

# American Psychology Law Society Summer 2015 News

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## President's Column

Patricia Zapf, President

### A Call for Collaborators

What a great conference! Our Annual Meeting this past March in San Diego was one of the best conferences I've attended in a long time. A big Thank You! to Nancy Panza, Chris Finello, and, of course, to Kathy and Clyde Gaskey for organizing and administering such a great event. There were 962 registrants in attendance at the conference and nothing but rave reviews about the program. Many of those 'rave reviews' were targeted at the excellent keynote addresses throughout the conference. And, in return, our keynote speakers had nothing but great things to say about our conference and our Division. In fact, each of the keynote presenters has made contact with me to make a plea for collaborators on various projects. I'd like to take the opportunity in this column to briefly describe what each of these presenters is looking for and to urge you to contact them if you have an interest in collaborating on these various projects.

[Dr. Lee Goldstein](#) presented the opening keynote address on Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy in Athletes, Veterans and Those Who Are Involved in the Criminal Justice System that had everyone buzzing afterwards. I overheard many snippets of conversation that were stimulated by this discussion of chronic traumatic encephalopathy and cannot seem to get the main point out of my head..."It's the hits that matter, not whether they cause a concussion." Dr. Goldstein and I were talking afterwards about the many, many forensic implications of his work given that so many of the individuals that we deal with have suffered head traumas and TBIs. Dr. Goldstein is very interested in collaborating with someone from AP-LS to write up some of the forensic implications of this work. If you are interested in collaborating with Dr. Goldstein, please feel free to [make contact](#) and let him know that you heard (about) his address at AP-LS and would like to collaborate.

The second keynote presentation was given by [Dr. Itiel Dror](#), who spoke on *The Psychology and Impartiality of Forensic Expert Decision Making* ([see video](#)) and had us all riveted. In his keynote address, Dr. Dror spoke about his work with the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the importance of having psychologists involved in developing standards and procedures for all aspects of forensic science. Dr. Dror mentioned in his keynote that he, along with Bill Thompson, Dan Simon, and Chris Meissner, are involved in the Human Factors Committee of the Forensic Sciences Standards Board, which is attempting to

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develop and promulgate forensic science consensus standards and guidelines and ensure that a sufficient scientific basis exists for each discipline within forensic science. They are looking for interested individuals who can look at the literature and speak about the psychological issues involved in each of these areas, so if you are interested in becoming involved in this important work, please [get in touch](#) with Dr. Dror and let him know that you heard his keynote and would like to become involved.

The final keynote address was given by [Mr. John Philipsborn](#) who spoke about *Putting our Jargon into Your Jargon* ([see video](#)) and how we can communicate more effectively with the courts and understand advances in forensic mental health through case law. This keynote contained a lot of relevant and important information for many of us who work as expert evaluators and witnesses in the field. Mr. Philipsborn spoke about the importance of getting this information out to those in our field who do this work and so if you are interested in collaborating on a writing project to help disseminate this important legal information to practitioners in our field, please [get in touch](#) with Mr. Philipsborn, let him know that you saw his AP-LS keynote address and would like to collaborate on writing up some of these important issues.

In addition to the three keynote addresses, [Dr. Richard Frederick](#), winner of the AAFP Distinguished Contributions Award, presented his address entitled, *Too Much Information: Problems when using Multiple Malingering Tests*, in which he spoke about the issues involved in attempting to reconcile the results of multiple measures of malingering. This was a great address and can be [viewed here](#).

Finally, I was pleased to be able to present my Presidential Address at AP-LS entitled, *Broadening our Scope and Expanding our Reach: Bringing Psychology and Law to the Masses* in which I discuss the importance of disseminating the work that we do in this field to expand our reach to both other disciplines as well as to the public. If you didn't get a chance to attend, you can view my address [here](#).

Thank you to everyone who attended the AP-LS Meeting in San Diego and I look forward to seeing you at our next Divisional event, the APA Annual Convention in Toronto, Canada from August 6-9, 2015. Amanda Zelechowski and Nicholas Druhn, our Divisional co-chairs, have put together a terrific program for this Convention and I encourage you to check out their article in this edition of the APLS News, which highlights a number of interesting and informative events in this program.

See you in Toronto!

Patty

# Legal Update

Editor: Dennis P. Stolle, J.D., Ph.D.

## Behavioral and Empirical Analysis of Law in Israel: Thoughts on Moving Toward a Global Research Community

By: Yuval Feldman, Barr-Ilan University, Faculty of Law

Dennis asked me to describe for APLS News the research conducted in Israel by two related communities to which I belong: Empirical Legal Studies (ELS) and the Behavioral Analysis of Law (sometimes known as Behavioral Law and Economics (BLE)). At the outset, it is important to note that although there is an overlap between the behavioral and the empirical perspectives, these are obviously not the same. Some behavioral law is theoretical, and probably most of the ELS could not be defined as behavioral (see, for example, Eisenberg, et al., 1997). Israel may be an interesting example of the global outreach of these movements, being on one hand highly influenced by the US academically (the vast majority of scholars in Israel obtained their PhD or post-doc in the US), but at the same time is part of the EU for academic purposes, and therefore Israeli scholars participate in most European research networks.

On a personal note, while I am attempting to focus on the Israeli perspective, having spent about half of my academic life in the US, some of it in law schools and some in psychology departments, I feel that I have some perspective on both the psych-law and the behavioral law communities in both countries. Moreover, my initial familiarity with US academic life is highly related to the APLS-BLE tension. I came to the US fifteen years ago, planning to study for a PhD in law and psychology, and I ended up in the BLE/ELS camps. A large part of that decision of choosing a graduate program had to do with the provincial perspective in Israel, where academic jobs are available only to graduates of a handful of universities – none of which had a graduate program in law and psychology at the time. The take-away of this anecdote is that owing to the dominance of law and economics, it is much easier to find advisors in BLE and ELS. It is easier for many of the international scholars who come to the US and plan on having their career elsewhere to become experts in BLE than in the more traditional field of law and psychology.

I would like to use this opportunity to ponder on some questions that have gnawed at me since I graduated concerning the huge divide between scholars of the BLE and the academic community of psychology and law, including APLS. I think that this divide is a huge loss to both communities. Although there are some differences in the focus of the communities, they are complementary in more than one way. I hope scholars from both communities, in the US and in the global market of ideas, will learn to recognize the mutual gain from greater interaction.

### **Law and Psychology vs. Behavioral Analysis of Law**

The behavioral analysis of law (the younger of the two communities that now enjoys high visibility at law and economics conferences and at empirical legal studies conferences) is different from the more traditional law and

psychology movement on several grounds.

First, simplistically, we could say that BLE scholarship focuses more on understanding ordinary people in everyday situations, with greater focus on private and public law, whereas law and psychology scholarship takes a more forensic approach and focuses on topics that are in direct relevance to the evaluation of specific people, which courts need to know about, mainly in criminal and family law contexts. In addition, even the research in done on exposing various biases at work within criminal and civil procedures, which is more closely related to research done in ELS (e.g., Rachlinski et al, 2009), is sometimes done in context of particular people with regard to a particular case (e.g., jury selection and jury decision making). In contrast, much of the practical output of the BLE community is manifest through communication with regulators, legislatures, and behavioral insight teams, a great deal of the knowledge discussed focuses on people in general, situational context, and the effect of law on people in general. The court-orientation that is sometimes present in APLS scholarship limits its applicability within such regulatory and legislative contexts.

Second, the interaction with economics and behavioral economics is key in this tradition, where the insights of psychology are being incorporated into law through economic lenses. (For a review, see Ulen & Korobkin, 2000; very recently, the third Oxford Handbook Behavioral Law and Economics was edited by two of my colleagues from Israel, Zamir & Teichman). Economics or law and economics have not gained dominance in APLS classical scholarship, which limits APLS scholarship's ability to communicate with many legal scholars who work either with concepts developed by law and economics or focus on criticizing their relevance. At the same time, because of the dominance of economics, many areas of psychology that are less suitable for economics are being ignored, while theories related to judgment and decision making seem to get most of the attention.

### **Limitations of the Current Communication Between the Fields**

Naturally, I am not arguing that these two communities need to be identical; they have different research agendas and some differences in focus are expected. Nonetheless, at the same time I wonder how the communities would evolve if there was greater communication between them. For example, would more areas of psychology be applied to private law contexts if there were greater interaction between the two communities?

As suggested above, very few papers in the tradition of the behavioral analysis of the law focus on personality or developmental psychology. Much of the behavioral analysis that is common in Israel and likely to be discussed at conference such as ALEA, ELS, or ISNIE, is inspired by the effect of Tverski and Kahneman on decision making (e.g., Kahneman, 2003). Admittedly, the role of economics has been highly fruitful for the behavioral approach to law. It provided the field with normative coherence and with great ability to interact with legal policy-making, partly because of the dominance of law and economics in US law schools and in legal policy making. I think that in some ways expanding the behavioral analysis of law beyond the dominance of behavioral economics depends on a change in perspective by ALPS members. To examine the likelihood that the two communities will prosper globally by mutual interaction, it may be useful to understand the popularity of the behavioral and of the empirical analysis of law in Israel.

### **Relative Popularity of BLE and ELS in Israel**

I have not examined this question empirically, but it seems to me that there are more scholars from Israel at ELS annual conferences than from any other non-US country (one must contend with a long list of biases, however, availability being an obvious example, which could explain



why my perception may be inaccurate). This type of observation has been shared in the past by Oren Gazal-Ayal from Haifa, in the context of law and economics (Gazal-Ayal, 2007).

Like scholars from other countries, for Israeli scholars to be promoted, they must be published in top US journals (naturally, this is not the case in all countries, and I think the exact opposite may be true when it comes to the legal academia of larger European countries). The need to be published in US journals in order to be promoted provides an obvious advantage to legal scholars educated in the US. The argument that Gazal-Ayal raised with regard to law and economics is that Israelis who want to participate in the global market of ideas, with special emphasis on the US academic market, focus on law and economics, which tends to be a more universal area, certainly relative to more doctrinal areas of research, which are more jurisdiction-dependent. One wonders whether this may be the case with regard to empirical legal studies, and even more so to BLE. In principle, many similarities can be found; in both approaches, the necessary knowledge of the doctrine is minimal, the knowledge of math and/or statistics could replace knowledge of US law, and both partly rely on disciplinary fields that claim to be universal (e.g., economics or psychology). But there are also some notable differences between the two communities of knowledge. First, in many strands of empirical legal studies, much of the development process of an argument consists of collecting data about legally relevant institutions. At many of these institutions, the variation between countries is such that when brought as evidence, it could never affect American legal policy, without further “local” findings. Another strand of empirical legal studies is based on experimental methods. Admittedly, in most aspects of experimental psychology, the country where the experiment was conducted is not as important, but in the experimental legal analysis, questions of cultural context can play a much larger role, as in the case in other applied sciences.

From this perspective, I cannot see many reasons for a difference between the development of a global law-psych community and that of global ELS. Some differences may exist with regard to the role of the courts, including juries and various procedures that vary across countries. The difference is greater in APLS, which tends to be more culture-specific. For example, collaboration across countries, which we can see with the development of the BIT, is easier to accomplish because of the limited role of legal institutions (Amir & Lobel, 2009; Feldman & Lobel, 2015).

