Bate, Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University.

Malingering assessment is critical in any forensic evaluation (Melton, Petrla, Poythress, & Slobogin, 2007). With increasing cultural diversity of the forensic population, understanding how cultural factors impact malingering assessments is imperative. We used a study space to review cultural factors in 62 published studies that addressed malingering assessment in competence to stand trial evaluations. Minority participants, except African Americans, are under-represented, and only two studies included participants with limited English proficiency (LEP). No study discussed specific assessment procedures for LEP participants, and very few studies considered cultural factors in their results or discussions. Implications for practice and research are discussed.

047. Gender Specific Issues in Juvenile Justice: Female trajectories and psychosocial maturity 1:30 to 2:50 pm

Grand Chenier, 5th Floor

Pathways to Persistence: Female offending from 14 to 25. Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine; Kathryn Monahan, University of Pittsburgh; April Thomas, University of California, Irvine.

Official arrest data show a striking increase in the proportion of girls in the juvenile justice system. Little is known, however, about the pathways of female offending. This study examines the trajectories of female offenders across adolescence and into adulthood and identifies the predictors of desistance versus persistence. Analyses show that most young women desist in their criminal behavior. However, similar to males, a small proportion (7%) of females’ criminal careers persist into their mid-twenties. Specifically, females who persist begin their criminal careers earlier, are exposed to more violence, and experience more adversarial interpersonal relationships compared to those who desist.

Psychosocial Maturity and its Relationship with Emotion Regulation, Mental Health Symptoms, and Anger in Adolescent Girls in Residential Juvenile Justice Placements. Kathleen Kemp, Rhode Island Hospital; Christina Rigg Romaine, Wheaton College; Christy Giallella, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Jennifer Serico, Kennedy Krieger Institute; Amanda Zelechowski, Valparaiso University.

Research suggests psychosocial maturity predicts poor decision-making and risk-taking behaviors with youth, but little is understood about how psychosocial maturity specifically relates to other clinical treatment targets in girls. This paper will focus on the relationship between psychosocial maturity and mental health diagnoses, emotion regulation strategies, and anger with adolescent girls. Seventy-five female youth in residential juvenile justice placements completed relevant self-report measures. Youth scoring higher on measures of psychosocial maturity reported significant less anger arousal, behaviors, and cognitions and more positive emotion regulation coping skills. This presentation will address implications for future research, assessment, and intervention.
Can we Hasten Development? Effects of Treatment on Psychosocial Maturity. Christina Riggis Romaine, Wheaton College; Kathleen Kemp, Rhode Island Hospital; Lindsey Peterson, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Emily Haney-Caron, Drexel University; Rachel Kalbeziger, Nebraska Dept of Correctional Services.

Research continues to highlight the implications of psychosocial immaturity, including persistent delinquency. This paper examines whether psychosocial maturity is responsive to therapeutic intervention. Fifty-seven female juvenile offenders in secure residential treatment participated in a randomized controlled trial of the Juvenile Justice Anger Management (JJAM) Treatment for Girls, targeting skills relevant to psychosocial maturity and emotion regulation, including problem-solving, coping, and emotion regulation skills. Participants in JJAM showed an increase in temperance and associated measures of emotion regulation. Implications for treatment, evaluation, and measurement of psychosocial maturity will be discussed.

Chair: Elizabeth Cuffman, University of California, Irvine
Discussant: Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University

048. Conditional Release and Decision-making with Forensic Patients
1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor

Risk Assessment and Decision Making in Forensic Patients under Consideration for Release. Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University; Karen Bailey, Georgia DBHDD; Denis Zavadny, GA Department of Behavioral Health & DD; Christina Waggoner; Holly Tabernik, Georgia Regents University.

Forensic patients are subject to clinical and legal scrutiny prior to release, mainly due to their criminal behavior. This study evaluated 438 individuals committed to inpatient forensic facilities in the state of Georgia over a five year period. Individuals were in one of three categories: never released (n = 181), released and returned to the hospital (n = 116), and released and never returned (n = 141). Risk assessment data did not predict release; instead, individual factors were most predictive of status. This data argues for further development of specialized risk measures for forensic patients under consideration for conditional release.

Decision-making in Post-acquittal Hospital Release: How do forensic evaluators make their decisions? Amanda Bryant; William Gowansmith, University of Denver; Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University.

The criminal court regularly utilizes forensic evaluators to assess insanity acquittees’ readiness for hospital discharge after commitment (often referred to as “conditional release”), yet the factors evaluators use to make those decisions are unclear. This study identified factors considered by evaluators when conducting evaluations of readiness for post-acquittal conditional release. We found that while evaluators agreed on the importance of past violence in their determinations, little agreement existed on any other factors. Evaluators also disagreed significantly on many fundamental beliefs and in their knowledge about the CR process. Implications of evaluator disagreement in CR readiness evaluations are discussed.

Predicting Voluntary and Involuntary Re-admissions to Forensic Hospitals by Insanity Acquittees in the State of Maryland: A three year follow-up. Daniel Marshall, Fielding Graduate School; Joan Reed, Fielding Graduate School; Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University.

Research is increasing on factors related to conditional release revocation of individuals adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI). The authors evaluated 356 NGRI acquittees released from Maryland into the community and followed over a period of three years. During the longitudinal follow-up, 195 (55%) subjects were returned to a forensic hospital. A logistic regression analysis indicated duration in the community prior to rehospitalization, criminal arrest, and placement after release predicted conditional release revocation. Implications for the treatment and management of NGRI offenders will be highlighted, with an emphasis on recovery principles and improving compliance with conditions of release.

Chair: Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University
Discussant: Debbie Green, Fairleigh Dickinson University

049. Judging Police and Confessions
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor

The Corroboration Dilemma: When uncorroborated confessions are judged trustworthy. G. Daniel Lassiter, Ohio University; Shannon Pinegar, Ohio University; Par Anders Granhag, University of Gothenburg; Karl Ask, University of Gothenburg.

When confessions are introduced at trial, their trustworthiness must be assessed. One factor that should normatively influence such judgments is the extent to which other evidence corroborates confessions; a lack of corroboration should rationally produce less trust in confessions. Drawing on the motivated social–cognitive perspective, however, we anticipated that even uncorroborated confessions may sometimes be judged trustworthy. An initial experiment provides support for this possibility.

Prevalence and Formats of Confessions: Analysis of 772 closed crime cases in the U.S. Sara Appleby, John Jay College/CUNY Graduate Center; Kimberley Schanz, John Jay College/CUNY Graduate Center; Jennifer Perillo, Winston-Salem State University; Evan Dawson, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; William Crozier, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Cora Hui, John Jay College, Graduate Center, CUNY; Emily Joseph, CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Saul Kassin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Confession evidence is prevalent and potent, often resulting in conviction. Research on false confessions shows that confessions are detailed stories describing what, how, and why the crime occurred. The current research aims to provide a comparison sample for false confession analysis. Using a sample of 772 closed US major crime cases, researchers examined the frequency, number, and format of defendant statements. Some form of statement was present in 72.3% of cases; 58% of all cases contained a confession. Interrogation transcripts and confessions summarized by the detective were the most common confession formats.

Juror Sensitivity to False Confession Risk Factors. Skye Woestehoff, University of Texas–El Paso; Chris Meissner, Iowa State University.

Two experiments evaluated juror sensitivity to false confession risk factors. Study 1 demonstrated that participants were sensitive to false confession risk factors without the assistance of expert testimony – participants appropriately discounted the confession if it had been elicited with manipulative or coercive interrogation tactics. Study 2 demonstrated that participants are more knowledgeable about false confession risk factors when compared to participants in prior studies. It is possible that increased knowledge about false confession risk factors is responsible for participants’ improved sensitivity to interrogative evidence, possibly reducing the need for expert testimony.


False confessions are one of the leading causes of wrongful conviction in the United States. Researchers have suggested that expert testimony could help educate jurors on the dangers and causes of false confessions (Leo & Liu, 2009). In our study, jurors read a trial in which we varied the presence of expert testimony, presence of confession, and if confession was consistent with other trial evidence. The expert testimony did not sensitize jurors to variations in the quality of the confession evidence. Implications for expert testimony and confession evidence are discussed.

Chair: G. Daniel Lassiter, Ohio University
Causal Chaining: The impact of multiple agents of responsibility on decision-making after an accident. Julianna Chomos, University of Nevada, Reno; Markus Kemmelmeier, University of Nevada, Reno. The current study examines participants’ responses to a scenario in which there are multiple entities that could be deemed “responsible” for an accident because of the presence or absence of pressure from within the power hierarchy and whether the radio in the truck was working or broken. The analysis allows for the exploration of apportioned blame/responsibility within a causal chain (i.e., the relationship between all three entities). Results indicate that significant differences exist between participants’ attributions of blame/liability and their apportionment of responsibility to the various entities as a result of the manipulated elements of the scenario.

Responding Officers’ Initial Report Modifies Detectives’ Perceptions of Witness Attitude not Credibility. Kyla Charter, Western Illinois University; Kimberly McClure, Western Illinois University; Kimberly Dodson, Western Illinois University; Jill Myers, Western Illinois University.

During an investigation detectives typically examine responding officers’ written reports. We assessed the influence of these reports as the basis for witness vetting – determining the credibility of witness information. Eighty-six mock-detectives read a report in which a witness was described as hot-headed, sincere, or not characterized (i.e., controls). Witnesses characterized as hot-headed were perceived more negatively, but were not considered less credible. Moreover, mock-detectives remembered more about the case when reading about a hot-headed witness. These findings support current research emphasizing the importance of considering social perception as distinct from legal criteria during the vetting process.

Training American Law Enforcement in the Strategic Use of Evidence: Interviewing to detect deception. Timothy Lake, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Maria Hartwig, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; Emily Joseph, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; Laure Brimbal, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Ginny Chan, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Evan Dawson, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Sarah Jordan, John Jay College and The Graduate Center, CUNY; Patricia Donovan, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center; Pär Anders Granhag, University of Gothenburg.

The present study is the first experimental investigation the deception detection accuracy of American law enforcement officers when interviewing suspects. Interviewers (N = 59) either received training in the Strategic Use of Evidence technique or received no training. Officers interviewed a suspect who was either innocent or guilty of a mock security breach. Trained interviewers were significantly more accurate than untrained interviewers at detecting deception. The results are consistent with past research that shows that presumed experts (e.g., police) are no more accurate at detecting deception than laypeople, but the SUE approach may be a viable avenue for improving accuracy.

Administrator Knowledge Influences Pressure Applied to Witnesses to Identify the Suspect in a Lineup. Lindsey Rhead, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Jacqueline Austin, University of the Pacific; David Zimmerman, Missouri State University; Stephen Clark, University of Kentucky; Ashley Powell, John Jay College; Margaret Kovera, John Jay College – CUNY.

We examined whether exposure time, suspect/perpetrator similarity, and witness motivation moderate the influence of administrator knowledge on pressure to identify the suspect in a lineup. Research assistants, blind to condition, coded videotapes of lineup administrations for overall pressure to make an identification and the amount of pressure applied to the witness to choose the suspect from the lineup. Administrator pressure to make an identification, particularly to identify the suspect in the lineup, was stronger when the administrator had knowledge of the suspect. Similarity between the suspect and the perpetrator moderated administrator pressure.

Chair: Margaret Kovera, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Jury's Attitudes Affect Verdicts in a Euthanasia Trial via Emotional, but not Cognitive, Mediators. Liana Peter-Hagene, University of Illinois at Chicago; Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago; Amani Elayan, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Several potential mediators of the effect euthanasia attitudes have on jurors’ verdicts were assessed as part of a mock-trial study. Emotional (sympathy, empathy, anger, disgust, and moral outrage), but not cognitive (perceptions), reactions to the defendant mediated this effect, suggesting that attitudes affect judgments more through affective rather than cognitive routes. Contrary to our expectations, nullification instructions (i.e., telling jurors they can disregard the law and rely solely on their conscience) did not exacerbate the effect of attitudes on emotions, and in turn on verdicts.

Mock Juror Interpretations of Echphoric Confidence Ratings. James Sauer, University of Portsmouth; Neil Brewer, Flanders University; Matthew Palmer, University of Tasmania.

Can echphoric confidence ratings help jurors evaluate eyewitness identification evidence? Compared to retrospective confidence ratings, echphoric ratings provide additional information about witnesses’ ability to discriminate between identified suspects and fillers. Experiments 1 and 1a manipulated identification/suspect confidence (90% vs. 50%) and discrimination information (good, poor, no information) between-participants. Verdicts were influenced by suspect/identification confidence, but not discrimination information. However, within-participant manipulations of discrimination information (Experiment 2) affected verdicts. Thus, participants can utilise echphoric confidence ratings, but may not intuited the discrimination information in isolation. Instructions on interpreting echphoric ratings (Experiment 3) produced similar discrimination effects in a one-off (between-subjects) design.

When an Alibi is Not Enough: An exploration of evidence needed for mock investigator’s to lay charges in a robbery case. Kaila Bruer, University of Regina; Heather Price, University of Regina; Leora Dahl, Okanagan College.

We examined the influence of an alibi witness on mock investigators’ perception of what evidence may be lacking in a criminal investigation. As indicated by the common requests for fingerprint and ‘solid’ physical evidence, results suggest moderately inflated expectations about the type and quality of evidence needed for a charging a suspect in a robbery case. More physical evidence was required to lay charges when the alibi witness was not the suspect’s relative, aligning with previous findings (Culhane & Hosc, 2004) that a non-relative alibi casts more doubt on a suspect’s guilt than does a related alibi.

The Effect of Police Legitimacy on Police Witness Credibility and Juror Decisions of Guilt. Lindsey Cole, University of New Hampshire; Ellen Cohn, University of New Hampshire.

Perceptions of police legitimacy predicted pre-deliberation and post deliberation credibility ratings of a police officer witness. Those who had low police legitimacy viewed the police officer witness as less credible than those who with high police legitimacy. Juror credibility ratings in turn predicted juror decisions of guilt, post-deliberation and post deliberation. Participants who felt that the police witness was credible found the defendant guilty more often than participants who felt the witness was not credible. Therefore, witness credibility ratings mediated the relation between perceptions of police legitimacy and juror decisions of guilt. Implications for these findings will be discussed.

Chair: Ellen Cohn, University of New Hampshire
052. Conduct Disorder and Psychopathic Traits in Youth
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Grand Ballroom E
5th Floor
A Dimensional Comparison of a Self-Report and a Structured Interview Measure of Conduct Disorder. Shannon Kelley; Shannon Toney Smith, Texas A&M University; Steve Balsis, Texas A&M University; John Edens, Texas A&M University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University.

The present study examines the relative performance of self-report and structured clinical interview measures of antecedent conduct disorder (CD) in the assessment of antisocial personality disorder among a sample of male offenders either incarcerated in prison or participating in court-mandated substance abuse treatment. Results of item-response theory analysis indicate that at relatively low levels of CD severity, selves were more likely to retrospectively report features of CD compared with diagnosticians, whereas at higher levels of CD severity, diagnosticians more accurately identified symptoms of CD relative to selves. Relationship between Youth Psychopathic Traits, Substance Use, Trauma, and Aggression: Does gender matter? Kayla Wanaemaker, Carleton University; Adelle Forth, Carleton University; Shelley Brown, Carleton University; Tracey Skilling, University of Toronto.

Little is known about the extent to which gender moderates the relationship between psychopathy and relevant correlates, including trauma, substance use, and direct and indirect aggression. The current study examined the association between psychopathy, measured by the PCL:YV, and correlates of psychopathy in 107 female and 219 male justice-involved youth. Using a cross-sectional design, moderated regression analyses found that there are few gender differences in psychopathy and correlates of psychopathy. These results may be limited to higher risk samples of youth. By exploring gender differences associated with psychopathy, better informed treatment programs may be put in place for justice-involved youth. Neighborhood Disorganization Moderates the Association between Self-reported Offending and Two Dispositional Risk Factors: Callous-unemotional traits and impulse control. Laura Thornton, University of New Orleans; James Ray, University of New Orleans; Paul Frick, University of New Orleans; Laurence Steinberg, Temple University; Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine.

This study examined the associations between dispositional factors and self-reported offending (SRO) in the context of neighborhood disorganization. Three latent classes of neighborhood disorganization were identified and the relationships between callous-unemotional (CU) traits, impulse control (IC), and SRO were examined within each class. These associations were tested in a diverse sample of 1,218 first-time offenders. Results indicated the relationship between CU traits and SRO, and IC and SRO were moderated by neighborhood. Specifically, when controlling for important demographic variables (e.g., age, IQ, race), the effects of CU traits on SRO and IC on SRO were greater in more disorganized neighborhoods. Item Functioning in the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version: An exploration of differential item functioning between gender using item response models. Siny Tsang, University of Virginia; Karen Schmidt, University of Virginia; Gina Vincent, UMass Medical School; Candice Rodgers, Duke University; Randall Salekin, University of Alabama; Marlene Moretti, Simon Fraser University.

Using the generalized partial credit model, we examined the item properties of the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL: YV) within a large combined sample of delinquent adolescent males and females (N=1,007). Results showed items that were most discriminating of the latent psychopathy construct included “Callousness”, “Conning”, and “Lack of remorse”, whereas those that were least discriminating included “Lacking goals” and “Impulsivity.” Differential item functioning was found in 7 of the 13 items between gender groups. These differences highlight the need for further investigation of the effect of differential item functioning on total PCL: YV scores before making comparisons across gender.

Chair: Laura Thornton, University of New Orleans

053. APLS PDW-ECP Special Panel-- Funding your Business or Practice: Conceptual and practical issues
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor
This panel, sponsored by the APLS ECP and PDW committees, will discuss issues surrounding starting a private practice, negotiating consultation fees, salaries, balancing grant funding and contracts at academic facilities, and considerations for developing business models inside and outside of a university setting. Two expert speakers will use personal experiences to discuss considerations in starting a clinical practice or consulting service. Eric Mart Ph.D., ABPP is a forensic clinical psychologist and author of a well-known book about starting a forensic clinical practice. Debra DePrato, M.D. is a child forensic psychiatrist who has developed several centers and programs offering juvenile justice consulting services.

Chairs: Gina Vincent, University of Massachusetts Medical School
Laura Guy, University of Massachusetts Medical School

054. Risk Assessment II: Predictive validity, research, and cultural issues
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor
Predicting Behavioral Trajectories across Crime Series: Interaction between sexual, violent, and control behaviors of serial sexual predators. Marina Sorochinski, John Jay College/Graduate Center CUNY; C. Gabrielle Safati, John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Studies examining behavioral consistency in serial crime find that its levels are low. Redefining consistency as behavioral trajectories may be more effective. Three broad dimensions of sexual offenders’ behaviors – violence, control, and sexual activity – have been identified in clinical and empirical literature as key in this type of offense. This study examined the behavioral trajectories across these dimensions. Multivariate statistical analyses were conducted to identify the trajectories and to test their predictive and discriminating power for identifying and differentiating series. Implications for the understanding of the psychology of criminal behavior as well as practical applications for investigations will be discussed.

Is the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG) Color-Blind? Predictive and Incremental Validity of the VRAG Scores with African-American and Caucasian Jail Inmates. Mark Hastings, George Mason University/ Private Practice; Jeffrey Stuewig, George Mason University; Leah Adams, George Mason University; Shilpa Krishnan, George Mason University/Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital; June Tungney, George Mason University.

Actuarial risk assessment tools such as the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide (VRAG) have become commonplace. Yet, there have been relatively few studies examining how the VRAG generalizes across race. The present study examines the predictive and incremental validity of VRAG scores in a sample of 268 incarcerated adult males (155 African-American and 113 Caucasian). Correlations and Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves revealed moderate predictive accuracy for the VRAG Total score with future institutional misconduct as well as self-reports of recidivism one-year post release for both African-American and Caucasians. Implications for clinical practice and future research will be discussed.
What does PCL-R Cut Score Research say about Offenders with Scores other than 30? Brian Bitting; Sam Houston State University, Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University.

The PCL-R (Hare, 2003) is frequently used to assess risk of recidivism. We reviewed published recidivism and institutional misconduct studies to find out how often and for which PCL-R cut scores researchers reported classification accuracy statistics (e.g., sensitivity, specificity, predictive power). Although 45 articles used a cut score group variable in an analysis, only seven reported classification accuracy statistics. Most of the classification accuracy analyses focused on a cut score of > 30, revealing that the research literature provides little information about other cut scores. We recommend that recidivism researchers consistently report classification accuracy statistics for multiple PCL-R scores.

Chair: Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University

055. Miranda
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor

Juveniles and Miranda: Wavering on the waiver decision. Richard Rogers, University of North Texas; Jennifer Steadham, University of North Texas; Eric Drogin; Rachel Carter; University of North Texas.

This study investigates juvenile Miranda warnings with youth-specific wording (e.g., right to parent or guardian). The methods include a mock crime and questioning. MRCI and juvenile MQ. Rarely exceeding 50%, juveniles evidence the best comprehension on easily-read written advisements. Decisions to exercise Miranda rights were strongly affected by the clarity and simplicity of the waiver questions. Less than 10% initially exercised their rights; this number increased to close 30% as the interrogation continued. Whether given explicit or implied warnings, about 50% relinquished their rights and provided an outright confession. These results are examined in light of Miranda abilities.

“What Are My Rights Again?!: Comprehension of Canadian youth waiver forms. Stuart Freedman, Ryerson University; Joseph Eastwood, University of Ontario Institute of Technology; Brent Snook, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Kirk Luther, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The extent to which youths understand their interrogation rights was examined. High school students (N = 160) from five different grades were presented with one of two Canadian youth waiver forms and tested on their knowledge of their legal rights. Results showed that comprehension of both waiver forms was equally deficient (mean recall = 14.53%), and systematic misunderstandings of vital legal rights (e.g., the right to remain silent) were discovered. There was also a positive linear relationship between grade level and comprehension level. Potential ways to enhance youths’ understanding of their rights and provide them protection during interrogations will be discussed.

Preserving Precedent or Creating a Unicorn? A Five-Year Update on Miranda. Sharon Messenheimer Kelley, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Heather Zelle, University of Virginia; Leah Brogan, Drexel University; Siara Johnson, Drexel University.

Over the last five years, the U.S. Supreme Court has handed down multiple decisions that have refined laws related to Miranda v. Arizona (1966). These decisions, while not uniformly pro-prosecution or pro-defense, present overt changes and other, subtler shifts in Miranda jurisprudence that impact when and how the prophylactic warnings function. The decisions are reviewed as they pertain to the use of silence against suspects at trial, the language used to convey the Miranda warnings, the Miranda custody analysis, and Miranda waivers. Policy and practice implications of these decisions will be discussed.

Chair: Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University

056. Obesity and the Law
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

Is Obesity Child Abuse? Attrributions of Responsibility and Support for the Prosecution of Parents with Obese Children. Jenny Reichert, University of Nevada, Reno; Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno.

Rising rates of childhood obesity and concern over the wellbeing of obese children (i.e., obese) have led to an increase in prosecutions in which parents of obese children are charged with abuse. Three studies investigated whether external factors and/or factors internal to the juror influence mock jurors’ decisions. Results indicate that internal—but not external—factors influence verdict and punishment and reveal low support overall for these prosecutions, though this does not address support for civil proceedings. Although childhood obesity is a major threat to children’s wellbeing, community sentiment suggests this threat should not be addressed through criminal prosecutions.

Who’s to Blame? Blame Attributions and Obesity-related Public Health Policy. Lindsey Wylie, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Obesity is one of the foremost current public health concerns. Because of this so-named “epidemic,” various laws and public policies have been proposed to improve the nation’s health. Little is known about social judgments, such as blame, that underlie these laws. Using Alickie’s Culpable Control Model, the current research examined possible factors thought to predict blame and support for obesity-related policy. Results suggest more negative emotional and attributions of blame toward obese as compared to average weight individuals. More people supported the situationally-based over the dispositionally-based policy; however, those who supported the dispositionally-based policy had higher blame attributions toward obesity.

Weight and Gender in the Criminal Courtroom. Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University; Annik Mossiere, University of Saskatchewan.

To examine the potential influence of weight bias on juror decision-making, two studies manipulated the gender and weight (underweight, average, overweight) of a defendant in a mock theft trial. Participants were also asked about their attitudes toward obesity. In study 1, student participants demonstrated leniency toward overweight defendants as compared to average/underweight defendants, and female jurors were harsher overall. Additionally, an interaction emerged between defendant weight and defendant gender. In study 2, community participants were influenced by a combination of juror gender, defendant weight, and attitudes toward obesity. Differences between community and student samples will be discussed.

The Weight and the Evidence: Does obesity discrimination affect civil judgments? Twila Wingrove, Appalachian State University; Jason Cantone, Federal Judicial Center; Jennifer Jarrett.

Obesity discrimination is on the rise. However, research on obesity discrimination in the courtroom is rare, with only one known study directly addressing the topic (Schvey, Puhl, and Levandoski, 2013). We manipulated the plaintiff’s weight and gender, and the type of defendant business with two participant samples: undergraduates at a traditional and online university. In only the traditional student sample, obese plaintiffs were perceived more negatively and those negative perceptions strongly predicted legal decisions. Participants’ gender and BMI predicted measures in both samples. Differences between the samples and relevant measures affecting likelihood of obesity discrimination will be discussed.

Does She Look Like a Rape Victim? The Effect of Anti-fat Attitudes and Rape Myth Acceptance on Juror Perceptions of Obese Victims. Nesa Wasarhaley, University of Kentucky; Kellie Lynch, University of Kentucky; Sarah Cook, Transylvania University; Jonathan Goldberg, University of Kentucky.

We investigated mock juror perceptions of an obese rape victim and the impact of anti-fat attitudes and rape myth acceptance on trial judgments (e.g., verdict). Online community members (N=139) read a fictional rape trial summary. The victim was depicted as average size or overweight via a full-body image. Findings revealed that victims who violated expectations for what a rape victim should look like (i.e., obese) were judged more harshly. Victim size interacted with anti-fat attitudes and rape myth acceptance to predict victim typicality ratings. Findings...
suggested that jurors may judge obese victims harshly if they violate the rape victim stereotype.

Chair: Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno

057. Emerging Areas: Cyberstalking, active shooters, legal intervention fatalities, and white collar crime.

4:10 to 5:10 pm

Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

Cyberstalkers vs ‘Off-line’ stalkers: Is cyberstalking a special case?

Cristina Cavezza

Over the past fifteen years, cyberstalking has gained media and public attention as a new form of behaviour that can have enormously damaging psychological consequences. Information about the nature of cyberstalking has largely been drawn from non-representative samples of victims or college student samples. Given the paucity of representsive data, there has been some debate about whether cyberstalking is a distinct form of harassment or just an extension of ‘off-line’ stalking behavior in a new domain. The present study aims to investigate differences in the demographic, clinical and behavioral characteristics of off-line and cyberstalkers recruited from a forensic setting.

Active Shooters: The predictive utility of critical factors on the magnitude of the event. Kyle Gamache, Community College of Rhode Island; Judith Platania, Roger Williams University; Matt Zaichik, Roger Williams University; Ryan Weipert, South Bay Mental Health; Samantha Morin, Fordham University; Kristen Morvillo Dillon, Department of Veteran Affairs.

Our current study builds on our previous exploration of active shooter incidents. In our previous study (Gamache, et al., 2012) we explored the offender characteristics of thirty-one active shooter events. In light of the series of tragic events perpetrated since our study, we are adding several additional cases to our investigation. Through multiple regression analysis we expect to discover critical aspects leading to active shooter incidents that may offer predictive risk factors for active shooters. Preliminary results support the presence of predictive factors in the current sample and we expect a full analysis will yield substantial insight into these events.


Each year approximately 400 individuals in the US are killed by law enforcement officers acting in the line of duty. Little, however, is known about the circumstances of these fatalities. Using data available from National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS), this study will examine the characteristics of 437 legal intervention fatalities occurring in 16 states between 2009 and 2011. Information regarding the circumstances of the incident and characteristics of the suspect and victim will inform development of risk assessment strategies and reduce the incidence of preventable legal intervention fatalities.

Juror Perceptions of Interpersonal-Affective Traits of Psychopathy Predict Sentence Severity in a White-Collar Case Simulation. Allison Rulseh, Texas A&M University; Jennifer Cox, Texas A&M University; John Clark, University of Texas Tyler; John Edens, Texas A&M University.

Psychopathy is often used to inform legal decisions (Edens & Petrila, 2006). However, little is known regarding the relationship between perceptions of defendant psychopathic traits and juror decision-making, particularly in nonviolent, white-collar cases. In the current study, 288 venire persons read a vignette of a fraud case, then sentenced and rated the defendant on psychopathic characteristics. As hypothesized, Factor 1 ratings predicted sentence severity, with higher Factor 1 ratings being associated with harsher sentences. The same effect was not found for Factor 2 ratings. This is the first study investigating the relationship between perceptions of defendant psychopathy and white-collar defendants.

Chair: Kyle Gamache, Community College of Rhode Island

058. Suicide, PTSD, and Victimization in Forensic Inpatient and Community Samples

4:10 to 5:10 pm

Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Underdiagnosing Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in a Forensic State Hospital. Apryl Alexander, Auburn University; Elena Welsh, Patton State Hospital; David Glassmire, Patton State Hospital; Paul Guest, Patton State Hospital.

Research has found that individuals with severe mental illness (SMI) tend to have higher rates of trauma than the general population. Despite the high prevalence of exposure to traumatic events among individuals with SMI, diagnosed PTSD appears to be underrepresented among SMI patients in community settings and psychiatric hospitals. The purpose of the present study was to assess the rate of diagnosed PTSD among a sample of forensic psychiatric patients. It was hypothesized that PTSD may be underrepresented due to the primary focus of treatment being the treatment of SMI. Recommendations for improved trauma-informed assessment and treatment will be provided.


In correctional samples traumatic experiences are ubiquitous. They coincide with aggression, personality disorder traits, suicidality and substance abuse; highlighting the importance of trauma assessment. Using file reviews and survey-based interviews (i.e., PDS, BDI-II, ACE Questionnaire, WHOQOL-brief), we examine the prevalence of childhood and adulthood victimization, and its impact on male and female forensic inpatients (N = 50) and community clients (N = 50). We will also study whether there is a dose-response relationship between victimization level, emotional distress and psychiatric symptomatology. Treading new ground, this study addresses a topic with limited empirical evidence-base in forensic psychiatry.

A Moderated Mediation Analysis of Suicide Proneness among Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Members. Ailixandra Burks, Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; Caroline Stred, Sam Houston State University.

Internalized prejudice or homonegativity is common among lesbian, gay and bisexual (i.e., sexual minority) persons; moreover, internalized homonegativity can impact suicide risk. The present paper identifies perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness cognitions as explanatory pathways of the effect of internalized homonegativity on suicide proneness in a community sample of sexual minority adults. Further, prior hate crime victimization experiences, previous suicide attempts, level of concurrent depression, and gender moderate the effects of perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness. Implications for clinical practice and future research are discussed.

Chair: Apryl Alexander, Auburn University

059. Evaluating Evidence and Researching Juries

4:10 to 5:10 pm

Grand Chenier, 5th Floor


New Jersey recently promulgated an instruction addressing the frailties of human memory, aimed at mitigating juror’s undue reliance on faulty eyewitness testimony. In a 2x2 factorial design, mock jurors watched a 35-minute murder trial, wherein identification quality was either “weak” or “strong” and either the NJ or “standard” instruction was delivered. Jurors were more than twice as likely to convict when the “standard” instruction was used (OR = 2.55; 95% CI = 1.37 – 4.89, p < .001).

However, the NJ instruction did not improve juror’s ability to discern quality; rather, they indiscriminately discounted “weak” and “strong” testimony in equal measure.
Evaluating the Influence of Daubert’s Cross-examination Safeguard on Attorneys’ and Jurors’ Judgments about Scientific Evidence. Jacqueline Austin, University of the Pacific; Margaret Kovera, John Jay College – CUNY.

Attorneys must recognize scientific quality to craft cross-examination questions designed to educate jurors. Ninety-five attorneys read a trial summary with expert testimony regarding an IQ with varied validity and reliability. Attorneys rated scientific quality lower when the test was unreliable but did not craft questions designed to expose the low reliability indices. Attorneys did not rate scientific quality lower when the intelligence test was invalid. In Study Two, we varied whether the cross-examination educated jurors about validity and reliability. Scientifically informed cross-examinations did not assist jurors with evaluations. Cross-examination may be an ineffective method of providing methodological training for jurors.

Is Question Order Important in Jury Decision Making Studies? Ymoom Choi, University of Nebraska; Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska; Michael Holjte, U.S. Department of State.

Researchers studying jury decision making usually measure verdict before other dependent variables such as confidence, the threshold of guilt, or probability of guilty. However, no empirical study has examined the effect of the sequence of questionnaires. Dual processing models in social psychology suggest that question order could trigger intuitive or rational reasoning in jurors. Results of this experiment showed that participants who rendered a verdict before assessing information contributed to the verdict, probability of guilt, and threshold of guilt showed intuitive reasoning, while those who decided in reverse order relied on rational reasoning. Implications for jury studies are discussed.

Do Jurors Trust their Own Eyes over the Expert when Presented with Fingerprint Evidence? Mary Houston, Reed College; Daniel Reisberg, Reed College.

In many settings, jurors must choose whether to rely on their own common-sense assessment of evidence, or to defer to an expert’s testimony about that evidence. How does this context play out for the evaluation of fingerprints? We report four experiments indicating that participants are powerfully influenced by their own assessments of the visual evidence, and are relatively insensitive to the expert’s information. This pattern remains even when the expert’s testimony explains why a fingerprint match may be difficult for untrained eyes to discern (and hence why jurors should not rely on their own common-sense inspection of the prints).

Chair: Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska

060. Sex Offender Risk Assessment
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor


The Risk for Sexual Violence Protocol (RSVP) is a sexual violence risk assessment guide. Seventeen professionals completed an online course on the administration of the RSVP and completed file-based RSVP assessments. Interrater agreement for presence and relevance item ratings, summary judgments, domain and total scores ranged from poor to good. Case formulation reliability was examined using similarity ratings. Formulations made by different raters for the same cases were significantly more similar than those made for different cases, providing evidence that risk violence formulations are consistent across raters. Findings are discussed with respect to risk assessment practice, training, and research.

Findings from a 35,000 Offender Static-99 and Static-99R Field Validity Study. Amanda Rice, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Amanda Rice, Sam Houston State University.

Predictive effects for Static-99 and Static-99R scores have been smaller than expected in several U.S. studies. But most of those studies were either small or focused on select subgroups of sex offenders. This study examined the field validity of Static-99 and Static-99R scores in a large, representative sample of more than 35,000 sex offenders released between 2000 and 2011. Predictive effects were moderate in size (AUC = .64 to .65; d = .49 to .57), falling in a range that is somewhat higher than prior field validity studies, but still below the mean effect reported in meta-analyses (e.g., d = .67).

What Happens when you Score the Static-99 for Female Sex Offenders? Paige Harris, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Amanda Rice, Sam Houston State University.

Although prohibited by the Static-99 manual, all sexual offenders in Texas are assessed using the Static-99—including women. In a subsample of 544 released female sexual offenders, Static-99 and Static-99R scores were strong predictors of sexual recidivism (AUC = .86 to .90, d = 1.57 to 1.64). Effects for male offenders in this sample are much smaller (AUC = .63 to .65, d = .49 to .57). The reasons for this strong predictive effect for female offenders is not clear, but may be a product of how Texas’s modified scoring rules lead to relatively low scores for females who offended with an accomplice.