### **Differences in Methods**

Another area where it is necessary to bridge the gap between the two communities is methods. The difference between behavioral ELS methods and those of psychology, which are more likely to be used in the APLS community, has to do with methodological norms we see in psychology journals but not in ELS scholarship. Among these are norms related to “open science” and a need to state in advance the research hypotheses and planned number of experiments. I also see the requirement for replication, which is not yet present at the same level in ELS scholarship, where it may be acceptable to have a paper with one experiment (as in some economics papers). Moreover, although this is changing, as of now the number and sophistication of behavioral measures in psychological journals, is more extensive than those I usually (but not always) see in legal publications. Compare with Tor (2008).

At the same time, ELS has some areas that may suggest that its methodology is superior. For example, regarding the type of participants, I have noticed researchers draw criticisms at ELS conferences that they would not draw at psych conference. The expectation for multiple methods seems to be more common among legal reviewers of grant proposal, in a way that you would not always expect from pure psych grant applications, although this is changing too. Along the same lines, the need to take into account various theories and alternative explanations, even

from different disciplines, is not at the same level in psych research, where it is more common to rely only on one theoretical school of thought. The fact that in contrast to psychology or economics, ELS does not hold a clear agency model, has both positive and negative effects on the freedom of choosing methods that could be used to map a certain phenomenon (e.g., no firm expectation to use an incentive-compatible design).

To summarize this short note, although there are some justifiable differences between the BLE and ALPS perspectives in both methods and theories, it seems that much of the difference has to do with path dependencies rather than differences in research agendas. As suggested above, the regulation platform may be more likely to lend itself to international collaboration than does the court platform. There are many concepts developed in APLS scholarship that have international appeal, even when they emerge from American concepts such as jury research. It seems that a more important bridge between ALPS and legal behavioral research conducted in Israel and other countries may be established through greater interaction between the two research communities in the US. I hope that with increased flow of ideas and methods between the behavioral and the psych-law communities, we will also witness a greater flow of ideas between the US and the research communities of other countries.

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# Expert Opinion

Editor: Christina M. Finello, JD, Ph.D.

## Disproportionate Minority Contact in the Juvenile Justice System

Apryl A. Alexander, Psy.D.  
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A recent New York Times piece, entitled “[1.5 Million Missing Black Men](#),” highlighted the disparate incarceration rate of African American men. In the United States, racial/ethnic minorities are overrepresented within the criminal justice system (e.g., Cabaniss, Frabutt, Kendrick, & Arbuckle, 2006). These findings suggest the presence of disproportionate minority contact (DMC) in the justice system, a phenomenon that has been widely documented in the literature since the 1960s (Brinkley-Rubinstein, Craven, & McCormack, 2013; Cabaniss, Frabutt, Kendrick, & Arbuckle, 2006; David & Sorenson, 2013; Kakar, 2006; Kempf-Leonard, 2007). More specifically, the concept of DMC references an overrepresentation of racial/ethnic minorities in the criminal justice system comparative to their proportion in the general population (Desai, Falzer, Chapman, & Borum, 2012).

Minority youth are overrepresented at each stage of the juvenile justice system (e.g., Chapman Desai, Falzer, & Borum, 2006; Piquero, 2008). In 1997, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) reported that 62% of detained youth in the United States identified as a racial/ethnic minority, whereas only approximately one-third of the juvenile population in the United States was identified as a racial/ethnic minority (Cabaniss et al., 2006). Still, the most overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system has been observed among African American youth aged 10 to 17, who represent only 16% of the total United States juvenile population, but account for nearly 30% of all cases referred to juvenile courts, over one-third of detained youth, and 29% of all adjudicated delinquents (Kempf-Leonard, 2007). DMC was such an overwhelming problem by 2002 that the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 required states to address DMC at all points of the juvenile justice system. However, even today within the juvenile justice system, race/ethnicity has a distinct impact on processing at multiple decision points, including during interactions with police officers and in the courtroom (Chapman et al., 2006).

Numerous papers have been published that discuss potential contributing factors to DMC. The most commonly identified factors that likely contribute to DMC are: 1) selective enforcement of delinquent behavior, 2) differential opportunities for treatment, 3) institutional racism, 4) indirect effects of socioeconomic factors, 5) differential offending, 6) biased risk assessment instruments, 7) differential administrative practices, 8) unequal access to effective legal counsel, and 9) legislative policies that disparately impact youth of color (Kakar, 2006; Nellis & Richardson, 2010). Ultimately, differences in offending by racial/ethnic minorities (i.e., differential involvement), particularly between African Americans and European Americans, or the fact that the justice system treats minority youth in different ways (i.e., differential selection) have been the most commonly cited origins of DMC (Kakar, 2006). The theory of differential involvement suggests that ethnic minority youth are actually

committing more offenses and are committing offenses that would be categorized as more serious. However, research exploring self-reported delinquency and arrest rates shows that juveniles who identify as a racial/ethnic minority are disproportionately represented in custody despite the evidence that they did not commit more crimes (Davis & Sorenson, 2013). Because DMC is indicated prior to adjudication and during police contacts, this explanation for DMC that racial/ethnic minority youth commit more crimes, and more severe crimes, appears to be biased.

Since 1988, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act has required states receiving funding under the act to determine whether the proportion of minority juveniles in confinement exceeds their proportion in the general population. In 1992, Congress mandated that states demonstrate their efforts to reduce DMC. Unfortunately, states have been provided little guidance on how DMC reduction can be achieved. An example of a successful program aimed at reducing DMC in the juvenile justice system is The Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). The JDAI has worked in over 100 sites for more than 15 years to reform juvenile justice systems through supporting detention alternatives. As a result of these efforts, the average daily population of detained youth dropped as much as 65% in some jurisdictions, including reducing the detention of minority youth. The initiative has shown significantly fewer minority youth in detention in JDAI sites compared to the numbers before JDAI was working in those jurisdictions. In sum, DMC remains a critical area for research, and further examination of this concept is important to reduce discrimination against minorities for a system intent on achieving justice.

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# Law and Human Behavior Update

Margaret Bull Kovera, Editor-in-Chief

As I reported in my last column, *Law and Human Behavior* continues to perform well relative to other psychology and law journals in terms of citations, remaining the top-ranked journal in the area with its 2013 Impact Factor of 2.153. I am happy to report that other metrics suggest that usage of *LHB* articles is increasing, which will eventually increase the revenue that AP-LS derives from the journal. However, we could use your help in increasing usage further.

We have been doing our part to take actions that will increase readership of the journal's articles. For example, we have been working with APA to increase our presence in appropriate databases. As you may remember, when we switched publishers from Springer to APA, the agreement to include *LHB* articles in Westlaw was no longer in force and it took repeated appeals to convince APA that it was critically important to the journal's health that its articles be indexed in Westlaw. The entire catalog of *Law and Human Behavior* articles once again appears in that database as of early 2014. These efforts to have *LHB* included in Westlaw have likely resulted in increased revenue for the journal. In 2014, there was a 33% (\$46,632) rise over the previous year in the journal's electronic licensing revenue, which is the result of a substantial increase in people downloading full-text articles from the journal. APA is currently negotiating deals to include the journal in other databases, including Lexis-Nexis and HeinOnline. If the negotiations are successful, the inclusion of *LHB* articles in these databases should further increase the revenue we derive from online usage.

We have also attempted to package previously published *LHB* articles in new formats, in an attempt to increase the reach of our science and our revenues. Our first venture combined *LHB's* Scientific Review Paper on Police-Induced Confessions with previously published commentaries on the paper into a stand-alone PDF package that was sold online, resulting in over \$6300 in sales in 2014. APA is interested in identifying other material that could be similarly packaged for sale. If you have ideas for other special packages of *LHB* content, please contact me ([mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu)).

Although revenues were up in 2014, expenses were also up. In large part this increase in expenses was the result of the increase in the number of articles we published in each issue from seven to nine. We were able to increase the number of articles that we published in an issue because we had an increase in high quality submissions, allowing us to publish more content. However, this increase in content in the journal resulted in a 15% increase in production expenses for the year. Eventually, increased usage of this additional content will also increase revenue. We could increase content further if we received even more high quality submissions, as we are not fully utilizing the page allotment we have from APA. So please, consider submitting your best work to *LHB*.

In addition to sending us your best work and suggesting content for stand-alone packages of *LHB* content, there is one other way you can help increase the revenue we derive from our journal. Last summer I noticed that when I went on my university's library website and clicked on an *LHB* article that had been published prior to our transfer to APA, I was directed to a Springer website to download the article. Sure, I was able to download the article that I was seeking but Springer, rather than APA, derived revenue from my download request. AP-LS only receives revenue from that download of an *LHB* article when it is downloaded from the APA database. When *Law and Human Behavior* changed publishers from Springer to APA in 2012, there should have been changes to university databases that caused all *LHB* articles to now open on the APA platform (<http://content.apa.org/journals/lhb/>). However, it appears that links at some universities and libraries may still resolve to Springer. I let APA know of this issue and many instances have been resolved. However, it is clear that some universities and libraries are still providing *LHB* content through Springer rather than APA. So the next time you try to download an *LHB* article, please check whether the site that you are directed to is owned by Springer or APA. If Springer owns the site to which you are directed, please notify APA by emailing [psycinfo@apa.org](mailto:psycinfo@apa.org) with a screen capture of your experience, if possible, so that APA can correct the problem. This action would ensure that all *LHB* readers always have access to the most current content and will help us protect the revenue AP-LS receives from the journal. As always, thanks so much for your help in ensuring that *Law and Human Behavior* remains the top psychology and law journal.



# AP-LS Student Committee Career Corner

Associate Editor: Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, 2014-2015 Law Liason

*Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Career Corner, a question-and-answer column sponsored by the AP-LS Student Committee. The Career Corner is intended to highlight the varied backgrounds that individuals who work at the intersection of law and psychology can come from, and how that background influences their research, teaching, and/or practice. This edition profiles the Honorable William A. Meehan, Jr., Presiding Judge for the Philadelphia Treatment Court, a diversionary court focused on addressing the needs of drug-involved offenders and formerly designated a mentor drug court by the National Drug Court Institute.*

**AP-LS Student Committee:** Judge Meehan, thank you for agreeing to be highlighted in the inaugural edition of Career Corner for the AP-LS newsletter. To start, can you take us briefly through your career trajectory?

**Judge Meehan:** Sure. I obtained my B.A. from Villanova University and my J.D. from Delaware Law School of Widener University in 1980. Upon graduation I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to clerk for the Honorable Edward R. Becker of the Federal Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. After concluding my clerkship with Judge Becker in 1981, I practiced law for twelve years in a variety of positions. I served as a Deputy Attorney General under Leroy Zimmerman, the first elected Attorney General, for one year. Subsequently, I served an Assistant District Attorney in Delaware County. In 1985, I transitioned into private practice, focusing on criminal, civil foreclosure and bankruptcy law. I was elected to the bench in 1993 and handled mostly criminal cases through 2007, when I was approached by then President Judge Louis J. Presentza to run the newly-created Philadelphia DUI Treatment Court. Upon Judge Presentza's retirement in 2008, I took over as Presiding Judge for Philadelphia's Drug Treatment Court.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** Drug courts are a great example of the intersection between psychology and the legal system. What are the biggest differences that you notice between your time overseeing the drug court and your time seeing mostly criminal court cases?

**Judge Meehan:** I think the biggest difference is that I get to see the finished product. Prior to my duties in the treatment courts, I was never made aware of any of the successes of individuals that appeared before me. Many individuals that traverse the criminal justice system are troubled persons. In the treatment courts, we get to tackle those issues, and get to see the progress and improvements people make because those issues are addressed. People participating in the treatment court often times achieve many goals they otherwise never thought they could. For example: they purchase homes, get jobs and for the first time take responsibility for their actions. I think the treatment court is really an eye-opener for some of these individuals from a moral perspective, and they often develop an entirely new lifestyle than the one they previously lived. Judges in trial rooms don't get the opportunity to see people turn their life around or come to know these people on a more personal level. I'll see individuals who came through the Program in Wawa, and they never hesitate to come over and say hello. Many of them say, "Judge, you saved my life." But there are lots of people involved in the treatment court process besides me—in my opinion they can't pay the case managers and therapists enough. The case managers and therapists can't help but get somewhat emotionally attached to the individuals coming through the treatment court and want to see them succeed.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** What do you think is the toughest thing about your job as head of the Philadelphia Treatment Court?

**Judge Meehan:** I think the toughest thing for me is developing a rapport with the clients. Most of the participants in the program and I arrive in court coming from very diverse backgrounds and, for the most part, different generations. Being able to relate to the participants in the program in such a way as to get them to want to make significant change to their lifestyle is key. Many of these individuals, when they're in the throes of addiction, lose the support of their family and custody of their children. Many of the clients are too concerned with what others think of them rather working hard to

succeed in life. Most of them have no three-to-five year plan, but all want to improve their station in life. It's challenging to help clients figure out goals they want to achieve and to help them set intermediate benchmarks towards attaining that goal. It's tough to modify behavior, but once people get going in the right direction, it's nice to see them able to rebuild family relationships and trust, to watch their children without supervision, to attain financial stability and all the positive things that come out of it.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** What do you see as the most effective components of the Philadelphia drug court, and what are some of the challenges?

**Judge Meehan:** I think for a drug court to be most effective, it must strive to make sure that the initial clinical evaluation is accurate and that you're addressing the individual's substance abuse issue at the appropriate level of care. The case managers and therapists do most of the heavy lifting and are on the front lines in motivating and encouraging their clients. It's when the participants are non-compliant that the Judge becomes involved as the enforcer. It is important that I appear firm but not unfair. It is essential that the participants feel that they have been given an opportunity to be heard and treated fairly. I think that the community's investment in these clients will pay off in the long run; however, we still must hold them accountable for their actions. In terms of challenges, funding is the largest issue. We're constantly fighting with funders. And dual diagnosis clients are difficult process because we don't have the necessary resources to deal with their many issues. Many times we are not aware of a mental health issue until the client becomes substance free. Once we become aware that the client will also need a mental health component to their treatment regimen we attempt to find support for that. We encourage them to maintain medication schedules and troubleshoot adjustments to medication. Many times it's just a matter of finding places where these clients can go to get the treatment they need.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** The Philadelphia Treatment Court has invited research for a long time, particularly with Philadelphia's Treatment Research Institute, a renowned substance abuse treatment research non-profit organization. What do you see as some of the benefits of inviting researchers to work with the treatment court?

**Judge Meehan:** I think they really help keep us up to date on new trends in the field. We've been working with TRI and Doug Marlowe for years and they have given us direction in how to address issues like HIV testing, the implementation educating this population of the importance of seeking regular medical treatment and helping them learn how to access resources. They also keep us up to date on the best practices in the field, which is good but tricky. It's good to have standards for the drug courts, but there's no "one size fits all"—there are things we can strive to achieve, but the reality is that we don't always have the resources and it's hard to fulfill the standards for drug courts 100%. The guide for developing a drug courts are set forth in what is referred to as the Ten Key Components. In addition to these components, the "best practices" for each of the Ten Key Components have been developed. The problem arises when different jurisdictions with varying resources attempt to meet the standards set forth by the Ten Key Components and at what level of compliance with those components shy of best practices in any given key component is sufficient to satisfy the standards for a drug court. It's sort of like Double Secret Probation.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** As some parting wisdom, what do you wish that psychologists knew about legal professionals and vice versa?

**Judge Meehan:** I think that the answers aren't always black and white. When imposing a sanction a court needs to be cognizant of all mental health and substance abuse issues that need to be addressed. However, at the same time, from a practical standpoint, psychologists can't be so concerned with protecting the individual that they are not held accountable for their actions. As I mentioned previously about standards for the court—it's great to have best practices and to have standards to strive for, but the reality is it's very, very hard to attain 100% of best practices for all components. I wish that lawyers were more in tune with the psychological needs of their clients. I want psychologists to understand that while we want to help people, the reality is that there is still a societal debt to be paid and there are some practical limitations in terms of what is and is not feasible for courts to implement.

**AP-LS Student Committee:** Judge, thank you for your time.

**Judge Meehan:** My pleasure. Make sure to send me a copy of that newsletter!





# Corrections Committee Brief

Joseph A. Toomey, Ph.D & Dianna Kucera, Psy.D.

At the 2015 American Psychological Association (APA) annual convention, the AP-LS Corrections Committee will be hosting a panel discussion on gender issues related to the management and treatment of offenders. In preparation for this discussion, we describe some of the challenges faced by transgender inmates, and recent policies and practices related to their care and treatment.

## Transgender Status and Gender Dysphoria

The APA's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office defines the term transgender as "an umbrella term for persons whose gender identity, gender expression, or behavior does not conform to that typically associated with the sex to which they were assigned at birth."<sup>1</sup> To be transgendered is not a mental disorder. However, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5)<sup>2</sup> defines Gender Dysphoria as "the distress that may accompany the incongruence between one's experienced or expressed gender and one's assigned gender" (p. 451). The DSM-5 is careful to note that "not all individuals will experience distress as a result of such incongruence, [however] many are distressed if the desired physical interventions by means of hormones and/or surgery are not available" (p.451).

### Legal Framework

A number of U.S. District and Supreme Court cases have focused on understanding the issues faced by transgender inmates, and the responsibility of the government in providing interventions aimed at alleviating the symptoms of Gender Dysphoria. The earliest court cases focused on understanding issues of safety faced by transgender inmates. For example, in the case of Farmer v. Brennan (1994)<sup>3</sup> a transgender Federal inmate named Dee Farmer was transferred for disciplinary reasons to a higher security facility. Farmer alleged that within two weeks of being placed in general population, she was beaten and raped by another inmate in her cell. Farmer subsequently filed a Bivens<sup>4</sup> complaint alleging the Bureau of Prisons violated her Eighth Amendment right to be free of cruel and unusual punishment. Ultimately, the Supreme Court ruled that Federal Bureau of Prison officials did violate Farmer's rights by engaging in deliberate indifference (Estelle v. Gamble, 1976)<sup>5</sup> – meaning that Bureau of Prisons officials willfully ignored warning signs that transferring Farmer would result in a substantial risk of harm.

Alexander and Meshelemiah (2010)<sup>6</sup> note that federal courts have ruled Gender Dysphoria

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.apa.org/topics/lgbt/transgender.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> American Psychological Association (2013).

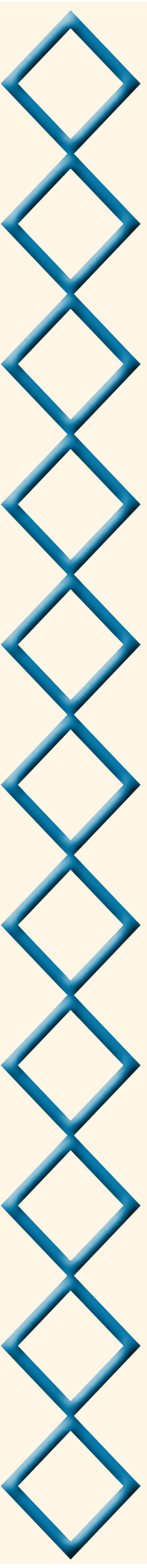
<sup>3</sup> Farmer v. Brennan, 128 L. Ed. 2d 811 (1994).

<sup>4</sup> Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Fed. Bureau of Narcotics, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).

<sup>5</sup> Estelle v. Gamble 429 U.S. 97 (1976).

<sup>6</sup> Alexander, R., & Meshelemiah, J. C. A. (2010). Gender identity disorders in prisons: What are the legal implications for prison mental health professionals and administrators? *The Prison Journal*, 90, 269-287. doi: 10.1177/0032885510373498





to be a serious medical problem, requiring mental health professionals to provide treatment services<sup>7</sup>. In recent years, a Massachusetts District Court ruled that a transgender inmate's gender dysphoria represented a "serious medical need," that sex reassignment surgery (also known as gender affirmation/confirmation surgery) would be the only adequate treatment, and granted an injunction requiring the state to provide this treatment<sup>8</sup>. However, in 2014, a Federal appeals court – citing in part security concerns articulated by the Department of Correction – overturned the decision. In April of 2015, a U.S. District Court in California ruled that the state's prison system violated the Eighth Amendment rights of Michelle-Lael Norsworthy when they denied her access to gender reassignment surgery in 2012<sup>9</sup>. Finally, also in April of 2015, the United States Department of Justice filed a statement of interest in the Middle district of Georgia identifying policies that prohibit treatment beyond the type of care the prisoner received in the community prior to incarceration as unconstitutional (a.k.a., "freeze frame" policies)<sup>10</sup>.

### Research Base

While courts continue to weigh in on the role of correctional institutions in meeting the needs of transgender inmates, very little empirical research exists on the effect of the prison environment on transgender men and women. Regarding general risk, a 2009 study investigating sexual violence in California prisons found that transgendered inmates were 13.4 times more likely than other inmates to be victims of assault<sup>11</sup>. While prior research suggests that individuals with Gender Dysphoria experience rates of mental illness that are no higher than other members of the population<sup>12</sup>, inmates who experience Gender Dysphoria and who are denied access to recommended treatments are at significantly higher risk of engaging in dangerous surgical self-treatments such as autocastration<sup>13</sup>. Brown (2010)<sup>14</sup> notes that the risk of autocastration is most often associated with undiagnosed or untreated Gender Dysphoria, and further cites numerous studies in multiple countries where these behaviors have been observed<sup>15</sup>.

Still, treatment of Gender Dysphoria through hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery is not a panacea (for inmates and the general public alike), nor a topic free of debate. For example, in a long-term follow-up study of 324 Swedish citizens who had undergone sex reassignment surgery (191 male-to-females, 133 female-to-males), Dehejne and colleagues (2011)<sup>16</sup> found that

<sup>7</sup>De'Lonta v. Angelone et al. 330 F.3d 630 (4th Cir. 2003); Kosilek v. Maloney, 221 F. Supp. 2d 156 (US Dist MA, 2002); Phillips v. Michigan Department of Corrections et al., 731 F. Supp. 792 (WD Mich, 1990).

<sup>8</sup>Kosilek v Spencer, C.A. No. 00-12455-MLW (Mass 2012).

<sup>9</sup>Norsworthy v. Beard , Case No. 14-cv-00695-JST (CA 2015).