Chair: Paige Harris, Sam Houston State University

061. Investigator Decision-Making
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Extherwood, 4th Floor

Investigator Sensitivity to Alibi Witness Inconsistencies after a Long Delay. Leora Dehl, Okanagan College; Heather Price, University of Regina.

Mock investigators investigated a crime involving an alibi witness that varied in the consistency of his statements taken five-years apart. After a five year delay, some level of inconsistency in recall would be considered the norm by memory researchers, but investigators raised suspect guilt ratings when even minor inconsistencies were present. This adjustment did not differ as a function of alibi witness age, thus suggesting that investigators did not take every opportunity to discredit an alibi witness that was available to them. These findings suggest that investigators struck a balance between suspicion about perceptions of honesty and expectations about accuracy.

Investigator Decision-making: Evidence evaluation among police officers across the United States. Steve Charman, Florida International University; Dana Him Mueller, Florida International University; Melissa Kavetski, Florida International University.

Very little data exists examining the decision-making of actual criminal investigators. The current studies provide data from actual police officers to examine two important questions: (1) Are investigators appropriately sensitive to the diagnostic value of various eyewitness responses to a lineup?; and (2) Are investigators’ evaluations of evidence biased by their preexisting beliefs in the guilt of a suspect? Thousands of police officers from hundreds of police departments across all fifty states were solicited to respond to an online study that experimentally assessed these questions. Results demonstrate the generalizability of psychological phenomena to actual criminal investigators.

The Arrest Decision: Police officer decision making in the context of offender characteristics. Richard Rogers, University of North Texas; Jennifer Steadham, University of North Texas.

Police officers are allowed considerable discretion within the criminal justice system, and on a daily basis, encounter persons who have historically faced stigmatization: those with mental disorders, criminal histories, or both (i.e., mentally disordered offenders). Researchers (e.g., Corrigan, 2000) have suggested that stigmatization is impacted by attributions (i.e., internal vs. external). Further, internal attributions lead to helping behaviors (e.g., treatment referrals), whereas external attributions lead to punishing behaviors (e.g., arrest; Corrigan, 2000).

The current study sought to expand upon past research by examining officers’ attributions about offender behavior and their subsequent disposition decision.
Case Complexity Determines the Hypothesis Testing Strategies Used by Experienced Investigators. Dave Walsh, University of Derby; Coral Dando, University of Wolverhampton; Thomas Ormerod, University of Surrey UK.

Laboratory studies indicate individuals do not always select evidence that discriminates optimally between competing hypotheses, a phenomenon known as pseudodiagnosticity. This study examined hypothesis-testing strategies used by experts and novices to investigate suspected cases of welfare benefits fraud. Novices showed intermediate levels of pseudodiagnosticity across all exemplars. In contrast, experts showed high levels of pseudodiagnosticity with a simple fraud exemplar, intermediate levels with a neutral exemplar, and diagnosticity with a complex fraud exemplar. The results suggest that expert investigators use heuristic thinking to test hypotheses in simple cases and analytic thinking to test hypotheses in complex unusual cases.

Chair: Jennifer Steadham, University of North Texas

062. Guilty Pleas
5:20 to 6:20 pm Nottoway, 4th Floor

Juvenile Offenders’ Understanding and Appreciation of the Plea Process. Tarika Dafyari-Kapur, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Tina Zottoli, St. Joseph’s College; Frances Lawrence, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Rose Aime, St. Joseph's College; Brian Logan, St. Joseph’s College.

This study identified deficits in juvenile offenders’ understanding of the plea-bargain process and their appreciation of the short- and long-term consequences of accepting a felony plea. Results of interviews with 40 juveniles adjudicated as adults revealed gaps in basic legal knowledge and appreciation of outcomes. Many did not understand that they had a right to a trial, and believed that the alternate to a plea was prison time. Youth did not appear to appreciate the long-term negative consequences that attach to a felony conviction, focusing instead on immediate short-term outcomes associated with accepting a plea (e.g. ending the legal process).

“I Didn’t Do It!”. Examining first-time juvenile offenders' false guilty pleas. April Thomas, University of California, Irvine; Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine; Laurence Steinberg, Temple University; Paul Frick, University of New Orleans.

The vast majority of cases in US courts are handled using plea arrangements. Demographic and legal factors influence adults’ plea decisions but less is known about juveniles’ plea decisions. A diverse sample of male first-time offending juveniles (N=1218) was used to examine factors influencing juvenile plea arrangements and the prevalence of false guilty pleas (i.e., pleading guilty to an offense one did not commit) among first time offending youth. Important differences were found between youth who plead guilty and did not plead guilty, as well as between youth who made false guilty pleas and those who made true guilty pleas.

The Guilty Plea Questionnaire: Language difficulty and content differences. Kento Yasuhara, University of New Haven; Jeff Knighton, University of Virginia.

Given that the majority of criminal cases in the United States end in guilty pleas, it is important to consider the judicial mechanisms in place for assessing defendants’ understanding and appreciation of pleading guilty. The guilty plea questionnaire/colloquy has been used to evaluate defendants’ understanding of the plea process and the voluntariness of their guilty pleas. In this paper we present the result of an analysis of guilty plea questionnaires/colloquies that have been gathered from the Circuit Courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The paper analyzes both the linguistic difficulties and content differences between the colloquies found within the Commonwealth.

Why Lawyers Don’t Always Challenge Defendants’ Competence to Plead Guilty: A survey of juvenile and criminal defense attorneys. Amanda NeMoyer, Drexel University; Sharon Messenheimer Kelley, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Heather Zelle, University of Virginia; Kento Yasuhara, University of New Haven; Jessica Feierman, Juvenile Law Center; Rhonda McKitten, Defender Association of Philadelphia; Riya Shah, Juvenile Law Center.

Criminal cases typically end in guilty pleas, yet it is unclear how often defense attorneys formally question their clients’ competence to plead guilty. Thus, the current study surveys criminal defense attorneys about their experiences raising this issue in juvenile and adult court, and provides information about why attorneys decide against formally questioning such competence, even when they suspect their clients lack requisite abilities. Initial results indicate that deficiencies in understanding and appreciation and the presence of mental illness often drive decisions to question competency. Fears of negative consequences for the client often result in attorneys deciding against raising the issue.

Chair: Kento Yasuhara, University of New Haven

063. Delivering Mental Health Treatment in a Juvenile Court Clinic
5:20 to 6:20 pm Oak Alley, 4th Floor


Juvenile Court Clinics provide consultation, evaluation, and in some cases treatment, to the juvenile courts and families they serve. Providing treatment in this context has specific challenges. As in court clinic assessments, issues of confidentiality, privilege and 5th Amendment protections against self-incrimination, are inherent, but in treatment provide unique challenges to the clinician-client relationship, and the clinician-court relationship. As part of a larger symposium critically analyzing the clinical, ethical, and system challenges, this paper will discuss the specific legal issues raised by treatment in this context and provide suggestions for clarifying roles and limits with juveniles, families, and court personnel.

Ethical Considerations of Delivering Mental Health Treatment within Juvenile Court Clinics: A critical analysis. Antoinette Kavanaugh, Forensic Private Practice.

Juvenile court clinics (JCCs) primarily provide forensic assessment services. Traditional forensic approaches assume that JCC clinicians are neutral, objective evaluators who render forensic clinical recommendations to the bench. But, for many juveniles in need of psychiatric services, JCC’s may be their first and only contact with trained clinicians thereby providing an opportune intervention setting; this raises various ethical challenges to consider, such as dual roles and bias, that may differ in assessment versus treatment contexts. As part of a larger symposium critically analyzing clinical, legal and system challenges, this paper will address various ethical considerations of conducting JCC treatment.

Delivering Mental Health Treatment within Juvenile Court Clinics: A critical analysis. Marina Tolou-Shams, Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University.

Juvenile court clinics (JCCs) primarily provide forensic assessment services. Traditional forensic approaches assume that JCC clinicians are neutral, objective evaluators who render forensic clinical recommendations to the bench. JCC’s provide timely, efficient guidance for the judiciary, are convenient and cost-effective for systems and families. For many juveniles in need of psychiatric services, JCC’s may be their first and only contact with trained clinicians thereby providing an opportune intervention setting. We present recent nationwide JCC survey results as part of a larger symposium that critically analyzes the clinical, ethical, legal and systems-level implications of delivering JCC treatment.

Chair: Marina Tolou-Shams, Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University
064. Social Psychology and the Law
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor
Pseudo-Corroboration. Dan Simon, University of Southern California.

Corroboration is a ubiquitous and sensible method for drawing conclusions from probabilistic evidence. A precondition of corroboration is the mutual independence of the evidence items. The experiments reviewed in this paper show that in criminal investigations, evidence items often influence other evidence items, violating the core requirement of non-independence. Due to the general unawareness of these inferential spillovers, we tend to underestimate non-independence of evidence and over-impute corroboration. This pseudo-corroboration can easily lead to making decisions with greater certainty than the evidence warrants. Moreover, inferential spillovers can also spread mistakes, and thus contaminate the evidence set.

Social Cognitive Processes and Attitudes toward Legal Actions: Does receiving information affect community sentiment? Jenny Reichert, University of Nevada, Reno; Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno.

Justice Marshall hypothesized that individuals were ignorant about death penalty and if they were better informed, they would be less supportive. Four studies determined that the Marshall Hypothesis extends to participants’ attitudes toward legal regulation of pregnancy behaviors. Receiving information (through written vignettes or debate with peers) led to more negative attitudes, but this depended on the type of information. Further, the majority of community members’ first thoughts about the regulations concern the health of the fetus; first thoughts predicted attitude. Results have implications for attitude-change theory and policy regarding pregnant women’s health and behavior.

Attribution Style Mediates the Relationship between Fundamentalism and Support for Restrictive Sexuality Laws. Jordan Clark, University of Nevada, Reno; Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno.

This study explores relationships between religious fundamentalism and support for restrictive sexuality laws. Fundamentalism is characterized by rigid beliefs and submission to authority and has been associated with many legal attitudes (e.g., death penalty). This study is among the first to study the topic of legal regulations of sexual behavior and investigates mechanisms (e.g., attributions) through which religious characteristics relate to legal attitudes. Results support two of three models suggesting that a dispositional attribution style mediates the relationship between increased fundamentalism and greater support for restrictive laws governing sexuality.

The Influence of Social Cognitive Psychology in Law. Erik Girvan, University of Oregon; Eugene Borgida, University of Minnesota.

We provided an evidence-based quantitative review of the influence of social cognition research in legal scholarship. Examination of a sample of 577 law review articles containing social cognitive concepts suggest broadly that the overall extent of genuine interdisciplinarity at this intersection of psychology and law is relatively minimal. Where it does occur, it frequently has the trappings of social scientific research, including collaborative teams and interdisciplinary expertise, than lone jurist prototypical in legal scholarship. Implications and future directions for how influential psychology is in law and how legal theory might flow back to enrich research in social cognition are discussed.

Chair:
Dan Simon, University of Southern California

065. Special Considerations in Forensic Assessment and Research
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor
Actuarial and Structured Professional Judgments in Forensic Assessment. Tess Neal, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center; Thomas Grisso, University of Massachusetts Medical School.

We conducted a survey that explored the use of Actuarial and SPJ tools in forensic assessment practice (N=434 experts, 868 reports). This study describes: (a) relative frequency of various referrals, (b) what tools are used globally, (c) frequency and type of structured tools, and (d) practitioners’ rationales for using vs. not using tools. We found that less than half use tools, but those that do so use multiple tools. We discuss how experts who use tools to improve forensic judgments face two challenges: inference from tool to forensic question and integrating “answers” from tools with other information to form conclusions.

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Parents and Determination of Child Custody: The changing legal landscape and implications for policy and practice. Emily Haney-Caron, Drexel University; Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University.

Child custody assessments are among the most complex kinds of forensic evaluation. Though standards for best practice exist, little has been written about issues particular to custody evaluations involving lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) parents. This paper will discuss the legal context surrounding custody determinations involving one LGB parent, and those in which a former same-sex couple seeks custody determination. After reviewing relevant law on how sexual orientation can affect custody, the paper summarizes empirical research on questions associated with LGB parents that arise in custody decision-making. Finally, we highlight implications for policy and practice related to LGB custody determinations.


The present study aimed to develop the first set of reporting guidance for predictive validity studies of violence risk assessments: the Risk Assessment Guidelines for the Evaluation of Efficacy (RAGEE) Statement. A systematic search of eight databases identified 279 reporting guidelines for prognostic and diagnostic accuracy studies. Unique items were extracted and modified to make them relevant to risk assessment. A four-wave Delphi process involving a multidisciplinary team of 37 international experts resulted in a 50-item reporting checklist. The panelists endorsed the checklist as being highly satisfactory and as indicating study features that should be reported routinely in manuscripts.

Prosecution-retained versus Court-appointed Experts: Comparing and contrasting risk assessment reports in preventative detention hearings. Julie Blais, Carleton University; Adelle Forth, Carleton University.

Risk assessment reports between prosecution-retained (n = 68) and court-appointed experts (n = 43) were compared on a wide range of variables. As opposed to focusing on risk assessment, the current study evaluated the reports in their entirety. Court-appointed assessments were significantly longer and contained more information on risk factors and risk management. Both types of experts communicated risk assessment results in categorical terms and were more likely to utilize actuarial scales. Less than half of all assessments contained information on offender change. Suggestions are made as to the improvement of risk assessment within the context of preventative detention hearings.

Chair:
Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University

066. Eyewitnesses: Identification of Faces
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor
The Face of an Angel: Effect of exposure to details of moral behavior on facial recognition accuracy. Alysha Baker, University of British Columbia – Okanagan; Leanne ten Brinke, University of California, Berkeley; Stephen Porter, University of British Columbia – Okanagan.

A focus of the current research was the potential influence of biasing “moral” information about a target on an observer’s memory for that target, and specifically, the target’s facial appearance. Participants (N = 141) viewed a target individual’s face (previously rated as appearing “neutral” on trustworthiness) and then were exposed to one of the three vignettes describing the target’s behavior that varied in morality. Following a delay,
There exists a valid concern that risk assessment measures intended for sexual offenders have plateaued in their predictive accuracy (Parent, Guay, & Knight, 2012). Three established measures (Iowa Sex Offender Risk Assessment, Level of Service Inventory-Revised, and Static-99R) were examined for their ability to recidivism as compared to three randomly generated measures using the Kroner, Mills, & Reddon (2005) “coffee can” methodology. In almost all cases generated measures outperformed established measures, suggesting poor support for the current conceptualization of risk for sex offenders. Two implications are given: current measures are incomplete, but have a clear and empirically-noted ability to improve.

The Presumption ofDangerousness in Sexually Violent Predator Commitment Proceedings. Nicholas Scarch, University of California—Irvine; Daniel Krauss, Claremont McKenna College. Research indicates that SVP commitment is likely once the decision is left to the jury, suggesting the possibility of a presumption of dangerousness. In this experiment, jury-eligible participants were provided with varying degrees of information pertaining to an SVP commitment proceeding. The rate of commitment did not vary as a function of the information provided. The mere fact a respondent had been referred for an SVP proceeding was apparently sufficient for commitment. We then calculated participants’ implicit operationalization of the ‘likely to offend’ criterion. On average, participants require the risk of recidivism to exceed 31% (range 20-40%) to effectuate commitment.

Chair: Daniel Krauss, Claremont McKenna College

068. APLS Distinguished Contributions Award Address—False Confessions: Past, Present, and Future Saul Kassin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice 5:20 to 6:20 pm Estherwood, 4th Floor

When it comes to false confessions, things are never as they seem. Traveling through time, this lecture will aim to achieve three purposes: (1) to bring to light new facts about riveting old cases not previously studied or known, historical events from which much can be learned; (2) describe current, post-White Paper research and ongoing cases winding their way through the courts that may well influence policy and practice; and (3) propose new directions for future studies that address the causes, consequences, and prevention of false confessions.

Chair: Gary Wells, Iowa State University

069. Friday Evening Poster Session 6:30 to 8:00 pm Armstrong Ballroom, 4th Floor

1. An Examination of Feigning within a Sample of Female Pre-trial Defendants. Katelyn Affleck, Fordham University; Sarah Bernstein; Brian Belfi, Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center; Debbie Green, Fairleigh Dickinson University.

While malingering is a large concern among prison populations (Rogers, Sewell, & Goldstein, 1994), there has been little research on feigning of symptoms in female offenders. Taking a case analysis approach, the current study assessed 17 pre-trial female defendants. Although treating psychiatrists rated 24% of the sample as likely to be malingering, only 5.8 –11.8% were found to be malingering utilizing symptom validity measures. The discrepancy between psychiatrist ratings of malingering and symptom validity measures was comparatively higher in the female sample than in a sample of male offenders (n = 137). Implications for assessment of female offenders are discussed.

2. Embedded Effort Scales in the Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status: Do they detect neurocognitive malingering? Adam Crighton, Eastern Kentucky University; Katrina Holt, Eastern Kentucky University; Katelyn Callahan, Eastern Kentucky University; Dustin Wygant, Eastern Kentucky University; Robert Granacher, Lexington Forensic Neuropsychiatry.
The current study examined two embedded response bias measures in the Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS), the Effort Index (EI; Silverberg et al., 2007) and Effort Scale (ES; Novitski et al., 2012), in relation to the Slick et al. (1999) malingered neuropsychological disorder (MND) criteria. We examined 66 individually undergoing compensation-seeking disability evaluations. The results suggest the Effort Index adequately differentiates the Probable/Definite Malingering group from the Incentive Only and Possible Malingering groups, while the Effort Scale does not.

3. Improving the Detection of Feigned Factual Knowledge Deficits in Defendants Adjudicated Incompetent to Proceed. Emily Gottfried, Florida State University; Joyce Carbonell, Florida State University.

The current study examined state psychiatric inpatients adjudicated incompetent to stand trial and student groups instructed to simulate malingering or incompetence or answer honestly. Predications included adding an additional administration of the Inventory of Legal Knowledge (ILK) immediately following the first would increase the validity of the instrument to identify those motivated to feign factual knowledge deficits. Adding another administration did not produce significantly different mean scores in the hospital sample between those in the honest group and those in the context of malingering group when controlling for the initial administration of the ILK but did in the student sample.

4. Optimizing the Cut-Score of the Inventory of Legal Knowledge (ILK) with Defendants Adjudicated Incompetent to Proceed. Emily Gottfried, Florida State University; Joyce Carbonell, Florida State University.

The current study examined state psychiatric inpatients adjudicated incompetent to stand trial and student groups instructed to simulate malingering or incompetence or answer honestly. The ILK manual reports that, instead of calculating the binomial probability of scoring below chance, a cut-score of 47 indicates feigning. However this cut-score has been shown to create a large number of false positives. The current study attempted to identify an optimal cut-score on the ILK due to psychometric property critiques and the results of these analyses differed by sample and by the independent criterion variables (M-FAST or psychologist rating) used to identify individuals malingering.

5. Examining the Moderating Influence of Disorder on Coached Over-reporting Using the MMPI-2-RF: Ariane Olsen, St Olaf College; Carlo Veltri, St. Olaf College.

Overreporting has always been a concern within psychological evaluations. The MMPI-2-RF contains validity scales designed for detecting non-genuine responses. In the current study, 270 undergraduates were instructed to feign either schizophrenia, PTSD or GAD; some participants were coached on symptoms and validity scales. Our hypothesis was that the disorder feigned would have a moderating effect on the impact of coaching. A MANOVA confirmed statistical significance of the interaction between disorder and coaching. Follow-up analyses indicated feigning schizophrenia limited the effectiveness of coaching. Implications of this study suggest future development of a validity scale that specifies detection of emotional feigning.

6. Examining the Effectiveness of the MMPI-2-RF in Predicting Time to Discharge in a Sample of NGRI Patients. Adrianne Nelson; Jason Duncan, Sam Houston State University; Danielle Burchett, Patton State Hospital; David Glassmire, Patton State Hospital.

The length of stay in a secured psychiatric hospital for individuals adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) varies depending on the patient’s ability to demonstrate psychological stability and low risk of dangerousness to society. No studies have examined the utility of the MMPI-2-RF in predicting time until discharge for NGRI patients. Relative to other clinical scales, RC6 likely emerged as an incremental predictor due to the large number of NGRI with Axis I Psychotic disorders in the sample.

7. Comparison of the Higher-Order Scales of the MMPI-2-RF between IST and NGRI Inpatients. Jason Duncan, Sam Houston State University; Emily Gottfried, Florida State University; Laadan Gharagholoo, Patton State Hospital; Danielle Burchett, Patton State Hospital; David Glassmire, Patton State Hospital.

There has been little research comparing MMPI-2-RF profiles between various inpatient forensic populations. The current study compared the higher-order scales of the MMPI-2-RF of 489 IST and NGRI inpatients at one of the largest forensic psychiatric hospitals in the country. When controlling for length of stay in the hospital, IST patients had higher emotional/externalizing dysfunction and higher thought dysfunction than NGRI patients, as measured by the MMPI-2-RF higher-order scales. This finding suggests that it is not just the IST patient’s lack of time in treatment that makes them more pathological than NGRI patients, but actual differences between the groups.

8. Characterizing Defendants Evaluated for Competency to Stand Trial and Criminal Responsibility using the MMPI-2-RF. Kristen McCrary, University of Louisville Medical School; Martin Sellbom, Australian National University. This study sought to provide more specific comparison groups for examiners using the MMPI-2-RF in criminal forensic evaluations, and expand the existing literature by comparing defendants evaluated for Competency to Stand Trial (CST) and Criminal Responsibility (CR) on psychological functioning. In a pre-trial sample (n=486), significant differences were found between defendants evaluated for CST and those evaluated for CR on scales reflecting emotional and externalizing dysfunction, but not psychoticism. Moreover, those opined competent to stand trial had higher measures of psychoticism/paranoia, whereas those opined NGRI were more elevated across a range of psychopathology relative to those opined sane.


The PAI and MMPI-2-RF are commonly used instruments in law enforcement/firefighter pre-employment evaluations. Both instruments contain validity scales that measure efforts at positive response distortion (PRD), a common concern in these evaluations. In the present study, 22 law enforcement and/or firefighter pre-employment examinees were administered the MMPI-2-RF after invalidating the PAI due to significant PRD. One group knew their PAI results prior to taking to MMPI-2-RF, while the other did not. The extent to which PRD was present on each instrument was then compared. PRD was significantly lower on the MMPI-2-RF, with results differing based on awareness of PAI results.

10. Validity of the Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI) Coefficients of Fit among Offenders. Brian Bitting, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Bocaccini, Sam Houston State University; Dana Forman, Sam Houston State University; Brett Gardner, Sam Houston State University; Lauren Vera, AP-LS.

The Personality Assessment Inventory (Morey, 2007) is a clinical measure of personality, and has demonstrated ability to predict misbehavior in offenders. The PAI computerized score report provides clinicians with “Coefficients of Fit with Known Clinical Groups” but little is known about the clinical utility of the coefficients. In a sample of 371 sex offenders the most common coefficients of fit were those including antisocial and substance abuse characteristics. Only the Cluster 9 fit coefficient predicted recidivism significantly better than chance (AUC = .57). At this time we recommend using coefficients of fit as diagnostic aids rather than prediction of misbehavior.

11. Field Validity of Three Mental Health Screening Measures in an Urban Jail. Amy Percosky, Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University; Erika Canales, Sam Houston State University; Alexandra Tellez, Sam Houston State University; Ernie Gonzalez, Sam Houston State University.

We examine the validity of three screening questionnaires designed for use in jail settings—the Brief Jail Mental Health Screen, the Correctional Mental Health Screen, and a facility-developed measure. Prior research has found high rates of mental illness among inmates. While there are other screening methods for mental illness among inmates, research has found many inmates are still not referred for mental health evaluation. We found scores on all three measures significantly predicted subsequent
diagnosis and were significantly correlated with number of mental health contacts and number of days spent in mental health housing in jail.

12. Influence of Childhood Abuse on Neuropsychological Functioning in Adult Offenders. Amy Pernosky, Sam Houston State University; Brian Bitting, Sam Houston State University; David Nelson, Sam Houston State University; Jennifer Johnson, Sam Houston State University; Cindy Mena, Sam Houston State University; Caroline Stroud, Sam Houston State University.

A number of neuropsychological dysfunctions and psychiatric disorders may exist among offender populations. Offenders have a greater likelihood of experiencing childhood physical and sexual abuse than the general population. Neuropsychological functions (i.e., attention, language, visuospatial abilities, processing speed, memory, executive functions) as measured by the Repeatable Battery of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS; Ralph, 1999), were assessed among a sample of 66 probationers. Generally, experiencing childhood physical or sexual abuse was negatively associated with aspects of memory and visuospatial/constructional processing. Individuals working with probationers may consider altering various aspects of treatment and probation requirements based on deficits associated with childhood abuse.

13. Neuropsychological Functioning in an Offender Sample. Amy Pernosky, Sam Houston State University; David Nelson, Sam Houston State University; Craig Henderson, Sam Houston State University; Brian Bitting, Sam Houston State University; Jennifer Johnson, Sam Houston State University; Cindy Mena, Sam Houston State University; Caroline Stroud, Sam Houston State University.

A number of neuropsychological dysfunctions may exist among offender populations. Offenders have a greater likelihood of exposure to negative life events (e.g., head injury) and greater levels of psychiatric disorders. Neuropsychological functions, such as attention, language, visuospatial abilities, processing speed, memory, and executive functions, were measured among a probation sample. On average, assessment score profiles were lower than general population norms and significant associations were obtained between various neuropsychological assessment scores and the experience of head injury. More specific delineation of neuropsychological dysfunction may inform more specifically targeted assessment and interventions for offender populations.

14. A Preliminary Exploration of Defendants’ Performance on the Montreal Cognitive Assessment in Competency Evaluations. Gina Najolia, Louisiana State University/Patton State Hospital; Chadwick Dunning, Western State Hospital; Lauren Smith, Western State Hospital; Phyliss Knopp, Western State Hospital; Bryan Zolnikov, Western State Hospital.

Mental illness per se does not render an individual incompetent to stand trial; but rather the impact of the disorder on the psycholegal capacities set forth by Dusky determines competency. Neuropsychological deficits associated with psychiatric conditions may underlie, in part, psycholegal deficits. We explored performance of 194 criminal defendants referred for competency evaluations on the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA; Nasreddine, et al., 2005), a brief cognitive screen. Competent defendants performed significantly better than non-competent and feigning defendants, who did not significantly differ. Based on sensitivity and specificity values, we suggest an algorithm for incorporating the MoCA into adjudicative competency evaluations.

15. Homicide and the Insanity Defense in Georgia. Holly Tabernik, Georgia Regents University; Kimberly Rideout, Oregon State Hospital; Orberlin Montes, Georgia Regents University; Sheresha Christopher, Georgia Regents University; Michael Vitacco, Georgia Regents University.

This study compared individuals charged with Murder who were found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) with a matched group of individuals charged with Murder but not found NGRI in the state of Georgia. The study compared the two groups on relevant variables, including: psychiatric history, relationship to the victim, weapon used, criminal history, psychiatric diagnoses, race, age, and gender. Prior research conducted in Michigan by Packer (1987) found that the two groups significantly differed in terms of psychiatric history, criminal history, and nature of the homicide. The current study yielded similar results on many of the identified variables.

16. What Patient and Psychologist Characteristics are Important in Competency for Physician Assisted Suicide Evaluations? Shara Johnson; Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer; Sam Houston State University; Brett Gardner; Sam Houston State University; Ernie Gonzalez; Sam Houston State University.

Physician assisted suicide (PAS) is currently legal in Oregon, Washington, and Montana. In an effort to identify important characteristics of patients and clinicians involved in evaluations of competence to request PAS, 216 licensed psychologists from Oregon and Montana were surveyed regarding their attitudes toward PAS, their experiences with suicide, and made a decision competence for a patient requesting PAS based on a case vignette. Cognitive ability was the only patient factor that significantly predicted competence decisions. Personal characteristics of clinicians influenced their decision regarding the competence of the patient.

17. Do Learning Disabled Sexual Offenders have a Type 1 & 2 Victim Fixation? Bianca Baker.

This study compares a total of 83 convicted German male sex offenders with learning disabilities (LD; IQ < 70) and without (Non-LD; IQ > 70) to establish if there is a difference in offenders’ victim preference on age (Type 1) and gender (Type 2). A within-subjects, file-review study was conducted on sexual offenders with and without LD from two forensic institutions in Germany. Results indicated that sexual offenders, with and without LD, showed a victim fixation. As a group significant results showed that LD sexual offenders were type 1 (age) and type 2 (gender) fixed on boys 11 and under.

18. Sexual Grooming Behaviors of Child Molesters and the Hindsight Bias: Did we know it all along? Georgia Winters, Graduate Center of CUNY, John Jay College; Jane Nash, Stonehill College.

We examined whether the hindsight bias exists for sexual grooming behaviors of child molesters. In addition, the study looked at whether individuals can recognize these predatory behaviors. Fifty-six undergraduates were randomly assigned to read one of six story conditions. Results showed that participants displayed the hindsight bias when the abuser was an uncle, but not when he was a non-relative. Participants were able to recognize the sexual grooming behaviors of a blood relative child molester, but not a non-relative. Overall, participants were able to identify a blood relative sexual predator, but overestimated the likelihood they would have predicted the abuse.


Wright & Johnson (2012) found that mental health outcomes improved in a sample of female intimate violence victims who had a civil protection order (CPO) against their most recent abuser compared to women without a CPO, supporting theories of therapeutic jurisprudence. The current study examines a subsample of these women who either let the CPO expire or proactively dropped the legal intervention before 6-months. Using both parametric and nonparametric analyses, we hypothesize potential motives behind their decision to suspend legal interventions against their abuser, and how this information can help inform treatment providers and the legal system.

20. Gender Differences in the Relationship between Childhood Exposure to Violence and Adult Aggression. Dawn Lanaville, Fielding Graduate University; Audrey Masilla, Fielding Graduate University; Kristine Jacquin, Fielding Graduate University.

We examined gender differences in the relationship between childhood exposure to violence and young adult aggression. Participants (N = 1307) were young adults who completed an anonymous online survey about their childhood history of exposure to violence and current aggressive behaviors. In addition, participants were asked about possible protective (e.g., social support) and risk (e.g., parental incarceration) factors that may moderate or mediate the relationship between childhood exposure and adult aggression. Overall, we found that there are gender differences in adult aggression. More specifically, depending on gender, a combination of different variables best predicted adult aggression.
21. Childhood Exposure to Violence Predicts Sexual Aggression Perpetration and Victimization in Young Adults. Dawn Lanaville, Fielding Graduate University; Audrey Masilla, Fielding Graduate University; Lisa Beck, University of Alabama; Kristine Jacquin, Fielding Graduate University.

Past research has found an association between childhood violence exposure and physical aggression in adults. This study took the literature one step further by examining the relationship between childhood exposure to violence and sexual aggression in young adults. Participants (N = 1947) were adults 18 to 25 years of age who completed an anonymous online survey about their childhood exposure to violence and adult sexual aggression. The results show that childhood exposure to violence as both a victim and witness predicts sexual aggression perpetration and victimization.

22. Associations between Violence and Victimization in Civil Psychiatric Patients across Developmental Timeframes. Ashley Pritchard, Simon Fraser University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University; Tonia Nicholls, University of British Columbia.

There has been little research examining individuals with mental disorders who have experienced the co-occurrence of violence and victimization. The present research investigated the association between violence and victimization both within and across developmental time periods (childhood, adolescence, and adulthood) in adult psychiatric patients. In addition, the associations between risk factors and these outcomes during different developmental periods were explored. Results demonstrated that violence and victimization within the same timeframe were consistently significantly associated. Numerous associations across developmental timeframes were observed as well. Certain risk factors, such as anger reaction, appeared to be associated with adverse events across the lifespan.

23. The Association between Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms and Hostile Attribution Bias: An examination of different provocation types. Genevieve Lapre, University of New Orleans; Brendan Turner, University of New Orleans; Monica Marsee, University of New Orleans.

The current study tested the hypothesis that post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms are associated with hostile attribution bias (HAB) in a sample of detained boys, aged 12 to 18. Analyses revealed PTSD symptoms were positively associated with overall HAB. Additionally, PTSD symptoms were positively associated with HAB in both physical and relational provocations.

24. An International Comparison of Law Enforcement Stress and Professional Satisfaction. Holly Buckman, Valparaiso University; Agata Freedle, Valparaiso University; Amanda Tuohy, Valparaiso University; Amanda Zelechoski, Valparaiso University.

This poster will present the results of an international cross-cultural comparison of law enforcement stress in the U.S. and England. Although previous research has found that police officers in the U.S. and in England, respectively, experience more organizational stress than other types of stress, there have been no studies to date that directly compared police officer stress in these two arguably comparable nations. This study surveyed British and American police officers using several measures of police stress, coping styles, and job satisfaction. Data collection is ongoing, but preliminary findings suggest that organizational stressors are more prominent for American police officers.

25. Perceptions of Child Sexual Abuse Perpetrators. Krystia Reed, University of Nebraska – Lincoln; Brian Bornstein, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Child sexual abuse (CSA) is a major societal concern. Because of limited evidence in CSA cases, extra-legal factors often influence jurors’ decisions. The present study measures how the relationship between the child and the accused influences mock juror decisions in a CSA trial. The study focuses on three highly-publicized relationships: coach, priest, and teacher. Preliminary findings indicate that the child’s relationship with the accused may not directly influence verdict but can change perceptions of the trial participants, including ratings of believability and responsibility. We discuss the implications for jury decision making in CSA cases.

26. The Roles of Psychopathy and Victimization History in Rating Potential Intimate Partners. Marisa Okano, UBC; Zach Walsh, UBC.

Identifying risk factors for intimate partner violence is a research priority. However, scant research has attended to factors that lead to the initial engagement in violent relationships. The present study examines partner preferences among females with and without a history of involvement in violent relationships. We assessed perceived attractiveness of hypothetical partners who varied on psychopathic personality, which is associated with interpersonal violence perpetration. Females with a history of IPV victimization reported more attraction in general, and men with higher levels of psychopathy were rated as generally more attractive. The effects of victimization history and psychopathy were independent, not interactive.

27. Observers’ Evaluations of a Bullying Case as a Function of Degree of Harm, Type of Bullying, and Academic Level. Rachel Gentry, Ball State University; Kerri Pickel.

Acting as disciplinary committee members, participants listened to a school bullying case varying in terms of bullying type (relational, verbal), degree of harm (low, high), and academic setting (high school, university). Participants’ judgments (verdict, seriousness, recommended sentence) generally favored the victim when he experienced more rather than less harm, regardless of bullying type, and when the incident occurred in a high school rather than a university. We propose that observers relied on a “bullying schema” specifying that bullying occurs in primary and secondary schools, which led them to make less punitive judgments in the university case.

28. Relationship of Subjects’ Affiliation to Campus to Stalking/Harassment and Safety Interventions. Rosa Vinas-Racionero, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Mario Scalora, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Campus stalking/harassment research focusing on behavior and early interventions to prevent violence and the impact of subject’s affiliation to campus remains understudied. Our goal is identifying the characteristics and approaching behaviors of both campus members and outsiders and the subsequent safety interventions. Outsiders mostly targeted specific persons and campus members targeted both specific persons and the facility. Outsiders pursued their targets and campus members directly contacted them. Given these differences, outsiders and campus members received different interventions. Outsiders required law enforcement intervention while campus members required the intervention of threat assessment teams and mental health services. Implications will be discussed.