<sup>10</sup>[http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/opa/press-releases/attachments/2015/04/03/diamond\\_statement\\_of\\_interest.pdf](http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/opa/press-releases/attachments/2015/04/03/diamond_statement_of_interest.pdf).

<sup>11</sup>Jeness, V., Maxson, C. L., Matsuda, K. N., & Summer, J. M. (2009). Violence in California correctional facilities: An empirical investigation of sexual assault. Retrieved from <http://ucicorrections.seweb.uci.edu/files/2013/06/BulletinVol2Issue2.pdf>

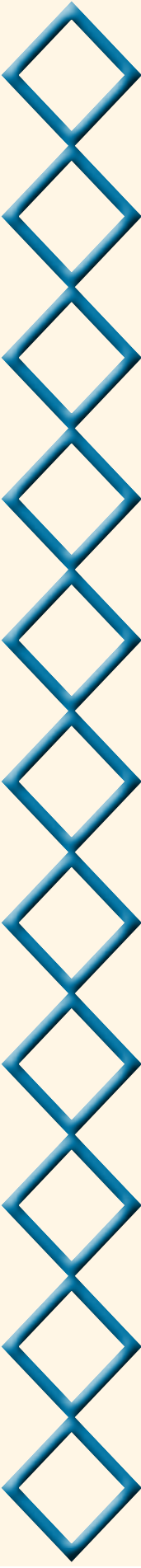
<sup>12</sup>Cole, C., O'Boyle, M., Emory, L., & Meyer, W. (1997). Comorbidity of gender dysphoria and other major psychiatric disorders. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 26, 13–26.

<sup>13</sup>Brown, G. R. (2010). Autocastration and autopenectomy as surgical self-treatment in incarcerated persons with gender identity disorder. *International Journal of Transgenderism*, 12, 31-39. doi: 10.1080/15532731003688970

<sup>14</sup>Ibid.

<sup>15</sup>e.g., Blight, J. (2000). Transgender inmates (*Trends & Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice*, No. 168). Canberra, Australia: Australian Institute of Criminology.; Brown, G. (2003, September). Application of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's Standards of Care to the prison setting: Recent victories for transgender healthcare in the USA. *Proceedings of the 18th Biennial Symposium of the HBIQDA*, Ghent, Belgium.; Brown, G. (2007, September). Autocastration and autopenectomy as surgical self-treatment in incarcerated persons with gender identity disorder. *Proceedings of the 20th Biennial Symposium of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health*, Chicago, IL.; Conacher, G., & Westwood, G. (1987). Autocastration in Ontario Federal Penitentiary, *British Journal Psychiatry*, 150, 565–566.; More, K. (1996). Proposals for the HM Prison Service review of guidelines relating to transsexual prisoners. Retrieved March 31, 2010, from [www.pfc.org.uk/legal](http://www.pfc.org.uk/legal).

<sup>16</sup>Dehejne, C., Lichtenstein, P., Boman, M., Johansson, A. L. V., Langstrom, N., & Landen, M. (2011). Long-term follow-up of transsexual persons undergoing sex reassignment surgery: Cohort study in Sweden. *PLoS ONE* 6(2), 1-8. doi:10.1371/



risk for mortality, suicidal behavior, and general psychiatric morbidity were higher than the general population. Undoubtedly, questions remain regarding how best to provide services to inmates experiencing Gender Dysphoria, and, to that end, policies have been developed at the state and federal level in order to address this issue.

### **Evolving Policies Related to Transgender Inmates**

In August of 2013, The National Institute of Corrections released the Policy Review and Development Guide for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex Persons in Custodial Settings to assist institutions in formulating policies that address the treatment of LGBTI inmates. It is also designed to help agencies implement the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards, which require institutions to safely screen, classify, and house lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex inmates. By integrating information about this specialized population into policies, practices, and correctional culture, institutions will more effectively meet the needs of LGBTI inmates and increase the comfort level of staff who works with these individuals.

Medical organizations recognize and support the need for transgender-specific care in correctional institutions. The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) has published internationally accepted protocols for the treatment of gender dysphoria. Treatment can include a combination of counseling, hormone therapy, and/or surgeries as well as encouraging gender expression and gender identification. However, these protocols are general and do not specifically address some of the unique features associated with providing care in a correctional setting.

Further, this does not suggest that an LGBTI inmate is entitled to the care of his/her choosing. Courts have recognized that the denial of “desired accommodations and medical treatment” does not violate inmates’ rights. As with any other medical conditions, the courts generally defer to the medical personnel’s treatment choices, but only if treatment is adequate and effective for that particular inmate’s gender dysphoria needs.

Medical care should be based on an individualized medical evaluation and take into consideration length of imprisonment. A federal district court found that a prison may not adopt a “rigid, freeze-frame policy,” where inmates with gender dysphoria have access only to the specific treatments they received prior to incarceration.

Court findings indicate that custodial settings cannot deny treatment for inmates with gender dysphoria based on a generalized or unsubstantiated security concern, or based on concerns that relate to the inmates’ transgender status or gender expression. If a treatment is a potential security risk, corrections officials must find a way to balance these concerns against medical necessity. Medical treatment cannot be denied to a person with gender dysphoria because it is expensive or controversial.

In addition to medical and mental health treatment, PREA standards incorporate provisions to guide policy regarding risk, housing, and classification of LGBTI inmates. Traditionally, inmates are placed in housing and programming based on genitalia or assigned sex at birth. In cases involving LGBTI inmates, an independent medical analysis and risk assessment need to be conducted to ensure the safety, security, and programming needs are met. The PREA standards require adult prisons and jails to conduct an intake screening within 72 hours of an inmate’s arrival to assess risk for sexual victimization, and reassessed when warranted by circumstances.

PREA standards provide that inmates at high risk for sexual victimization, which includes the LGBTI population, shall not be placed in involuntary segregated housing unless an assessment of all available alternatives has been made, and a determination has been made that there are no other viable alternatives. Also, an agency may not place LGBTI inmates in “dedicated facilities, units or wings solely on the basis of such identification status” unless that placement is consistent with an existing consent decree, legal settlement, or legal judgment.

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The PREA standards also include Provisions to specifically protect transgendered and intersex inmates regarding housing and other programming assignments indicate “the agency shall consider on a case-by-case basis whether a placement would ensure the inmate’s health and safety, and whether the placement would present management or security problems. The inmate’s own view with respect to his or her own safety shall be given serious consideration.” Finally, transgender and intersex inmates must be able to shower separately from other inmates. Agencies must assess placement and programming assignments for transgender and intersex inmates at least twice per year.

PREA standards firmly place the responsibility of accurately identifying an inmate’s genital status with medical staff, limiting The agency must train its staff in how to conduct cross-gender searches and searches of transgender and intersex people “in a professional and respectful manner, and in the least intrusive manner possible, consistent with security needs.”

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex inmates present specific challenges in correctional settings both from treatment and operational standpoints. Policies and practices continue to evolve as medical and mental health professionals work with administrations to create a safe and respectful environment for these individuals.



# AP-LS Student Committee

To the student and professional members of AP-LS —

Continuously promoting student involvement, programming, and development are at the core of the AP-LS Student Committee. This edition of *AP-LS News* contains a few examples of new and exciting programming from our committee members, including the inaugural edition of *Career Corner* and a sneak peek the forthcoming AP-LS Student Committee blog (see below). Please check our unofficial website ([www.apls-students.org](http://www.apls-students.org)) for information on all of our high-quality programming—our Webinars page includes all of our upcoming and archived interactive webinars, and our Resources page contains a variety of resources curated specifically for undergraduate and graduate students in law and psychology. For up-to-date programming announcements and media related to law and psychology, be sure to follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/apls.sc](http://www.facebook.com/apls.sc)) and Twitter ([@APLSsc](https://twitter.com/APLSsc))!

Thank you for continuing to be a part of our community of students here at AP-LS, and to our professional members and Executive Committee for your continued support. If you have any comments, questions, or suggests on how we can further improve our services, we invite you to contact us at [aplsstudents@gmail.com](mailto:aplsstudents@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Casey LaDuke, Chair  
Meghann Galloway, Chair-Elect

Caitlin Cavanagh, Jaymes Fairfax-Columbo, Erika Fountain, Elizabeth Gale-Bentz, Karen Michell Lane, Krystia Reed

*AP-LS Student Committee Officers*

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## STUDENT COMMITTEE UPDATES

### AP-LS Student Committee Blog

The AP-LS Student Committee is very excited to announce the development of a new blog! Our blog will serve as a forum for field leaders to provide career advice, opinions about the field, and important commentary on current events. We hope this will be a valuable resource both for our student members and the general public to learn about our field, as well as allow our experts to actively engage with topics in psychology and law.

Do you have something you'd like to contribute? We highly encourage anyone interested in submitting comments for our blog to contact us at [aplsstudents@gmail.com](mailto:aplsstudents@gmail.com)—particularly anyone willing to be contacted by the Student Committee for commentary on your area of expertise!

We are very excited for the blog to go live in early Fall of 2015. As a taste of what is to come, please see the forthcoming blog post from Dr. Kirk Heilbrun on negotiating start-up after being hired in an academic position in law and psychology.

# Negotiating Start-Up After Being Hired in an Academic Position

Kirk Heilbrun, Ph.D. – Drexel University

Negotiating with a college or university after receiving an offer to join the faculty is sometimes overlooked for a variety of reasons, but it should be taken seriously. Faculty members will probably never again have the negotiating leverage that is part of this stage. There will be differences in the job demands depending on whether the academic setting includes doctoral training or masters training, whether it is primarily focused on undergraduate teaching, on size, on whether it is public vs. private, and whether the contract will be 9-months or 12-months. Other presenters in this symposium described such differences, but they clearly will affect how well the information presented here will apply. Learning more about the particular academic setting making the offer is valuable; this can be done by talking with other junior faculty who have been recently hired and by reviewing the website and strategic plan of the college.

The candidate will probably be negotiating ultimately with the Dean, but may be talking directly with the department chair or a program director. But the hiring authority is typically vested at the Dean's level, so consider that the department head may be negotiating but probably does not make the ultimate decision. The recommendation of this person, however, is very important. In preparing for these discussions, it is valuable to talk with one's mentor and senior colleagues about what is minimal, reasonable, and aspirational under the circumstances.

There are five main points to negotiate: annual salary, teaching, space, research support, and summer salary. APA collects annual salary figures, so the candidate can learn not only about national averages but can specify the type of university, public vs. private, and the geographic region in making more tailored estimates of a reasonable range. Usually the initial offer is perhaps \$5,000 lower than the college might be prepared to pay. Some, however, initially offer at the top of their available range. You won't know which it is until you ask. (A flat response of "we can't go any higher" is informative, particularly if the offer was reasonable and the probing is for aspirational possibilities.)

Teaching load refers to the number and type of courses the individual will be expected to teach. Usually this is fairly standard across the department, college, and university. For instance, a large public university with a recognized doctoral program might have a faculty member teach two courses per term, or three courses per academic year. Teaching loads at smaller colleges, particularly those primarily for undergraduates, might be much higher—up to three courses per term. This gives you valuable information about the research productivity expected of faculty; it is very difficult to publish 3-4 articles and chapters per year and pursue extramural funding if you also have a 3-course per term teaching load. Nonetheless, this can be a good fit for those who are passionate about teaching and less so about research. You also will want to know about the policy for "buying out" of teaching with grant/contract funding. Buyout policies range widely from "cost of hiring an adjunct for this course" (inexpensive) to "20% (or higher) of 9-month salary for this course" (expensive). This is important because a small grant or contract could still fund your buyout from several courses under the former policy, while it would take a major grant to fund much buy-out with a more expensive policy. During the first three years of assistant professorship, it is reasonable to expect a reduced teaching load. For example, a college with a two course per term teaching load might offer 0-1, 1-1, and 2-1 for the first three years before the 2-2-2 load is fully implemented.

Space covers the amount and nature of room(s) you will need to conduct research. Do not try



to negotiate office space. They will give you an office, and for many reasons it's best for you to just take what they give. (Imagine the reaction of more senior colleagues, for example, if the new assistant professor received a larger office than they have.) But space affects where your graduate students can work when they are around, and what you need to run research participants. Some space should be provided to you as part of your hiring (e.g., one dedicated room), while additional space might be available if you receive a grant requiring such space.

Research support refers to the amount of money the college makes available to you in order to establish your research program. It's expected that this will facilitate pilot work, which will in turn lead to more successful grant applications. If a college offers this as part of the start-up package, then there is the potential to increase it. On the other hand, if you have "construction" needs for space, modifying existing space into something you need in your lab, that tends to be very expensive and might limit the availability of this kind of research funding. When this is available, it might be in the amount of somewhere between \$5,000 and \$50,000. This would include things like participant payments, software purchases, travel, and other research expenses.

Summer salary is the amount that can be earned by 9-month faculty during the three months in which they are technically not under contract. (Productive faculty members work all summer; wise faculty members distribute their 9-month salaries over 12 months. But this does present a chance for significant extra income, either from grants or from teaching.) You should investigate whether summer salary through teaching is routinely available. In any event, however, it may be feasible to receive 1-2 months of summer salary during the summer after your first academic year as part of your start-up package.

Negotiate through preparation and willingness to use the leverage you have achieved by receiving this offer. You will be working with these folks, so don't be unreasonable. It's certainly fair, if you have more than one offer, to let people know this. (Don't ever say something that isn't true, such as there is another offer when there isn't. People have long memories for this kind of thing.) But the more frequent error is to "underask" at this stage. A final bit of perspective: deans are accustomed to hiring faculty in other areas for whom the start-up packages can approach \$1,000,000. Granted we often don't have expensive lab equipment or major construction needs—but this does make a start-up package worth \$150,000 for psychology seem minor by comparison.



American Psychology-Law Society

APA DIVISION 41



# APLS Research Briefs

Editors: Elizabeth L. Jeglic & Charles B. Stone

## Student Contributors:

Fabiana Alceste, Laure Brimbal, Emily Edwards, Lauren Gonzales,  
Emily Joseph, Kyle Meditz, Georgia Winters

## COMMUNITY, CORRECTIONAL, & FORENSIC TREATMENT

Barrett, E. L., Indig, D., Sunjic, S., Sannibale, C., Sindicich, N., Rosenfeld, J., Najavits, M., & Mills, K. (2015). **Treating comorbid substance use and traumatic stress among male prisoners: A pilot study of the acceptability, feasibility, and preliminary efficacy of Seeking Safety.** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, 14*(1), 45-55. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2015.1014527

A pilot study was conducted for an eight-session Seeking Safety program to explore the acceptability, feasibility, and preliminary efficacy for a sample of 30 male prisoners. The results supported the use of the program for male prisoners with substance use and trauma histories. Data showed positive findings for the treatment's impact on substance use and mental health outcomes. The authors concluded the next step is a full-scale trial for the intervention.

Borsari, B., Apodaca, T. R., Jackson, K. M., Mastroleo, N. R., Magill, M., Barnett, N. P., & Carey, K. B. (2015). **In-session processes of brief motivational interventions in two trials with mandated college students.** *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 83*, 56-67.

Used Motivational Interviewing Skills Code (MISC 2.0) to code brief motivational intervention sessions from two RCTs facilitating reductions in alcohol use and alcohol-related consequences in students mandated to treatment as a sanction for alcohol use or related behavior. Found significant relationships among therapist behaviors, global scores, and client language for and against change. Relational aspects of motivational interviewing were most predictive of postsession alcohol use, and higher levels of client self-exploration mediated the relationship between higher therapist ratings of MI Spirit and reduced drinking at follow-up.

Davis, M., Sheidow, A. J., & McCart, M. R. (2014). **Reducing recidivism and symptoms in emerging adults with serious mental health conditions and justice system involvement.** *The Journal Of Behavioral Health Services & Research, 42*(2), 172-190. doi:10.1007/s11414-014-9425-8

An adaptation of Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for emerging adults with serious mental health conditions was investigated for its effectiveness in reducing recidivism. Findings suggested the treatment was implemented with strong fidelity, there was high client satisfaction, and most participants completed the intervention. Importantly, there were significant decreases in mental health symptoms, involvement with the criminal justice system, and relations with antisocial peers.

Dodge, K. A., Bierman, K. L., Coie, J. D., Greenberg, M. T., Lockman, J. E., McMahon, R. J., & Pinderhughes, E. E. (2015). **Impact of early intervention on psychopathology, crime, and well-**

**being at age 25.** *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 172, 59-70.

Tested efficacy of early intervention to prevent adult psychopathology in 891 kindergarteners in three cohorts (1991-1993) recruited from 55 schools in four communities, randomly assigned by school cluster to a 10-year intervention or control. The intervention included social skills training, parent behavior-management training including home visits, peer coaching, reading tutoring, and classroom social-emotional curricula. Intervention participants received lower severity-weighted violent and drug crime conviction scores, lower risky sexual behavior scores, and higher well-being scores.

Jewell, J. D., Malone, M. D., Rose, P., Sturgeon, D., & Owens, S. (2015). **A multiyear follow-up study examining the effectiveness of a cognitive behavioral group therapy program on the recidivism of juveniles on probation.** *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 59(3), 259-272. Doi: 10.1177/0306624X13509065

Long-term effectiveness of a cognitive behavioral group therapy program titled Community Opportunity Growth was evaluated by tracking juvenile delinquents' recidivism across a 7-year time period with the average length to follow-up being 39 months. It was hypothesized that program graduates (N = 178) would have a significantly lower recidivism rate than a control group (program nonstarters; N = 66) and program dropouts (N = 150). When sex, ethnicity, age, prior petitions, highest class of prior petition, and months to follow-up were controlled, the results suggest a general trend indicating the long-term effectiveness of the program.

Helmond, P., Overbeek, G., Brugman, D., & Gibbs, J. C. (2015). **A meta-analysis on cognitive distortions and externalizing problem behavior: Associations, moderators, and treatment effectiveness.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(3), 245-262.

Using meta-analysis, authors examine the association between cognitive distortions and externalizing behaviors. The effectiveness of interventions in reducing externalizing behaviors by reducing cognitive distortions was also examined. Data from 71 studies were included for analysis. Results suggest medium to large effects for the association between cognitive distortions and externalizing behaviors. Though interventions appeared effective in reducing cognitive distortions, no evidence for a subsequent reduction in externalizing behaviors was observed.

Livingston, J. D., Chu, K., Milne, T., & Brink, J. (2015). **Probationers mandated to receive forensic mental health services in Canada: Risks/needs, service delivery, and intermediate outcomes.** *Psychology, Public Policy, And Law*, 21(1), 72-84.

Authors retrospectively examined health records of 250 probationers with mental health diagnoses to examine characteristics of those who were mandated to receive forensic mental health services (e.g. criminogenic, social, and clinical needs) and to examine the relationships between measures of risk and needs, service delivery, and intermediate outcomes. Results suggest level of risk, service need, and clinical problems to be unrelated to intensity of forensic mental health services. Noncompliance was associated with greater odds of psychiatric adverse events, criminal justice contact, and violent behavior.

Palmer, E. J., Hatcher, R. M., McGuire, J., & Hollin, C. R. (2015). **Cognitive skills programs for female offenders in the community: Effect on reconviction.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(4), 345-360.

A quasi-experimental design was used to compare reconviction rates of women who completed one of two cognitive skills programs (Enhanced Thinking Skills and Think First), those who began but did not complete a program, and those who did not attend a program. Results suggest program completers to have significantly lower rates of reconviction than those not attending

a program; no differences were observed between the program completers and the program drop-outs.

Ronel, N., Chen, G., & Elisha, E. (2015). **Application of positive criminology in Retorno: A Jewish therapeutic community for people with addictions.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, 54*(2), 122-141. Doi: 10.1080/10509674.2015.1009964.

Researchers applied positive criminology principles in the recovery process of people with addictions in Retorno. A sample of 10 adult residents, were administered in-depth, semistructured, individual interviews. The findings highlight the importance of positive experiences to achieve a sense of integration on multidimensional level—self, social, and spiritual—throughout the recovery process. The most significant theme for participants was their self-integration, well-being, and emotional maturity. It was also found that achieving a sense of multi-integration was associated with decreased self-centeredness.

Scott, K., Heslop, L., Kelly, T., & Wiggins, K. (2015). **Intervening to prevent repeat offending among moderate-to high-risk domestic violence offenders: A second-responder program for men.** *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology, 59*(3), 273-294. Doi: 10.1177/0306624X13513709

Researchers used a RNR (Risk, Needs, and Responsivity)-focused second-responder program to identify men accused of assaulting their intimate partners and who were judged as being at moderate to high risk for re-offending. Police outcomes for 40 men attending a second-responder intervention program were compared to 40 men with equivalent levels of risk for re-offense who did not attend intervention. Results showed that there were significant, substantial, and lasting differences across groups in all outcome domains with subsequent domestic-violence-related change rates more than double for men in the comparison group as compared with the intervention group in both 1-year (65.9% vs. 29.3%) and 2-year (41.5% vs. 12.2%) follow-up.

Wolford-Clevenger, C., Febres, J., Elmquist, J., Zapor, H., Brasfield, H., & Stuart, G. L. (2015). **Prevalence and correlates of suicidal ideation among court-referred male perpetrators of intimate partner violence.** *Psychological Services, 12*, 9-15.

Cross-sectional examination of prevalence and correlates of suicidal ideation in 294 males court-ordered to a batterer intervention program. Overall, 22% of participants reported experiencing suicidal ideation within 2 weeks before entering the program, and variance in suicidal ideation was accounted for by borderline personality disorder symptoms but not intimate partner violence perpetration, victimization, or antisocial personality disorder symptoms. Implications include that depressive symptoms and BPD symptoms should warrant thorough suicide risk assessment in males attending batterer intervention programs.

## DELINQUENCY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR

Beaver, K. M., Hartman, S., & Belsky, J. (2015). **Differential susceptibility to parental sensitivity based on early-life temperament in the prediction of adolescent affective psychopathic personality traits.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(5), 546-565.

Data from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development was used to examine whether early-life temperament conditioned the effect of parental sensitivity on adolescent affective psychopathic personality traits. Results provide some evidence of an interaction effect between temperament and parenting. Male infants with an easy temperament were most affected by parental sensitivity in regard to affective psychopathic traits and callousness. Early-life temperament and paternal sensitivity also interacted to predict unemotionality.