29. Exploring the Roles of Pretrial Publicity and Emotion on Juror Judgments in a Criminal Trial. Christine Rava, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee; Felicia Cimaszewski, University of South Florida; Theana Cunningham, University of South Florida; Darcy McCoy, University of South Florida.

One week before viewing a murder trial of a women accused of murdering an infant in her care, mock-jurors (N = 223) were exposed to one of three types of pretrial publicity (PTP): negative-victim, negative-defendant, or unrelated. Jurors’ emotions (anger, anxiety, curiosity, and depression) were measured immediately after PTP and trial exposure. Mock-jurors provided individual pre- and post-deliberation verdicts and guilt ratings. PTP was found to significantly affect jurors’ emotions at both times tested, and these emotions were significantly associated with both pre- and post-deliberation guilt ratings. Finally, emotion significantly mediated the effect of PTP on jurors’ guilt rating.


Steblay and colleagues (1999) published a meta-analysis of 23 studies showing pretrial publicity biases jurors against the defendant. Since then, not only have researchers continued to improve the methodology used to examine the effects of PTP, but technology has also changed the way people receive news. Preliminary results from an updated meta-analysis indicate some results that are consistent, such as PTP does influence juror verdicts and violent crimes such as murder and sexual assault result in larger effect sizes. However, preliminary results do not replicate the 1999 meta-analysis’ findings that PTP presentation and a delay in time increase the effect.
31. The Effects of PTP Exposure on Implicit Associations and Guilt Judgments. David Zimmerman, Missouri State University; Karima Modjadjidi, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Krystal Almeida, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Margaret Kovera, John Jay College – CUNY.

We tested the effects of PTP exposure, venireperson motivation, and pre-voir dire judicial instruction on pretrial bias and guilt judgments. Community members (N = 409) read two or eight negative PTP articles about a defendant. Upon arriving at the lab they completed a defendant IAT, participated in a mock voir dire with the motivation either to get on or off the jury, and received pre-voir dire judicial instructions on the importance of impartiality or honesty. PTP exposure affected IAT scores, and IAT scores predicted likelihood of guilt judgments—but only in the absence of voir dire motivation and judicial instruction.

32. Commonsense and Proximate Cause Collide: Assigning responsibility in dram shop cases. Edie Greene, UCSC; Andrew Evelo, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Lauren Duke, Univ of Colorado Colorado Springs.

This study examined commonsense notions of proximate cause and liability subsequent to an accident involving an intoxicated driver. Dram shop laws enacted extend the duty to act with care beyond the driver who actually caused an accident to parties who, although not the direct cause of an injury, knew or should have known that their conduct would increase the risk of harm by a third party. Using vignette methodology, we found that laypeople rated a bartender’s negligence as less than that of an intoxicated driver—a finding consistent with Shaver’s blame attribution model but inconsistent with requirements of dram shop laws.


In some trials, instead of disputing that they were the one that committed a crime, a defendant attempts to utilize an “excuse defense” to absolve themselves of guilt. Despite growing popularity in usage as well as increased media interest, excuse defenses have received little scholarly research. The current research examined the effects of Crime Control vs. Due Process Orientation (CCDO) with a standard trial summary methodology. CCDO had a significant effect on participants’ verdicts in both an Entrapment and Brain Damage excuse defense trial. This provides some initial theoretical understanding of juror decision making in these types of trials.

34. Effects of Crime Control vs. Due Process on Inadmissible Evidence. Christopher Peters, Arkansas State University; Lann Alvin Malesky, Western Carolina University.

During jury trials evidence can be presented that is ruled inadmissible by the judge. When this occurs the judge often instructs the jury to disregard this evidence. This study examines the effectiveness of these jury instructions as well as investigates how individual differences (i.e., crime control vs. due process orientation) may identify who is more likely to ignore the judges’ instructions and consider the inadmissible evidence. Participants were more likely to find the defendant guilty when the questionable evidence was found admissible. Moreover, individual’s views on Crime Control and Due Process significantly influenced verdicts.

35. Warning Jurors about CSI. Margaret Reardon, Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Dante Mancini, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

This study provides another empirical test of the CSI Effect and further examines whether an instruction to jurors to disregard such programming influences case perceptions and guilt. Mock jurors were given jury instructions that either did or did not contain an instruction to disregard media programming before they evaluated a homicide case which contained either high quality or low quality forensic evidence. Preliminary results suggest television habits are unrelated to guilt but may impact how jurors evaluate forensic evidence. The warning against CSI had no impact on juror case perceptions. Finally, attitudes towards forensic evidence were related to case perceptions.

36. Is Seeing Different than Hearing? Mock-juror Perceptions of Video and Audio Recorded Eyewitness Identifications and Double Blind Administration. Geno Salomone, Roger Williams University; Garret Berman, Roger Williams University.

In order to reduce the number of erroneous convictions due to misidentification, researchers are recommending video recording eyewitness identification procedures. The present study was a 2 (Administration of Lineup: Single-Blind vs. Double-Blind) x 4 (Perspective: Detective v. Eyewitness focus v. Focus on Both v. Audio Only) between subjects design examining the differential impact of camera angles and knowledge of suspect by the lineup administrator on perceptions of the eyewitness, the lineup administrator, and the procedure. Results revealed participants perceived the eyewitness as less confused in the detective camera focus condition and higher detective influence in the audio condition.


This study investigated whether potential jurors’ comprehension of character evidence instructions can be improved with modified language or use of a flow chart. 226 U.S. citizens read existing state instructions for character evidence, revised versions of those instructions, model instructions, or received instructions as a flowchart. Model instructions improved understanding of the use of character evidence, but slightly decreased understanding of the use of cross-examination. Simply improving the language and sentence structure of existing instructions did not improve potential jurors’ understanding. Unexpectedly, understanding of character evidence was lowest in the flowchart condition, perhaps due to lack of context.

38. Eliciting Empathy in Capital Jurors: The effect of victim impact statements. Sarah Henry, UNT; Katie Mitchell, UNCW; Nastasia Broszkiewicz, UNCW; Madeline Barlow, UNCW; Bryan Myers, UNCW; Richard Rogers.

The present study examined the role victim impact statements (VISs) play in capital jurors’ sentencing judgments, receptivity to mitigation, and empathic response to both the victim and the defendant. Mitigation strength, but not VISs significantly affect sentencing judgments. VIS presence did, however, significantly affect differences in empathy felt for the defendant and victim. Mock-jurors felt more empathy for the victim and less empathy for the defendant when a VIS was present. Additionally, the more empathic an individual was, as measured by the Interpersonal Reactivity Index, the less likely they were to support the death penalty as a whole.


This presentation will examine how death qualified mock jurors are influenced by social standing information concerning the victim and defendant. Participants were exposed to social standing evidence via a Victim Impact Statement (Non, High, Low) or Execution Impact Evidence (None, High, Low). Preliminary data reveals that participants exposed to VIS describing victims of high social standing experienced greater empathy for the victims and evaluated them in a more positive manner. Although we did not observe as many findings for EIE, participants evaluated defendants of a high social standing more positively than those of a low social standing.

40. And Justice for All? The Effects of Victim Attractiveness and Morality on Guilty Verdicts. Katherine Luecht, Florida Southern College; Daniella Cash, The University of Alabama In Huntsville; Deah Quinlivan, Florida Southern College; Victoria Lew, Florida Southern College; Caitlin Owen, Florida Southern College; Amanda Welch, Florida Southern College.

Research has demonstrated that defendants who conform to societal norms or are attractive receive lighter sentences compared to those who diverge from social norms and are unattractive. This experiment focused on ascertaining whether moral or immoral behaviors and attractiveness of a murder victim affected guilty verdicts. Participants read pretrial publicity in which attractiveness and morality of a victim was manipulated. Results indicated that guilty verdicts varied as a function of victim attractiveness and moral behaviors. Implications include a need to limit pretrial publicity in order to provide justice for all victims, regardless of their appearance or past behaviors.
41. Should We Punish Hate?: An examination of factors in support or opposition of hate crime penalty enhancements. Kelsey Laston, Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; Andre Kehn, University of North Dakota; Brittany Bate, Sam Houston State University; John Clark, University of Texas Tyler.

Despite state and federal legislation enactment, research is scarce concerning reasons community members may support or oppose the penalty enhancing aspects of hate crime laws. Jury-eligible community members completed demographics, personality questionnaires and explained their support or opposition to hate crime penalty enhancement. Political liberalism, high neuroticism, low need for affect (NFA) approach, and low NFA avoidance predicted support for penalty enhancement. Legal arguments were used to oppose penalty enhancements, whereas victim- and offender-related beliefs justified support. Implications are discussed for the role of emotion in legal decision making, and trial-related implications.

42. Relationships between Cortisol, Alpha-Amylase, and Psychopathy in a Community Sample. Rheanna Remmel, University of Alabama; Andrea Glenn, University of Alabama; Robert Schug, California State University Long Beach; Adrian Raine, University of Pennsylvania. Psychopathy is a personality disorder of which symptoms include chronic lying, manipulative behavior, criminality, and lack of empathy. Recently, interest in determining the biological markers of psychopathy has increased, in the hopes of better understanding it and potentially preventing or treating it. The present study examines relationships between psychopathy and salivary cortisol and alpha amylase, two biological markers which have previously been implicated in psychopathy. The authors report a significant, negative relationship between total and Factor 1 scores on the PCL-R and the ratio of salivary cortisol to alpha-amylase.

43. Representation of FFM Agreeableness and Conscientiousness Traits in Terms of the Four-Factor (PCL-based) Model of Psychopathy. Samantha Price, University of North Texas; Craig Neumann, University of North Texas.

The Five Factor Model conceptualization of psychopathy, particularly Agreeableness and Conscientiousness, are strongly inversely associated to PCL-based measures. To test these relations, this study examined two independent samples, a large sample of college students (N = 588; FFM-Rating Form and SRP), and the MacArthur Risk Assessment Study’s civil psychiatric sample (N = 904; FFM-Inventory and PCL-SV). CFA results for the college sample indicated excellent fit for a 12-item four-factor FFM-based trait model. SEM results suggested PCL-SV and FFM-I factors had relatively good correspondence. Results suggest FFM Agreeableness and Conscientiousness traits can be expressed in terms of four PCL-based psychopathy factors.

44. A Meta-Analytic Examination of the Response Modulation Hypothesis of Psychopathy. Sarah Smith, Emory University; Scott Lilienfeld, Emory University; Dylan Jordan, Emory University; Wenting Kang, Emory University.

We meta-analytically examined an influential etiological theory of psychopathy, the response modulation hypothesis. Results of the review revealed a small to medium overall effect size (r = .15, p < .001). Examination of moderators revealed significant variability in the effect size across experimental task, outcome measure, and racial composition of the sample. Allegiance to the response modulation hypothesis emerged as a significant moderator of the effect size. Results also pointed to potential publication bias in the response modulation literature. These results raise questions about the validity of the response modulation hypothesis as a broad etiological theory of the disorder.

45. Validation of the Triarchic Psychopathy Model in an Incarcerated Male Sample. Julia Clark, University of New Orleans; Pavel Blagov, Whitman College; Kathryn Oost, University of Montana.

The triarchic model of psychopathy presents psychopathy as a construct of trait boldness, disinhibition, and meanness. Data from an adult incarcerated male sample provide construct validation for the triarchic model of psychopathy and measure validation for the Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM). Drug use, criminality, relational aggression, personality, and attachment measures significantly correlate with the TriPM. Additionally, we present one of the first studies to link attachment and the triarchic model of psychopathy. Implications for future use of the triarchic model of psychopathy and TriPM are discussed.

46. Examination of the Triarchic Scales for the Psychopathic Personality Inventory in a Sample of Male Inmates. Chelsea Sleep, Eastern Kentucky University; Jessica Cardwell, Eastern Kentucky University; Alexander Kuhl, Eastern Kentucky University; Dustin Wygant, Eastern Kentucky University; Martin Sellbom, Australian National University.

Patrick and colleagues (2009) developed the Triarchic model of psychopathy to integrate current and historic accounts of the disorder. The Triarchic model views psychopathy along three phenotypic, dimensional domains of Boldness, Meanness, and Disinhibition. The current study examined empirical associations between Triarchic scales derived for the Psychopathic Personality Inventory (Hull et al., under review) in a sample of 152 male inmates. The PPI-Triarchic scales were examined in relation to two psychopathy measures (PCL-R and Triarchic Psychopathy Measure) as well as SCID-II criteria for Antisocial Personality Disorder and Conduct Disorder. The scales converged as expected on these conceptually related criteria.

47. Callous Lack of Empathy Differentiates Psychopathy and Antisocial Personality Disorder. Cody Ison, EKU; Jessica Durham, EKU; Shannon Shaughnessy, EKU; Dustin Wygant, Eastern Kentucky University; Martin Sellbom, Australian National University.

Psychopathy is inadequately represented as Antisocial Personality Disorder (ASPD), and has been since DSM-III. The current study examined the degree to which callousness and lack of empathy, a trait domain operationalized by a latent empathy factor derived from several self-report and clinician ratings, can differentiate between psychopathy and ASPD in a sample of 152 male prison inmates. Using hierarchical linear regression, we found that callous/lack of empathy added incrementally to ASPD criteria (indexed via SCID-II) in the prediction of the PCL-R Total Score, both Factor scores, and Facets 2 (Affective) and 4 (Antisocial). Implications for DSM-5 ASPD will be discussed.

48. Comparing the Construct Validity of the Psychopathic Personality Inventory between Hispanic and non-Hispanic Offenders. Dylan Gatner, Simon Fraser University; Adam Blanchard, Simon Fraser University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University; Scott Lilienfeld, Emory University.

Given the high rates of psychopathy and Hispanic offenders in the American prison system, it is surprising how few studies have investigated the role psychopathy plays within this ethnic group. The aim of the current study was to examine the construct validity of the Psychopathic Personality Inventory across Hispanic and non-Hispanic offenders. No differences in total or factor scores were found between ethnic groups. Further, the pattern of convergent and divergent validity was relatively even across groups suggesting that the PPI is a valid tool for measuring psychopathy in Hispanic individuals.


Whereas psychopathy research is widespread, the majority of research does not consider the generalizability of the construct across racial/ethnic groups or gender. The current research is an exploration of the relationship between psychopathy as assessed by the Psychopathic Personality Inventory (Lilienfeld & Andrews, 1996) and form and function of aggression using three measures in an ethnically diverse group of men and women. Preliminary findings with 200 undergraduate students showed some differences in men and women’s scores on Factor I and between those identifying as Caucasian and those identifying as African American on fearlessness.

50. Differences in Psychopathy-Linked Narcissism between Primary and Secondary Victims in Adjudicated Youth. Andrew Gill, University of Vermont; Melissa Paiva-Salisbury, University of Vermont; Timothy Stickle, University of Vermont.

Recent research shows affective differences between youths characterized by primary and secondary psychopathy. However, differences between these variants on interpersonal facets of psychopathy are unknown. Model Based Cluster analysis was used to identify primary psychopathy,
secondary psychopathy, and delinquent subgroups in a mixed-gender sample of adjudicated youth. Consistent with study hypotheses and existing theory of psychopathy variants, levels of psychopathy-linked narcissism were significantly greater for primary psychopaths than secondary psychopaths. Differential associations between psychopathy variants on components of psychopathy-linked narcissism, aggression, and antisocial behaviors were examined. Implications and recommendations for future research are discussed.

51. Psychopathic Trait Instability in the Transition to Adulthood: Impact of psychopathology and adversity. Joseph Tatar II, University of California, Irvine; Jennifer Skeen, University of California, Berkeley; Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine. Psychopathic traits are increasingly applied to adolescents, despite concerns regarding the developmental appropriateness of the construct and potential for trait instability in the transition to adulthood. The present study examines the presence and correlates of psychopathic trait instability from adolescence to adulthood (average = 6.2 years between assessments) in a sample of 61 young adults formerly incarcerated as juveniles. Results provide evidence of instability in psychopathic traits over time, particularly for affective features. Anxiety and depression symptoms and victimization exposure in adulthood were associated with greater trait permanence. Findings indicate targeting affective symptomatology in interventions may reduce psychopathic trait expression.

52. Callous-unemotional Traits, Conduct Problems, and Emotion Processing in Preschoolers with Serious Psychiatric Disturbance. Lauren Williamson, Lifespan; Sarah Martin, Simmons College; John Boekamp, Lifespan; Mia DeMarco, Lifespan. Callous-unemotional traits are seen as a precursor to more severe antisocial behavior, and children with these traits exhibit deficits in behavioral functioning and emotion processing. Despite the importance of early intervention for conduct problems, research on callous-unemotional traits in preschoolers is limited. The present study examined these traits along with conduct problems and emotion processing in 3- to 5-year-olds with severe psychiatric impairment. Results indicate callousness was associated with conduct symptoms, inhibited expression of sadness and anger, and less accurate identification of anger and happiness. Results indicate the need for further study of these traits in very young children.

53. Juvenile Psychopathy: The Five-Factor Model. Meredith Emigh, John Jay College; Erin Glackin, John Jay College; Michelle Rosselli, John Jay College (CUNY); Diana Falkenbach, JJAY.CUNY. Traditionally, psychopathy is conceptualized as having two subtypes: primary and secondary, but recent research has turned to a more dimensional approach. The current study aimed to expand on research examining the relationship between the two-factor model of subtypes of psychopathy and the broader approach of personality profiles based on the Five-Factor Model using a juvenile sample. Using the NEO-FFI, model-based cluster analysis yielded three groups, which were then compared to the two factors of psychopathy and validated with a measure of anxiety. As expected, psychopathic subtype profiles emerged.

54. Breaking the Rules: A study on psychopathy. Shelby Curtis, University of Arizona; Andrew Perkins, University of Arizona. The majority of recent research into psychopathy and rule breaking has focused almost entirely on self report measures of academic cheating. As of yet, there has been little research in this area involving experimental tasks to observe rule breaking. To fill this methodological deficit, we have conducted a study where we utilized an in-person task to measure general rule breaking behaviors and correlate them with sub-clinical measures of psychopathy, narcissism, and Machiavellianism. After preliminary data analyses, we found significant positive correlations with secondary psychopathy and rule breaking on the maze task.

55. Under the Radar: Does psychopathy predict institutional misconduct (detected and undetected). Shilpa Krishnan, George Mason University/Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital; Leah Adams, George Mason University; Jeffrey Stuewig, George Mason University; Mark Hastings, George Mason University/Private Practice; Jane Tangney, George Mason University. The current study sought to extend findings that psychopathy is related to criminal success by investigating whether psychopathy predicted both detected infractions, as well as Under the Radar (UR) infractions that were not caught, charged, or formally written up. Psychopathy was unrelated to official records of infractions, but modestly related to self-reported detected incidents and UR infractions. Importantly, the relationship between psychopathy and having an UR infraction was significantly stronger than psychopathy to either detected infraction measure. Results suggest that individuals engage in more jail misconduct than is detected, and that psychopaths may be especially adept at avoiding official sanctions.

56. Does the Validity of PAI Antisocial Features Scale Scores Depend on Offender Response Style? Brett Gardner, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University. Researchers have recently questioned the utility of bias indicators in assessment (McGrath, Mitchell, Kim, & Hough, 2010). We examined whether the size of validity coefficients for the PAI Antisocial Features (ANT) scale depend on PAI validity scale scores. We obtained PAI and Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R) scores for 410 sex offenders who were evaluated for Sexually Violent Predator civil commitment. Both Positive Impression (PI) and Negative Impression (NIM) scores interacted with ANT to impact the relationship between ANT and PCL-R scores. The current findings provide support for the potential utility of response style measures for ANT scale interpretation.

57. Levenson’s Self-Report Psychopathy Scale and the Psychopathic Personality Traits-Inventory: A test of efficiency versus breadth in the assessment of psychopathic traits. Cailey Gilmurray, University of New Brunswick Saint John; Mary Ann Campbell, University of New Brunswick Saint John; Naomi Doucette, Youth Forensic Services, IWK Health Cent. The current study tested the validity of Levenson’s Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (LSRP; Levenson et al., 2005) as a screen for psychopathic traits in 114 Canadian adult male incarcerated offenders. The LSRP had good predictive validity (AUROC), with the added benefit of providing a 2-class solution for 114 respondents in the high psychopathic traits threshold of the Psychopathic Personality Inventory Revised (PPI-R; Lilienfeld & Widows, 2005). However, LSRP total scores ≥+2SDs of its mean did not capture the same cases identified as falling ≥+2 SDs of the PPI-R total score mean (k=28). The LSRP appears less adequate for diagnostic purposes when compared to more comprehensive assessment measures.

58. Risk Instrument Use and Integration in Sexually Violent Predator Evaluations. Caroline Chevalier, Sam Houston State University; Katherine McCallum, Sam Houston State University; Claire Bryson, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University. Although most evaluators who conduct Sexually Violent Predator (SVP) evaluations score offenders on at least one risk assessment instrument, evaluators are, for the most part, free to choose which assessments they prefer. For this study, we surveyed 110 SVP evaluators and collected data about instrument use. Overall, experts reported using 37 different instruments when evaluating SVPs for the courts. We also asked how experts integrate test data when they use more than one instrument. Most experts reported that they typically report each instrument result separately, without integrating the results.

59. A Latent Class Analysis of Sexual Offenders and Risk. Jared Rachensky, Creighton University; Robin Strominger, Creighton University; Tara Ryan, Simon Fraser University; Tim McDermott, Creighton University; Jackie Paxton, Iowa Department of Corrections; Matthew Huss, Creighton University. Previously, research has focused on differentiating between types of specialized sex offenders (Robertiello & Terry, 2007). Recent studies, however, have found that many offenders are crossover offenders, meaning they offend across victim gender, age, and the relationship between the offender and the victim (Heil, Ahlmeier, & Simons, 2003). The current study conducted the first latent class analysis of sexual offenders, and found that a two class solution correctly identified the data, which suggests a conceptualization of sexual offenders as either crossover or specialized offenders. Additionally, researchers found that crossover offenders differ on sexual deviance, a risk factor of sexual recidivism.
60. Self-perception of Success in Intimate Relationships: Relationships between intimacy deficits and sexual offending. Rebecca Pullman, Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology; Aubrey Orloff, Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology; Brooke Peltzman, Massachusetts Treatment Center; Kaitlyn Peretti, Massachusetts Treatment Center.

This study sought to identify if a sex offender’s beliefs about his perceived success in dating was related to more expansive deficits in the ability to form and maintain relationships, a known risk factor in the recidivism of sexual offenses. Results showed that sex offenders with greater intimacy deficits were more likely to evidence difficulties with sexual self-regulation, regardless of age or status as a state inmate or civil resident. Finally, offenders who reported feeling unsuccessful at dating were more likely to have deviant sexual interests, have fewer social supports, and evidence greater social impairment.

61. Reliability and Validity of START and LSI-R Assessments Completed in Mental Health Diversion Programs. Evan Lowder, North Carolina State University; Sarah Desmarais, North Carolina State University; Richard Van Dorn, RTI International; Candelaria Rade, North Carolina State University; Robin Telford, University of South Florida; John Petrila, University of South Florida.

Despite the proliferation of diversion programs in the U.S., only a handful of studies have examined the psychometric properties of risk assessments completed in this setting. To address this knowledge gap, this prospective study examined the reliability and validity of Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability (START) and Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessments completed on clients in mental health diversion programs. Preliminary results revealed good inter-rater reliability for both instruments, some evidence of divergent validity, and limited evidence of convergent validity. Results provided some support for validity of START assessments, but not LSI-R assessments, in predicting self-reported criminal activity.

62. Risk Factors for Violence in Stalking Perpetration: A meta-analysis. Frances Churcher, Carleton University; Marc Nesca, University of Calgary.

Stalking violence is a phenomenon that has concerned researchers for many years. Several important risk factors for violence have been examined in the literature. The current study analyzes empirical risk factors for stalking violence using a meta-analysis. In a sample of 5,114 participants, 35.4% of stalkers had perpetrated physical violence. Eight significant risk factors were found to be related to stalking violence: prior intimate partner, threat, presence of psychosis, presence of personality disorder, substance abuse, criminal history, violence history, and stalker gender. Implications for risk assessment in stalking and future research directions are discussed.


Covictimized women experience both physical and sexual forms of intimate partner violence (IPV). Covictimization during a dating relationship was expected to predict stalking pursuit and continued partner violence after relationship termination. Undergraduate women (N = 99) reported on experiences of IPV and pursuit both during and after their most recent romantic breakup. As expected, covictimized women reported elevated post-breakup IPV, both physical and sexual and stalking pursuit involving threats, but not involving contact or surveillance. Covictimized women are at risk for continued intimidation and violence from ex-partners.

64. Does Including One-off Crimes in the Dataset Increase or Decrease Behavioural Crime Linkage Accuracy? Holly Ellingwood, Carleton University; Brittany Blaskovits, Carleton University; Tamara Melnyk, Carleton University; Rebecca Mugford, Carleton University; Craig Bennell, Carleton University.

Critics have been expressed over the ecological validity of how behavioral linkage analysis (BLA) is studied. Most research in BLA relies exclusively on serial offences, but “real-world” data involves one-off crimes too. The current study compared linking accuracy levels when conducting BLA using only serial arsons (37 offenders committing 114 solved arsons), and when adding single arsons (178 one-offs) to the dataset. Contrary to expectations that single offences would add “noise” to the data, the results of logistic regression analyses indicated that linking accuracy increased when the data set included one-off crimes. Potential reasons for this finding are discussed.

65. When and How Often are Evaluator Recommendations Inconsistent with Results of Actuarial Measures in Risk Assessments? Katherine McCallum, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Claire Bryson, Sam Houston State University.

How do mental health professionals consolidate results from multiple risk assessments, a clinical interview, and collateral information into a final opinion of offender risk? This study reviewed risk evaluations of 161 Colorado sexual offenders. Each evaluation report described the results of three actuarial measures (Static-99, VRAG, SORAG) and seventeen risk factors established by Colorado’s Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB). Coding of the evaluations revealed evaluators’ opinions were inconsistent with actuarial results in 34.2 percent of the evaluations. In each instance, the clinical opinion indicated higher risk than actuarial results. SOMB standards, “Defensiveness,” and “Psychopathology” were most predictive of their recommendations.

66. An Empirical Analysis of Murder-Suicide. Matthew McNally, West Virginia University; Christina Patton, West Virginia University; William Fremouw, West Virginia University.

179 male murder-suicide perpetrators from the National Violent Death Reporting System were clustered on demographic, relationship, motivational, and psychological variables. A two-step clustering procedure yielded four clusters of murder-suicide. One cluster is comprised of younger males who—motivated by anger and interpersonal conflict—kill known others. Another cluster describes jealous males who kill intimate partners when relationships dissolve. Motivated by depression/psychache, a third group kills predominantly intimate partners or close relatives. A fourth group of older males kill their intimate partners to alleviate suffering relating to physical illness. Psychological diagnoses did not differ among the sample of individuals clustered.

67. Hostile Attribution Bias as a Dynamic Risk Factor in Civil Psychiatric Patients and Criminal Offenders. Melissa Hendry, Simon Fraser University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University.

This study examined whether the hostile attribution bias, as measured by the External Hostile Attributions Scale (EHAS), is a dynamic risk factor with respect to violence and recidivism. Participants were 118 civil psychiatric patients and 56 criminal offenders who completed a baseline interview as well as five follow-ups. The results partially supported the use of the HAB as a dynamic risk factor. Some analyses showed that the EHAS was a significant predictor of outcomes, especially in the short-term. Results also demonstrated that participants’ EHAS scores followed similar trajectories over time and, in some cases, trajectories were associated with outcomes.


This study examines the merit of adopting gender-informed approaches to risk assessment. LSI-R and SPn-W assessments were available for 487 adult female probationers in Connecticut, respectively representing gender-neutral and female-specific tools. When considering new arrests over a 1-year follow-up period for a subsample of 274 women, levels of predictive validity given by ROC analysis were significantly higher for SPn-W versus LSI-R (AUCs = .73 and .59). Gender-informed risk assessment strategies based on theories of female offending are argued to be beneficial with respect to improving the predictive accuracy of assessment tools and appropriately informing treatment for justice-involved women.

69. Item-level Differences for the Static-99R and MnSOST-R among White, Black, and Latino Sex Offenders. Stephanie Kline, Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University; Samuel Havas, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University.

We analyzed item-level differences for the Static-99R and the MnSOST-R among White, Black, and Latino sex offenders from a Texas database. Significant differences were found across race/ethnicity. On five Static-99R items and five MnSOST-R items, White and Latino offenders were

Most investigative interviewing protocols recommend that interviewers build rapport with witnesses to increase the quality and quantity of information reported. While some studies have investigated rapport’s effects on adult witness accuracy in investigative interviews, no known research used a behavioral coding system to record whether rapport-building translates into non-verbal behavior and witness accuracy. The present study compares behavioral scores for the interviewer and interviewee between rapport/no-rapport interviews. Data collection is completed and videotaped witness interviews are currently coded on several dimensions of behavior. Results of behavioral coding will be correlated with witness accuracy and entered as a moderator in analyses.

71. Using Witnesses’ Memory for Lineup Fillers to Postdict Identification Accuracy: Does memory strength moderate the effect? Andrea Arndorfer, Florida International University; Steve Charman, Florida International University.

Recently, a novel, theoretically-derived postdictor of eyewitness identification accuracy has been discovered: The more lineup fillers a witness remembers having viewed, the more likely that witness was to have made a false identification (Charman & Cahill, 2012). However, attempts to replicate the effect have failed. It has been postulated that this failure to replicate the basic memory for fillers finding may be due to deficits in witnesses’ memory strength. Currently, a study is underway examining the influence of memory strength (for the perpetrator; i.e., low, medium, or high) on this novel postdictive measure.

72. Judging Veracity Makes Eyewitnesses Remember a Suspect Less Accurately but With More Certainty. Christopher Altman, Ball State University; Kayla Alves, Ball State University; Heather Bauer, Ball State University; Britney Klausner, Ball State University; Kerri Pickel.

Eyewitnesses sometimes perform cognitively demanding tasks while simultaneously observing a perpetrator. This division of attentional resources can impair memory for the perpetrator. We previously demonstrated that judging a suspect’s veracity is effortful enough to impair subsequent memory for details related to him or her. The present study replicated this result and extended it by showing that judging veracity ironically inflates witnesses’ certainty and other testimony-relevant judgments. Additionally, motivating witnesses to judge veracity as accurately as possible intensified the memory impairment effect, apparently by encouraging witnesses to allocate even more resources to the judgment task.

73. One and the Same: Examining change blindness through sequential lineups. Daniella Cash, The University of Alabama In Huntsville; Amanda Pryor; Ursula Goldstein; Melia Millican; Lynette Potter; Jodi Price, University of Alabama in Huntsville; Jeffrey Neuschatz, UAH.

The current study examines the phenomenon of change blindness during an encounter with two different research assistants. The current study expands on previous findings regarding change blindness by incorporating a sequential lineup identification task to obtain a more detailed explanation for the mental representation held by participants after their interactions with the two research assistants. The results demonstrate that 100% of participants fail to notice the change and that they were significantly more likely to incorrectly identify the individual they had encountered first. The implications of these findings as well as their importance to eyewitness identifications are discussed.

74. Prospective Person Memory for Age Progressed Images. James Lampinen, University of Arkansas; William Erickson, University of Arkansas; Charlie Frowd, University of Winchester; Greg Mahoney, Boston Police Department.

Previous research on the efficacy of age-progressed images has revealed that, although they typically generate recognition hit rates significantly above chance, they do not outperform outdated photos. The current project was carried out to examine the possible influences of age-range and artist experience on hit rates. Eight forensic artists age-progressed childhood images of eight volunteers from age 5 to 12, 5 to 20, and 12 to 20. Images were presented to participants before a Prospective-Person Memory task where they were told to be on the lookout for the targets. Outdated and Current photos outperformed age progresses across all ranges.

75. Effects of Multiple Pictures on Prospective Person Memory: A field study. James Lampinen, University of Arkansas; Caitlin Curry, University of Arkansas; William Erickson, University of Arkansas.

Participants viewed mock news broadcasts of a wanted fugitive that showed either three pictures of the fugitive or one. Participants were told that if the individual was spotted, that they could win a cash prize for reporting it to the experimenter. Multiple pictures improved memory for the wanted fugitive.

76. Effects of Distance on Face Recognition. James Lampinen, University of Arkansas; William Erickson, University of Arkansas; Kara Moore; Aaron Hitson, University of Arkansas.

Eyewitnesses sometimes view faces from a considerable distance, but little research has systematically examined the accuracy of witnesses as a function of distance. Long distances were associated with poor recognition memory and a shift in response bias.

77. “I’m more Confident Now and I’ll Tell You Why!” The Impact of Eyewitness Confidence Inflation Explanations on Mock Juror Perceptions. Janani Subramaniam; Amy Roach, University of Maryland; Jenelle Feminio, Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology; Emily Phelan, Roger Williams University; Garret Berman, Roger Williams University.

The study examined the impact of different explanations for eyewitness confidence inflation. Participants read trial transcripts and rated the eyewitness’ effectiveness and defendant culpability. Results indicated that participants rated the eyewitness in the confidence inflation conditions as less consistent and more contradictory than the eyewitness in the consistent confidence condition. Participants accepted various explanations for confidence changes and rated the testimony in the inflation conditions just as believable as the testimony in the no inflation condition. These results suggest that participants are sensitive to the eyewitness’ inconsistencies, but explanations for discrepancies may help rehabilitate the witness and their subsequent testimony.

78. Simultaneous, Sequential, and Elimination Lineups: Which ones should be used for other-race identifications? Lisa Pascal, University of Windsor; Alan Scborahia, University of Windsor.

A vast amount of research has investigated the effectiveness of lineup procedures, resulting in the promotion of the sequential lineup. However, research has not investigated whether the sequential lineup is effective for other-race identifications. The current study explored whether the sequential and elimination lineups would also be effective for other-race identifications. White participants watched a video of a Chinese male and were asked to identify the culprit in a target-present or absent lineup, using one of three lineup procedures (simultaneous, sequential, and elimination). Results did not support the use of a sequential or elimination lineup for other-race identifications.

79. Memory Conformity for Actors and Bystanders. Marianna Carlucci, Loyola University Maryland; Daniel Wright.

Two studies explored memory conformity for people who interacted with a target (actors) and those who witnessed the interaction (bystanders). In study 1, participants were exposed to two events. In one event, participants had no deterministic roles assigned. In the other, participants were assigned to interact with a confederate (actor condition) or to witness that interaction (bystander condition). Differences in memory performance were found only for the interaction memory task such that bystanders conformed more than actors on several critical questions and also on a lineup task. Study 2 assessed people’s confidence for memories recalled by actors and bystanders.
80. Context-Based Criterion Shifts in Photo-ID Verification. Megan Papesh, Louisiana State University; Caroline Rausch, Louisiana State University.

Matching faces to photographs quickly and accurately bears critically in many legal and security contexts. Despite its ubiquity, face matching is surprisingly error-prone, with error rates often exceeding 20%, even under ideal conditions. To investigate face matching in less ideal contexts, we presented observers with pairs of highly-variable face photographs, and examined matching performance under conditions of low (10%) and high (50%) identity mismatch prevalence. When mismatches appeared infrequently, observers’ miss rates soared. This error rate persisted across several experiments, despite manipulates intended to encourage carefully consideration (or reconsideration) all decisions. The results implicate strong, persistent, context-based criterion shifts.


An eyewitness’ ability to remember details about the perpetrator of a crime is impaired, often because the witness focuses primarily on the weapon during the encounter—a phenomenon known as the weapon focus effect. We examined whether weapons attract more attention than do neutral objects. We assessed participants’ visual reaction time to photographs of weapons and objects presented under identical conditions. Participants’ reaction times to weapons were shorter than to other objects, suggesting that witnesses direct attention to a weapon faster than to other surrounding details.

82. How a Photoarray Member’s Demeanour may Increase Mistaken Identifications or Misses. Tomoko Nishizawa, Flinders University; Neil Brewer, Flinders University; Matthew Palmer, University of Tasmania.

We investigated how a photoarray member’s facial expression may bias identification decisions. Witnesses attempted an identification from either a ‘neutral’ photoarray (i.e., all members had neutral facial expressions) or a biased array (i.e., one member was smiling). Depending on the smile (normal positive smile vs. distinctive smile), the face was judged as more or less familiar-looking. These effects on familiarity increased the risk of mistaken eyewitness identification decisions by increasing the risk of (a) false suspect identifications (when the face appeared more familiar) or (b) false rejections of the lineup (when the face appeared less familiar).

83. Double-blind Lineups Protect against both False Identifications and Inflated Confidence in those Identifications. Vanessa Quiroz, Florida International University; Steve Charman, Florida International University.

Although almost unanimously recommended by researchers, there is surprisingly little empirical data supporting the need for double-blind lineups in which the administrator is not aware of the identity of the suspect. The current research provides additional data examining the effect of double-blind lineups on witnesses’ identifications of suspects and their confidence in those identifications. Replicating past research, we show that double-blind lineups reduce mistaken identifications of suspect. Contrary to past research, we provide evidence that double-blind lineups reduce confidence in mistaken identifications without reducing confidence in correct identifications. Implications of these results for the importance of double-blind lineups are discussed.

84. The Effect of Handcuffs and Unbiased Instructions on Showup Identification Decisions. Victoria Lawson, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Audrey Lee, The Bronx High School of Science; Deryn Strange, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

The showup is commonly used but there has been little research on the procedure, and it is not clear to what extent experimental research to date has captured the suggestiveness of showups used in real cases. We investigated the influence of the presence of handcuffs and unbiased instructions on identification decisions from showups which did or did not include the perpetrator. Preliminary results suggest that the presence of handcuffs increases choosing rates, but that unbiased instructions do not influence showup identification decisions. These results indicate that handcuffs should be removed before the suspect is viewed by the eyewitness.

85. The Effects of Victim and Defendant Attractiveness, Attire, and Gender on Culpability Judgments and Legal Decisions in Teacher-Student Sexual Abuse Cases. Alissa Anderson, Appalacian State University; Allie Macquinon, Appalacian State University; Twilla Wingrove, Appalacian State University; Paul Fox, Appalacian State University.

In the context of adult-victim sex crimes, extralegal factors such as perceptions of the victim and defendant often affect jurors’ abilities to make impartial legal decisions. We explored whether these perceptions similarly influenced jurors’ decisions in child-victim crimes involving students and teachers. In the present study, we evaluated how manipulations of victim and defendant attractiveness, modesty, and gender impacted victim and defendant culpability judgments and legal decisions. Modesty of the actors significantly influenced both victim and defendant culpability judgments. Victim and defendant gender significantly affected perceptions of culpability and sentencing, as did attractiveness.

86. Does Taxing Cognitive Load at Cross-Examination Improve Deception Detection Rates of Children Truths and Lies? Christine Saykaly, McGill University; Victoria Talwar, McGill University; Mary Morris, McGill University; Rand Ghazala, McGill University.

The current study examined undergraduate student’s ability to detect deception of children (9 to 12 years) when questioned in a high cognitive load cross examination. Participants had to determine whether children’s accounts of an event included a true denial, false denial, true assertion or false assertion about an interaction with researcher one week prior. Overall, participants were at chance level for both direct-examination (49.4%) and cross-examination (52.3%). Accuracy for true stories was greater than for false stories. Cross-examination improved the detection rates of the false stories, but worsened the accuracy of the true stories. Credibility and believability ratings were similar.

87. The Effects of Interviewer Gender on Promoting Truthfulness in Children. Ida Foster, McGill University; Joshua Wyman, McGill University; Victoria Talwar, McGill University.

When interviewing child witnesses, especially in cases of abuse, much research has focused on the proper interrogative techniques law enforcement can use to promote truthfulness. However, little research has examined whether interviewer gender plays a role in eliciting truthful responses. This study examined the effects of interviewer gender on children aged 6 to 11 years old, using a series of free-recall and closed-ended questions to promote truthfulness in responses. Results suggest that children are more truthful to male interviewers. Implications for forensic settings will be discussed.

88. Mock Jurors’ Expectations of Emotions Displayed by Child Witnesses. Daniel Bederian-Gardner, UC Davis; Kimberly Procida, UC Davis; Gail Goodman, UC Davis.

This study investigated mock jurors’ expectations of child victims’ non-verbal characteristics during testimony. A total of 160 participants were asked to rate the likelihood and intensity of emotion displayed by children during testimony. For 5-year-old and 13-year-old sexual abuse victims, each participant rated the following emotions: sadness, fear, disgust, anger, surprise, and happiness. Results indicated that mock jurors’ expectations of emotions vary by children’s age and gender, as well as by juror characteristics. Implications of these findings for the legal system will be discussed.

89. Children’s Language Ability and Suggestibility: Preliminary results of a meta-analytic review. Elizabeth Uh, Georgia Southwestern State University.

Researchers who have sought to identify individual differences in suggestibility have often come to conflicting conclusions. A 2004 review of the relevant literature found little evidence to support the existence of a relationship between language ability and suggestibility, but more relevant research has documented a relationship. This analysis systematically reviewed and synthesized the research on this topic. Twenty-three effect sizes were included in this analysis and the weighted average effect size was $r = -0.25$. The studies were not homogeneous so several moderator analyses were conducted. The use of negative feedback was a significant moderator of suggestibility.
90. The Influence of Eyewitness Age, Scene Familiarity, & Descriptor Inconsistencies on Mock Jurors’ Perceptions. Jennifer Reed, Carleton University; Joanna Pozzulo, Carleton University.

The objective of the present study is to examine the influence of three eyewitness factors on mock jurors’ perceptions of eyewitness testimony: 1) eyewitness age, 2) familiarity with the scene prior to the crime being committed, and 3) the number of descriptor inconsistencies between witness’s description and the defendant’s appearance. Both age and number of descriptor inconsistencies significantly predict eyewitness credibility ratings. Furthermore, Ross, Jurden, Lindsay, and Keeney’s (2003) two-factor model of child witness credibility is supported, with honesty emerging as a separate factor from credibility for the 12 year old eyewitness.

91. Eyewitness Age and Mock Jurors’ Perceptions of Eyewitness Testimony: A meta-analysis. Jennifer Reed, Carleton University; Joanna Pozzulo, Carleton University.

Research has produced mixed results regarding the influence of eyewitness age on mock jurors’ perceptions of eyewitness testimony (e.g. Goodman, Gelding, Helgeson, Haith, & Michelli, 1987; Holcomb & Jacquin, 2007; Bruer & Pozzulo, 2012). This meta-analysis tested two hypotheses related to the pattern found in research to date: 1) perceived eyewitness credibility will increase with eyewitness age on average for sexual assault cases, and 2) perceived eyewitness credibility will decrease with eyewitness age on average for cases not involving sexual assault. Both of these hypotheses were supported.

92. Judicial Inferences in Child Sexual Abuse Cases. Kaila Bruer, University of Regina; Chelsea Sheahan, Simon Fraser University; Heather Price, University of Regina; Deborah Connolly, Simon Fraser University.

A small body of research has explored judicial decision-making in child sexual abuse (CSA) cases and found that judges make inferences without apparent evidence (Connolly, Price & Gordon, 2010). The present study sought to shed light on these inferences by examining judicial comments in CSA cases. The most common inferences made were about personal characteristics of the trial witnesses. Judges made significantly more inferences in cases that resulted in acquittals than convictions. Unexpectedly, time delays in the accused being brought to trial and number of complainants involved in the case were unrelated to the number of judicial inferences.

93. The Effects of Facility Animals in the Courtroom on Juror Decision-Making. Kayla Burd, Cornell University; Dawn McQuiston, Wofford College.

Child sexual abuse cases are notoriously difficult and often hinge on the testimony of young witnesses. To alleviate stress in children witnesses, procedural innovations are sometimes used to calm them, including comfort toys and courthouse dogs. Courthouse dogs assist individuals with difficulties in many courtroom situations. While these animals are increasingly used, it is not known whether they are prejudicial to defendants or witnesses. The current study investigated the impact of witness type (victim / bystander) and innovations (courthouse dog / comfort toy / none) on jurors’ decision making. Results indicate that innovations, emotions, and witness credibility affect trial judgments.

94. Parent-Child Conversations and Children’s Eyewitness Memory. Kelly Mc-Williams, University of California, Davis; Gail Goodman, UC Davis.

When children are eyewitnesses to crime, their initial reports are not likely to occur in the presence of the authorities. Rather, children often first recount crucial information to caregivers and loved ones in unstructured and unrecorded conversations. There is considerable concern that children’s initial conversations with family members are sources of contamination and misleading information and that loved ones’ own biases can strongly influence children’s later reports. The present study aims to expand the literature by exploring various factors of parent-child interactions about an unshared event and the relation of such interactions to the accuracy of children’s eyewitness memory reports.

95. Mediators and Moderators of Supportive Child Interviewing After One Year. Liana Peter-Hagene, University of Illinois at Chicago; Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago; Suzanne Davis, EDGE Litigation Consulting, LLC; Kari Nyssse-Carris, NORC at University of Chicago.

Children’s suggestibility to misleading questions was assessed as a function of supportive (versus non-supportive) interviewing immediately and one year after a target event. Supportive interviewing reduced the decline in accuracy over time. Supportive and non-supportive interviewing positively impacted the accuracy and liking and the interviewer mediated the positive effects of interviewer support on accuracy. Interviewer support at Time 1, Time 2, or both, also moderated the effect of several individual differences (age, parental attachment, working memory capacity, and attention deficits) on children’s accuracy. Interviewer support helped children overcome the otherwise negative effects of young age and low levels of secure attachment and working memory.

96. Suggestibility and Debrieﬁng: Is suggestibility associated with false information provided by children after debrieﬁng? Monica Reisalu, University of Toledo; Kamala London, University of Toledo.

Children engaged in a three-stage suggestibility study involving a staged magic show and watched a debriefing video of the event after completing a memory test for the event. After debriefing, children were asked if they made any mistakes, forgot anything, or did not make mistakes or forgot anything. Then children were asked to indicate their mistakes and what they forgot. False assent rates were positively correlated to the amount of inaccurate information provided by children after watching the debriefing video. Even after debriefing, children who assent to false information lacked the ability to distinguish between correct and incorrect information.

97. Children’s Memory and Suggestibility about a Stressful Event: The role of attachment orientations. Yoojin Chae, Texas Tech University; Mirunda Goodman, Eckerd College; Gail Goodman, UC Davis; Natalie Troxel, University of California, Davis; Kelly McWilliams, University of California, Davis; Ross Thompson, University of California, Davis; Phillip Shaver, UC Davis; Keith Widaman, UD Davis.

Children’s memory for stressful events has been a crucial issue in legal cases. This study examined the role of attachment orientations in children’s memory for and suggestibility about a stressful experience. Three- to five-year-olds’ (N = 89) memory and suggestibility about experiences during the Strange Situation Procedure (SSP) were tested. Greater attachment security in children was associated with answering specific questions about the SSP more accurately. Increased child distress during the SSP predicted better memory for the experience. Age was a robust predictor of memory accuracy. Findings provide important implications for forensic professionals who work with children in legal contexts.

98. What is Wrong may also be Right: The role of perceived wrongfulness in the integrated legal socialization model. Alex Blandina, University of New Hampshire; Ellen Cohn, University of New Hampshire.

The integrated legal socialization model attempts to explain rule-violating behavior (RVB) variation among adolescents. Although this model predicts much of adolescents’ engagement in RVB, the researchers ignored one component, perceived wrongfulness, despite research support for perceived wrongfulness predicting attitudes toward RVB. We hypothesize that perceived wrongfulness cannot be used interchangeably with approval towards RVB despite being semantically opposite, because they are separate constructs. When normative status, wrongfulness, and enforcement status are included within the model, enforcement does not predict any RVBs; while both normative status and wrongfulness remain as separate mediating pathways. Further implications of our findings will be discussed.


1st Place Undergraduate Paper Winner. There appears to be no research to date that examines the social consequences of being a mentally ill offender, a factor that can play a role in a released offender’s actions and successful reentry into the community. This study sought to serve as a pilot test to bridge the gap between social perceptions of the mentally ill, the broader offender population, and that of the mentally ill offender. Results showed a significant difference in the negative attitudes between mentally ill individuals and mentally ill offenders. Significant differences were also found in attitudes regarding treatability, social distance, future dangerousness, and competency.

“Terrorism” describes a range of behaviors conducted by a variety of groups. I argue that violence can be explained by group traits in relation to varying political, cultural, and religious contexts in which groups operate. This study uses longitudinal multilevel-modeling to analyze how terrorist group traits and country characteristics, including counterterrorism policies, influence violence. Results show there are significant relationships between violence and “stick” counterterrorism policies and oppressive/violent governments. This study evaluates how group characteristics moderate the influence of counterterrorism tactics. It’s one of few studies on terrorism to use advanced statistics to evaluate these relationships over time and cross-nationally.

070. University of California, Irvine Social
9:00 to 11:00 pm
Maurepas, 3rd Floor

071. Sam Houston State University Social
8:00 to 10:00 pm
Evangeline, 329 Decatur Street (French Quarter)

072. University of Nebraska-Lincoln Social
8:00 to 11:00 pm
Gallery Ballroom, 1st Floor

073. Early Career Professional Social
8:00 to 11:00 pm
Irvin Mayfield’s Jazz Playhouse
(at the Royal Sonesta Hotel)
300 Bourbon St.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

074. Juvenile Confessions
8:00 to 9:00 am
Nottoway, 4th Floor

Minimizing Perceptions of Guilt: Effects of interrogation technique and suspect age on views of juvenile confessions. Kelsey Villamarin, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Dominick Atkinson, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Amye Warren, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Natalie Kulisek, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Confessions of juvenile suspects are sometimes discounted if they are elicited by clearly coercive interrogation techniques. This study examined the influence of interrogation technique (maximization or minimization) and suspect age (12 versus 16 years) on perceptions of juvenile confessions in 429 college student participants. Compared to the 16-year-old in either condition or the 12-year-old in the Maximization condition, the 12-year-old in the Minimization condition was rated as more likely to be making a false confession. Contributions of participant gender, ratings of interview fairness, and ratings of the juvenile’s understanding of the interview are discussed.

Developmental Differences in Considering a False Confession. Pamela Pimentel, Florida International University; Andrea Armendorf, Florida International University; Lindsay Malloy, Florida International University.

A relatively large body of research indicates that youth are at disproportionate risk for providing false confessions. However, experimental research is lacking concerning the motivations for and processes by which individuals decide to take responsibility for an act of wrongdoing not committed, especially among youth. Using 80 interrogation transcripts (41 adults, 39 adolescents) from a laboratory study, we examined developmental differences in whether participants: (a) sought help from others, (b) mentioned potential consequences for themselves or confederates, and (c) explicitly accused or implicated the confederate in wrongdoing. Results indicate developmental differences that may have important implications in the interrogation room.

The Role of Suspect and Juror Attributions in Public Perceptions of Juvenile Confession Evidence. Hayley Cleary, Virginia Commonwealth University; Todd Warner, University of Virginia; Lucy Guarnera, University of Virginia.

This study explored how suspect attributes (gang involvement, age) and juror attributes (demographic variables, attitudes toward youth gangs) impact jurors’ evaluation of juvenile confession evidence. Participants (N = 363) read a vignette where a youth confessed to an assault following a police interrogation. Participants then evaluated key interrogation/confession aspects such as confession voluntariness and suspect’s legal understanding and suggestibility. Results suggest that jurors consider a young suspect’s age when evaluating maturity of judgment and that juror attributes exerted considerable influence over perceptions of confession evidence, even predicting participants’ final verdicts.

Chair:
Lindsay Malloy, Florida International University

075. Substance Use and Offending: Moderators and Treatment
8:00 to 9:00 am
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

Does Substance Abuse Moderate the Relationship between Criminal Cognitions and Recidivism? Johanna Folk, George Mason University; Michael Caudy, University of South Florida; Alese Woodrich, George Mason University; Jeffrey Stuewig, George Mason University; Andres Martinez, George Mason University; Stephanie Maas, George Mason University; June Tanglemy, George Mason University; Faye Taxman, George Mason University.

Substance use disorders are common among offenders, yet this dynamic risk factor is often considered secondary to criminal cognitions in predicting recidivism. Individuals can exhibit high levels of neither, one, or both needs and better understanding the relationship between the two would contribute to more precise assessment and treatment planning. This study used two independent criminal justice samples: drug-involved probationers and jail inmates to examine whether severity of substance use disorder symptoms moderated the relationship between criminal cognitions and recidivism. For both samples, high levels of substance dependence attenuated the relationship between criminal cognitions and recidivism.

A Comprehensive Typology of Substance Misusing Offenders: Towards the understanding of offender diversity. Anthony Hopley, University of New Brunswick; Caroline Brunelle, University of New Brunswick-Saint John.

The Substance Use Risk profile (SURP) typology posits that there are four personality subtypes (anxiety sensitivity, introversion/hopelessness, sensation seeking and impulsivity) which are associated with distinct patterns of substance misuse and comorbid psychopathology. This study investigates how the SURP model applies to incarcerated male offenders and whether it can predict institutional substance use. Latent class cluster analysis revealed the presence of three distinct clusters and survival analysis indicated a significant effect of cluster membership on days until first institutional substance use. High impulsivity and introversion/hopelessness appear to be markers of drug severity and comorbidity in this population.


In June 2013 the US District Court approved a federal consent decree mandating sweeping changes to bring the New Orleans Parish Prison up to constitutional standards; the 104-page finding of fact is shocking to read, documenting widespread violence and poor mental health care. The presenter will contrast those findings with a drug treatment prison she established and managed for 5 years in Sydney, Australia in which an independent evaluation found improved mental/physical well-being, low perceived coercion/high therapeutic alliance, and less than 2% illicit drug use. The prison is managed on a human rights model and emphasizes the relational aspects of inmate management.

Developmental Appropriateness of the DSM-V Substance-Related Disorders Criteria as applied to Justice-Involved Youth. Leah
his paper will discuss the developmental perspectives of those who experience the objectification and those who simply read about it. In line with affective forecasting, predictors, as compared to experiencers, overestimated the negative impact of the objectification on ratings of positive and negative emotions, performance ability, and judgments of sexual harassment.

Chair:
Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska

077. Intimate Partner Violence and Abuse
8:00 to 9:00 am
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Generating Batterer Subtypes Using the MMPI-2-RF PSY-5 Scales. Rachel Rock; Martin Sellhom, Australian National University; Matthew Huss, Creighton University. Domestic violence is a serious problem in the United States, with almost two million instances occurring annually. Because of the damage batterers cause, it is important to further understand them by examining various batterer subtypes. We used an alternative approach to elaborate on their heterogeneity by emphasizing individual differences using the MMPI-2-RF Personality Psychopathology Five scales and several extra-test criteria. Latent Class Analyses indicated a 3-class solution for 483 male batterers in a batterers intervention program: Low Pathology, Emotionally Labile, and Antisocial/Psychopathic. These findings may help clinicians identify which personality trait combinations are more attributable to certain types of batterers.

Disclosure Patterns of Abuse: A retrospective approach. Kathy McGuire, Western Illinois University; Kamala London, University of Toledo. This study retrospectively examined the likelihood of disclosure, denial, and recantation of child abuse (N = 400). Findings revealed that for CSA victims (N = 47) most disclosed the abuse during childhood (68%). However, individuals reporting physical abuse (N = 57) were far less likely to report having disclosed the abuse in childhood (29%). Questioning increased the likelihood of CSA disclosure (91.7%) and physical abuse disclosure (56%). Denial (8%) and recantation (7%) were infrequent among CSA victims. Denial was more frequent among physically abused victims (44%) though recantation remained infrequent (4%). Delay of disclosure was common for both abuse types.

Measurement Equivalence of Intimate Partner Abuse Across Genders. Karey O’Hara, University of Arizona; Melissa Tehee, University of Arizona; Andrew Perkins, University of Arizona; Connie Beck, University of Arizona. Decades of empirical research on the measurement of Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) have lead to a long-standing debate regarding gender symmetry in levels of perpetration and victimization. The current paper seeks to investigate measurement equivalence across genders for one screening measure of IPA, the Relationship Behavior Rating Scale (RBRBS; Beck et al., 2013). IPA was measured in a sample of divorcing couples mandated to mediate custody and parenting time disputes in one jurisdiction. A multiple group confirmatory factor analysis revealed measurement variance across genders, therefore making it impossible to make inferences about gender symmetry in perpetration or victimization of IPA.

Intimate Partner Abuse in Hispanic Divorcing Couples: Risk and protective factors and help-seeking behaviors. Melissa Tehee, University of Arizona; Andrew Perkins, University of Arizona; Connie Beck, University of Arizona. Little is known about Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) in divorcing Hispanic couples or how divorcing Hispanic couples utilize legal or clinical services in regards to their experience of IPA. The current study uses a subsample from a larger investigation to describe the occurrence IPA in a divorcing Hispanic sample, examine the risk/protective factors which might lead to the IPA, and finally try to understand how these factors impact the help-seeking behaviors of such couples.

Chair:
Martin Sellhom, Australian National University
078. Eyewitnesses: Accuracy, expert testimony, and juror perceptions
8:00 to 9:00 am
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor
Video-Recorded Identification Decisions: Post-identification feedback eliminates observer sensitivity to eyewitness accuracy. Jennifer Beaudry, Swinburne University of Technology; James Sauer, University of Portsmouth.
DNA exonerations demonstrate the fallibility of eyewitness memory and the inability of fact-finders to accurately evaluate identification reliability. One potential solution to ‘overbelief’ of eyewitnesses is to present a video-record of the identification procedure in court. Participants (N = 180) viewed eight genuine eyewitness identifications (four accurate, four inaccurate). Confirming post-identification feedback (present vs. absent) and the camera angle from which the identification was recorded (witness-, administrator-, or equal-focus) were manipulated between subjects. Observers were able to discriminate between accurate and inaccurate identifications; however, this discrimination ability was eliminated when the lineup administrator provided feedback to the eyewitness.
Eyewitness Identification: A novel approach to increasing hits and reducing misses. Neil Brewer, Flinders University; Nathan Weber, Flinders University; D Stephen Lindsay, University of Victoria.
Recent eyewitness identification research has shown that the pattern of confidence judgments across photo-array members can more accurately classify whether a stimulus has been seen before than conventional identification tests. Moreover, obtaining these confidence judgments under a short response deadline is particularly effective. Here we extend that research in two important directions. First, we show when deadlined confidence judgments produce superior performance to non-deadlined judgments. Second, we show the pattern of confidence judgments is strongly predictive of suspect guilt even when the witness would have rejected the array because they could not discriminate between the suspect and another array member.
Does Inconsistency Predict Overall Inaccuracy?: Investigating the inconsistency/inaccuracy relationship with guidance from a litigation expert. Alexandria Mosser, Florida International University; Ronald Fisher; Laurence Rose, University of Miami.
Emphasizing inconsistencies in an eyewitness’s testimony is one of the most effective and prevalent strategies used by attorneys to impeach an eyewitness’s credibility (Glissan, 1991). However, previous research suggests that inconsistency in eyewitness memory is not indicative of overall inaccuracy. One criticism of this literature is the absence of guidance by the legal community in the design of past research. Accordingly, the present study was guided by a legal expert and incorporated more legal concerns. Preliminary results suggest that inconsistency does not predict overall inaccuracy, essentially invalidating long-held legal assumptions about inconsistency and overall inaccuracy.
The Relationship between Eyewitness Memory and Perceived Intoxication Level. Byron Garcia, FIU; Nadja Schreiber Compo, FIU; Rolando Carol, Auburn University Montgomery; Pamela Pimentel, FIU; Jacqueline Evans, FIU; Caroline Mikael, Florida International University; Michelle Pena, Florida International University; Elaine Mederos; Luís Puertas, Florida International University; Dodanim Altamirano; Ian Campbell, Florida International University; Ann-Sophie Jerome, FIU; Stephan Rose; Howard Holness, FIU; Kenneth Furton, FIU.
Recent research on alcohol’s effect on witness memory suggests the inability of fact-finders to accurately evaluate identification reliability. The inability of fact-finders to accurately evaluate identification reliability. The inability of fact-finders to accurately evaluate identification reliability. One potential solution to ‘overbelief’ of eyewitnesses is to present a video-record of the identification procedure in court. Participants (N = 180) viewed eight genuine eyewitness identifications (four accurate, four inaccurate). Confirming post-identification feedback (present vs. absent) and the camera angle from which the identification was recorded (witness-, administrator-, or equal-focus) were manipulated between subjects. Observers were able to discriminate between accurate and inaccurate identifications; however, this discrimination ability was eliminated when the lineup administrator provided feedback to the eyewitness.

079. Competence and Psychiatric Disorders
8:00 to 9:00 am
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor
The demands on respondents in administrative proceedings require abilities that differ from those in criminal proceedings. Accordingly, the competence requirements referenced in Dusky do not necessarily apply in immigration proceedings. This paper will address various issues surrounding competence in immigration proceedings, including three competencies required in administrative proceedings, the standard of competence adopted in US immigration courts, how the immigration court and Dusky standards compare, implementation of a program to identify and evaluate respondents whose competence is at issue in immigration proceedings, and protections used to ensure incompetent respondents in immigration proceedings receive fair hearings.
Prevalence of Psychological Disorders in a Predominantly Hispanic Sample of First-Time Juvenile Offenders. Tamara Kang, University of Texas of El Paso; James Wood, University of Texas at El Paso; Jennifer Eno Louden; Elijah Ricks, The University of Texas at El Paso.
In recent years juvenile justice agencies have struggled to determine the proportion of juvenile offenders with mood, anxiety, or psychotic disorders to inform mental health service planning. Studies that have addressed this issue have arrived at substantially discrepant prevalence estimates. The inconsistent findings suggest that prevalence rates may differ among subgroups of offenders. First-time juvenile offenders (N = 694) were interviewed using the K-SADS. The results revealed that the prevalence of mood, anxiety, and psychotic disorders in the present sample was comparable to previous studies of less serious offenders, but was substantially lower than the rates reported for serious offenders.
Cognitive Functioning, Adaptive Behavior, and Competence Related Abilities in Children and Adolescents. Theresa Fraser, Sam Houston State University; Nancy Panza, California State University Fullerton.
This study investigated the effects of age, cognitive functioning, and adaptive behavior on abilities related to competence to stand trial (CST) and competence to waive Miranda rights (CWM) for a group of 92 youth between the ages of 8 to 16. Results revealed that together the variables were predictive of both types of competence; however, less so for CST than for CWM. Age was an important predictor of both types of competence, cognition was important for all but one aspect of CWM, and adaptive functioning was not a significant predictor. Further results and implications for court-administered competence evaluations are discussed.
Chair: Jennifer Eno Louden

080. Competency to Participate in Immigration Proceedings
9:15 to 10:35 am
Nottoway, 4th Floor
Competence to Participate in Immigration Proceedings: Legal analysis & update. Derek Hess, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Casey Sharpe, Chicago School of Professional Psychology.
Competency in immigration proceedings is a quickly-developing area that currently lacks sufficient legal analysis, research, or guidelines. Landmark cases and policies that have been developed over the past two years are likely to create an increased demand for competency evaluations in immigration cases. This symposium paper presents the foundational legal information needed to guide clinicians, researchers, and attorneys. It highlights a new legal competency that seems to be distinct from other, more well-established competencies. It discusses relevant background information about the U.S. immigration system, clarifies vagueness in the current competency standard, and directs further analysis and research.
Competence to Participate in Immigration Proceedings: Practice update and preliminary considerations for clinicians. Casey Sharpe, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Derek Hess, Chicago School of Professional Psychology.
Competence to Participate in Immigration Proceedings: Real-world perspectives, challenges, and tips. Janet Beck, University of Houston; Derek Hess, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Casey Sharpe, Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

How immigration court judges apply the M-A-M competency standard has yet to be formally examined. As such, this paper provides insights and analysis from the perspective of an experienced immigration attorney about how the standard is often applied and how hearings are conducted. It also identifies and discusses special considerations regarding evaluation and testimony that evaluators should consider. This information supports the theoretical and legal information provided in the other symposium papers. It is important for clinicians, researchers, and attorneys to generate discussion, inform clinical and legal practice, and direct future research, especially given that quantitative research is currently available.

Inquiry into the Evaluation of Competence in Immigration Proceedings. Addie Garland, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Casey Sharpe, Chicago School of Professional Psychology; Derek Hess, Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Given recent developments in immigration law and policy, requests for psychologists to evaluate competence in immigration proceedings will likely increase. Currently, there is limited data regarding how often the question of competency arises in removal cases. This research project will survey psychologists, psychiatrists, and immigration attorneys in order to explore the above question. The goal of this research is to establish preliminary information regarding the frequency, context, common testing methods employed, and potential challenges posed in conducting competency to participate in immigration proceedings evaluations.

Chair: Derek Hess, Chicago School of Professional Psychology
Discussant: Thomas Grisso, University of Massachusetts Medical School

081. The Other 97%: Psycho-legal factors and consequences of plea bargaining
9:15 to 10:35 am
Oak Alley, 4th Floor


In the 1970 case of Brady v. US, the Supreme Court authorized plea bargaining as a form of American justice. However, the decision also contained a vital caveat that has been largely overlooked for almost forty years. Brady contains a safety-valve that caps the amount of pressure that may be asserted against defendants by prohibiting prosecutors from offering incentives in return for guilty pleas that are so coercive as to overbear defendants’ abilities to act freely. This article examines the history of plea bargaining and the impact of the Brady safety-valve on the current debate regarding plea bargaining’s innocence problem.

Let’s Make A Deal: Varying plea discount and conviction probability to get a deal. Miko Wilford, Iowa State University; Gary Wells, Iowa State University; Shelby Forsythe, University of Nevada, Reno; Taylor Harrison, Iowa State University.

Plea convictions in the U.S. have been increasing since the 1980s. This increase coincides with new laws that created broad prosecutorial discretion by toughening prison sentences. Defendants can now receive plea deals for a fraction of the sentences and charges that they would otherwise face at trial—a reduction known as the plea discount. The current research examined the effects of plea discount and conviction probability on the willingness of innocent and guilty individuals to accept a plea deal. Interestingly, the manipulations impacted the propensity of the innocent to accept the plea, but had no discernable effect on the guilty.

System Factors in a “System of pleas.” Josh Haby, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Jeremy Blumenthal, Syracuse University; Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The high rate of plea-bargaining has attracted attention from scholars and legal actors, causing some to question the current system. Related psychological research and legal opinion suggest attorney’s advice and the physical surroundings, both known to vary in plea-situations, may influence defendants’ perceptions and potentially the voluntariness of pleas. In two vignette studies adapted to an academic setting, the effects of Recommendation and Room Size are investigated, along with Defendant’s Guilt and Deal offered, on participants’ opinions and decisions to take a plea. Findings suggest Guilt, Deal, Recommendation, and Room Size negatively influence perceptions and evaluations in a plea-bargaining-like situation.

Plea Decision-Making among Defense Attorneys, Prosecutors, and Judges. Allison Redlich, University at Albany (SUNY); Robert Norris, University at Albany, SUNY.

Although the overwhelming majority—97%—of convictions are the result of guilty pleas, we know surprisingly little about the decision-making of legal actors involved in the process. We surveyed 1,585 defense attorneys, prosecutors, and judges using a hypothetical case. We examined the factors they chose to consider in their decision-making, as well as the plea decision itself. Results revealed that in comparison to prosecutors and judges, defenders examined significantly more factors and were the least likely to advise a plea. However, the value of plea offers was unaffected by legal actor role.

Chair: Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Discussant: Shawn Bushway, SUNY Albany
of monitoring had adolescents reporting higher levels of delinquency. However, this finding did not extend to official arrest and charge data. Implications of findings are discussed.

Hispanic Subgroup Differences as a Moderator of Treatment Effects in Multidimensional Family. John Manning, Sam Houston State University; Craig Henderson, Sam Houston State University; Carla Munoz, Sam Houston State University; Jason Lawrence, Sam Houston State University; Hsiao-Wen Wang, Sam Houston State University; Gayle Dakof, University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine.

Juvenile substance use has been identified as a national health concern. Comparatively, Hispanic adolescents have higher rates of substance abuse disorder diagnoses, yet previous studies have indicated that Hispanics are less likely to receive treatment than their peers. Possible differences within the Hispanic population may be masked by assumed in-group homogeneity. The current study compared Cuban Hispanic and non-Cuban Hispanic participation and effectiveness of treatment across four studies comparing Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) and comparison treatments conducted in South Florida and found that Cuban Hispanic adolescents tended to complete treatment more frequently than other Hispanics.

Changes in Family Functioning may Differentially Affect Outcomes for Male and Female Adolescents in Substance Use and Delinquency Treatment. Theresa Fraser, Sam Houston State University; Craig Henderson, Sam Houston State University; Jason Lawrence, Sam Houston State University; Hsiao-Wen Wang, Sam Houston State University; Laadan Gharagozloo, Postdoctoral Fellow at Patton State Hospital/Graduate of Sam Houston State University; Alexandra Burks, Sam Houston State University; Cindy Mena, Sam Houston State University; Carla Munoz, Sam Houston State University.

This study examined the role of the family and participant gender in successful treatment of juvenile substance use and delinquency from five randomized clinical trials testing the effectiveness of a family-based treatment. Results revealed that both the family and comparison treatments improved substance abuse and delinquency, as well as improved family functioning through a 1 year follow-up. Gender differences were evidenced for family conflict, with females reporting greater improvements than males. Future analyses will examine the extent to which gender differences moderate the influence that improvements in family functioning have on decreases in substance abuse and delinquency.

Chair: Craig Henderson, Sam Houston State University
Discussant: Randall Salekin, University of Alabama

083. State Certification of Forensic Examiners
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

State Certification of Mental Health Professionals who Perform Criminal Forensic Evaluations. Michelle Guyton, Pacific University; Jon Ryan, Pacific University; Robert Cosby, Pacific University.

A reasonable minority of states require that criminal forensic evaluations are performed by mental health professionals with specific types of training and experience. The number of states requiring certification of forensic examiners is growing and there is no national standard for certification. Rather, states are individually developing their certification requirements resulting in significant heterogeneity. The introductory paper for this symposium addresses the status of forensic certification programs across the United States with an attempt to elucidate trends. We present data about the number and nature of forensic certification programs across the 51 states and District of Columbia.

Training and Certification of Forensic Psychologists in Massachusetts. Ira Packer, UMass Medical School.

Massachusetts has developed the most elaborate and comprehensive system for certification of forensic evaluators in the public sector (Frost, Camara, and Earl, 2006; Fein, et al. 1991). This paper will describe the evolution of the certification system in Massachusetts, the major elements of the process, data about its effectiveness, and future directions.