Beijersbergen, K. A., Dirkzwager, A. J., Eichelsheim, V. I., Van der Laan, P. H., & Nieuwebeerta, P. (2015). **Procedural Justice, Anger, and Prisoners' Misconduct A Longitudinal Study.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(2), 196-218. jtdj

Authors examined the longitudinal relationship between prisoner's procedural justice perceptions and their subsequent misconduct during incarceration and the mediating role of anger in this relationship. Two waves of survey data from over 800 Dutch prisoners suggest positive perceptions of procedural justice at T1 predicted lower levels of misconduct at T2. Notably, anger was shown to fully mediate this relationship.

Colins, O. F., & Andershed, H. (2015). **The DSM-5 with limited prosocial emotions specifier for conduct disorder among detained girls.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(2), 198-207. doi:10.1037/lhb0000108

The purpose of the study was to explore the clinical utility of the Limited Prosocial Emotions (LPE) specifier symptom threshold among 191 adolescent females aged 12 to 17 years with conduct disorder. The results indicated the LPE specifier identified individuals with serious antisociality, though did not identify those with more psychiatric morbidity. The authors concluded the use of the specifier in this population is restricted.

Day, J. C., Brauer, J. R., Butler, H. D. (2015). **Coercion and social support behind bars: Testing an integrated theory of misconduct and resistance in U.S. prisons.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(2), 133-155.

Using data from 481 prisoners incarcerated in state correctional facilities, authors examine key propositions from Differential Coercion/Social Support Theory to explain inmate violence, misconduct, and resistance within prison. Results of logistic regression models suggest coercive experiences, but not social support, to be associated with engagement in violent misconduct and inmate resistance. Reduction of violence and promotion of safety within prisons by prison staff was shown to inhibit these reactive behaviors.

DeLisi, M., Angton, A., Behnken, M. P., & Kusow, A. M. (2015). **Do adolescent drug users fare the worst? Onset type, juvenile delinquency, and criminal careers.** *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology, 59*(2), 180-195. Doi: 10.1177/0306624X13505426

Drawing on data from a sample of serious adult criminal offenders (N = 500), the current study examined 12 forms of juvenile delinquency (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, arson, weapons, sexual offense, drug sales, and drug use) in addition to age at arrest onset, age, sex, race to explore their association with chronicity (total arrests), extreme chronicity (1 SD above the mean which was equivalent to 90 career arrests), and lambda (offending per year). Juvenile drug use was significantly associated with all criminal career outcomes.

Dufur, M. J., Hoffmann, J. P., Braudt, D. B., Parcel, T. L., & Spence, K. R. (2015). **Examining the effects of family and school social capital on delinquent behavior.** *Deviant Behavior, 36*(7), 1-16. Doi:10.1080/01639625.2014.944069

Researchers evaluate and compare the effects of social capital at home and social capital at school on the frequency of involvement in delinquent behavior in the previous year. Using data from the first wave of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (N = 8,100), we find that social sources of capital in the family exert a stronger negative influence on delinquency than school-based sources of capital, net the effects of other common correlates of this type of adolescent behavior.

Grigorenko, E. L., Sullivan, T., & Chapman, J. (2015). **An investigation of gender differences in a representative sample of juveniles detained in Connecticut.** *International journal of law and*

*psychiatry*, 38(2), 84-91. Doi: 10.1016/j.ijlp.2015.01.011

Researchers sampled 20% of all admittees to the state-run juvenile detention centers in the state of Connecticut (n = 371, 30.2% girls, mean age = 14.45, sd = 1.05) and analyzed for gender differences with regard to characteristics of offenses. Girls demonstrated higher levels of substance abuse, suicide ideation, victimization, and mental-health variability, but these higher scores are more characteristic of girls from minority backgrounds.

Helseth, S. A., Waschbusch, D. A., Gnagy, E. M., Onyango, A. N., Burrows-MacLean, L., Fabiano, G. A.,...& Pelham Jr., W. E. (2015). **Effects of behavioral and pharmacological therapies on peer reinforcement of deviancy in children with ADHD-only, ADHD and conduct problems, and controls.** *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 83(2), 280-292.

Compared effects of stimulant medication and behavior modification on rates of reinforcement for deviant peer behavior in 222 (151 with and without conduct problems, and 71 control) elementary school-age children attending a summer treatment program. Without either intervention, children with ADHD reinforced peer deviant behavior at a significantly higher rate than control children. However, both interventions significantly reduced the rate of reinforcement in combination and uniquely.

Hinnant, J. B., Erath, S. A., & El-Sheikh, M. (2015). **Harsh parenting, parasympathetic activity, and development of delinquency and substance use.** *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 124, 137-151.

Evaluated the interaction between thresholds for PNS responding and harsh parenting in predicting delinquency and adolescent substance use, whether RSA changes over time as a function of harsh parenting and stress reactivity, and whether there is a moderating role of sex in these relationships. Used longitudinal data from 251 8-16 year-old participants including mother reports of child delinquency and RSA and adolescent self-reports of substance use at age 16. Lower resting RSA predicted increases in delinquency and increased likelihood of drug use in contexts of harsh parenting, and this was especially likely in boys. Harsh parenting also was related to declining resting RSA for children demonstrating greater RSA withdrawal to stress.

Plenty, S., & Sundell, K. (2015). **Graffiti: A precursor to future deviant behavior during adolescence?.** *Deviant Behavior*, 36(7), 565-580. Doi: 10.1080/01639625.2014.951569

Researchers examine if graffiti initiation leads to greater deviant behavior by reviewing questionnaires completed by a sample of 1,010 students (grades 7, 8, and 9). Students who initiated tagging or graffiti art in grade 8 consistently reported higher rates of deviant behavior 12 months later. However, graffiti initiation did not increase the likelihood of most behaviors after the effect of confounding factors from the individual, peer, and family domains were accounted for.

Stewart, S. L., Baiden, P., den Dunnen, W., Hirdes, J. P., & Perlman, C. M. (2015). **Prevalence and correlates of criminal activity in adolescents treated in adult inpatient mental health beds in Ontario, Canada.** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 14(1), 33-44. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2015.1014528

Using a sample of 2,613 adolescents admitted to adult inpatient facilities, the researchers examined the presence and correlates for criminal activity. Results indicated that prior criminal involvement was associated with older age, males, prior admission, history of child abuse, poor insight into symptoms, substance use, certain mental illnesses, and aggression. The authors concluded that the juvenile justice system, mental health agencies, and addictions services should utilize this information for treatment planning.



Vasquez, B. E., Zimmerman, G. M., & Farrell, A. S. (2015). **Examining the joint impact of moderating and nonlinear peer effects on the sex gap in violent crime.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(2), 176-195.

Authors examine the role of peer influences in explaining the sex gap in violent crime. Using data from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods, authors find that the sex gap is smaller at higher levels of peer violence. Results suggest this to be due to (a) a stronger effect of peer violence exposure for females and (b) a nonlinear peer violence/respondent violence relationship which is consistent across the sexes.

Walters, G. D. (2015). **Recidivism and the “Worst of Both Worlds” Hypothesis: Do substance misuse and crime interact or accumulate?** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(4), 435-451.

Authors examined whether interactive or additive terms for substance misuse and crime better predict recidivism. Data from 1,435 male inmates suggest that while the additive term consistently predicted general recidivism and the presence of new charges, the interaction term failed to do so. Substance misuse and crime components were shown to predict income offenses, but only the crime component predicted person offenses. Implications for the “worst of both worlds” hypothesis are discussed.

### FORENSIC ASSESSMENT

Bottesi, G., Spoto, A., Freeston, M. H., Sanavio, E., & Vidotto, G. (2015). **Beyond the score: Clinical evaluation through formal psychological assessment.** *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 97(3), 252-260.

This study illustrates an application of FPA to the cleaning subscale of a questionnaire assessing obsessive–compulsive symptoms and DSM–IV–TR diagnostic criteria for obsessive–compulsive disorder. Researchers created deterministic model of the items criteria relationships by mapping each item to each diagnostic criterion and tested the model on a large community sample (N= 4,412). Results indicate that the theoretical model has adequate fit.

Chauhan, P., Warren, J., Kois, L., & Wellbeloved-Stone, J. (2015). **The significance of combining evaluations of competency to stand trial and sanity at the time of the offense.** *Psychology, Public Policy, And Law*, 21(1), 50-59.

Authors examined the (a) the prevalence of joint versus CST-only (competency to stand trial) and MSO-only (mental state at the time of offense) evaluations, (b) their association with evaluator’s opinions of competency/sanity, and (c) factors influencing such opinions. Results suggest joint evaluations are conducted in approximately 54% of evaluations. Opinions of incompetency were more common in CST-only cases; opinions of insanity were more common in joint-evaluation cases. Many factors were shown to interact with competency evaluation structure in determining opinions, but predictors of insanity were not shown to interact with evaluation structure.

Goodwin, B. E., Sellbom, M., & Salekin, R. T. (2014). **Elucidating the construct validity of the antisocial process screening device (APSD) in a sample of young adults.** *Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment*, 37, 1-11.

Examined use of the Antisocial Process Screening Device (APSD), an adolescent-focused measure of psychopathic personality traits, for young adults using a university student sample. Confirmatory factor analysis results indicated a three-factor structure that was invariant across the two samples, and convergent and divergent validity were also supported with conceptually relevant measures.

Patry, M. W., & Magaletta, P. R. (2015). **Measuring suicidality using the Personality Assessment Inventory: A convergent validity study with federal inmates.** *Assessment*, 22(1), 36-45.



doi:10.1177/1073191114539381

The purpose of the study was to examine the convergent validity of the Personality Assessment Inventory's Suicide Ideation Scale and the Suicide Potential Index in a sample of 1,120 male and female inmates. Data showed strong support for the Suicide Ideation Scale and the Suicide Potential Index, which were both related to validity indices for various assessment modalities.

Sinclair, S. J., Smith, M., Chung, W. J., Liebman, R., Stein, M. B., Antonius, D., ... & Blais, M. A. (2015). **Extending the Validity of the Personality Assessment Inventory's (PAI) Level of Care Index (LOCI) in Multiple Psychiatric Settings.** *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 97(2), 145-152. Utilizing 2 independent psychiatric samples researchers sought to extend the validity and clinical application of the Level of Care Index (LOCI) from the Personality Assessment Inventory (PAI). In Study 1 (N= 201), the LOCI effectively differentiated level of care (inpatients from outpatients), and was also meaningfully associated with risk factors for psychiatric admission (e.g., suicidal ideation, self-harming behavior, previous psychiatric admission, etc.). In Study 2 (N= 96), the LOCI was found to be significantly higher in those with a recent psychiatric admission within the past 6 months ( $d = 0.64$ ), as compared to those without an admission.

Spaans, M., Rinne, T., de Beurs, E., & Spinhoven, P. (2015). **The DAPP-SF as a screener for personality disorder in a forensic setting.** *Journal of Personality Assessment*, 97(2), 172-181. Researchers explored the screening potential of the DAPP-SF for personality disorder in 89 criminal suspects undergoing residential pretrial psychological assessments in a high-security setting. A floor effect was found in DAPP-SF scores such that the forensic population reported less personality pathology than the general population. Only moderate associations between DAPP-SF and SIDP-IV outcome were found which suggests limited usefulness as a screener for personality disorders in a forensic pretrial setting.

Walters, G. D., & Magaletta, P. R. (2015). **Comorbid antisocial and substance misuse proclivity and mental health service utilization by female inmates: Testing the worst of both worlds hypothesis with the PAI.** *Psychological Services*, 12, 28-36.

Examined relationship between antisocial behavior and substance misuse (measured by the PAI) and use of mental health-related services in 421 female prison inmates. Proclivity for both antisocial behavior and substance misuse was related to significantly greater use of services than either proclivity alone when controlling for preexisting diagnoses and treatment, and the effect was additive instead of interactive. Implications include development of a comprehensive training model and clarification of the "worst of both worlds" hypothesis.

Willmot, P., & McMurrin, M. (2015). **Development of a self-report measure of social functioning for forensic inpatients.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 39(2), 72-76. Doi: 10.1016/j.ijlp.2015.01.023

Researchers detail the development and validation of the Hospital Social Functioning Questionnaire (HSFQ), a self-report measure of social functioning for forensic inpatients using a sample of 54 male inpatients in a forensic personality disorder treatment unit. The HSFQ showed good internal consistency and test-retest reliability, good concurrent validity with self-report measures of personality pathology, other symptoms and psychological wellbeing, but only a moderate correlation with clinician-rated global functioning and with frequency of self-harm and aggressive behavior.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONFESSIONS, & DECEPTION

Dando, C.J., Bull, R., Ormerod, T.C., & Sandham, A.L. (2015). **Helping to sort the liars from the**

**truth-tellers: The gradual revelation of information during investigative interviews.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology*, 20(1), 114-128. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12016

Game players ( $N = 151$ ) were randomly assigned to either tell the truth or lie during an interview where information about the incriminating information held by the interviewer was disclosed early, gradually, or late in the interview. Gradual interviews were rated by the interviewees to be the most cognitively demanding. Observers ( $N = 30$ ), who watched a randomly selected subsample of thirty videos and made veracity and confidence judgments, were most accurate and confident in judgments of gradual disclosure videos.

Dickinson, J. J., Brubacher, S. P., & Poole, D. A. (2015). **Children's performance on ground rules questions: Implications for forensic interviewing.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 39 (1), 87–97. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000119

Authors scored the accuracy of children's ( $N = 501$ , 4 to 12 years) responses to 5 ground rules practice questions and 2 questions that asked whether they would follow the rules. They then assigned inaccurate responses to 1 of several error categories. Few children answered every question correctly, but their performance on individual questions was encouraging. There were marked differences in children's understanding across ground rules questions, with "Don't guess" and "Tell the truth" rules being the easiest to comprehend.

Duxbury, L., Higgins, C., & Halinski, M. (2015). **Identifying the antecedents of work-role overload in police organizations.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(4), 361-381.

Authors developed and validated measures to quantify sources of work-role overload in policing through a three-phase multi-method research initiative. Five antecedents were identified as a result of the research: competing demands, the court system, pressures to perform work outside one's mandate, understaffing, and a nonsupportive organizational culture.

Fox, B. H. & Farrington, D. P. (2015). **An experimental evaluation on the utility of burglary profiles applied in active police investigations.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(2), 156-175.

Authors compared the burglary arrest rate of a police agency using burglary behavioral profiles to three matched agencies not using such profiles. Results suggest using behavioral profiles increased arrest rates to three times that of the control agencies. Implications of these results on the utility of offender profiling are discussed.

Granhag, P.A., Montecinos, S.C., & Oleszkiewicz, S. (2015). **Eliciting intelligence from sources: The first scientific test of the Scharff technique.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology*, 20(1), 96-113. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12015

Participants ( $N = 93$ ) were provided information on a planned terrorist attack and tasked with providing neither too much nor too little information during an interview using the Scharff technique ( $n = 30$ ), open-ended questions ( $n = 32$ ), or specific questions ( $n = 31$ ). Though new information elicited did not differ across conditions, participants in both the Scharff- and Open-question conditions underestimated the amount of information revealed to the interviewer. Participants in the Scharff condition had a more difficult time discerning what information the interviewer was seeking.

Kleider-Offutt, H.M., Cabrak, S.E., & Knuycky, L.R. (2015). **Do police officers' beliefs about emotional witnesses influence the questions they ask?** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 29(2), 314-319. Doi: 10.1002/acp.3111

After reading crime scenarios describing the witness/victim as either neutral ( $n = 124$ ) or emotionally distraught ( $n = 79$ ), police officers ( $N = 203$ ) provided the first question they would ask the witness followed by three open-ended and three closed-ended questions. Officers

selected their top three choices before answering a series of questions examining their beliefs about memory and emotional arousal. Closed-ended questions were asked more by officers who did not believe arousal hurt memory; open-ended questions were asked more by officers who believed arousal impacted memory accuracy.

Leal, S., Vrij, A., Warmelink, L., Vernham, Z., & Fisher, R.P. (2015). **You cannot hide your telephone lies: Providing a model statement as an aid to detect deception in insurance telephone calls.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology, 20*(1), 129-146. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12017

A field study examined whether insurance company telephone operators could distinguish between truth telling mock claimants ( $n = 19$ ) and lying mock claimants ( $n = 21$ ). Though operators only correctly classified 50% of the claimants, Criteria-Based Content Analysis (CBCA) revealed that claimants said little and deceptive statements did not differ in quality from truthful statements. In a second study, half of the participants ( $N = 83$ ) received a model detailed statement before providing their statement. Receiving a model statement resulted in truth tellers sounding more plausible than liars.

McDougall, A.J., & Bull, R. (2015). **Detecting truth in suspect interviews: the effect of use of evidence (early and gradual) and time delay on Criteria-Based Content Analysis, Reality Monitoring and inconsistency within suspect statements.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21*(6), 514-530. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.994631

This study investigates early and gradual revelation of evidence by interviewers, and the effect of different delays on verbal quality of truth-teller and liar statements ( $N=42$ ). It was hypothesized that gradual disclosure would emphasize verbal differences between liars and truth-tellers. Statement-evidence and within-statement inconsistency are robust cues to deception across interview style and delay. Gradual revelation may increase interviewer accuracy in veracity decisions.

McQuaid, S.M., Woodworth, M., Hutton, E.L., Porter, S., & ten Brinke, L. (2015). **Automated insights: verbal cues to deception in real-life high-stakes lies.** *Psychology, Crime & Law.* Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2015.1008477

Wmatrix was used to examine the language of deceptive ( $N=35$ ) and genuine ( $N=33$ ) pleaders pleading for the return of a missing loved one during a televised press conference. Transcripts of the pleas were analyzed for linguistic cues. Gender was also analyzed. Deceptive pleaders used 'they,' singular indefinite pronouns, and exclusivizers/particularizers significantly more than genuine pleaders, who used more temporal words, and 'we' more frequently. Gender differences existed across credible and deceptive pleaders.

Morash, M., Kashy, D. A., Smith, S. W., & Cobbina, J. E. (2015). **The effects of probation or parole agent relationship style and women offenders' criminogenic needs on offenders' responses to supervision interactions.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior,*

Authors examine probation/parole agent-reported supportiveness and punitiveness to female clients' reports of responses to interactions with agents. Results from this longitudinal study suggest agent supportiveness elicits lower anxiety and reactance and higher crime-avoidance self-efficacy, whereas agent punitiveness elicits greater anxiety and crime-avoidance self-efficacy. Implications for effective correctional practice are discussed.

Scherr, K. C., & Franks, A. S. (2015). **The world is not fair: An examination of innocent and guilty suspects' waiver decisions.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39,* 142–151. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000121

Authors examined the relationship among a dispositional factor (just world beliefs), a situational factor (social proof pressures) and innocent and guilty individuals' ( $N = 162$ ) preinterrogation

waiver decisions. Social proof pressures influenced the preinterrogation decisions of guilty individuals holding strong just world beliefs but not guilty individuals holding weak just world beliefs. However, social proof pressures influenced the preinterrogation decisions of innocent individuals holding weak just world beliefs but not innocent individuals holding strong just world beliefs.

Shaw, J., & Porter, S. (2015). **Constructing rich false memories of committing crime.** *Psychological Science*, 26(3), 291-301. Doi: 10.1177/0956797614562862

Sixty participants completed three interviews spaced approximately one week apart during which participants were randomly assigned to either a criminal false memory condition or a noncriminal false memory condition. Seventy percent of those assigned to the false criminal memory condition reported false memories and provided detailed accounts of committing a crime resulting in police contact in early adolescence. Implications are discussed.

Street, C.N.H., & Richardson, D.C. (2015). **Lies, damn lies, and expectations: How base rates inform lie-truth judgments.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, 29(1), 149-155. Doi: 10.1002/acp.3085

By holding down either the right or left arrow keys while watching a stimulus video, 83 participants provided moment-by-moment dichotomous truth-lie judgments. Participants were randomly assigned to conditions where they were told 20, 50, or 80% of speakers were telling the truth. Though base rate beliefs initially influenced truth-lie judgments, all conditions ultimately displayed a truth bias.

Vredeveltdt, A., Tredoux, C. G., Nortje, A., Kempen, K., Puljević, C., & Labuschagne, G. N. (2015). **A field evaluation of the Eye-Closure Interview with witnesses of serious crimes.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 39, 189–197. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000113

Interviews ( $n = 95$ ) with witnesses of serious crimes conducted by trained South African Police interviewers were analyzed. Some witnesses were instructed to close their eyes during salient parts of the interview. Witnesses in the control condition rarely spontaneously closed their eyes, but witnesses in the Eye-Closure Interview condition kept their eyes closed during 97% of descriptions. Although witnesses who closed their eyes did not remember more information overall, the information they provided was considered of significantly greater forensic relevance.

Walsh, D., & Bull, R. (2015). **Interviewing suspects: examining the association between skills, questioning, evidence disclosure, and interview outcomes.** *Psychology, Crime & Law*. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2015.1028544

Using a sample of 70 real-life interviews, the present study examined the relation between questioning/various evidence disclosure strategies and interview skills/interview outcomes. When evidence was disclosed gradually, interviews were generally both more skilled and involved more comprehensive accounts, whereas when evidence was disclosed either early or very late, interviews were found to be both less skilled and less likely to involve this outcome.

Wright, D.S., Nash, R.A., & Wade, K.A. (2015). **Encouraging eyewitnesses to falsely corroborate allegations: effects of rapport-building and incriminating evidence.** *Psychology, Crime & Law*. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2015.1028543

The authors investigated whether rapport-building and false evidence boosted corroboration rates. Subjects ( $N=72$ ) completed a pseudo-gambling task where their counterpart was falsely accused of cheating. Using a 2 (Rapport: Rapport vs. No-rapport)  $\times$  2 (Incriminating Evidence: Verbal vs. Verbal+Visual) design, the authors persuaded subjects to corroborate the accusation. Both rapport and verbal+visual evidence increased compliance. Rapport and verbal evidence subjects corroborated a false accusation almost three times more than no-rapport subjects.