Three-step State Certification Program for Competency to Stand Trial Evaluators. Denis Zavodny, MA Department of Behavioral Health & DD; Karen Bailey, Georgia DBHDD.

This presentation will provide an overview of a state-operated forensic evaluator certification program where nearly all competency evaluations are completed by state employees in an institution-based, outpatient model (Melton, Petria, Poythress, & Slobogin, 2007; Packer & Grisso, 2011). Data on passing rates at each step of the certification process, reliability of mentor ratings, and evaluator variation in competency findings will be provided. Challenges to the implementation of a state certification system will be discussed. Future directions for the state, including forensic evaluator self-assessment and certification programs for criminal responsibility and, perhaps, risk assessment, will be described.

Stakeholder’s Perception of Oregon’s Forensic Evaluator Certification Program. Alexander Millkey, Northwest Forensic Institute, LLC; Michelle Guyton, Pacific University.

A substantial and growing minority of states require that criminal forensic evaluations are conducted by evaluators with state certification. Oregon implemented a certification program for forensic evaluators on January 1, 2012. Oregon’s certification program is unusual in that both private practitioners and evaluators employed by the state must be certified. This paper will describe the development and implementation of the Oregon Forensic Evaluator Certification Program and present results of an assessment of the program by various stakeholders, including forensic evaluators, attorneys, and state administrators.

Chair: Michelle Guyton, Pacific University
Discussant: Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University

084. Assessment of Youth Callous-Unemotional Traits
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor

Validity of Multiple Informant Evaluations of Callous-Unemotional Traits in Children with Conduct Problems. Sarah Haas, University at Buffalo; Lauryn Morrison, University of South Carolina; Dan Waschbusch, Penn State University; Mike Willoughby, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Karen Dereffinko, University of Kentucky; Sarah Helseth, Florida International University; Kat Crum, Florida International University; Amy Altszuler, Florida International University; Megan Ross, Florida International University; Erika Coles, Florida International University; William Pelham, Florida International University.

Callous-unemotional traits in childhood are an important indicator for later delinquency, including serious offending in juveniles. With respect to the DSM-5 addition of “Limited Prosocial Emotions”; as a specifier for Conduct Disorder, the goal of the current study was to better understand the concordance between parents and teachers ratings on callous-unemotional (CU) traits in a clinic-referred sample of elementary school-aged children. Results found that parent and teacher ratings of CU were largely discrepant, and teachers were optimal informants when reporting on CU traits in childhood. Preliminary results suggest combined ratings did not provide additional information beyond teacher-only ratings of CU.
Motivations for a Source to Resist an Interrogation: Consequences to the self versus consequences to an other. Julie LaBianca, University of Texas at El Paso; Chris Meissner, Iowa State University; Kate Houston, University of Texas at El Paso.

Literature suggests that potential consequences to the self are a major motivator for decisions to confess or resist an interrogation. Research also suggests that the potential consequences to the other person may also influence a source’s motivations to confess guilty knowledge. Additionally, personality measures related to interdependence versus personal independence and individual loyalty may also influence a source’s motivations to cooperate with or resist an interrogation. Therefore, the current experiment modeled how characteristics of the “other” (group membership) as well as individual personality differences (collectivism, individualism, and loyalty) affected a source’s decision to confess guilty knowledge to an interrogator.

Social Influence Interrogations: Internal and external sources of motivation. Kate Houston, University of Texas at El Paso; Chris Meissner, Iowa State University; Julie LaBianca, University of Texas at El Paso; Skye Woestehoff, University of Texas-El Paso; Amy Ross, UTEP; Steven Kleinman.

We aimed to investigate the applicability of social influence principles within the interrogation room by combining the knowledge we gained from our meta-analysis on underlying psychological mechanisms which may lead to information provision by an interviewee. Therefore, we developed interrogation scripts which utilize the same social influence principles but also activate either external or internal sources of pressure. We also attempted to manipulate interrogator-interviewee rapport separately to the interrogation technique. We found that participants provided more information about a guilty interaction than an innocent interaction, however internal and external pressures and/or rapport did not influence information gain by participants.

Working Memory Capacity and Cognitive Load Influence People’s Veracity Judgments of Interviewees. Sean Lane, Louisiana State University; Stephanie Martin, Louisiana State University; Emily Elliott, Louisiana State University; Kacie Menne, Louisiana State University.

Research suggests that increasing interviewees’ cognitive load can increase observers’ ability to discriminate lying from truth-telling. However, individuals differ in their response to cognitive load (working memory capacity). In this study, participants judged the veracity of interviewees’ descriptions of an event. These interviewees differed with respect to WMC, whether they were under load or not, and veracity. Overall, high WMC liars were believed more often than low WMC liars. Furthermore, low WMC truth-tellers were much less likely to be believed when under load than when not under load. Our results suggest that WMC differences may affect investigators’ assessments of veracity.

Using the Cognitive Interview to Elicit Information about Organizations. Ronald Fisher; Dana Hirn Mueller, Florida International University; Belinda Robertson, Florida International University.

We modified the Cognitive Interview (CI) for interviewing informants about terrorist organizations, a concern for national security. We simulated the task by interviewing undergraduate students about various organizations that they belonged to (e.g., fraternities, religious groups, or student government groups). Students were assigned randomly to be interviewed about their organization either via a modified CI or by the 5-Step Protocol, the interviewing technique taught at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Results from the first 21 participants were very encouraging and showed that the CI elicited almost 40% more information than did the 5-Step Protocol.

Chair: Melissa Russano, Roger Williams University
Discussant: Steven Kleinman

805. Current Advances in the Psychology of Investigative Interviewing: Experimental approaches
9:15 to 10:35 am
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor
The Impact of Cognitive Load and WMC on Information Elicitation and Deception Detection. Sean Lane, Louisiana State University; Stephanie Martin, Louisiana State University; Emily Elliott, Louisiana State University; Kacie Menne, Louisiana State University.

Increasing cognitive load during an interview has been found to improve lie detection. We extended this work by examining the independent and interactive effects of working memory capacity and cognitive load on both information elicitation and deception detection. Participants who differed in WMC lied or told the truth during an interview while performing a secondary task or not. Our results revealed that cognitive load reduced the accuracy and completeness of truthful reports, but WMC had no effect. Overall cues to deception were weak, and were not further enhanced by increased cognitive load. We discuss the implications for investigative interviewing.
086. Presidential Plenary Session: Do High Callous-Unemotional Traits in Children Compromise Early Parenting Interventions to Prevent Antisocial Behaviour? What Can We Do About It? Mark Dadds, Ph.D. 10:45 to 12:15 pm

Grand Ballroom, 5th Floor

Professor Mark Dadds is a Principal Research Fellow of the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, and Professor of Psychology and Director of the Child Behaviour Research Clinic at the University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia. He has developed and directed several national intervention programs for children, youth, and their families, at risk for mental health problems. He has served as National President of the Australian Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy, Director of Research for the Abused Child Trust of Queensland, and a recipient of several awards including an Early Career Award from the Division of Scientific Affairs of the Australian Psychological Society and a Violence Prevention Award for the Federal Government via the Institute of Criminology. Professor Dadds has authored 4 books and over 200 papers on child and family psychology. He has won the Australian Psychological Society's awards for Early Career Research and the Ian Matthew Campbell Award for excellence in Clinical Psychology. His primary interest is in parenting and child development with particular reference to early detection and intervention strategies for preventing lifelong mental health problems and antisocial behaviour.

Chair: Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley

087. APLS Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee Special Panel--Teaching Psychology and Law in the 21st Century: Implementation and assessment of innovative teaching strategies devised to promote experiential learning

Garrett L. Berman, Roger Williams University; Stephen J. Ross, University of Washington-Tacoma; Scott E. Culhane, University of Wyoming; Matthew T. Huss, Creighton University 1:30 to 2:50 pm

Nottoway, 4th Floor

The number of psychology and law courses offered at Universities has grown exponentially over the past 30 years. Given the growth in the number and variety of psychology and law courses, it is important to share innovative teaching strategies and techniques designed to engage student learning and retention. Presenters in this symposium sponsored by the Teaching, Training and Careers Committee will share a wide range of teaching techniques used to promote active learning inside and outside the classroom. Presenters will present teaching strategies on how to use emerging learning technologies, developing mock trials, creative group presentations, and other novel approaches that stimulate experiential learning. Speakers will illustrate how to implement and assess these various experiential learning exercises. In addition to the learning, teaching, and assessment strategies, one speaker will discuss the process, utility and impact of developing a teaching philosophy often required for acquiring and securing a teaching position in academia.

Learning by Doing! Encouraging and Implementing Active Learning in the Classroom. Garrett L. Berman, Roger Williams University.

The implementation and use of experiential learning in the classroom is gaining popularity and can be used as one of the criteria to evaluate teaching effectiveness. This presentation will focus on the importance of incorporating active learning strategies in psychology and law classes. A wide range of teaching techniques will be discussed including the development of mock trials, jury selection, use of engaging films, and how to engage students in focus groups. How implement these experiential exercises along with the advantages and disadvantages of executing these various approaches will be evaluated and discussed.

“There’s an App for that”: Incorporating learning technologies within the classroom. Stephen J. Ross, University of Washington, Tacoma.

As new learning technologies have emerged, the pressure to incorporate these tools within higher education has risen. This presentation will discuss the use of emerging technologies within the classroom and will provide an overview of specific technologies including, where available, research on their effectiveness. Although many, if not all, of the technologies discussed are transferable to flipped, hybrid, and/or online courses, the focus of this presentation will be on the use of these technologies within traditional face-to-face courses. The discussion will focus on those technologies that individual educators can incorporate with little to no financial cost.

Mail Correspondence and Enhance Student Learning. Scott E. Culhane, University of Wyoming.

Stepping beyond the bounds of the classroom is sometimes a daunting proposition to many academics. The idea of facilitating direct contact between students and convicted murderers would certainly turn off even the most seasoned teacher. There are pitfalls, such as time constraints and delays in mail correspondence, and internal concerns that dictate meetings or correspondence with department chairs, college deans, university presidents, and even the occasional parent. So what makes this project worthwhile? Quite simply the student feedback demonstrates such projects are an incredibly rewarding and engaging experience. Suggestions for successful implementation are discussed.

What is my (or even a) Teaching Philosophy and Does it Really Matter? Matthew T. Huss, Creighton University.

Many tenure track positions require the submission of a formal teaching statement when applying for a job and when seeking tenure and promotion. Traditionally, these teaching philosophies have been heralded as the foundation for an effective teaching style (Korn, 2012). This presentation discusses process of developing a teaching philosophy, typical elements that characterize them and potential areas (e.g., interdisciplinary focus) to include given recent emphases in academia. Ultimately, the question becomes whether these teaching philosophies achieve the desired outcomes. Data will be presented suggesting the actual use and impact of a process thought to be important to acquiring a job and securing a future in academia.

Chair: Garret L. Berman, Roger Williams University

088. Social/Cognitive Influences in Child Witness Interviewing 1:30 to 2:50 pm

Oak Alley, 4th Floor

Young Children’s Difficulty with “Do you know” Questions: Implications for questioning child witnesses. Angela Evans, Brock University; Stacia Stolzenberg, USC Gould School of Law; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law.

Indirect speech acts, or questions prefaced with “do you know,” are potentially problematic for young children who might be susceptible to pragmatic failure. The present study examined the impact of indirect speech acts on young children’s (N = 196, age range: 2-7) tendency to give elaborate responses to post-event questioning. Across two experiments varying distraction levels, younger children exhibited pragmatic failure by providing a simple “yes” or “no” response, answering only the explicit but not implicit question asked. In comparison, older children exhibited similar rates of giving elaborative responses to questions with indirect speech acts as when asked “Wh” questions.

The Influence of Prior “Knowledge” on Inexperienced Interviewers’ Questioning. Heather Price, University of Regina; Peter Ornstein, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Debra Poole, Central Michigan University.

Forty-three interviewers with no prior interviewing experience questioned children (N = 81) about a personally experienced event. Interviewers relied primarily on question types that are not recommended in the literature. The introduction of misleading prior “knowledge” exacerbated this negative questioning style by significantly increasing the likelihood of suggestive questioning compared to interviewers who received only vague background information. These findings, coupled with the high rate of observed acquiescence to suggestion by children, raise concerns about the natural questioning styles that children are exposed to when interviewed by adults who are not trained in forensic interviewing.
Young Children’s Understanding of Prepositions and Clothing Placement in a Lab and Court Setting. Stacia Stolzenberg, USC Gould School of Law; Thomas Lyon, USC Gould School of Law; Ronnie Weinstein, Brooklyn Law School; Leah Mirales, USC Gould School of Law; Brittany Younger, USC Gould School of Law.

In sexual abuse investigations, children are frequently asked questions about the placement of clothing as a means of assessing their credibility. In Study 1, 77 3–6-year-olds were asked to describe the placement of clothing on wooden figurines. In Study 2, 137 criminal trial transcripts were analyzed to investigate children’s use of prepositions related to clothing placement. Higher levels of accuracy were elicited from children when asked “Wh” questions, as opposed to yes-no, forced-choice, or open-choice questions, particularly when clothing was only partially on. However, in court children were rarely asked “Wh” questions about clothing placement.

Extended Guidelines for Interviewing Children who Alleged Repeated Abuse. Sonja Brubacher, Central Michigan University; Martine Powell, Deakin University; Kim Roberts, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Culminating from several decades of lab and field research on talking to children about their memories for repeated experience, we have recently developed extended guidelines for interviewers in cases of repeated child sexual abuse. These guidelines can be used in conjunction with any existing best practice protocol, and are currently being trialed in Australia. We review these contemporary guidelines (specifically; episodic practice of a repeated event; permitting a generic account; adopting children’s labels; and asking about differences), provide the empirical evidence supporting them, and present new information on their effectiveness.

Chair: Sonja Brubacher, Central Michigan University

Discussant: Karen Saywitz, UCLA

089. The Intersection of Risk Assessment, Sanctions, and Treatment in Juvenile Justice

1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor
Intervening with High-Risk Youth: Using science to achieve large-scale crime reduction. Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley.

A period of reform in juvenile crime regulation has begun – one that focuses on crime reduction and is being shaped by research on the prediction and malleability of criminal behavior. In this context, high-risk youth present a conundrum. Research indicates these are precisely the individuals to intensively treat to maximize crime reduction, but there are barriers to doing so. In this presentation (based on an Annual Review article), we synthesize research relevant to resolving this challenge. In our view, adolescence offers unique opportunities for risk reduction that could be realized in the juvenile justice system in cooperation with other institutions.

Institutionalizing Youth: Does it lead to higher rates of recidivism? Gina Vincent, UMass Medical School; Laura Guy, UMass Medical School; Bernice Gershenson, UMass Medical School; Rachael Perrault, UMass Medical School.

This study used a large sample of adjudicated young offenders (N = 1099) from three probation offices to investigate (a) the impact of implementing risk assessment on rates of institutionalization, and (b) the relation between institutionalization and recidivism. Data from the MacArthur Risk/Needs Assessment in Juvenile Probation: Implementation Study were used to compare youth before and after implementation of the SAVRY. Rates of institutionalization significantly decreased after the SAVRY was used in these decisions. Institutionalization did not lead to higher rates of general recidivism once risk level was taken into account but did result in more probation violations.


The juvenile justice system has long espoused an individualized, needs-focused approach to service provision. Institutional care in this system is often seen as a necessary, but undesirable, intervention. Yet little is known about the possible differential impact of institutional care related to adolescent risk and needs. Using data from the Pathways to Desistance Study, we examine the effects of different “dosages” (i.e., length of stay, number of treatment sessions) of service in institutions and whether services are matched to need for their effects on community outcomes (i.e., rearrest, self-reported offending, positive adjustment). We also examine whether risk moderates these relationships.

Discussant: Edward Mulvey, University of Pittsburgh

090. Examining Callousness among Youth and its Implications for Models of Antisocial Behavior and Psychopathy Development

1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor
Developmental Precursors of Adolescent Callousness/Low Prosociality in Low Income Urban Males. Rebecca Waller, University of Michigan.

Children with callous-unemotional (CU) traits (i.e., callousness/low prosociality) appear to display more severe forms of antisocial behavior. This study examines precursors of callousness/low prosociality among low-income, ethnically diverse boys (N=310). We test relationships between risk factors at ages 2-4, callousness/low prosociality at 10-12, and CU traits at 17. Results suggest that early adolescent callousness/low prosociality is related to toddler-aged risk factors, including observed rejecting parenting and maternal aggressive personality, and mediates links between early risk factors and CU traits at age 17. CU traits at age 17 were also directly related to socioeconomic status at age 2.

Applying the Social Information Processing Model to Childhood Callous-Unemotional Traits. David Schubeth, Simon Fraser University; Dave Pasalich, Simon Fraser University; Robert McMahon, Simon Fraser University; Kenneth Dodge, Duke University; John Lochman, University of Alabama.

Children with elevated callous-unemotional (CU) traits display a more stable and persistent pattern of aggressive behavior than low-CU peers, but less is understood regarding the specific sociocognitive processes underlying these differences. This study utilizes the Crick and Dodge (1994) Social Information Processing model to investigate SIP patterns unique to CU traits. Participants include 754 children from the control groups of the Fast Track project - a randomized controlled trial of a multimodal prevention program. Results will be discussed in relation to the underlying cognitive developmental mechanisms of CU traits and the implications for child-centered interventions addressing social problem solving issues.

Impaired Use of Expect Value Information in Youth with Disruptive Behavior Disorders during Decision-Making. Stuart White, National Institute of Mental Health, NIH.

Antisocial youth show impairment during decision-making. However, the computational basis of these deficits is poorly understood. In a reinforcement-learning paradigm, 20 DBD and 20 healthy youth underwent model-based functional MRI. Youth with DBD showed reduced use of reinforcement expectancy information relative to healthy youth when avoiding sub-optimal choices. Importantly, these impairments were unrelated to levels of CU traits. The current data suggest that decision-making dysfunction in DBD may represent a shared impairment irrespective of levels of CU traits. The theoretical and clinical implications of these findings will be discussed in the context of changes to DSM-5.
Trajectories of Interpersonal Callousness and Antisocial Behavior: Pathways to adult psychopathy. Samuel W. Hawes, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; Amy L. Byrd, University of Pittsburgh; Donald R. Lynam, Purdue University; Dustin A. Pardini, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

The current study examines how interpersonal callousness (IC) and antisocial behaviors (AB) in youth influence the development of adulthood psychopathy. This is examined among a sample of 508 boys followed longitudinally from late childhood to young adulthood, and reassessed during early adulthood. Latent growth curve models (LGCM) indicated initial levels and growth in IC and AB during early development predicted adulthood psychopathy. A bivariate LGCM demonstrated a significant latent interaction between initial levels of IC and AB in the prediction of adulthood psychopathy. The association between early developmental processes and the affective and antisocial components of psychopathy are discussed.

Chair: Rebecca Waller, University of Michigan
Discussant: Dustin Pardini, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

091. The Atkins Decision: Current issues and perspectives
1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor


In Ex parte Briseno (2004), seven questions (i.e., the Briseno Factors) were developed to aid fact-finders in the legal determination of intellectual disability (ID) in capital murder cases (i.e., Atkins cases). While concerns exist that these factors were borne from stereotypes, there has been no empirical support for these concerns. To evaluate the relationship between the Briseno Factors and determinations of ID, 62 judicial opinions in Atkins cases were reviewed. Chi-square analyses revealed a significant association between some of the factors and ultimate determinations of ID. These results suggest that Briseno factors are influencing Atkins decisions.


In 2002, the Supreme Court of the United States banned the execution of inmates with intellectual disability (ID; Atkins v. Virginia, 2002, 536 U.S. 304). In their decision, the justices cited a lowered level of culpability due to deficit in reasoning, judgment, and impulse control. With this decision, tiers-of-fact are now in the unenviable position of presumed expert in the diagnosis of a disorder that has been plagued by inaccurate and pejorative stereotyping. The results of this study provide support for a prototype of ID in terms of adaptive functioning, a factor that is influencing decision-making in Atkins cases.


Despite research supporting convergent validity between the Wechsler and Stanford-Binet tests, the results of the current study do not. The current study evaluated relations between the SB5 and WAIS-IV full scale (FSIQ) and composite IQ scores in a sample of 28 young adults with ID. FSIQs (Flynn corrected and not corrected) demonstrated a strong correlation (r = 0.90), while moderate to strong correlations were found between the composite scores. FSIQ for the SB5 was lower than the WAIS-IV and the mean difference between the two was 6.54 (Flynn corrected = 8.01). Implications for high-stakes decisions will be discussed.


Eighty-nine judicial opinions were reviewed to determine current practices in the assessment of malingering in Atkins cases. These 89 opinions represent 24% of the Atkins cases identified by search engines (e.g. LexisNexis). Preliminary analyses indicate that there is no standard of practice in the assessment of malingering. Results indicate that the methods used to assess malingering are exactly those that have been found to have high false positive rates when used in the assessment of individuals with intellectual disability. Implications for Atkins cases are discussed.

Mock Juries' Conundrum in Atkins Hearings: Deliberation, bias, and an IQ score of 76. Debra Chen; Karen Salekin; Caroline Titcomb, The University of Alabama.

A 2x2x2 between-subjects Atkins hearing mock jury paradigm randomized deliberation vs. no deliberation, presence vs. absence of an IQ score of 76, and order of Adaptive Behavior vs. IQ evidence presentation. Participants rated how convinced they were of ID, Need for Cognition, and endorsement of inaccurate ID stereotypes. Deliberating (vs. non-deliberating) mock jurors were more convinced of ID. Deliberation yielded lower within-subject stereotype endorsement post-deliberation than non-deliberating jurors post a filler task. When a 76 was present, high (versus low) NFC jurors were less convinced of ID. Implications for voir dire, trial strategy, and jury instructions are discussed.

Chair: Karen Salekin, The University of Alabama
Discussant: David DeMatteo, Drexel University

092. Current Advances in the Psychology of Investigative Interviewing: Field approaches
1:30 to 2:50 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor

Analysts and HUMINT Interrogations: Role and perceptions. Melissa Russano, Roger Williams University; Fadia Narchet, University of New Haven.

Although analysts are typically key members of intelligence interrogation teams, there has been little to no scientific research on their role in supporting interrogations. We conducted structured interviews of a small number of highly experienced HUMINT analysts in order to begin to address the gaps in our knowledge regarding the role and function of analysts when supporting interrogations, how to best utilize analysts during an interrogation, and other insights these third-party observers/participants have to share about the interrogation process. It is our hope that the results of this study will stimulate research and ultimately influence training models and best practices.

Examining the Meso-level Domains of the Interrogation Taxonomy: Emphases and dynamics. Christopher Kelly, St Johns University; Allison Redlich, University at Albany (SUNY); Jeanee Miller, University at Albany, SUNY.

Using a coding scheme based upon the many specific techniques and six domains identified in Kelly et al.’s (2013) “taxonomy of interrogation methods,” we analyzed a sample of law enforcement interrogation recordings of individuals suspected of serious crimes. We found that the rapport and relationship building domain was most emphasized by police investigators, followed by presentation of evidence, emotion provocation, and confrontation/competition, respectively. However, we found that the domain emphases varied over the course of the interrogations and depended upon how long the interrogation lasted, indicating a much more dynamic process of interrogating suspects than has been previously demonstrated.

An Experimental Survey of Investigative and Intelligence Interview Practices in Australasia. Diane Sivasubramaniam, Swinburne University; Jane Goodman-Delahunty, Charles Sturt University.

Interviewing practices and beliefs among international criminal and intelligence operators were examined in an online experimental survey. One section of the survey was administered as a 3 (Coercive, Non-coercive, Mixed) x 2 (Harm: Severe, Minor) between-subjects experiment to test effects on interviewers’ justice evaluations of an interview. Participants (n = 324) were recruited through policing and intelligence agencies in Australia, Indonesia, Norway, South Korea, Republic of China (ROC), Taiwan, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Participants reported a cooperative, information-gathering approach to intelligence interviewing. Findings on self-report measures were corroborated by strong effects of treatment in the...
A Field Study on the Feasibility and Effectiveness of the Eye-Closure Interview. Annelies Vredevelt, University of Cape Town; Colin Tredoux, uct; Kate Kempen, University of Cape Town; Alicia Nortje, University of Cape Town; Cheneal Puljevic, University of Cape Town; Gerard Labuschagne, South African Police Services. Laboratory research shows that eye-closure improves memory for events. We investigated whether the Eye-Closure Interview (ECI) was feasible and effective in a field setting. Forty witness interviews conducted by police interviewers trained in the ECI technique were compared with forty control interviews. Witnesses instructed to close their eyes did so during 95% of their descriptions. Interview condition did not affect the overall amount of information reported or ratings of forensic relevance, but witnesses in the ECI condition reported significantly more information about the perpetrator than witnesses in the control condition, suggesting that eye-closure could provide new leads for police investigations.

Interpreters and HUMINT Interrogations: Perceptions and insights. Melissa Russano, Roger Williams University; Fadia Narchet, University of New Haven. Although interpreters are often indispensable members of intelligence interrogation teams, there has been little to no systematic research about their role in and perceptions of the interrogation process. We surveyed 27 interpreters with HUMINT interrogation experience in order to begin to address the gaps in our knowledge regarding interpreters supporting interrogations. Topics included training, seating arrangements, interrogation team dynamics, and frequency and effectiveness of various interrogation techniques and approaches. It is our hope that the results of this study will stimulate research and ultimately influence training models and best practices.

Chair: Kate Houston, University of Texas at El Paso
Discussant: Susan Brandon, Federal Bureau of Investigation

093. Juvenile Offenders: Impulsivity and Resilience
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor
Pathways to Sensation Seeking Among First-Time Juvenile Offenders. Sachiko Donley, University of California- Irvine; Jordan Bechtold, University of California, Irvine; Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine. Using a life history approach it was hypothesized that 1) juvenile first-time offenders who were exposed to more violence during their lives would also exhibit more sensation seeking behaviors, and this relation would be mediated by juvenile’s subjective life expectancy; and 2) that the relation between juvenile’s exposure to violence and sensation seeking was curvilinear. First-time juvenile offenders were interviewed and assessed on all hypothesized constructs. Partial support for both hypotheses was found providing preliminary support for a life history approach in understanding sensation seeking among first-time juvenile offenders.

Links between Reoffending and Dynamic Change on Impulsivity within Justice Involved Youths. Jennifer Beneteau, Simon Fraser University; Jodi Viljoen, Simon Fraser University. While impulsivity has been identified as a dynamic risk factor for violence and reoffending in adolescence (Borum, 2000), less is known about the factors that may underlie changes, and whether change may directly link with reoffending over time. Using a sample of justice-involved youths, the current study found reliable change on two different measures of impulsivity across the 6 month follow up period, but limited evidence that changes predicted reoffending and aggression. Depressive and anxious mental health symptoms and a life stressors sum score were found to associate differentially with changing impulsivity scores, suggesting possible underlying mechanisms of change.

Impulse Control Moderates the Association between CU Traits and Delinquency and Aggression in a Sample of First-Time Offending Boys. Tina Wall, University of New Orleans; Paul Frick, University of New Orleans; Laura Thornton, University of New Orleans; James Ray, University of New Orleans; Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine; Laurence Steinberg, Temple University. The current study examined whether impulse control moderates the association between callous-unemotional (CU) traits and self-reported offending and aggression. First-time juvenile offenders (N = 1,218) completed a battery of self-report measures. Hierarchical regression analyses, controlling for age, ethnicity, and verbal intelligence, indicated that CU traits were more highly associated with delinquency and aggression at low levels of self-control. Further, this pattern was consistent for both violent and non-violent forms of delinquency and for both reactive and proactive forms of aggression.

The Role of Resiliency in Youths At-Risk of Antisocial Behaviour. Mary Ann Campbell, University of New Brunswick Saint John; Donaldal Canales, University of New Brunswick-Saint John; Caroline Brunelle, University of New Brunswick-Saint John. The current study determined which components of resiliency could be assets for crime prevention/reduction strategies. Male and female high school students (N=119) were assessed on resiliency characteristics and behavioural problems using self-report questionnaires. Adolescents at high-risk of aggressive/delinquent behaviour performed significantly more poorly on the resiliency domain of emotional reactivity than low-risk youths. They were also less optimistic and adaptable in nature relative to low risk youth. These findings highlighted areas for resiliency programming that may positively impact on crime prevention/reduction strategies aimed at-risk youths, while also identifying areas of resiliency that may impact less on antisocial behavior.

Chair: Elizabeth Cauffman, University of California, Irvine

094. Examining Risk Assessment Models
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor
Self-reported and LS/CMI Measured Risk Factors: Relation to RNR adherence and criminal recidivism. Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Drexel University; Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University; David DeMatteo, Drexel University; Ralph Fretz, CEC, Inc.; Christopher King, Drexel University. The risk-need-responsivity (RNR) model provides guidance about how assessment can inform intervention planning; RNR-informed treatment planning is increasingly addressed through empirical research. However, offenders are often passive participants in treatment planning, and it is unclear how well they understand the personal relevance of interventions. This study explored (a) the effect of RNR on recidivism among male offenders (N=71) at a reentry facility, and (b) offender understanding of their risk factors, and association between understanding and recidivism. Neither level of RNR adherence nor understanding of risk factors was associated with one-year and sixteen-month outcomes. Implications for research and practice are discussed.

Offender Self-perceptions and Correctional Assessment Results: An examination of associations among risk level, criminogenic needs, motivation for change, and treatment readiness. Christopher King, Drexel University; Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Drexel University; Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University; David DeMatteo, Drexel University; Ralph Fretz, Community Education Centers, Inc. Social psychologists have documented that individuals frequently err when it comes to making self-appraisals, and that inaccurate judgments about the self are sometimes predictable. Offender self-perceptions about concepts such as risk factors for reoffending and overall risk level, motivation for change, and correctional treatment readiness, are mostly unknown. The present study thus examined offender self-awareness by way of comparison between self-endorsed and assessment-indicated reoffense risk and criminogenic needs. Potential associations with self-reported indicia of motivation for change and readiness for treatment were also examined. Results are discussed with a focus on potential implications for correctional assessment and treatment.
The Relationship between Crime-Causing and Crime-Reducing (Desistance) Factors: A test of a basic assumption of the dynamic risk model. Daryl Kroner, Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The present study examined the change between the endorsement of crime-causing and crime reducing (desistance) factors. Participants were probationers who completed three measures of factors that contribute to a crime-free lifestyle (desistance), crime-causing indicators, and a measure of personal criminal responsibility. The main analysis will assess the percentage of disagreement between the desistance and crime-causing measures and which factors had the strongest disagreement. In addition, analyses will examine the moderating effect of personal responsibility on the desistance and crime-causing relationship. Theoretical and practical implications for dynamic risk assessment and risk management will be discussed.

Characterizing Inmates with Firearm-Related Crimes. Brandee Goodwin, University of Alabama; Rebecca Kastner, University of Alabama; Martin Sellhom, Australian National University. Firearm-related crimes recently drew widespread media attention. Subsequent legislation addressed mental health risk factors only in broad strokes (e.g., restrictions on gun ownership for individuals who pose a risk to self or others); however, such legislation is open to interpretation in terms of what psychological risk factors are relevant. This study sought to characterize inmates with firearm convictions (n=1,987) by examining Minnesotan Multiphasic Personality Inventory – 2 – Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) scale scores. Latent Class Analysis results indicated the following distinct classes of inmates with firearm convictions based on patterns of MMPI-2-RF scale scores: Low Psychopathology, Emotional Instability/Internalizing, High Externalizing, and Psychotic.

Chair: Daryl Kroner, Southern Illinois University

095. Civil and Trial Law Issues 3:00 to 4:00 pm Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

An Examination of Psychological Injury Schemas in Civil Cases: A comparison with physical injury schemas. Jonathan Vallano, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg; Kelly Lawson; Christopher Altman, Ball State University. Research indicates that jurors have schemas that guide decision-making in civil cases. However, little attention has been given to jurors’ psychological injury schemas. In two experiments, undergraduates recorded their injury schemas for the typical car accident, slip and fall, kidnapping, and sexual assault incident. Experiment 1 found that participants displayed well-developed psychological injury schemas for kidnapping and sexual assault cases. Experiment 2 directly compared undergraduates’ psychological and physical injury schemas. Although these schemas did not differ on injury severity, physical injuries were easier to visualize and verbalize than psychological injuries. Implications for the courts’ de-valuation of psychological injuries are discussed.

Hate Speech and Constitutional Tension: Effects of framing free speech and equal protection values. Katherine Kimble, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska. The tension between free speech and equal protection is never more pronounced than in hate speech regulation. The current study investigated the effects of framed free speech and equal protection messages on assessments of punishment and defendant and victim’s rights in a cross-burning scenario. Results showed that participants who considered gains of constitutional rights after reading a positively framed free speech or equal protection message were more sensitive to intent to intimidate. Furthermore, participant race influenced punishment judgments more under equal protection arguments than when perceived intimidation was low but had a greater free speech effect when perceived intimidation was high.

Bringing Psychology to the Courtroom and Vice Versa: Conceptualization and design of a course in trial consulting. Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; Stanley Brodsky, Trial consulting is an emerging field for psychological professionals. Despite this growth, the teaching of psychology literature lacks sufficient design of a course in trial consultation. We describe such a course at the graduate level of training in clinical-forensic psychology. Drawing on existing competency training, teaching of psychology, and trial consulting literatures, we propose: a) a course model suitable for adaptation to other graduate programs, b) learner objectives with associated example teaching techniques, c) guiding themes for seminar discussions, and d) a course schedule. Sample student-driven publications and inter-disciplinary student contact show promise for the utility of this course.

Predicting Institutional Misconduct in a Sample of Civilly Committed Sexually Violent Persons (SVP). Joseph Toomey, MHM Services, Inc.; Diana Dobier; Shan Jumper, Liberty Health Care. The present study represents the first effort to investigate the role of psychopathy and intelligence in predicting institutional misconduct among a sample of 152 civilly committed sexually violent persons. The results of this study indicate that intelligence (primarily general and verbal abilities) is significantly and negatively correlated with physical aggression and sexual misconduct. Psychopathy did not mitigate this relationship, though it did predict verbal aggression (PCL-R total score and Factor 2), but no other forms of misconduct. Results will be discussed in terms of the importance of understanding institutional risk assessment within a growing sample of indefinitely detained offenders.

Chair: Jonathan Vallano, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg

096. Trauma: Effects, Moderators, and Treatment 3:00 to 4:00 pm Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Which comes First, Affect Regulation or Trauma-specific Symptom Change? Understanding Mechanisms of Treatment Change among Incarcerated Females. Matthew Stimmel, VA Palo Alto Health Care System; Keith Cruise, Fordham University; Julian Ford, University of Connecticut Health Center; Joan Levine, University of Connecticut Health Center; Rocio Chang, University of Connecticut Health Center. There is limited research investigating the efficacy of treatment for trauma in samples of incarcerated females despite high prevalence rates of PTSD in this population. Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide for Education and Therapy (TARGET) is an intervention that has shown efficacy in treating PTSD and affect dysregulation in forensic and community settings. This paper presents analysis indicating that affect regulation is a mechanism of therapeutic change specific to general psychiatric symptomatology, and that self-reported trauma symptom severity is a mechanism of treatment change specific to affect regulation. Implications for implementing trauma-informed treatment in forensic settings will be discussed.

The Moderating Effects of Resilience in the Relationship between Childhood Physical Abuse, Criminal Behavior, and Antisocial Traits. Lia Rohlehr, Fordham University. The current research assessed antisocial personality traits and criminal behavior as outcomes of childhood physical abuse. Additionally, factors of resilience—mastery, sense of coherence, ego resilience—were examined as moderators of this relationship. Community participants (N = 110) completed self-report measures to assess these variables. Consistent with existing research, abuse was found to be significantly correlated with antisocial personality traits (r = .27) and criminal behavior (r = .33). Resilience factors moderated the relationship between abuse and antisocial traits/crime, such that higher levels of abuse were associated with the endorsement of more antisocial traits and criminal behaviors for individuals that were low in resilience.

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Assessing Trauma Bonding in Trafficked Youth: An exploratory study. Joan Reid, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Juliana Huard, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Rachael Haskell, Saint Leo University.

Exploitative methods of sex traffickers can produce dysfunctional psychological attachment, or trauma bonding, with victimized youth that is difficult to dissolve, hindering intervention and impeding prosecution of sex traffickers. The study employed multi-case study design to explore trauma bonding between sex traffickers and prostituted youth by interviewing 10 social service providers and reviewing 83 case files of trafficked youth from various sites in the United States. Drawing from Dutton and Painter’s (1981) trauma bonding theory, the data collected from semi-structured interviews and case records were analyzed to gain insight into the dynamics of trauma bonding.

Relationships between Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Substance Dependence and Delinquency in Male and Female Youthful Offenders. Joan Reid, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Alex Piquero, University of Texas at Dallas.

The strong link between commercial sexual exploitation (CSE), drug addiction, and delinquency during adolescence and young adulthood is a recurring research finding. However, the majority of prior studies investigating links between CSE, drug addiction, and delinquency have not utilized samples with both male and female youth. Utilizing a sample of 114 male and female CSE youth participating in the Pathways to Desistance study, a longitudinal investigation of transitions from adolescence to adulthood, the current study examined key criminal career parameters of CSE including age of onset, frequency, and duration as well as time-specific associations of CSE, substance dependency, and delinquency.

Chair: Keith Cruise, Fordham University

097. EyeWitnesses: Showups, lineups, and new tools for children 3:00 to 4:00 pm Grand Chateau, 5th Floor

Showups: The impact of multiple showups on eyewitness decision-making and innocence risk. Andrew Smith, Queen's University; Roderick Lindsay, Queen's University; Natalie Kalmet, Queen's University; Michelle Bertrand, University of Winnipeg; Daniel Provenzano, Queen's University.

When an eyewitness rejects a suspect from a showup, police might recruit a new suspect and present this individual in a second showup. Police may perform several iterations of this process until the eyewitness makes an identification. Participants may perceive opportunities to identify the perpetrator as scarce in the initial showup and adopt a lax decision criterion accordingly. Subsequent showups led to a conservative shift in decision criteria and stringent decision criteria more generally. Yet, given that false alarms are cumulative, innocence risk increased with multiple showups. Pre-showup instructions did not lower innocence risk in multiple showups to palatable levels.

The Effect of Perpetrator Distinctiveness and Weapon Presence on Simultaneous versus Sequential Lineup Performance: An evaluation using ROC analysis. Curt Carlson, Texas A&M University – Commerce; Maria Carlson, Texas A&M University – Commerce.

We conducted a large (N = 2675) experiment comparing simultaneous and sequential lineups with the suspect (guilty or innocent) presented early versus late. In the mock crime, the perpetrator either had a weapon or not, and he either had a distinctive facial feature or not. ROC analysis revealed simultaneous lineup advantage, but only with late suspect position in sequential lineup. We are first to show weapon focus effect with ROC analysis, and effect is eliminated when perpetrator has distinctive feature on his face. Overall performance was best when a nondistinctive perpetrator had no weapon, and a simultaneous lineup was used.

Showups vs. Lineups: An exploration using the WITNESS model. Charlie Goodsell, Canisius College; Ryan McAdoo, Canisius College; Scott Gronlund, University of Oklahoma; Jeffrey Neuschatz, UAH; Stacy Wetmore, University of Oklahoma.

The use of computational models provides several advantages over verbal statements about underlying mechanisms (Hintzman, 1991). We utilized WITNESS (Clark, 2003) in conjunction with receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves to examine the memory and decision processes in lineup and showup identifications. As originally conceived, the WITNESS model predicts similar levels of performance across the different identification procedures. However, Gronlund et al. (2012) found differential performance across these identification procedures. A modification to WITNESS first proposed by Goodsell et al. (2010) was implemented and allowed the model to match the empirical data. Theoretical advances are discussed.

Face-Off: A new procedure for child eyewitness identifications. Heather Price; University of Regina; Ryan Fitzgerald; University of Regina.

We compared a new “Face-Off” procedure for child eyewitness identifications with the standard Simultaneous and the Elimination procedures. The new procedure is premised on chunking the identification task into smaller decision pieces. Relative to the most conventionally used procedure, the Simultaneous lineup, the Face-Off procedure significantly improved target-absent performance. Although children are known for their propensity to choose from target-absent lineups, only 21% of children in the Face-Off condition mistakenly identified a target-absent lineup member. Furthermore, the Face-Off lineup evinced substantially higher diagnosticity ratios than either of the two most promising options currently available for use with child eyewitnesses.

Chair: Charlie Goodsell, Canisius College

098. Child Witnesses and Truth Telling 3:00 to 4:00 pm Grand Couteau, 5th Floor

Lie to Me: Compliant false accusations by children. Amelia Hritz, Cornell University; Caisa Royer, Cornell University; Grace Monks, Cornell University; Brian Cash, Cornell University; Victoria Dahl, Cornell University; Stephen Ceci, Cornell University.

The current study examined if 6 to 12-year-old children will make false accusations in the absence of repeated false suggestions, merely because an adult asked them to do so. 34 of the 54 participants made a false accusation during the first interview (63%), and 13 of 53 participants maintained that the false accusation was true (25%) during a second interview by a different interviewer, with 5 reporting that they had actually seen it happen (9%). Results demonstrate that children will comply with a blatantly false request and the initial compliance may create false memories in some children.

The Secret of Stories: The role of positive and negative truth induction techniques in children’s lie-telling. Shanha Williams, McGill University; Sarah Yachison, McGill University; Karissa Leduc, McGill University; Victoria Talwar, McGill University.

The current study examined children’s willingness to conceal a transgression, when various truth induction stories were read prior to questioning. Children were read one of three stories: (1) positive truth induction, (2) negative truth induction, or (3) neutral story. Children in the positive condition were more likely to be honest than those in the negative and neutral conditions. In contrast, children in the negative condition tended to maintain lies in response to various question types. Yet those in the neutral condition displayed the highest rates of deception. The current findings will be discussed in relation to child witness testimony.
Development of the Child Credibility Assessment Scale: A tool to assess perceptions of child witnesses. Amye Warren, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga; Andre Kehn, University of North Dakota; Kimberly Schweitzer, University of Wyoming; Narina Nunez, University of Wyoming; Carolyn Pepper, University of Wyoming. Research on jurors’ perceptions of child witnesses has been limited by the lack of a reliable and valid child credibility scale that can be applied across various types of legal cases and different ages of child witnesses. In the first of a series of studies designed to construct such a scale, 512 participants were randomly assigned to rate a 4-, 10-, or 16-year-old on 51 different items. Exploratory factor analyses within age condition revealed similar three-factor solutions. Susceptibility to adult influence emerged as a separate factor from cognitive ability and honesty, the two factors generally established in prior research.

Child Age, Child Gender, and Event Valence Influence Adults’ Abilities to Detect the Truth of Children’s Eyewitness Memory Reports. Jonni Johnson, UC Davis; Sue Hobbs, UC Davis; Yoojin Chae, Texas Tech University; Gail Goodman, UC Davis; Donna Sheslowsky, UC Davis; Stephanie Block, University of Massachusetts, Lowell. We examined whether determinations of the veracity of children’s eyewitness reports were influenced by event valence or child characteristics (i.e., age and gender). Signal detection analyses indicated that adults were more accurate at determining the veracity of positive rather than negative events and boys compared to girls’ narratives. A significant Age X Report interaction indicated that adults were better at detecting the authenticity of older compared to younger children’s affirmations. However, adults’ accuracy dropped to chance levels for older children’s denials. Adults overbelieved children’s denials based on child age and gender as well as on event valence. Legal implications are discussed.

Chair: Amye Warren, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

099. Saleem Shah Early Career Award-- What Children Say (and don’t Say) and Why in Legal Contexts: Insights from field and lab research
3:00 to 4:00 pm
Estherwood, 4th Floor
Lindsay Malloy, Florida International University

Each year, thousands of youth come into contact with the legal and social service systems around the world. Crucial decisions affecting their own and others’ lives may be made based on their statements. However, various developmental constraints limit the effective participation of young victims, witnesses, and suspects in legal contexts. In this talk, I will review my research at the intersection of developmental psychology and the law, with a focus on false denials and false admissions. I will emphasize why evidence from both naturalistic and experimental studies contributes to theory, practice, and future directions concerning children and the law.

Chair: Jodi Quas, UCI

100. Understanding and Treating Juveniles
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Nottoway, 4th Floor
Treating Anger and Aggression: Mechanisms of action in the Juvenile Justice Anger Management (JJAM) Treatment for Girls. Lindsey Peterson, Drexel University; Chrissy Giallella, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Rachel Hirst, Drexel University; Jennifer Serico, Kennedy Krieger Institute; Amanda Santandrea, Drexel University.

A randomized controlled trial of the Juvenile Justice Anger Management (JJAM) Treatment for Girls produced greater reductions in anger, physical aggression, and relational aggression among delinquent girls who completed JJAM than among youth in a treatment as usual control condition. Using data from 57 study completers, this paper emphasizes an evaluation of JJAM’s proposed mechanisms of action, including improvements in emotion regulation, cognitive restructuring of hostile attributions, and social problem-solving skills. This paper will review these findings and address justice system-related implications for anger management theory, research, policy, and practice.

Constructing a Gender-Informed Typology to Improve Service Delivery for Adolescent Offenders. Leigh Greiner, Carleton University; Shelley Brown, Carleton University.

The current study constructed a theoretically integrated typology of male and female adolescent offenders by merging tenets from both the traditional and feminist theories of crime. Using latent profile analysis, youth were classified into one of 4 classes: a low-need class (n = 591), a gendered pathway class (n = 82), a hybrid class (n = 500), and a traditional antisocial class (n = 181). Although the majority of the sample fell into the low-need class (43.6%), more females fell into the gendered pathways class than males (13.6% vs. 4.9%). How these typological distinctions could serve to improve service delivery will be discussed.


The purpose of this paper is: To (a) describe the design and implementation of a gender-specific program for juvenile justice-involved girls based on evidence-based models and (b) present prospective data on fifty-two girls who were enrolled in the program for an intervention period of 6 months. Risk factors assessed at two or three time points included delinquency, violence, substance use, sexual risk-taking, anger, anxiety, and depression; protective factors included resilience and self-efficacy. Over time, youth reported greater resilience and self-efficacy, and fewer risk behaviors, including violence, crime, and substance use, and decreased depression, anxiety, and anger.

Chair: Leigh Greiner, Carleton University

101. Judicial Decision-Making and Trial Evidence
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor
Neuroscience in the Courtroom: The impact may be less than we thought. Casey LaDuke, Drexel University; Benjamin Locklair, Drexel University; Kellie McWilliams, Drexel University; Nayoung Kim, Drexel University; Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University.

Building on prior research suggesting a “buffering” effect of neuroscientific evidence in criminal sentencing, the current study investigates the impact of different types of evidence on mock jurors’ in a criminal sentencing paradigm. Results of the current study failed to support prior research and found no significant differences between psychological, neuropsychological, and structural and functional neuroimaging evidence on ratings of dangerousness, lengths of sentence, ratings of violence risk, or culpability items. The type of expert testimony may not differentially impact legal decision making after factoring in basic information about the crimes. Implications for future research and practice are discussed.

Evaluating Scientific Evidence in Court: Judicial perceptions of trial errors. Hayley Wechsler, Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; Andre Kehn, University of North Dakota; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University.

This study evaluates how judges perceive scientific evidentiary issues, thereby affecting decisions to grant a writ of habeas corpus for a new trial. Judges read one of two vignettes about a potential wrongful conviction, and rated how likely they would be to grant a new trial after considering evidentiary concerns related to social science or forensic science. Results indicated that judges were more likely to grant the writ after they were presented with questionable forensic science evidence than questionable social science evidence. Exploratory analyses are also presented examining perceived importance of types of scientific evidence. Implications are discussed.

Investigating the Impact of Extraneous Factors in Judicial Decisions: Mental fatigue and parole decision-making in Maryland. Darren Fisher, University of Maryland; Margaret Hardy, University of Maryland; Thomas Loughran, University of Maryland.
Since the introduction of empirical doubt regarding the ability of judicial decision-makers to avoid influence from mental fatigue (Danziger, Levav, and Avnaim-Pessow, 2011), these findings have been used to question the ability of those in authority to avoid irrelevant influences more broadly (Kamenica, 2012). Given the magnitude of the implications from this study and its academic reception, this paper explores whether any mental fatigue effect in judicial decision-making also extends to the US. Drawing upon data collected from parole cases heard in 2012 in Maryland, it does not appear that there was a mental fatigue effect evident in parole decision-making.

Juror Perceptions of Mental Health and Neuroscience Evidence. Elyse Mowle, Texas A&M University; John Edens, Texas A&M University; Karolina Sorman, Karolinska Institutet; John Clark, University of Texas, Tyler.

Juror perceptions of mental health and neuroscience evidence are important because they may influence verdicts and sentencing recommendations in criminal cases. The present study examines 419 venireperson verdicts and sentencing decisions in regards to neuroscience data when a hypothetical defendant was diagnosed as either psychopathic or schizophrenic. Additionally, we examined the extent jurors rated the defendant as psychopathic independent of the specific testimony provided. Preliminary analyses indicate that being described as psychopathic led to longer recommended sentences, whereas juror perceptions of psychopathy (regardless of testimony condition) predicted guilt/innocence verdicts.

Chair: Hayley Wechsler, Sam Houston State University

102. Factors in Recidivism Risk
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Increases Risk for Criminal Recidivism among Justice-Involved Persons with Mental Disorders. Naomi Sadeh; Dale McNiel, UCSF.

Little research has examined posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a risk factor for recidivism, despite evidence of elevated trauma exposure among justice-involved individuals. De-identified administrative data were reviewed for 771 justice-involved adults with mental disorders. Logistic regressions showed that PTSD was associated with a greater likelihood of recidivism during 1-year follow-up, after controlling for recent criminal charges, demographics, substance abuse, and personality disorders. Risk for rearrest was comparable for PTSD and substance use disorders. Findings provide new evidence that PTSD increases risk for recidivism and suggest it should be considered when planning interventions for justice-involved persons with mental disorders.

The Relative Predictive Utility of Hostile Attribution Bias and Psychopathy for Criminal Justice Outcomes. Dana Putney, University of South Florida; Patrick Kenneally, University of South Florida; Joseph Tatar II, University of California, Irvine; Jennifer Skeem, University of California, Berkeley.

Despite long traditions of investigating the roles of psychopathy and hostile attribution bias (HAB) in antisocial behavior, few studies have investigated the associations between psychopathy and HAB in adolescent offenders. This study explores the role of HAB in the relationship between psychopathy and criminal justice outcomes in 221 male adolescent offenders. Correlations revealed modest and trend-level associations between HAB and psychopathy, with both HAB and psychopathy demonstrating predictive utility for institutional infractions. Hierarchical regressions revealed HAB demonstrated incremental utility beyond, but did not mediate, PCL: YV scores, indicating a potential opportunity for augmenting current risk assessment with such HAB measures.

Dynamic Risk: A prospective repeated measures examination of the HCR-20 and START. Adam Blanchard, Simon Fraser University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University.

When performing a risk assessment, consideration of dynamic risk factors is generally considered best practice. However, little empirical research can speak to intra-individual changes in putatively dynamic risk factors and whether this change is associated with violence. Amongst 235 patients and offenders, the present study investigated change on putatively dynamic scales on the HCR-20 and START. Intra-individual change was seen in a notable proportion of the assessments. More change was seen when the reassessment interval was over two months versus less than two months for the HCR-20, but not the START. Additionally, fluctuations on these scales were predictive of violence.

The Role of Responsivity Factors in Predicting Recidivism Risk for Offenders. Ainslie McDougall, University of New Brunswick; Mary Ann Campbell, University of New Brunswick Saint John.

Motivation, mental illness, psychopathic traits, and case manager-offender relationships can influence offenders’ intervention response (Andrews & Bonta, 2010). Aside from psychopathic traits, little is known about how responsivity factors influence recidivism. Thus, the current study assessed the case plans of 111 adult community-supervised offenders to identify responsivity factors that best distinguish general recidivists from non-recidivists. Psychopathic traits and hostility were correlated with recidivism over an average follow-up period of 11 months, but recidivist and non-recidivists were comparable on responsivity factors. Collectively, this research highlights the need for enhanced understanding of the role responsivity factors play within the RNR model.

Chair: Dale McNiel, University of California, San Francisco

103. Witness Interviewing
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor
The Effects of Blind versus Informed Interviewing on Eyewitness Source Memory. Jillian Rivard, Florida International University; Stephanie Benson, Florida International University; Nadja Schreiber Compo, Florida International University.

Recent research has uncovered a potential benefit of 'blind' or un-informed interviewing in eliciting correct details from adult eyewitnesses in a mock crime paradigm (Rivard, Schreiber Compo & Pena, under review). As witnesses are often asked to recall the event on more than one occasion after an (un)informed investigative interview (e.g., courtroom testimony), it is also important to assess whether witnesses and interviewers are able to disentangle the sources of their memories at a later time. The present study examined the effects of pre-interview information and instructions to avoid suggestive questions on witness and interviewer source memory decisions.

Confirmation Bias in Witness Interviewing: The delayed impact of pre-interview knowledge. Jillian Rivard, Florida International University; Nadja Schreiber Compo, FIU; Luis Puertas, Florida International University; Sandra Castellon, Florida International University; Lorena Ferreira, Florida International University; Yoanna Benitez, Florida International University; Byron Garcia, FIU; Caroline Mikael, Florida International University; Michelle Pena, Florida International University; Ian Campbell, Florida International University.

A wealth of research on expectancy effects and confirmation bias suggests that investigative interviewers with pre-conceived notions about a crime may bias an interview in the direction of expectations, yet many interviewing protocols recommend that interviewers review available case information prior to conducting a witness interview. Recent research suggests that interviewers blind to case details elicit more correct details than pre-informed interviewers. The current study investigated whether (a) this effect is moderated by cautionary interviewer instructions to avoid suggestive questions and (b) the effects of pre-interview information extend beyond the immediate context of the interview to a later recall session.

Positive and Negative Investigative Interviewing Techniques: Do police interviewers know the difference? Dana His Mueller, Florida International University; Nadja Schreiber Compo, FIU; Pamela Pimentel, FIU; Jacqueline Molina, Florida International University; Aleixaree Bryon, Florida International University.

A distinct, perpetuating gap exists between evidence-based witness interviewing guidelines and real-world police interviewing practices. However, underlying explanations for this gap remain incomplete. This study explored potential explanations for this divide by examining whether police investigators are able to identify and distinguish between various evidence-based interviewing techniques. Law enforcement professionals (N=212) from various U.S. jurisdictions were presented with video-clips of
8 best-practice and 8 poor interviewing techniques via an online survey. Data suggests that while law enforcement professionals are largely able to identify and name poor interviewing techniques, they are less able to correctly identify and name recommended interviewing techniques.

The Effect of the ‘Don’t Know’ Ground Rule in Forensic Interviews with Children. Becky Earhart, Wilfrid Laurier University; David La Rooy, University of Abertay Dundee; Kayleen Willemsen, Wilfrid Laurier University; Sonja Brubacher, Central Michigan University; Michael Lamb.

Guidelines for interviewing child victims and witnesses often recommend that interviewers begin with ‘ground rules’, including a statement that if children do not know the answer to a question they are asked, they should say ‘I don’t know’. This study examined the impact of the ‘don’t know’ ground rule in 76 forensic interviews with children. There was no effect of the ground rule on the number of don’t know responses, children’s willingness to elaborate on don’t know responses, or interviewer’s acceptance of don’t know responses. On average, interviewers rejected children’s don’t know responses nearly 30% of the time.

Chair: 
Nadja Schreiber Compo, Florida International University

104. Child Witnesses and Memory
4:10 to 5:10 pm
Grand Chienier, 5th Floor

The Development of Memory Editing Strategies. Kara Moore; James Lampinen, University of Arkansas; David Gallo, University of Chicago; Ana Bridges, University of Arkansas.

The development of memory editing strategies, diagnostic and disqualifying monitoring, were examined. Disqualifying monitoring involves searching memory for something that disqualifies the occurrence of something else. Diagnostic monitoring involves comparing the expected vividness of a memory to the actual vividness to determine whether or not something occurred. Preschoolers, 1st, 3rd, and college students completed two criterial recollection tasks: one exclusive (no repeated items) and one non-exclusive (items repeated in two formats). Participants took a picture and a word test for both conditions. Children of all ages used memory editing strategies but younger children performed worse than adults.

A Contextual Change can Facilitate Children's Memory for Instances of a Repeat Event. Dayna Gomes, Simon Fraser University; Deborah Connolly, Simon Fraser University.

Child witnesses often testify as complaints of repeated abuse and are sometimes asked to describe a particular instance of the offense, one that was “different” from the others. In this research we investigated the effects of different types of event changes (i.e., deviations) on children’s memory for an instance of a routine. For some children, the change affected how the instance was experienced (continuous deviation), for others the change did not affect how the instance was experienced (discrete deviation), and for others there was no change (no deviation). Only the continuous deviation affected children’s memory reports.

Child Witnesses and Victims with Autistic Spectrum Disorder: Drawing to support episodic remembering. Michelle Mattison, Lancaster University; Coral Dando, University of Wolverhampton; Thomas Ormerod, University of Surrey UK.

Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder are over represented as witness/victims in the criminal justice system. Hence, research aimed at supporting this population to provide ‘best evidence’ is essential. We compared the efficacy of a novel sketching ‘tool’ with the currently advocated method for assisting vulnerable witnesses to mentally restate the context of a to-be-remembered event, and a no support control. Sketching was found to significantly improve recall accuracy without a concomitant increase in errors, or reduction in correct recall. Our findings, with reference to contemporary theories of context reinstatement, are discussed as are the limitations, and directions for future research.

“Show me When it Happened”?: Using a visual ‘timeline’ to aid children’s temporal recall. Kim Roberts, Wilfrid Laurier University; Leanne Gosse, University of Waterloo.

Child witnesses are often required to describe not just what happened, but also when the alleged events occurred. Retrieving temporal information does not reach adult levels, however, until children are 8-10 years-old.

Further, retrieving temporal information becomes especially difficult when events are repeated (as is common in investigations of child sexual abuse). We tested a visual device – a ‘timeline’ – to see whether children could nonverbally provide such information even in the absence of verbal competence. Specifically, we present data on the effectiveness and limitations of the timeline when children are asked to describe when repeated actions occurred.

Chair: 
Thomas Ormerod, University of Surrey UK

105. Death Penalty Decision-Making
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Notoway, 4th Floor

Understanding Life and Death Decision Making: The Capital Jury Project redux. Dennis Devine, IUPUI; Christopher Kelly, St Joseph’s University.

We conducted a comprehensive jury-level analysis of the Capital Jury Project (CJP) database in order to identify predictors of jury sentence in 312 death-penalty trials held in 14 states. A number of variables associated with the case, trial, and deliberation were modestly-moderately associated with sentences, but defendant, victim, and jury demographic variables were generally not related to jury sentence and did not significantly improve the prediction of sentence over and above legally relevant variables in multivariate models. Thus, in contrast to other studies in the literature, we found little evidence of straightforward extralegal demographic bias in jury life/death decisions.

Measuring Attitudes towards the Death Penalty: Moving beyond a dichotomous approach. Will Whited, University of Southern Mississippi; Bailey Bennett, University of Southern Mississippi; Jon Mandraclia, The University of Southern Mississippi.

Although the public’s support of the death penalty has important legislative and legal ramifications, researchers typically assess death penalty attitudes by using a single pro/con unitary measure that has been frequently criticized as inadequate for capturing the complexity of the construct. Addressing these concerns, the current study examined the underlying factor structure of an existing, but underdeveloped, measure of death penalty attitudes from a sample of undergraduate college students. Initial support for a five-factor model of death penalty attitudes was supported, indicating that death penalty attitudes are a multifaceted construct. The implications and future directions of these findings are discussed.

To Fight or Flee? Fear Increases Jurors’ Recall of Mitigating Factors. Kimberly Schweitzer, University of Wyoming; Christopher Chai, University of Wyoming; Narina Nunez, University of Wyoming; Bryan Myers, UNCW.

Jurors in capital murder trials are subjected to evidence that elicits negative emotions. Prior studies have shown that mood can influence the way information is processed when making decisions. After viewing the sentencing phase of a capital murder trial, participants completed a PANAS and recalled mitigating factors. We hypothesized that negative emotions would impact the number of mitigating factors and the level of detail of the factors recalled. Results suggest that negative emotions are elicited in jurors by the trial process. However, change in fear independently predicted both the number and level of details of the mitigating factors recalled.

Chair: 
Christopher Kelly, St. Joseph’s University

106. The Influence of Race and Religion on Jury Decision-Making
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Oak Alley, 4th Floor

The JuStiCe Model: Integrating justification, suppression, and correction processes to understand the effects of race on juror decision making. Jennifer Hunt, SUNY Buffalo State.

Racial bias in juror judgments is moderated by several factors. A new theoretical framework, the JuStiCe model, is proposed to predict and explain when jurors are – and are not – likely to be influenced by race. According to the JuStiCe model, trial elements can be analyzed to (a) determine the relative strength of factors that justify the expression of

In group decision making, a dissenting opinion minority (versus majority) member motivates majority members to seek information more equally from both sides of the issue (Nemeth & Rogers, 1996). Research conflicts, however, regarding whether this unbiased information search would increase or decrease in response to an opinion minority from a stigmatized (versus non-stigmatized) group. We analyzed mock jurors’ comments during deliberation with either a Black or White holdout juror, comparing 3 linguistic indicators of unbiased information search. Mock jurors engaged in more active information search when they believed they were interacting with a Black (versus White) holdout.

Religion’s Role in the Acceptance of Aggravating and Mitigating Circumstances. Logan Yelderman; Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno.

J urors’ religious beliefs are related to death penalty attitudes (Bornstein & Miller, 2009); however, death penalty cases often involve weighing aggravating and mitigating circumstances, factors of a crime that deem the death penalty more or less acceptable. This study looked at the relationship between religious beliefs and aggravators and mitigators. Results suggest that religious fundamentalism was related to less acceptance of mitigators, but religious immnanence was related to more acceptance of mitigators. Also, orthodoxy was related to more acceptance of aggravators, but intrinsically religious orientation was related to less acceptance of aggravators. Implications are discussed at the end.

Blind Justice: Visual attention encourages group differences in legal decisions. Yael Granot, New York University; Emily Balcetis, New York University; Kristin Schneider, New York University; Tom Tyler, Yale Law School.

Visual media increasingly appear in courts, but little work has related visual attention to legal punishment. We asked whether attention moderates effects of group identification on juror decisions. We measured identification with police (Studies 1a, 1b) or a novel out-group (Study 2). We monitored (Studies 1a, 2) or manipulated (Study 1b) participants’ attention to out-group targets in videotaped physical alterations. Results indicated that only when attention was strongly focused on an out-group target did punishment decisions differ among strong and weak identifiers. Further, participants’ interpretations of facts, but not recall accuracy, mediated this relationship between identification and attention on punishment.

Chair: Jennifer Hunt, SUNY Buffalo State

107. Efforts towards Preventing Delinquency
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Ballroom D, 5th Floor

Developmental Maturity in Adolescent Offenders: Using the RSTI-SR to examine the effectiveness of current measures of maturity. Christopher Gillen, University of Southern Mississippi; Emily MacDougall, University of Alabama; Randall Salekin, University of Alabama.

Developmental maturity is an important concept with serious legal repercussions for adolescent offenders (Kent v. U.S., 1966; Roper v. Simmons, 2005). The Risk-Sophistication-Treatment Inventory – Self Report (RSTI-SR; Iselin & Salekin, 2008) measures the Kent-based psycho-legal concepts of developmental maturity and sophistication-maturity in adolescents. We examined other maturity measures to determine their convergence with the RSTI-SR. Results revealed that although these other instruments are designed to measure maturity, the lack of alignment with the RSTI-SR suggests they may not directly tap the construct of developmental maturity from the Kent standpoint. The implications of these findings are discussed.

Contributions of Specific Psychosocial Maturity and Treatment Amenability Features to Antisocial Processing Among Adolescent Offenders. Natalie Harrison, University of Alabama; Abby Clark, University of Alabama; Randall Salekin, University of Alabama.

Understanding the contribution of psychosocial maturity to antisocial behavior is important for juvenile court adjudication decisions, risk assessment and risk management. In a sample of 40 adolescent offenders we found that psychosocial maturity scores (measured by the RST-Fast) were predictive of antisocial processing scores (measured by the APSD). Through further investigation we found that adolescents’ self-report of responsibility and motivation to change was most predictive of their total antisocial processing scores, as well as their narcissism, impulsivity, and callous-unemotional scores. Thus, motivation and responsibility may be avenues to explore during treatment and risk management planning for adolescent with antisocial tendencies.

Neighborhood Collective Efficacy Protects Against Delinquency Among At-Risk Teens. Dylan Holt, University of Virginia; Lucy Guerra, University of Virginia; N. Dickon Reppucci, University of Virginia.

We examined neighborhood crime as a potential risk factor and collective efficacy as a potential protective factor for delinquency among low-income, service-receiving teens (N = 153). We hypothesized that teens living in neighborhoods with high crime would engage in more delinquency, and that teens who perceived greater collective efficacy in their neighborhoods would engage in less delinquency. Results showed no link between neighborhood crime and amount of delinquency; however, results did indicate that greater collective efficacy was associated with less teen delinquency. Future research should explore the differences between crime perpetration and victimization rates in relation to collective efficacy.

Institutional Placement and Illegal Earnings: Examining the crime school hypothesis. Holly Nguyen, University of Maryland; Thomas Loughran, University of Maryland; Raymond Paternoster, University of Maryland; Jeffrey Fagan, Columbia University; Alex Piquero, University of Texas, Dallas.

A growing consensus suggests that incarcerators tends to have either null or criminogenic effect. The current study considers a much less examined hypothesis—that correctional environments can facilitate the accumulation of “criminal capital” and might actually encourage offending by serving as a school of crime. Using panel data from a sample of serious juvenile offenders, we identify a criminal capital effect by considering both the prevalence of peer exposure in the facility and the cumulative length of institutional stays. Findings show both measures have independent positive effects on an individual’s illegal earnings, net of other important time varying covariates.

Chair: Randall Salekin, University of Alabama

108. Sex Differences and Gender Expectations
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Ballroom E, 5th Floor

Sexual Expectations and Deservingsness for Sex: The application of Sexual Social Exchange Theory to perceptions of date rape. Kellie Lynch, University of Kentucky; Nesa Wasarhaley, University of Kentucky; Jonathan Goldberg, University of Kentucky.

In Study 1, undergraduate mock jurors (N=157) read one of four rape trials that differed on the cost of the date and the date number. Males in the expensive date condition were less likely to render guilty verdicts. Participants perceived the expensive date condition were more likely to render guilty verdicts on date and defendant’s mate value. Participants in the expensive date condition were less likely to render guilty verdicts. Participants perceived defendants high in mate value as more deserving of sex, which resulted in more victim blame.

An Examination of Psychopathic Traits and Gender Differences in Police Officers: Police recruits vs. sergeants. Vanessa Jimenez, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Emily O’Connell, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Diana Falkenbach, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.
There is an underrepresentation of women in psychopathy research, and a
dearth of consideration of “successful psychopathy” in prosocial samples
like police officers who may possess adaptive psychopathic traits
(Falkenbach, Stern, & Tsoukalas, 2013; Verona & Vitale, 2006). Police
officers also vary across ranks and no research has examined the
relationship between rank, gender, and psychopathic traits. The current
study compared these variables in an urban police and sergeants sample
to illustrate gender and personality differences across ranks and
determined a significant interaction with psychopathic traits and
aggressive tendencies in regards to gender and rank.

Influence of Gender on Experts’ Perceptions of Risk. Michelle
Gayton, Pacific University.

Expert assessments of violence risk are often unreliable and influenced by
extraneous factors. One such factor is sex, where mental health
professionals frequently underestimate the risk for violence among
women with mental illnesses compared to men. In this survey,
psychologists’ and psychiatrists’ attitudes towards risk assessment as well
as their boundaries for conceptualizing low, medium, and high risk are
examined. Additionally, sex is experimentally manipulated in a vignette
where consistent with previous findings, risk is underestimated for female
defendants. Considerations for increasing reliability and improving
practice are discussed.

Chair:
Kellie Lynch, University of Kentucky

109. Issues Impacting Testimony
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Chenier, 5th Floor

A Double-edged Sword: Examining the effect of negative
acknowledgment and self-blame on perceptions of a blamed rape
victim. Kathryn Sperry, Castleton State College; Chelsea Sheehan,
Castleton State College; Cassandra Pinaire, Castleton State College;
Molly Ramsden, Castleton State College; McKenzie Works, Castleton State College.

We examined ways to restore a rape victim’s credibility in the courtroom,
particularly if the victim was perceived as having been engaged in “high risk”
behaviors at the time of the assault. In the present study we
hypothesized that a victim’s negative acknowledgment of “blameworthy”
behavior would reduce victim blame and increase credibility. Preliminary
results revealed that negative acknowledgment actually increased victim
blame and negative affect, particularly in the high blame condition.
Encouragingly, self-blame does not seem to be an effective self-
presentation strategy. But unfortunately, it seems victim blame continues
to be challenging to overcome in the courtroom.

You’re Too Old for That? The Effects of Testimonial Supports on
Adult Witnesses. Kristin Chong, Simon Fraser University; Deborah
Connolly, Simon Fraser University.

Research on the effects of testimonial supports have predominately
focused on child witnesses. This study examined the effects of testimonial
supports on the memory accuracy, anxiety, and perceptions of adult
witnesses. Utilizing a one-way, between-subjects design (Testimony
Condition: CCTV vs. Videotape vs. Live), witnesses (n=66) who testified
on videotape made more errors of omission than witnesses who testified
via CCTV. There were no differences of self-reported level of anxiety
between conditions. Witnesses who testified live were perceived by jurors
(n=244) as more intelligent, honest, accurate, and sincere than witnesses
who testified via CCTV. Psychological and legal implications will be
discussed.

Kiss and Don’t Tell: Emotional bonding and relationship
orientation predict false alibi vulnerability. Daniel Jones,
University of Texas, El Paso; Adon Neria, University of Texas, El
Paso; Harmon Hosch, University of Texas, El Paso.

The issue of veracity in testimony is a critical issue in legal proceedings.
It remains unclear how romantic attraction relates to testimony accuracy
when it is affected by romantic attraction. Study 1 revealed that
individuals perceiving their romantic partners as high in psychopathy and
also reported high levels of anxious attachment were most likely to
protect or covered their partner’s antisocial behaviors. Study 2 replicated
this finding in the laboratory. The findings suggest that romantic pair
bonding may increase false alibi tendencies and that a host of
relationship-relevant variables may additionally impact this finding.

Deposition Tug-of-War: How attorneys and expert witnesses can
exert control. Michelle Jones, University of Alabama; David
Sams; Jacklyn Nagle; Stanley Brodsky; Daniel King; David
Glaser; Glaser Forensic Group.

Expert witness and attorney testimony dynamics have been described in
book and article publications. However, most of the literature is limited
to testimony dynamics during courtroom trials. The current study used
qualitative analysis of actual deposition transcripts to investigate attorney
and expert witness question and response strategies. While several broad
themes resulted from the analysis, the current presentation specifically
examines the theme of control. Both attorneys and expert witnesses may
seek control by limiting the parameters of questions and responses,
respectively. Attorney and expert control strategies and examples are
offered in this presentation.

Chair:
Deborah Connolly, Simon Fraser University

110. Competency Restoration
5:20 to 6:20 pm
Grand Couteau, 5th Floor

Outpatient Competency Restoration in Texas: An evaluation of
eleven programs. Cate Graziani, Hogg Foundation for Mental
Health; Lynda Frost, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health; Michele
Guzman, Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

Hospital-based restoration to competency has led to critical shortages of
civil beds in many state-run psychiatric hospitals. An alternative approach
is outpatient competency restoration (OCR), which provides community-
based services to people who are incompetent to stand trial. Texas
invested heavily in OCR, creating four pilot sites in 2007 and adding
seven sites in 2011. The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health has
evaluated these diverse programs, examining variations in program
design, implementation process, and outcomes of the OCR sites, which
served 859 individuals through December 2012. This paper summarizes
key program variables related to successful OCR.

Psychiatric, Cognitive, and Treatment Factors Contributing to
Competency Restoration. Heather McMahon, Central New York
Psychiatric Center; Nichole Marioni, Central New York
Psychiatric Center; Stephanie Lilly, Central New York
Psychiatric Center; Megan Lupe, Central New York Psychiatric
Center.

Existing research has largely focused on evaluations of adjudicative
competence; however, little has focused on the factors contributing to
competency restoration. This study utilizes archival data to examine
competency restoration treatment of inmate-patients remanded to a
forensic psychiatric hospital in New York State. Competency evaluations
will be reviewed to identify the clinical symptoms and/or cognitive
deficits that were the basis for the determination of an individual’s
incompetence. Survival analysis will be used to examine how psychiatric
symptoms, cognitive deficits, and medication compliance influence the
length of competency restoration or non-restoration for inmate-patients
receiving care in a forensic hospital.

Juvenile Competence to Stand Trial: An evaluation of states’
services for competence remediation. Summer Langley; Kimberly
Larson, University of Massachusetts Medical.

Similar to adult defendants, youth who have been found incompetent to
stand trial are often provided services to expedite their restoration to
competence abilities. Although adult competence to stand trial and restoration are frequently
studied areas, information regarding juvenile remediation/restoration is
largely unavailable. A survey was administered to the fifty members of the
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors,
Forensic Division to gather juvenile remediation information in each of
the states. General information regarding juvenile competency
evaluations, remediation service information and outcomes, and cost
and funding for remediation services was collected.

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Adult Outpatient Competency Restoration Programs: Results from a nationwide review. Danielle Therson, University of Denver; Danielle Speelman, University of Denver; William Gowensmith, University of Denver.

Outpatient competency restoration programs (OCRPs) have grown in number over the past several years, yet little is known about how they operate or how effective they are. We surveyed each state about existing OCRPs located in either community or jail settings. We then surveyed in detail the 18 states that currently operate OCRPs about programmatic designs and outcomes. Programmatically, programs show more similarities than differences, with primary differences in the sizes of the programs and extent of psychosocial services. Outcomes show that OCRPs generally evidence financial savings over hospital-based programs while incurring low rates of rehospitalization and arrest.

Chair: Kimberly Larson, University of Massachusetts Medical

111. Saturday Evening Poster Session
6:30 to 8:00 pm
Armstrong Ballroom, 8th Floor

1. The Impact of Victim Impact Statements: A meta-analytic review. Jeremy Blumenthal, Syracuse University; Victim impact statements (VIS) are criticized as tending to influence capital juries’ decisions by evoking emotional responses that interfere with rational decision-making. I find a small but consistent effect such that VIS increases the likelihood of death sentences. The effect is smaller, however, for death-qualified samples relative to non-death-qualified samples. Contrary to courts’ and commentators’ assumptions, VIS’s or the witness’s emotionality does not seem related to sentencing decisions. Thus, the usual criticism that the emotionality of VIS leads to biased decision-making may be overly simplistic. I suggest alternative explanations for the VIS effect, and make some policy recommendations.

2. The Role of Parenting Style and Attachment in the Relationship between Parental Incarceration and Future Child Incarceration. Audrey Masilla, Fielding Graduate University; Dawn Lanaville, Fielding Graduate University; Lisa Beck, University of Alabama; Kristine Jacquin, Fielding Graduate University.

We examined two factors, parenting style and attachment, hypothesized to explain the relationship between parental and child incarceration. Participants (N = 789) completed an anonymous online survey. Parental incarceration significantly predicted later child incarceration. However, contrary to expectations, parenting style and attachment did not explain this relationship.

3. Parental Incarceration is Associated with Problematic Parenting Characteristics and Abusiveness. Audrey Masilla, Fielding Graduate University; Dawn Lanaville, Fielding Graduate University; Lisa Beck, University of Alabama; Kristine Jacquin, Fielding Graduate University.

We examined the relationship between parental incarceration and a variety of positive (e.g., caring, support) and negative (e.g., aggression, permissiveness) parenting characteristics. Participants (N = 789) were young adults who completed an anonymous online survey about their history of parental incarceration, parental authority, parental attachment, parental bonding, and conflict tactics. The results suggest that young adults with a history of parental incarceration perceive their parents as having low levels of positive attachment characteristics, authoritarianism, and caring, and high levels of permissiveness, psychological aggression, and physical assaultedness.

4. Factors Associated with Risk Principle Adherence and Recidivism in a Mental Health Jail Diversion Program. Candalyn Rade, North Carolina State University; Sarah Desmarais, North Carolina State University; Richard Van Dorn, RTI International; Robin Telford, University of South Florida; Evan Lowder, North Carolina State University; John Petrika, University of South Florida.

The Risk-Need-Responsivity model is widely-recognized as a best practice for assessing and treating offenders. It also provides a framework for examining associations between offender characteristics, interventions, and outcomes. Despite empirical evidence that adherence to the risk principle is associated with reduced recidivism, there remain gaps in the literature pertaining to the links between risk assessments, services, and outcomes. To address these gaps, this poster explores factors associated with adherence to the risk principle and recidivism outcomes among adults in a mental health jail diversion program. Findings provide support for the risk principle and suggest differential adherence based on demographic characteristics.

5. The Influences of Personality and Locus of Control on Life Goals in Offenders. Luci Dumas, University of Northern Iowa.

Male residential offenders were asked to elaborate on their life goals and perception of these goals during a semi-structured interview. Big Five personality traits, self-esteem, and locus of control were also measured. Analyses were conducted to examine how personality, locus of control, age, and self-esteem effect types of goals and perception of goals. Preliminary analyses showed that self-esteem, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and emotional stability all significantly predicted the presence of interpersonal goals. Age impacted the presence of personal growth goals. Self-esteem, extraversion, agreeableness, and conscientiousness significantly predicted higher scores on an adaptive motivation scale. Findings have implications for goal-oriented treatment programs.

6. Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) Predictors of Probationer Recidivism. Anthony Tarescavage, Kent State University; Lynn Luna-Jones, Psychological Diagnostic Clinic.

Approximately 32% of probationers violated the terms of their community control in 2011. Because of these high rates, researchers have attempted to identify predictors of recidivism. In the current study, we sought to identify predictors of probation failure measured by the MMPI-2-RF. We found that a number of scales from the MMPI-2-RF measuring constructs associated with antisociality (Behavioral/Externalizing Dysfunction, Antisocial Behavior, Substance Abuse, Juvenile Conduct Problems, and others) demonstrated significant moderate correlations with probation failure. Relative risk ratio analyses indicated that probationers who elevated on these scales were up to twice as likely to violate probation.

7. A Test of the Interpersonal-Psychological Theory of Suicide in Prison. Jon Mandracchia, The University of Southern Mississippi; Phillip Smith, University of South Alabama; Rose Gonzalez, University of Southern Mississippi.

The Interpersonal-Psychological Theory of Suicide is a comprehensive model that attempts to explain why people commit suicide. This theory may help direct clinical assessment and service delivery to improve the management of suicidality in incarcerated offenders. However, no studies of the theory’s major proposals have been conducted with this at-risk group. In the present study, a sequential linear regression utilizing data from 399 adult male offenders supported the theory by showing a significant interaction between the interpersonal components of the theory (i.e., thwarted belongingness, perceived burdensomeness) in the prediction of suicide ideation. Implications for correctional mental health providers are discussed.

8. Administrative Segregation: Is it a harmful correctional practice? Robert Morgan, Texas Tech University; Stephanie Van Horn, Texas Tech University; Nina MacLean, Texas Tech University; Angelela Bolanos, Texas Tech University; Ashley Batsastini, Texas Tech University; Andrew Gray, Simon Fraser University.

Much has been written about the adverse and harmful effects of segregation; however, the research literature does not always bear out the negative effects reported by inmate advocacy groups or as noted in media reports. The purpose of this research is to provide a comprehensive review (including qualitative and quantitative outcomes) from the administrative segregation research literature. Results from studies are pooled in a meta-analysis by outcomes. It is hypothesized that pooled effect sizes will demonstrate that placement in administrative segregation is harmful for some (i.e., results in increased symptomatology and decreased sense of well-being), but not all inmates.
9. Readiness for Change and Criminal Risk in a Correctional Sample. Kathryn White, Texas Tech University; Robert Morgan, Texas Tech University.

This study measured the relationship between the “Big Four” criminal risk factors (history of antisocial behavior, antisocial personality, antisocial cognition or criminal thinking, and antisocial associates) and readiness for change to explore whether the presence or degree of criminal risk impacts readiness for change. The current study also measured whether readiness for change and intentional personal growth can predict treatment outcomes above and beyond the predictive power of criminal risk.

10. Predicting Inmate Response to Cognitive Remediation in a Competency Restoration Program. Sanjay Shah, Emory University School of Medicine; Chastity Farr, Emory University School of Medicine; Joyce Brown, Emory University School of Medicine; Glenn Egans, Emory University School of Medicine; Victoria Roberts, Emory University School of Medicine; Peter Ash, Emory University School of Medicine.

Cognitive remediation has been implemented in a variety of settings but research is scant regarding its use with forensic populations, particularly those who have been found incompetent to stand trial. The competency restoration unit at the Fulton County Jail currently implements a cognitive remediation intervention to help improve inmates’ learning, memory, attention, and executive functioning. This study seeks to differentiate those who make improvements versus those who do not on several cognitive measures. Binary logistic regression will be used to analyze whether age, IQ, motivation, and presence of psychotic symptoms predict whether inmates are classified as “improvers” or “non-improvers” in cognition.


Prison misconduct and receiving conduct violations (CVs) are a result of individual factors. Given these do not change after one’s release to the community, they affect risk of reoffending. CVs were found to be significantly positively associated with recidivism (Spearman’s rho, r = 0.14, p < 0.05). Using a Receiver Operator Curve analysis, the area under the curve (AUC) was modest (AUC = 0.58, CI = .49 - 0.60). Inmates who received 5 CVs were correctly identified as recidivists, with only a 5.8% error rate. Prison misconduct should be considered in risk assessment tools to enhance their predictive ability.

12. Training Probation Officers to Work with Probationers with Mental Illness. Andrea Avila; University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

People on probation who also have a mental illness (PROMI) are less likely to successfully complete probation, but about equally likely to commit a new offense. While several publications have described strategies to increase PROMI success, none have evaluated trainings for probation officers (POs). We randomly assigned POs to a waitlist condition or training on case management strategies for PROMI that emphasized fidelity to best practices by reducing criminogenic risk factors, without being distracted by the presence of mental illness. Currently, the project is underway, and we are tracking risk factors for and overall rates of recidivism or revocation.


Since the 1980s there has been a trend of increasing imprisonment and a decreased emphasis on rehabilitation. SCOTUS held in Tapia v. United States that a federal judge cannot consider rehabilitative goals when implementing a sentence of imprisonment or determining its length. While this is ostensibly a blow to the rehabilitative agenda, Tapia was correctly decided under legal principles, left rehabilitative options for non-imprisonment sentences, and does not exclude prison administrative officials from emphasizing rehabilitative programs. The last point may be an improvement, as judges cannot ensure inmate placement and prison officials are better equipped to guarantee programs are evidence-based.

14. RNR-based Assessment Feedback: Reception by criminal offenders and impact on risk factor self-awareness, motivation for change, and treatment readiness. Christopher King, Drexel University; Kirk Heilbrun, Drexel University; David DeMatteo, Drexel University; Ralph Fretz, Community Education Centers, Inc.; Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Drexel University.

The provision of assessment feedback in therapeutic contexts is considered clinically advantageous for a variety of reasons. Providing assessment feedback has likewise been recommended for rehabilitative work with offenders. However, the role of assessment feedback in correctional contexts, in contrast to more traditional clinical settings, has yet to be empirically examined. The present study examined the impact of brief assessment feedback on prisoners’ self-perceived risk factors, motivation for change, and treatment readiness. Receptiveness to feedback was also examined. Results are discussed in terms of their implications for offender assessment and treatment practices.


As the number of former prisoners on parole has grown, so has the importance of well-designed reentry programs to facilitate the transition back into the community. One such program, ComALERT is located within the Kings County District Attorney’s Office in New York State. This study used an archival design to analyze recidivism rates of Program participants from January 2009 – August 2010. Results indicated that while 35% of all participants returned to prison during a 3 year follow up period, only 15% of program graduates returned to prison within 3 years. Implications for future research and reentry programs are discussed.

16. Motivation Underlying the Punishment of Juvenile Sex Offenders depends on the Gender, Sexual Orientation, and Femininity of the Offender. Alicia DeVault, University of Nevada, Reno; Jessica Salerno, Arizona State University.

Laypeople’s motives for punishing juvenile sex offenders depended on offender gender, sexual orientation, and femininity. Participants read a vignette depicting a juvenile charged with child pornography for sexting, who was either male versus female, straight versus gay, and was depicted in a photograph as masculine versus feminine. Participants completed measures of utilitarian and retributive punishment motives. Offender gender drove retributive motives: people had a stronger desire to punish male (versus female) offenders. Yet, offender sexual orientation and appearance drove utilitarian motives: people perceived masculine (versus feminine) offenders as a greater threat—but only when the offenders were gay.


Individuals with terminal illness and those who are sentenced to be executed are two groups of people who deal with death and dying on a daily basis. Kübler-Ross (1969) has developed a system of stages proposing how individuals who are faced with their death react. A brief discussion on how the terminally ill manage their death is included. A qualitative analysis of the final statements of 57 inmates executed in Missouri will be conducted in order to identify themes. Once these themes have been identified, the placement of these themes within the stages of death and dying is discussed.

18. Victim Gender and the Death Penalty in Delaware. Caisa Royer, Cornell University; Amelia Hritz, Cornell University; Valerie Hans, Cornell University; Ted Eisenberg, Cornell University; Martin Wells, Cornell University; John Blume, Cornell University; Sheri Johnson, Cornell University.

Previous empirical research suggests there is a female victim effect in capital sentencing, with cases involving female victims being more likely to receive the death penalty. The current study examines possible reasons why this relationship exists by utilizing a database of capital cases which reached the sentencing phase of trial in Delaware between 1976 and 2007 (N=144). Results indicated that female victims appeared to be more vulnerable and participated in fewer disreputable behaviors than male victims. The effect of gender on sentencing was found to be partially explained by crime characteristics, such as presence of sexual victimization, heinousness, and method.
19. Examining the Effects of Apology and Compensation on Perceptions of Exonerees. Alyx Ivany, University of Ontario Institute of Technology; Kimberley Clow, University of Ontario Institute of Technology; Regina Schuller, York University; Rosemary Ricciardelli, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Research suggests that exonerees experience stigma post-incarceration that causes reintegration difficulties (Scott, 2010; Westervelt & Cook, 2010). Using Weiner’s (1993) theory of social motivation, the current study investigated whether different forms of restitutions (apology or compensation) influenced perceptions of exonerees. Participants read a vignette detailing the release of an exoneree and whether any restitution was issued and were asked to complete a survey. In general, the presence of an apology increased ratings of positive attributes (overall attitudes and willingness to assist). Neither form of restitution decreased negative attributes (responsibility and anger). Implications for policy and exonerees are discussed.


This study examined the moderating role of callous/unemotional (C/U) traits on adolescent externalizing behavior and treatment implementation. Therapists and observers rated the frequency/thoroughness with which therapists initiated parental monitoring and family attachment techniques for 60 adolescents. As externalizing symptoms increased, elevated levels of C/U traits, but not low levels, were associated with therapists initiating family attachment techniques more extensively. With low levels of C/U traits, but not elevated levels, observers reporting more extensive use of parental monitoring techniques. This is evidence that conduct-disordered youth should not be treated as a homogeneous group, and that C/U traits affect treatment delivery.


The high rates of substance disorders (SUDs) in the juvenile justice system make SUD treatment important. This study tested race/ethnicity differences in the match between SUD diagnosis and SUD related service use among a sample of serious juvenile offenders (N=638 from the Pathways to Desistance Study). Among those with an SUD diagnosis, there were no race/ethnicity differences in SUD treatment. However, among those without an SUD diagnosis, non-Hispanic Caucasians were more likely to receive substance use treatment than were Hispanics or African-Americans. Results have policy implications for the diagnosis of SUDs and appropriate need/service matching in the juvenile justice system.

22. Does Matching Services to Criminogenic Needs Reduce Reoffending in Adolescent Offenders. Elita Brodersen, Simon Fraser University; Jodi Viljoen, Simon Fraser University.

The present study tested the risk and needs principles of the Risk-Need-Responsivity Model in a sample of 112 male adolescents (aged 12-17) on probation. The Child and Adolescent Services Assessment-Adapted, Youth Level of Service Inventory version 1, and Self Report of Offending were administered at baseline and 12-month follow-up. Overall, adolescents who were higher risk received more intensive services. In general, matching adolescents services to their needs was not linked to lower rates of offending. However, an exception was that youth with substance use problems had lower rates of offending if they received services in this area.

23. The Predictive Validity of the Antisocial Process Screening Device in Male and Female Adolescents. Catherine Shaffer, Simon Fraser University; Andrew Gray, Simon Fraser University; Kevin Douglas, Simon Fraser University; Jodi Viljoen, Simon Fraser University; Roger Tweed, Kwantlen Polytechnic University; Gira Bhatt, Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

The present study investigated the predictive validity of the Antisocial Process Screening Device, Self-Report (APSD) in a sample of 416 high school students (224 females and 192 males). Participants completed the APSD, Delinquent Peers Scale (DP), Parental Monitoring Scale (PM), Drug and Alcohol Use - Teen Conflict Survey (DAU), and Self-Report of Offending (SRO). Results indicate that total scores on the APSD significantly predicted offending at 6-month follow-up, and accounted for additional variance above well-established predictors (i.e., substance use, low parental monitoring, and delinquent peer affiliation). Gender did not significantly moderate the relationship between APSD and offending.


Protective factors are widely regarded as valuable in violence risk prediction, yet have received inadequate attention in research (Lodewijks et al., 2010). This study investigated developmental assets and protective factors for 163 adolescent offenders by examining the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth and the Developmental Assets Profile. While high-risk adolescents had lower levels of assets and protective factors than lower-risk adolescents, many high-risk adolescents had at least one protective factor or high-rated asset present. Additionally, the small but significant correlations between SAVRY protective factors and DAP assets indicate that these tools may be assessing somewhat different strength variables.

25. Cognitive and Affective Correlates of Proactive and Reactive Aggression in a Sample of Detained Boys. Katherine Lau, Indiana University Purdue University; Maria Kireeva, University of New Orleans; Monica Marsee, University of New Orleans.

The study examined the distinction between the functions of aggression (i.e., proactive and reactive) and the forms that aggression takes (i.e., overt and relational) in a sample of detained boys (N = 120) aged 12 to 18. Proactive aggression was uniquely associated with callous-unemotional traits, whereas reactive aggression was uniquely associated with emotional dysregulation and anger to perceived provocation. Overt aggression appeared to largely account for these associations. The current findings highlight the importance of assessing reactive and proactive aggression, as well as both overt and relational aggression, in detained boys.

26. Differential Associations between PTSD Symptoms and Proactive and Reactive Aggression in Detained Boys. Sierra Wait, University of New Orleans; Molly Miller, University of New Orleans; Justin Russell, University of New Orleans; Monica Marsee, University of New Orleans.

The current study examined mediators of the associations between symptoms of PTSD and proactive and reactive aggression in 81 detained youth (82% minority) ages 12-18. After controlling for age, C/U traits fully mediated the relationship between PTSD symptoms and proactive aggression. After controlling for age and ethnicity, emotion dysregulation fully mediated the relationship between PTSD symptoms and reactive aggression. Partial correlations reinforced these effects of mediation by showing that after controlling for proactive aggression, emotion dysregulation was related to reactive aggression, and after controlling for reactive aggression, C/U traits were related to proactive aggression.

27. Associations between PTSD Symptoms and the Forms and Functions of Aggression in Detained Boys. Molly Miller, University of New Orleans; Justin Russell, University of New Orleans; Sierra Wait, University of New Orleans; Monica Marsee, University of New Orleans.

The current study examined the relationship between PTSD symptoms and the forms and functions of aggression in a sample of detained boys in Southeast Louisiana (N=130). Expanding on existing literature, we hypothesized the reactive relational and reactive overt subtypes of aggression would be significantly associated with PTSD. Results indicated a significant association between reactive overt aggression and PTSD after controlling for other subtypes. Further, severity of reactive overt aggression was significantly positively associated with severity of PTSD. Results are discussed in terms of theoretical and clinical implications, including more effective trauma interventions for at-risk youth.

28. Anger Socialization, Emotional Dysregulation, and Aggression in At-Risk Youth. Skylar Hicks, University of New Orleans; Monica Marsee, University of New Orleans.

This study examined links between emotional dysregulation, anger socialization, and aggression in a sample of detained adolescent boys. Results showed that parental anger socialization was associated with emotional dysregulation and aggression. Aggression was not associated with the “reward” and “override” aspects of anger socialization, but was
positively associated with the “neglect,” “punish,” and “magnify” aspects. Further, emotional dysregulation mediated the association between negative socialization and aggression. The results of this study have particular implications for parent-based interventions designed to improve parenting skills and suggest that a focus on emotion socialization may be necessary.

29. Validity of START-AV Assessments in Predicting Adverse Outcomes in Incarcerated Youth. Kiersten Johnson, North Carolina State University; Sarah Desmarais, North Carolina State University; Rasika Rajagopalan, North Carolina State University; Brian Sellers, Eastern Michigan University; Jay Singh, Singh Institute of Forensic Research, LLC.

The Short-Term Assessment of Risk and Treatability: Adolescent Version (START-AV) is a new structured professional judgment instrument for assessing short-term risks in adolescents with behavioral health problems. This poster reports on findings of a pilot study evaluating the field implementation of the START-AV in a sample of adolescent offenders in three secure juvenile correctional facilities in the southern United States. We examine associations of START-AV total scores and risk estimates with occurrences of violence, self-harm, suicidal behavior, self-neglect, unauthorized leave, substance abuse, victimization, and institutional infractions. Findings are being used to inform the ongoing development and refinement of the START-AV.

30. Gendered Pathways to Serious Adolescent Offending: Important gender differences among justice-involved youth. Terri Scott, Carleton University; Kayla Wanamaker, Carleton University; Leigh Greiner, Carleton University; Shelley Brown, Carleton University; Tracey Skilling, University of Toronto.

Though less in number than males, female youth continue to engage in delinquency. The purpose of this study was to determine heterogeneity among a sample justice-involved youth. Self-report data from 107 females and 219 males was analyzed using latent profile analysis. Using gender neutral, gender responsive, and strengths factors, a three-class solution emerged. Females were classified in accordance with their high risk on gender neutral and gender responsive factors, whereas males were grouped according to lower scores on these factors, and higher scores on strength variables. Findings are discussed in the context of risk assessment and treatment of justice-involved youth.


Among juvenile offenders, both traumatic brain injury (TBI) and conduct disorder/oppositional defiant disorder (CD/ODD) are reported to occur at higher rates than in the general youth population. Few studies have examined the neural substrate underlying these two factors. In this study, we examine the uncinate fasciculus, a white matter structure that has been associated both with abnormal development in CD/ODD and vulnerability in TBI. Findings from this study suggest an interaction of TBI and CD/ODD on white matter microstructure of the uncinate, which in turn suggests poorer outcome for youth with both TBI and CD/ODD.

32. Parent to Child Transmission of Risk for Aggressive Behaviors. Jessica Britt, Department of Veterans Affairs; Lindsay Meyer, Department of Veterans Affairs; Thomas Burroughs, Department of Veterans Affairs; Lisa Hovman, Department of Veterans Affairs; John Haber, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Children of Alcoholics are at an increased risk for developing conduct disorder and other externalizing behavioral problems (Jaffee et al., 2006). This study seeks to identify paternal aggressive behavior during adolescence as a predictor of conduct disorder symptoms in their offspring. The initial sample for the current study consists of 1,329 participants from the VETR study who have met criteria for a lifetime diagnosis of alcohol dependence, and who had offspring who participated in a diagnostic telephone interview as well. Findings indicate a significant relationship between paternal adolescent aggressive behavior and their offspring’s subsequent behavior.

33. Externalizing Disorders and Associated Psychopathology among Juvenile Offenders. Chelsea Spraberry Tekell, University of Texas, El Paso; Jennifer Enro Louden, University of Texas, El Paso.

Externalizing disorders such as conduct disorder often receive behavioral interventions in juvenile justice settings. However, treatment is often exclusively behaviorally based. Although this treatment is most effective for externalizing disorders, it does not address any other psychological problems that juvenile offenders have. Co-occurring psychopathology can often undermine treatment. Previous research has found that adults with externalizing disorders were more likely to have suicidal ideation and experienced trauma. Limited research suggests similar trends among adolescents. The current study examines the degree to which juveniles with externalizing disorders have histories of suicide attempts, suicidal ideation, and trauma when compared to non-disordered juveniles.

34. Correlates of Subclinical Bipolar Disorders in a Juvenile Justice Setting. Tamara Kang; University of Texas of El Paso; Elizabeth Perez; University of Texas of El Paso; Jennifer Enro Louden, University of Texas of El Paso.

Bipolar disorders are uncommon in pediatric youth, but subclinical bipolar is frequently seen in this age group. Conduct disorder and suicidality are associated with subclinical bipolar in pediatric youth, but the extent to which this is the case among juvenile offenders is unexplored. Juvenile offenders (N=681) were interviewed with the K-SADS and categorized as having: subclinical bipolar or no subclinical bipolar. Juveniles with subclinical bipolar were more delinquent and suicidal than juveniles with no subclinical bipolar. Awareness should be spread on the co-occurring nature of subclinical bipolar and delinquency to increase the likelihood of a successful intervention to prevent recidivism.

35. Assessment of Sophistication-Maturity with the Risk-Sophistication-Treatment Inventory-Self Report (RSTI-SR). Xinying Ang, University of Alabama; Randall Salekin, University of Alabama; Martin Sellbom, Australian National University; Zina Lee, University of the Fraser Valley.

It is important to assess a juvenile offender’s level of maturity to determine the appropriate interventions (Salekin, 2004). The present study carried out a CFA on the Risk-Sophistication-Treatment Inventory-Self Report (RSTI-SR), which assesses the Sophistication-Maturity of juvenile offenders, besides examining their Risk for Dangerousness and Treatment Amenability. A refinement made to the three-factor model produced good fit. Sophistication-Maturity was positively related to problem-focused coping, and the cognitive and emotional components of Sophistication-Maturity were positively related to the consideration of future consequences and subjective well-being. The findings indicate the reliability and validity of the RSTI-SR in assessing maturity.

36. Content, Structure, and Usefulness of Juvenile Predisposition Psychological Evaluations. Samantha Morin, Fordham University; Keith Cruise, Fordham University; Holly Hinz; Evan Holloway, Fordham University; John Chapman, Court Support Services Division-CT; Tracy Duran, Court Support Services Division-CT.

The current study reviewed the content of predisposition psychological evaluations within a statewide juvenile probation system to identify characteristics that best informed juvenile probation officers’ (JPOs) use of evaluation recommendations in disposition planning. Psychological evaluations (N=109) were coded on key variables. Preliminary results indicate coverage of key content areas with wide range in sufficiency of detail provided. Clinician recommendations were only incorporated in disposition plans 36% of the time, regardless of report content or sufficiency of clinician explanation, with 70% being mental health recommendations. Implications for quality assurance and training for evaluators and JPOs will be discussed.

37. Adapting Forensic Mental Health Instruments for use in Other Countries: Barriers to adapting the MacCAT-CA for use in Argentina, Elizabeth Gale-Bents, Drexel University; Mark Hoek, Drexel University; Stephanie Singer, Sherron Messenheimer Kelley, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Jorge Folino; Elizabeth Leon Mayer; Maria Jose Lescano.

Most forensic mental health assessment instruments have been developed in English-speaking countries. Although researchers and practitioners may wish to translate such instruments for use in other countries, differences in the legal requirements of forensic mental health issues and related legal procedures generate substantial challenges to instrument adaptation that go far beyond mere linguistic translation. The proposed paper will review...
these general challenges and, to illustrate specific methods of overcoming such obstacles, will describe the process of translating and adapting the MacArthur Competence Assessment Tool – Criminal Adjudication (MacCAT-CA) for use in Argentina.

38. The Impact of Just World Beliefs and Public Self-Consciousness on the Cooperativeness of Innocent Suspects. Rachel Abramowitz, John F. Kennedy High School; Jeff Kukucka, John Jay College / CUNY Graduate Center; Saul Kassin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Eighty participants imagined themselves as an innocent or guilty suspect in the criminal investigation of a shoplifting incident and made binary decisions as to how they would respond to a series of nine requests from police. Across the board, participants who imagined they were innocent were more cooperative than those who imagined they were guilty. Suggesting that this “innocence effect” is moderated by the illusion of transparency, the difference was particularly pronounced among suspects who were high in their dispositional level of public self-consciousness.

39. Police Reports of Suspect Interrogations: Testing for accuracy and effects on jurors. Jeff Kukucka, John Jay College / CUNY Graduate Center; Victoria Lawson, John Jay College and the Graduate Center, CUNY; Kimberley Schanz, John Jay College / CUNY Graduate Center; John DeCarlo, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Saul Kassin, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

A two-phase study tested two issues pertaining to the fact-finding value of recording interrogations. Sixteen experienced police investigators each interrogated two innocent suspects in a mock theft while surreptitiously recorded and then produced a written report of each interrogation. Phase 1 revealed that police often neglected to cite the use of various tactics they had used. In light of police-suspect disparities in self-reports of the process, Phase 2 will test whether mock jurors are less accurate and/or biased in their perceptions when exposed to a police report without a recording of the interrogation.

40. The Impact of Interviewee Ego Depletion on Information Quality. Jacqueline Evans, Florida International University; Stephen Michael, Mercer University; Alexandra Mosser, Florida International University; Aimee Allen; Hay Tran.

Researchers suggest self-regulation resources are limited. Thus, after engaging in self-regulation, resources should be scarce. This “ego-depleted” state is associated with various outcomes, which include diminished effort, increased suggestibility, and false memories. Ego depletion may prove important in investigative interviewing contexts, as aspects of an interviewee’s task (e.g., impression management) may result in diminished resources. Participants (N = 63) were exposed to target information, engaged in an ego-depleting task (or a control task), and were subsequently interviewed about the target information. Data collection is complete and interview transcripts are being scored for detail quantity, accuracy, and presence of misinformation.

41. False Confessions and Social Exclusion: The influence of vulnerability. Kathryn Schrantz, University of Central Oklahoma; Alicia Limke, Southern Nazarene University; Mickie Vanhoy, University of Central Oklahoma.

False confessions may result in wrongful convictions and injustice. Both personality and situational correlates influence the likelihood of falsely confessing. The current study proposed to examine the influence situation correlates, such as social exclusion and interrogation tactics, and personality correlates, such as need to belong, self-esteem, and attachment, have on false confessions. Preliminary results indicate that minimization and maximization increase the likelihood of falsely confessing as well as social exclusion. Additionally, high need to belong, low self-esteem, and insecure-avoidant attachment style predict false confessions. These correlates may lead to increased vulnerability and thereby increase the risk of obtaining false confessions.

42. An Interview Protocol of Experienced Human Intelligence Collectors and Counterintelligence Agents: Implications for research. Charles Leps, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY; Edward Geiselman, UCLA.

Twenty-three experienced military human intelligence collectors and counterintelligence agents participated in a structured survey interview designed to qualify their perspectives about their professional practice, explore the prospect of integrating with the scientific community, and identify tangible gains from an idealized interface. The results revealed some misunderstandings about the applicability of academic psychological research in support of their intelligence collection mission, but once clarified the participants expressed enthusiasm for future collaboration and continued dialogue. Mythology was evident in the training pipeline, but valid organically generated principles for conducting effective adversarial interactions also were described, especially from the more experienced practitioners.

43. The Effect of Note-taking on Memory for the Details in a Witness’ Account during Investigative Interviews. Sarah MacDonald, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Brent Snook; Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The effect of note taking on memory for the details of a witness’ account in an investigative interview was examined. Undergraduate students (N = 40) were assigned randomly to either take notes or listen to a re-enactment of an actual police interview with a witness to a crime, and subsequently recall as much information as possible. Memory for correct details was better for note takers compared to the listeners and note takers recalled fewer pieces of incorrect information compared to listeners. The implications of the findings for note taking to be encouraged in investigative interview training programs are discussed.

44. Police Interviewing and the Interrogation Process: An offenders’ perspective. Dianna Brooks; Brent Snook; Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Incarcerated men (N = 100) were interviewed about their most recent police interrogation. A logistic regression analysis was performed on confession outcome and nine predictors; humanitarian approach, legal advice sought, interrogation length, perception of evidence, age, previous convictions (yes/no) and number of previous convictions, offence seriousness, and general attitude towards police. Humanitarian style and perception of evidence predicted confession outcome. Multiple regression, using the same predictors, revealed that humanitarian approach and previous convictions predicted cooperation. The implications of the findings for police interrogations are discussed.

45. Looking at the Angles: Is there a prototype for a love-triangle murder? Chelsea Atkins, University of Nebraska at Kearney; Krista Forrest, University of Nebraska at Kearney; Theresa Wadkins, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Interrogators use think questions to encourage suspects to describe hypothetical crimes similar to the crime in question. However, crime prototypes and actual crime facts may be dangerously similar. Participants proposed how they would accomplish a lover’s triangle murder. Although responses were collapsed into 7 murder strategies, no single prototype emerged. A prototype for concealing the crime did emerge. About 53% set up the crime to look accidental or committed by another. These outcomes are compared to data collected by the FBI. Understanding prototypes for committing and concealing crimes may assist interrogators in distinguishing prototypes from actual crime facts.

46. Differences in Susceptibility to Coercion and Stress Level during Interrogations between Justice-Involved and Community Youth. Siera Johnson, Drexel University; Sharon Messenheimer Kelley, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University;

Ava Skolnik, Drexel University; Nora Koppelman, Drexel University.

This study compared interrogation-related behavior of justice-involved and community youth. 232 participants (168 juvenile justice youth, 64 community youth) completed the Perceptions of Coercion during the Holding and Interrogation Process (P-CHIP), which assesses examinees’ self-reported likelihood of offering true and false statements to police, as well as their stress levels during interrogation vignettes. Results revealed that justice-involved youth were significantly less likely to believe they would provide true or false statements to police, and they reported significantly lower stress levels than community youth. Limitations and research, policy, and practice implications of these findings will be discussed.
47. The Effect of Maintaining Eye Contact on Information Elicitation and Deception Detection. Kacie Minne, Louisiana State University; Lloyd Moffett, Louisiana State University; Louis Jones, Louisiana State University; Rachel Dianiska, Louisiana State University; Margaret Montgomery, Louisiana State University; Chase Hilton, Louisiana State University; Stephanie Martin, Louisiana State University; Emily Elliott, Louisiana State University; Sean Lane, Louisiana State University.

Research has found that requiring interviewees to maintain eye contact with an interviewer increases cues to veracity. In this study, we examined the effects of eye contact on information elicitation and deception detection. Community-based participants lied or told the truth during an interview about completing a series of actions while maintain eye contact or not. Our results revealed that eye gaze had mild negative effects on the accuracy of truthful reports. Overall, cues to deception were weak, and were not further enhanced by requiring participants to maintain eye contact. We discuss the implications of our results for investigative interviewing.


Factors associated with impulsivity are thought to contribute to susceptibility to coercive interrogation techniques. The current research assesses levels of impulsivity within the context of delay discounting wherein individuals were asked to choose between hypothetical immediate or delayed monetary rewards. The task was interrupted by a planned computer crash after which participants were asked to sign a ‘confession’, which stated that they were personally at fault. Experimenters employed either the use of minimization or maximization in combination with evidence ploy techniques to obtain confessions. Participants who signed confessions were found to be more impulsive overall than those who did not.

49. Flying under the Radar 1: Priming states of mind can increase or decrease disclosure of sensitive personal information. Deborah Davis, University of Nevada; Mario Mikulincer, Interdisciplinary Center; Assaf Soref, Interdisciplinary Center.

Four studies were designed to test techniques for undermining resistance to cooperation during investigative interviews/interrogations that operate outside the awareness of the intelligence source, and therefore are not recognized by the source as an attempt to influence. As such, they are less likely to raise resistance but more likely to successfully remove it. Three states of mind expected to affect self-disclosure of sensitive personal information were primed online, followed by a series of questions regarding negative interracial behaviors, minor criminal acts, and other socially undesirable behaviors. Self-affirmation, attachment security and mortality salience priming affected a types of disclosures.

50. Flying under the Radar 2: Using face and contextual primes to undermine resistance to outgroup interviewers. Deborah Davis, University of Nevada; Mario Mikulincer, Interdisciplinary Center; Assaf Soref, Interdisciplinary Center.

We investigated use of smiling interviewer face and contextual primes to avert automatic activation of negative reactions to outgroup interviewers. Arab and Jewish participants reacted to smiling/neutral ingroup/outgroup, paired with trait contextual primes that were either (1) positive and associated with the face’s group, (2) positive and not stereotypically associated with the face’s group, or (3) neutral. Reactions to outgroup faces became more positive in response to smiling versus neutral face presentation and when paired with positive traits stereotypically associated with the face’s ingroup (but not when associated with positive group-irrelevant or neutral traits).

51. Perceptions of False Confessions: Reducing prejudice toward exonerees through the use of educational materials. Meaghan Savage, University of Ontario Institute of Technology; Kimberly Clow, University of Ontario Institute of Technology; Regina Schuller, York University; Rosemary Ricciardelli, Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Educational campaigns are commonly used for prejudice reduction (Levy Paluck & Green, 2009). We were interested if educational campaigns, such as those used by innocence organizations, were successful in reducing prejudice toward exonerees. In particular, we examined whether prejudice toward an individual who falsely confessed could be reduced through watching educational videos about false confessions and wrongful conviction. Participants who watched the personal story video rated the exoneree as significantly less responsible for his wrongful conviction than participants who did not watch the personal story video. The findings are discussed within the context of Weiner’s (1993) social motivation theory.

52. The Effects of Defendant Gender, Victim Gender, and Attitudes toward Homosexuality on Juror Decision-Making in Trials Involving Battered Person Syndrome. Lesley Zannella; Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University.

This study explored how defendant and victim gender affect juror decision-making in murder trials involving evidence of Battered Person Syndrome (BPS), and the effects of attitudes toward homosexuality in this context. Participants read a murder trial transcript in which the defendant presented evidence of BPS, then provided verdicts and confidence ratings and completed attitude measures. Results revealed an interaction of defendant and victim gender – when the victim was male, participants gave harsher verdicts to male defendants than to female defendants. Surprisingly, although more guilty verdicts were assigned to defendants in same-sex couples, attitudes toward homosexuality were unrelated to decision-making.

53. A Test of Gender-Crime Congruence on Juror Decision-Making. Laura McManus, Carleton University; Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University.

The present study examined a potential gender-crime congruence effect by investigating the influence of mock juror decision-making in trials involving gender-stereotype consistent and gender-stereotype inconsistent crimes. Participants read a trial transcript of a burglary or prostitution case committed by a male or female defendant and assigned a verdict and confidence rating, then completed attitude measures regarding traditional gender roles. Results revealed an interaction between juror gender and crime type (crime type had an effect on female, but not male, jurors), as well as an unexpected three-way interaction among juror gender, defendant gender, and attitudes toward traditional gender roles.

54. Juror Gender and Locus of Control as Moderators of Perceptions of Expert Witness Testimony. Jennifer Johnson, Sam Houston State University; Robert Cramer, Sam Houston State University; Jenna Tomei, Sam Houston State University; Caroline Stroud, Sam Houston State University.

Expert witness research has established a model of expert credibility, suggesting juror characteristics influence perceptions of those experts. The present study evaluates the influence of juror locus of control and gender on perceptions of expert credibility and sentencing decisions. Results from 328 mock juror ratings of videotaped expert testimony suggest greater internal locus of control was associated with lower ratings of credibility. Further, males were approximately twice as likely to recommend the death penalty as females, regardless of level of control. Implications are discussed with regard to locus of control theory regarding persuasion, as well as jury consultation practice.

55. An Examination of Alibi Consistency and Type of Alibi Corroboration on Juror Decision-Making. Julie Dempsey; Carleton University; Meghan Kekewich; Carleton University.

This study examined the effect of alibi consistency (accurate vs. mild error vs. major error) and alibi corroboration (no corroboration vs. motivated corroboration vs. unmotivated corroboration) on jurors’ perceptions of the defendant, corroborating witness, and verdict. Alibi consistency and alibi corroboration were not found to influence verdict decisions. Jurors perceived the defendant’s alibi to be more accurate when there was consistency between statements and when there was an alibi corroborator. Jurors did not distinguish between a motivated and unmotivated alibi corroborator. Implications and suggestions for future research will be discussed.

56. Legal and Extra-legal Factors’ Influence on SVP Civil Commitment Verdicts. McKenzie Javorka, Claremont McKenna College; Annika Jessen, Claremont McKenna College; Amy Claff, Claremont Graduate University; Daniel Krauss, Claremont McKenna College; Nicholas Scurich, University of California—Irvine.

This study examines factors that influence civil commitment of Sexually Violent Predators. Two hundred and seventy four participants read case
materials from an Arizona SVP hearing with manipulations of age of victims, number of prior convictions of the defendant, expert risk evaluation, and standard of proof. Participants indicated their verdict, verdict confidence, and defendants’ likelihood of recidivism. Risk evaluation and number of prior convictions significantly predicted verdict choice, confidence, and likelihood of recidivism. Limitations and future directions are discussed.


Previous research on pretrial publicity (PTP) has focused on defendants in a crime. The current study sought to understand the effects of evidence strength, victim PTP, defendant PTP and untargeted PTP, which outlined the crime but did not include biasing information about the victim or defendant. As expected, strong trial evidence increased guilty verdicts; however, PTP influenced sentencing recommendations such that mock jurors exposed to negative defendant PTP, negative victim PTP, or untargeted PTP recommended more punitive sentences. Although jurors decided consistently with the law for verdict, the mock jurors were still influenced by PTP on their sentencing recommendations.

58. Responses of Real Jurors in SVP Trials Regarding Helpfulness of Expert Witness Testimony: Paige Harris, Sam Houston State University; Jorge Varela, Sam Houston State University; Marcus Boccaccini, Sam Houston State University; Darrell Turner, Private Practice, Lake Charles, LA.

The proliferation of SVP laws has resulted in an increased demand for behavioral science evidence. Although existent literature guides expert witnesses through elements of effective testimony, the large majority is theoretical or used non-juror samples. The present study analyzed 1,183 responses, from 299 real jurors, regarding the helpfulness of the expert witnesses’ testimony in the preceding SVP civil commitment trial. Results are analyzed and discussed with an emphasis on practicality and application to expert witness testimony.

59. Can the Rational-Experiential Important Decision-Making Scale Predict Preferred Testimony Type in Sexually-Violent Predator Trials?: The development and validation of a new measure of the Cognitive-Experiential Self-Theory. Jason Duncan, Sam Houston State University; Rowland Miller, Sam Houston State University.

Epstein (2008) established the Cognitive-Experiential Self-Theory (CEST) that posulates we have two information processing pathways (i.e., experiential and rational). Research has shown that in dangerousness trials, including Sexually-Violent Predator trials, when individuals employ the rational system, they rely on actuarial testimony and when individuals employ the experiential system, they rely on clinical testimony. The purpose of this study was to develop a new CEST measure and determine whether it better predicts preferred testimony type (i.e., actuarial vs. clinical) in SVP trials than other CEST measures. Findings suggest this new scale and another scale of the CEST both have utility.

60. Religiosity and Crime Control vs. Due Process Orientation. Sarah Bish, Arkansas State University; Christopher Peters, Arkansas State University; Karen Yanowitz, Arkansas State University.

Jurors’ beliefs and worldviews play an important part in their verdicts. One major aspect of some individuals’ beliefs is their religiosity. The current study examined religiosity’s impact on individuals’ Crime Control versus Due Process Orientation. It was found that religiosity significantly predicted an individual’s philosophical Crime Control versus Due Process Orientation, but not their tendencies to follow the basic tenants of procedural due process in the justice system. This could have great significance for attorneys and legal scholars especially with regard to certain trials where the individual is attempting to utilize a justification or an excuse defense.

61. Culture in the Courtroom: Ethnocentrism, religiosity, and juror decision-making. Susan Yamamoto, Carleton University; Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University.

The purpose of this study was to investigate how a cultural argument toward an automatism defense would affect juror judgments in a parent-child homicide case. We also examined the influence of defendant gender, juror religiosity and ethnocentrism in this context. Results showed that those high in ethnocentrism gave harsher verdict and responsibility ratings when a cultural argument was made. Participants low in ethnocentrism and religiosity attributed less responsibility/control to the defendant in the presence of a cultural argument, but only when he was male. This study represents a first step in empirically evaluating the impact of a cultural argument on juror judgments.

62. That Show is so Unrealistic! Revisiting the CSI Effect. Evelyn Maeder, Carleton University; Richard Corbett; University of Toronto.

Previous research has failed to demonstrate a “CSI effect”, in that jurors’ verdicts do not appear to differ as a result of their frequency of watching crime television. The current study sought to test whether perceived reality of crime television shows would influence decision-making in a trial involving physical and eyewitness evidence. Participants read a trial transcript involving a murder charge and answered questions about their frequency of watching crime television shows, and the degree to which they believe these shows are accurate/realistic. Path analyses revealed a number of interesting effects of frequency and perceived realism on attitudes and decisions.

63. Intuitive or Informed Decision-makers? The Impact of Probative Value of Evidence on Coherence-based Reasoning in Juror Decision Making. Cora Hui, John Jay College, Graduate Center, CUNY; Angela Yarbrough, John Jay College and the Graduate Center; Marlee Berman, John Jay College Graduate Center, CUNY; Amanda Nicholson, John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Steve Penrod, John Jay College – CUNY.

Scholars have suggested that jurors are less sensitive to changes in the probative of the evidence when they engage in coherence-based reasoning. The present study argues that jurors do not use the evidence (ignoring its probative value) to “intuitively” construct coherent representation, and compares the magnitude of the difference in culpability judgments across evidence of different probative values. Results showed that the probative value of the evidence affected verdict judgments (more voted guilty when stronger evidence is presented), yet participants’ judgment pattern becomes fairly similar across levels of probative values once they reached a verdict.

64. Variables Predicting Victim Blame in a Sexual Assault Case: Going beyond gender and Rape Myth Acceptance. McKenzie Works, Castleton State College; Molly Ramsden, Castleton State College; Cassandra Pinaire, Castleton State College; Kathyy Sperry, Castleton State College.

The victim blame literature clearly shows that gender (of the victim, perpetrator, and juror) and Rape Myth Acceptance are reliable predictors of victim blame in sexual assault cases. But few studies have examined additional demographic variables that may be useful in predicting victim blame. The present study aimed to fill this gap by collecting data on political affiliation, ethnicity, state residency, religion, marital status, education, income, and employment status. Preliminary data analyses revealed significant effects of ethnicity, political affiliation, and religion on blame and sympathy. Our findings may have important implications for jury selection, change of venue, and trial strategy.


International treaty arbitration (ITA) has become an area of interest as international investment and dispute resolution has increased, yet drastically changed over the last half century. Scholars have noted, however, that one problem with ITA is that outcomes are incoherent, inconsistent and indeterminate. The current research analyzed 272 publicly available investment treaty awards and examined whether party-related variables and arbitration-related variables predicted claimants’ relative success rate. Regression analyses revealed that several party-related variables predicted success rate, but arbitration-related variables did not predict success rate. These findings speak to the ongoing debate as to whether outcomes are completely unpredictable.
66. The Role of Objectification, Perspective, and Political Orientation on Sexual Harassment Judgments. Jacob Griess, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Audrea Aguilar, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Jamie Porter, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Sarah Gervais, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Richard Wiener, University of Nebraska.

In 2011, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission received 11,364 sexual harassment claims. Moving forward with the claims, several parties (e.g., jurors, judges) decide if conduct qualifies as sexual harassment. This study examined the effects of objectification, perspective, and political orientation on sexual harassment judgments. Participants either watched a DVD (i.e., observer) or read a transcript (i.e., predictor) of a male research assistant interviewing a woman in either mild, severe, or no objectification conditions. Predictors anticipated more sexual harassment than observers in the severe and mild conditions, but not in the control condition. Political affiliation had no effects on harassment perceptions.

67. Types of Evidence Common at Homicide Trials: What are psycho-legal researchers missing? Kimberly Schweitzer, University of Wyoming; Meredith Krewson, University of Wyoming; Colin Harrell, University of Wyoming; Narina Nunez, University of Wyoming; Veronica Estrada, University of Wyoming.

Literature on how evidence is weighed at trial is limited because the research typically examines few pieces of evidence; possibly due to the lack of information regarding what evidence is actually presented at trial. In order to obtain a comprehensive list of evidence that should be studied, the present study surveyed attorneys and asked them to select from a list of 66 pieces of evidence, what pieces they thought to be commonly presented at trial. Results indicated key pieces of evidence are not being researched. Future studies should examine how these pieces of evidence affect jurors’ decisions at trial.

68. Search and Seizure: Privacy expectations for electronic activity on personal and work devices. Išhani Deo, Scripps College; Elizabeth Diebel, Scripps College; Leslie Sacha, Scripps College; Elaine Tsao, Scripps College; Emma Marshall, Pomona College; Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Jennifer Groscup, Scripps College.

The Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution protects individuals from unreasonable searches and seizures by government actors. Courts have determined the Fourth Amendment only applies to searches that violate a “reasonable expectation of privacy,” and courts have begun to consider how privacy expectations for communications on electronic sources might vary based on device type and whether the searchee or an employer is the owner. Participants (N=147) were surveyed about their privacy expectations for a variety of technological devices. Results indicate that people perceive privacy differently for different types of technology and between personal and work-owned technology.

69. Effective Deposition Strategies Utilized by Attorneys and Expert Witnesses. Jacklyn Nagle; Michelle Jones, The University of Alabama; David Sams; Stanley Brodsky, The University of Alabama; Daniel King; David Glaser; Glaser Forensic Group.

Expert witness and attorney testimony dynamics have been described in book and article publications. However, most of the literature is limited to testimony dynamics during courtroom trials. The current study used qualitative analysis of actual deposition transcripts to investigate attorney and expert witness question and response strategies. The analysis revealed several broad themes and question/answer strategies utilized by attorneys and expert witnesses, including but not limited to techniques intended to directly challenge the expert or demonstrate the expert’s mastery of a subject matter. Examples of effective strategies are offered in this presentation.

70. Good Dog! How the Background of Law Enforcement Dogs Affects Perceptions of Canine Searches. Alex Rivera, Pitzer College; Jennifer Groscup, Scripps College.

Law enforcement dogs and their alerts to the presence of drugs are routinely used to obtain probable cause for a search of a drug-crime suspect. The recent Supreme Court decision in Florida v. Harris (2013) raises the question of how a dog’s background should affect judgments of probable cause and the reasonableness of searches based primarily on dog sniffs. Participants were presented with a dog sniff scenario varying the dog’s quality of training, certification, and testing accuracy. Certification and accuracy affected judgments about search justifiability and canine reliability but did not affect privacy expectations.

71. I Probably Shouldn’t Say This on My Work Email but…. Privacy expectations for electronic communications in a work situation. Emma Marshall, Pomona College; Jennifer Groscup, Scripps College; Eve Brank, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Lori Hoetger, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Supreme Court recently considered how expectations of privacy for electronic communications should be evaluated in a work setting (Ontario v. Quon, 2010). The current research seeks to determine the level of privacy people expect for their electronic communications and whether that expectation of privacy differs based on the type of communication device, ownership of the device, and who is conducting the search. Participants (N=664) read vignettes about a search in the workplace. As expected, results indicate that more privacy is expected for personal-owned devices than employer-owned devices and that privacy expectations differ based on the type of device.

72. Mental Health and Well-being in Aspiring Lawyers: An empirical investigation. Krystia Alvarez, University of Nevada – Lincoln; Brian Bornstein, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Lindsey Wylie, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Andrew Neen, University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Attorneys suffer from high rates of stress, alocholism, and mental health problems that are costly for the legal system and impair their abilities to serve their clients. There is some indication that these problems begin in law school. The present study measured current law students’ reported levels of stress, depression, anxiety, substance use, and overall adjustment/cop ing. Findings indicate that law students suffer from high levels of stress, anxiety, depression, and alcohol use, and that these problem behaviors fluctuate throughout the course of law school. We discuss the implications for law student/lawyer wellbeing and legal education.

73. Individual Decision-Making in an Establishment Clause Case. Mauricio Alvarez, University of Nevada, Reno; Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno.

In the U.S., one consequence of the separation of church and state is the heavy regulation of religious symbols displayed on government property. This study analyzed the relationships between participants’ decision to keep or remove religious displays and attributions, legal authoritarianism, and religion-related constructs using a 9th-Justice paradigm survey on a college sample. Religious fundamentalism, legal authoritarianism and attributions about the plaintiff’s motivations (i.e., motivation stems from dispositional or situational factors) were significant predictors of participants’ decision. Findings indicate that individuals’ support for removal of religious displays can change if situational factors are highlighted (e.g., the display is unconstitutional).

74. A More Ecologically-Valid Test of the Assumptions of Crime Linkage with Stranger Sex Offenses. Chelsea Slater, University of Birmingham (UK).

Much research has assessed the two basic assumptions (consistency and distinctiveness) underpinning crime linkage with sexual assaults, however, this research is problematic because: (1) small samples (usually < 23 series), and (2) samples consisting solely of serial offenses. The current study used a much larger dataset (N=100 offenders, 244 offenses) and sampled the offenses of both serial and one-off offenders, thereby representing a more ecologically valid test of the assumptions. The two assumptions were tested simultaneously with a Leave-One-Out Cross-Validation logistic regression followed by ROC analysis. Excellent levels of predictive accuracy were achieved providing support for the assumptions underpinning crime linkage.

75. The Reliability of Alibi Corroborators. Andrea Reyes; Steve Charnan, Florida International University; Daniella Villalba, Florida International University.

We examined the accuracy of alibi corroborators’ recognition memory, and whether alibi providers can accurately determine whether they will be recognized by their corroborators. Student-participants (innocent alibi providers: N=60) briefly interacted with a naive university employee (alibi corroborators: N=60), and were subsequently asked whether the corroborator would recognize them 24 hours later. These alibi
cases in which violations are questioned, like the Supreme Court case regarding the illegality of using GPS devices without warrants (United States v. Jones, 2012).

81. Priming of Ethnic-Sounding Names Reduces Public Policy Obedience in the African-American Community. Karen Michell Lane, Prairie View A&M University.

The sound of a name can be indicative of ethnicity which can produce priming of negative stereotypes by the perceivers who may form prejudiced opinions with little or no additional information (Devine, 2001). The resulting discrimination is often the culprit behind why some public entities often violate public policy ordinances (Lloyd, 2010). Employment, housing, credit, or other consumer service decisions can largely be affected by ethnic implications of one’s name (Pager, 2008). This subtle form of discrimination is especially prevalent in the African-American community (Fryer & Levitt, 2004). Relevant literature on name priming and consequences in public policy is reviewed.

82. Defensive Pessimism and Law Students. Emily Zimmerman, Drexel University; Casey LaDuke, Drexel University; David DeMatteo, Drexel University; Jennie Davis, Drexel University.

Law students’ use of defensive pessimism (setting low expectations and reflecting extensively on potential pitfalls to prepare for upcoming events) has not previously been empirically studied. This study administered the Revised Defensive Pessimism Questionnaire for academic situations to law students, undergraduate students, and community members. The results suggest that law students may endorse the strategy more strongly than community members, although not more strongly than undergraduates. Law students’ defensive pessimism scores were positively correlated with neuroticism and perceptions of stress, and negatively correlated with stress immunity. Implications of these findings for future defensive pessimism research and legal education are discussed.

83. Investigating Grit among Law School Graduates: Is grit related to law school performance? Emily Zimmerman, Drexel University; Leah Brogan, Drexel University; Eli Tsukayama, University of Pennsylvania.

Although scholarly attention has been given to law student performance and the distress experienced by law students, the positive psychology construct of grit has not been empirically studied in the context of legal education. This paper presents the results of an initial research study investigating the relationships between grit and performance measures for recent law school graduates. Contrary to expectations, grit was not related to law school grade point average. However, female law school graduates’ grit scores significantly differed from those of males. Implications of these findings for future research and legal education are discussed.

84. Men Accusing Men: Gender and race in sexual harassment judgments. Alisha Caldwell, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

This study integrates findings from social identification studies and self-referencing studies on sexual harassment. 389 male and female participants viewed a 30-minute DVD interview of an EEOC worker and a male complainant where the complainant claims to have been sexually harassed by other males. ANOVAs showed that men feel more physically similar to the victim, while females feel more similar in all other items. Participant race only predicts perceptions of similarity with Black complainants. When a subjective legal standard is used, there are more effects of perceived similarity. Social identification had little effect on likelihood of harassment judgments.

85. Public Knowledge of and Support for Compensating the Wrongfully Convicted. Charles Honts, Boise State University; Amanda Goodson, Boise State University.

We surveyed the knowledge and attitudes of 222 college students about wrongful convictions, exoneration and the compensation of the exonerated. Our participants reported a belief that one in ten convictions is wrongful. The majority of participants incorrectly believed their home state provided compensation, but they underestimated the number of states that do. Approximately 80% of our respondents report support for compensating the wrongfully convicted at a rate at least equal to the person’s annual income before arrest. Although additional research is needed, these results show support for adequate compensation statues and have implications for needed public education and policy change.
86. Confronting Underage Drinking Law Enforcement at School: Collegiate peers’ perceptions of appropriate sanctions during early adulthood. Danielle Tolson, University of Florida; Jennifer Klein, University of Florida.

We predicted the perception of appropriate sanctions for violating underage drinking laws, using a variety of measures that capture experiences with alcohol consumption and on-campus prevention efforts. Participants were recruited from a large, southeastern research university. Using a self-report online instrument, 861 surveys were completed by 18 to 20 year old college students. The results of this study provide insight on what factors may impact whether student feel punitive towards peers who drink illegally.

87. Is a Self-Aware Child an Honest Child?: How inducing self-awareness affects honesty in children. Jasmine Bender, Brock University; Trisha-Lee Halamay, Brock University; Angela Evans, Brock University.

The present study examined whether inducing self-awareness increases honesty in 3- to 8-year-olds. Children completed a temptation resistance paradigm in which they were left in a room alone with a toy placed behind their back and told to not peek at it; most children (75%) transgressed and peeked. Then, self-awareness was induced in half the children through the use of a mirror. Finally, children were asked whether they peeked at the toy and results revealed that children were significantly more honest in the self-awareness condition (54.5%) compared to the control condition (22.7%).

88. Juvenile Defendant Characteristics Associated with Pre-Adjudication Diversion. Allison Herens, Drexel University; Amanda NeMoyer, Drexel University; Rachel Hirst, Drexel University; Ana Prelic, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University.

Prior to adjudication, juvenile defendants can sometimes postpone their proceedings by agreeing to adhere to court-imposed requirements, diversions referred to in many jurisdictions as consent decrees. Although consent decrees frequently provide alternatives to adjudication, little is known about youth who participate in these agreements. The current study investigated whether youth characteristics predicted consent decree participation using records of 120 juvenile defendants, 34 of whom were diverted pre-adjudication via consent decree. Logistic regression analyses revealed that younger age at time of arrest and fewer previous arrests significantly predicted increased likelihoods of such diversion. Implications and limitations will be discussed.

89. Jurors’ Gender and Attitudes toward Intellectual Disability: Effects on judgments in cases involving intellectually disabled juveniles. Cynthia Najdowski, University at Albany – SUNY; Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Because many juvenile offenders are intellectually disabled and their cases may be tried by jurors in adult criminal court, it is important to understand factors that influence jurors’ judgments in their cases. We explored the relations among juror gender, attitudes toward intellectual disability, and judgments in a mock trial involving a disabled 15-year-old girl defendant. Men’s preexisting attitudes did not influence their judgments. The more women favored special treatment for disabled offenders, however, the less likely they were to suspect the disabled juvenile was guilty and the less likely they were to convict her. Implications will be discussed.

90. Testing the Generalizability of Juvenile Offender Stereotypes: Are white girls perceived as wayward youths or superpredators? Meagen Hildebrand, University at Albany – SUNY; Cynthia Najdowski, University at Albany – SUNY; Bette Bottoms, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Several states allow for the transfer of juvenile offenders from juvenile court to adult court based on their age and offense severity, which means that their cases may be tried by jurors. Haegerich, Salerno, and Bottoms (2013) found that preexisting stereotypes about juvenile offenders (i.e., whether they are wayward youths versus superpredators) influenced mock jurors’ judgments for an African American boy defendant. Specifically, the more juvenile offenders were stereotyped as superpredators, the more punitive their judgments were. We explored whether these stereotypes would also influence jurors’ judgments for a White girl defendant. As expected, they did not.

91. Differential Societal Attitudes between Juvenile and Adult Sex Offenders. Scott Hanneman, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Arjun Bhalla, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Nadia Al-Tabaa, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Robert Durham, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

It is estimated that 20% of all rapes and upwards of 50% of all child sexual assaults are being committed by juveniles. Despite this there is little research of societal attitudes towards juvenile sexual offenders (JSO). Using vignettes depicting a sexual assault to prime participants, it is hypothesized JSO would be viewed less negatively than adult sex offenders. This research, by examining the differential attitudes of adult versus juvenile sexual offenders will shed new light on the specific differences toward the two offender groups. Studying these differences is an important first step in preventing recidivism among JSO.


The Juvenile Justice system changed significantly in the last century. Initially designed to rehabilitate troubled youth, it has since become increasingly punitive, closely resembling adult courts. At its apex, transferred juveniles received harsher sentences than adults (Kurlychek & Johnson, 2004), a potential effect of the “get tough” era. Recently, the Supreme Court relied on development and neuroscience research when granting adolescents special protections. Their decision suggests a shift away from previous beliefs and increased use of neuroscience and developmental science evidence in the courtroom (Maroney, 2010). The current study examines the effects research evidence has on perceptions of young offenders.

93. Adult Social Role Performance in Delinquent Youth after Detention: A twelve-year longitudinal study. Nicole Azores-Gococo, Northwestern University; Karen Abram, Northwestern University; Leah Wely, Northwestern University; Linda Teplin, Northwestern University.

Involvement in the juvenile justice system changes many youth at high risk for disrupted transitions to adult social roles. However, research on adult outcomes in this population is limited. The current study addresses: 1) the prevalence of successful adult social role outcomes in youth 12 years after detention; and 2) differences in adult social role attainment by gender, race/ethnicity, and age. Data are drawn from the Northwestern Juvenile Project, a longitudinal study of 1829 detained youth. We assessed a range of outcomes reflecting important facets of adult functioning. Implications for public policy and research are discussed.

94. Plea Deal Decisions in Adolescence. Brian Logan, St. Joseph’s College; Rose Aime, St. Joseph’s College; Rich Hill, St. Joseph’s College; Tarika Dafuary-Kapur, Fairleigh Dickinson University; Tina Zottoli, St. Joseph’s College.

This study examines youth decision making in the context of a plea deal. We used the Judgment in Legal Context (JILC) interview to examine the effects of age and system involvement on plea deal decision making in non-offending youth and adults, and in adjudicated juvenile offenders. Adult decisions were marked by identification of more possible consequences and by a tendency to focus more on both long-term and negative consequences. Offending youth were more short-sighted than non-offenders, but also had a more realistic assessment of some legal outcomes.

95. The Effects of a Defendant’s Mental and Chronological Age on Mock Juror Decision Making. Emily Pica, Carleton University; Joanna Pozzulo, Carleton University.

The current study examined the effects of mental age and chronological age on mock juror decision making. Mock jurors read a trial transcript depicting an assault that varied defendant mental age (14- or 24-years-old) and defendant chronological age (14- or 24-years-old). The defendant was significantly more likely to be found not guilty if he had a lower mental age compared to his chronological age. Furthermore, if the defendant had a higher mental age than his chronological age, he was also more likely to be found not guilty. The paper will both discuss and offer explanations for these findings.
Predicting Residential Facility Placement: Hearing-level and youth-level variables. Amanda NeMoyer, Drexel University; Stephanie Brooks Holliday, Drexel University; Ana Preluc, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Jenna Ebbecke; Erika Foster; Casey Burkard.

Probation — the most common disposition for adjudicated juveniles — is often revoked, resulting in residential placement. Little research has investigated the role of both static, youth-specific factors and more variable, hearing-specific factors in predicting such placement; the current study addressed this gap. Generalized estimating equation analyses using 120 youths’ archived public defender files revealed that, given several youth characteristics and noncompliance with five different probation requirements, Hispanic youth were more likely to be committed, as were youth who: were absent from the examined hearing (even with permission), were rearrested, or failed to appear as directed. Implications and future research are discussed.

Juvenile Probation: Youths’ demographic characteristics as predictors of number of conditions imposed and failure to comply with requirements. Ana Preluc, Drexel University; Amanda NeMoyer, Drexel University; Emily Haney-Caron, Drexel University; Naomi Goldstein, Drexel University; Casey Burkard; Erika Foster; Jenna Ebbecke.

This study examined whether demographic characteristics, such as age, gender, and race, predicted the total number of probation conditions imposed on juvenile defendants and the number of conditions with which youths failed to comply. Data were examined from the archived files of 120 youth placed on probation. Significant relationships were observed between age and total number of conditions received and between gender and number of conditions with which youths failed to comply. No significant relationship was observed between race and either outcome variable. Implications of findings on research, practice, and policy will be discussed, and study limitations will be reviewed.

The Link between JPO-Youth Relationship Quality, Supervision Practices, and Probation Outcomes. Sarah Vidal, George-town University; Jennifer Woolard, George-town University; Pooja Dutta, University of Virginia.

A common disposition for youthful offenders, juvenile probation has the potential to improve well-being and reduce recidivism for a large number of youth. The juvenile probation officer-youth relationship can inspire positive changes to youthful offenders and reduce the likelihood of reoffending but remains poorly understood. This study characterizes the relationship quality among probation officers and youth probationers and examines whether and how this relationship relates to supervision practices and probation outcomes. Consistent with our hypothesis, our findings indicate that positive and trusting relationships may be helpful in promoting desistance from antisocial and delinquent activities and rehabilitation among offending youth.

Job-seeking Strategies of Ex-Offenders. Brittany Bate, Sam Houston State University; Michael Horvath, Cleveland State University.

Given the link between employment status and recidivism it is imperative to explore how ex-offenders search for jobs. In this study, we surveyed both ex-offenders and non-offenders to discover how much they used particular job-seeking strategies. Specifically, we found that ex-offenders prefer to use sources that allow them to actively ‘sell themselves’ to employers, while no such difference existed for non-offenders. The results of our research may help find ways to increase the breadth of ex-offenders’ job-seeking strategies.

Police Interrogations and Confessions in Japan. Taeko Wachi, University of Cambridge.

1st Place Dissertation Award Winner.

The present dissertation undertook three empirical studies, namely a survey of police officers, a mock crime experiment, and a survey of prisoners, designed to determine which police interviewing techniques are most likely to elicit confessions from guilty suspects in Japan. All three studies suggested that the Relationship-focused approach, which stresses listening closely and attempting to form good relationships with suspects, was preferable not only in terms of solving the crime (eliciting suspects' confessions and obtaining unknown information), but also in terms of positively affecting the suspects’ feelings and the police officers’ feelings.

Differentiating Genuine Versus Feigned Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in a Sample of Torture Survivors. Rebecca Weiss, Fordham University.

2nd Place Dissertation Award Winner.

Few measures are based on normative samples that represent the considerable diversity present in forensic settings. The paucity of this research is particularly problematic in asylum evaluations. This study compared performance on commonly used measures of feigning among three groups of African immigrants: honest participants with and without PTSD, and participants asked to feign distress-related symptoms. The data were used to assess the classification accuracy of each measure, and the effect of demographic and cultural variables. No measure demonstrated high rates of overall accuracy, although some displayed valuable, but limited utility. The results emphasize the need for future related research.


3rd Place Dissertation Award Winner.

Note: This paper will be presented during the Expert Testimony and Juries session from 5:00-6:00pm on Thursday, March 6, in Grand Chenier.

Many experts report that there is a mystical aura of infallibility surrounding forensic identification evidence, and yet faulty forensic evidence is the second leading cause of wrongful conviction in the United States. This experiment used two methods (educational expert testimony, perspective-taking) to counteract juror perceptions regarding the infallibility of forensic evidence. The quality of the forensic evidence (weak or strong) and the presence of the two debiasing methods were manipulated. Mock jurors (n = 211) who received the expert testimony, and those who received the (experiential) perspective-taking task, were more sensitive to the quality of the forensic evidence.

APLS Student Section Social
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Gallery Ballroom, 1st Floor

John Jay College of Criminal Justice Social
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Le Bayou, 208 Bourbon Street
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Numbers refer to session numbers, not page numbers.

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