Yang, Y., Madon, S., & Gyuill, M. (2015). **Short-sighted confession decisions: The role of uncertain and delayed consequences.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*, 44–52. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000100  
Using the repetitive question paradigm, participants ( $N = 209$ ) were interviewed about 20 prior criminal and unethical behaviors and were required to admit or deny each one. Participants' denials and admissions were paired with both a proximal consequence and a distal consequence, respectively. Results indicated that the distal consequence had less impact on participants' admission decisions when it was uncertain and temporally remote.

### LEGAL DECISION-MAKING/JURY RESEARCH

Nee, C., White, M., Woolford, K., Pascu, T., Barker, L., & Wainwright, L. (2014). **New methods for examining expertise in burglars in natural and simulated environments: preliminary findings.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21* (5), 507-513. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.989849

The authors evaluated two new methodologies that might improve our understanding of cognitive processing in offenders. They tested hypotheses regarding expertise in burglars by observing the behavior of 'expert' offenders ( $N=6$ ) and novices ( $N=6$ ). Both samples undertook a mock burglary in a real house and in a computer simulation. Experts demonstrated superior skill by spending more time in high value areas, stealing fewer and more valuable items, and taking more systematic routes.

Nuñez, N., Schweitzer, K., Chai, C.A., & Meyers, B. (2015). **Negative emotions felt during trial: The effect of fear, anger, and sadness on juror decision making.** *Applied Cognitive Psychology, 29*(2), 200-209. Doi: 10.1002/acp.3094

Examining the effect of anger, fear, and sadness on jurors' sentencing decisions, the authors randomly assigned 159 death-qualified participants to one of two trial conditions: weak mitigating evidence ( $n = 80$ ), strong mitigating evidence ( $n = 79$ ). While jurors reported increases of both sadness and anger, only anger affected sentencing decisions; importance of the prosecution's evidence and arguments mediated this effect.

Recupero, P. R., Christopher, P. P., Strong, D. R., Price, M., & Harms, S. E. (2015). **Gender bias and judicial decisions of undue influence in testamentary challenges.** *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Online, 43*(1), 60-68.

Researchers sought to assess the presence of gender bias in judicial decisions and identify factors that may be associated with it. Probate judges from several jurisdictions in the United States were asked to consider two hypothetical case vignettes drawn from actual published decisions. Results showed that gender of the testator played only a minor role in how judges weighed factors in the decision-making process and, overall, did not significantly influence opinions regarding the presence of undue influence.

Redlich, A. D., & Bonventre, C. L. (2015). **Content and comprehensibility of juvenile and adult tender-of-plea forms: Implications for knowing, intelligent, and voluntary guilty pleas.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*, 162–176. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000118

A national sample of 208 Tender-of-Plea (ToP) forms for juvenile and adult defendants were examined to determine their content and level of comprehensibility. ToP forms are written instruments that inquire into whether a defendant understands and appreciates the plea decision and is capable of entering it. Coding involved measures of knowledge and voluntariness. Findings showed that the forms were highly variable in content, exceeded reading comprehension of most defendants, and were available more often to adult rather than juvenile defendants.



Shaked-Schroer, N., Costanzo, M., & Berger, D.E. (2015). **Overlooking coerciveness: The impact of interrogation techniques and guilt corroboration on jurors' judgments of coerciveness.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology, 20*(1), 68-80. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12011

Using 202 participants, the authors investigated whether interrogation coerciveness (low vs. high) was judged differently whether or not the confessions resulted in the discovery of corroborating (uncorroborated vs. corroborated) evidence. Their results revealed that confessions were rated as more believable and less coercive when corroborated versus uncorroborated. Though there was no difference across corroboration conditions for the low-pressure interrogation, high-pressure interrogations were rated significantly less coercive when the confession was corroborated by additional evidence versus uncorroborated.

Wyder, M., Bland, R., Herriot, A., & Crompton, D. (2015). **The experiences of the legal processes of involuntary treatment orders: Tension between the legal and medical frameworks.** *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry, 38*(2), 44-50. Doi: 10.1016/j.ijlp.2015.01.006

Researchers conducted 25 qualitative interviews with involuntary inpatients of a major teaching hospital to analyze their experiences with involuntary treatment orders (ITO). Analyses focused on the patients' general experience of being placed under an ITO and their understanding of the ITO process. Those who described the experience of an ITO in more positive terms, also experienced the ITO as a positive right. In addition to providing them with the treatment needed, they also felt that the ITO gave them protection and guidance. Conversely, those who experienced being placed under an ITO in more negative or mixed ways, described feeling powerless in the process, as they felt that the ITO took away their rights.

#### RISK ASSESSMENT/COMMUNICATION

Blais J. (2015) **Preventative detention decisions: Reliance on expert assessments and evidence of Partisan allegiance within the Canadian context.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law, 33*(1), 74–91, doi:10.1002/bsl.2155.

The study found that judges' decisions for sentencing in preventative detention hearings were consistent with expert risk assessments on factors related to risk, treatment responsiveness, and management of risk. The results also found prosecution-related Psychopathy Checklist-Revised scores were higher than defense experts. The authors concluded judges rely heavily on expert reports of risk in decision-making.

Chenane, J. L., Brennan, P. K., Steiner, B., & Ellison, J. M. (2015). **Racial and ethnic differences in the predictive validity of the Level of Service Inventory–Revised among prison inmates.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(3), 286-303.

Authors examined the ability for the Level of Service Inventory-Revised to predict prison misconduct across White and non-White inmates. The predictive validity of the scale and its 10 subcomponents was examined for White, Black, and Hispanic inmates. Results suggest similar predictive validity for *prevalence* of misconduct. However, prediction of *incidence* of misconduct was greater for White than non-White inmates.

Coid, J. W., Yang, M., Ullrich, S., Zhang, T., Sizmur, S., Farrington, D. P., Freestone, M., & Rogers, R. D. (2015). **Improving accuracy of risk prediction for violence: Does changing the outcome matter?** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, 14*(1), 23-32. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2014.974085

The effects of changing violent outcomes for five measures (i.e., OGRS, RM2000(V), VRAG, PCL-R, HCR20) on predictive validity was investigated for males and females released from prison in England and Wales. The authors concluded from the data that risk assessments may be more

accurate that previously proposed, but there is room for improvement. Specifically, measures relying on criminal history can be predictive, though only when removing non-violent offenders from the groups with a long history of offending.

Dallaire, D. H., Zeman, J. L., & Thrash, T. M. (2015). **Children's experiences of maternal incarceration-specific risks: Predictions to psychological maladaptation.** *Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology, 44*, 109-122.

Examined association of children's experience of incarceration-specific factors and environmental risks to psychological maladaptation in 117 currently incarcerated mothers, their 151 children, and 118 caregivers. Used mother, child, and caregiver self-report of child experiences related to maternal incarceration, internalizing and externalizing behavior patterns. Child incarceration-specific risk experiences predicted internalizing and externalizing behavior problems in structural equation modeling, and the influence of environmental risks was negligible.

De Vries Robbé, M., de Vogel, V., Douglas, K. S., & Nijman, H. I. (2015). **Changes in dynamic risk and protective factors for violence during inpatient forensic psychiatric treatment: Predicting reductions in postdischarge community recidivism.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(1), 53-61. doi:10.1037/lhb0000089

The study conducted pre- and post-treatment assessments of risk (HCR-20) and protective (SAPROF) factors for a sample of 108 discharged forensic psychiatric patients. Findings indicated improvements on both measures during treatment had good predictive validity for future violence at one year and 11 year follow-ups. The authors concluded that improvements in the HCR-20 and SAPROF were associated with lower violence recidivism following treatment.

Edens, J. F., Kelley, S. E., Lilienfeld, S. O., Skeem, J. L., & Douglas, K. S. (2015). **DSM-5 antisocial personality disorder: Predictive validity in a prison sample.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(2), 123-129. doi:10.1037/lhb0000105

The study explored the predictive validity of antisocial personality disorder (ASPD) as a risk factor for violence in prison for a sample of adult male (n=298) and female (n=55) offenders. The results did not lend support for the notion that ASPD can identify prisoners who pose a significant risk for violence during their incarceration.

Greiner, L. E., Law, M. A., & Brown, S. L. (2015). **Using dynamic factors to predict recidivism among women: A four-wave prospective study.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(5), 457-480.

Authors examined the extent to which seven dynamic risk factors (employment, marital/family, community functioning, personal/emotional, criminal associates, criminal attitudes, substance use) assessed at 6-month intervals following release change over time and predict recidivism in women. Results suggest all risk factors (with the exception of substance use) to decrease over time among non-recidivating offenders. Of these, employment and criminal associates were shown to most strongly predict recidivism. Proximal risk assessments were also shown to better predict recidivism than more distal assessments.

Harris G. T., Lowenkamp C. T., & Hilton N. Z. (2015). **Evidence for risk estimate precision: Implications for individual risk communication.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law, 33*(1), 111-127, doi:10.1002/bsl.2158

A sample of 26,643 offenders' Post Conviction Risk Assessments was utilized to explore the precision of absolute risk when applied to one individual. Results suggested that with sufficient sample size, precision for individual estimates is possible. The authors discussed the importance of understanding individual-level risk and the implications for management.

Jones, N. J., Brown, S. L., Robinson, D., & Frey, D. (2015). **Incorporating strengths into quantitative assessments of criminal risk for adult offenders: The Service Planning Instrument.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(3), 321-338.

Authors examined the extent to which consideration of strengths in risk assessment enhances predictive validity. Using the Service Planning Instrument Pre-Screen, data from over 3,600 adult offenders was examined. Results suggest significant main effects for risk and strength subtotals in predicting new offenses over 18 months, suggesting the addition of the strengths subscale adds unique information to this prediction. High strength scores were shown effective in attenuating recidivism among high risk cases.

Matejkowski, J., & Ostermann, M. (2015). **Serious mental illness, criminal risk, parole supervision, and recidivism: Testing of conditional effects.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 39(1), 75-86. doi:10.1037/lhb0000094

The study found that serious mental illness in adults who were released from prisons had an indirect effect on recidivism when considering the impact of actuarial risk. This indirect effect was not moderated by the individual's parole supervision status. However, direct effects of serious mental illness and recidivism were conditioned by release status, in that there was no association between mental illness and recidivism for parolees and a negative relationship for non-parolees.

Peterson-Badali, M., Skilling, T., & Haqanee, Z. (2015). **Examining implementation of risk assessment in case management for youth in the justice system.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(3), 304-320.

Case management plans informed by valid risk assessment was examined in youth justice, including the connections between risk assessment, treatment, and recidivism. Results suggest that after controlling for static risk, dynamic risk significantly predicted re-offense. Implications on juvenile justice practices are discussed.

Sivertsson, F., & Carlsson, C. (2015). **Continuity, change, and contradictions: Risk and agency in criminal careers to age 59.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(4), 382-411.

Authors examined the ability to make prospective, long-term predictions of criminal offending based on childhood risk factors. By constructing groups based on cumulative childhood risk and measuring subsequent criminal career outcomes, author suggest that while clear differences in adult offending emerge, considerable heterogeneity also exists, suggesting a complex relationship between childhood risk and adult engagement in criminal activity. Using deviant case analysis for individuals whose risk did not match their later criminal activity, authors suggest the importance of dynamics of risk, human agency, the life course, and historical influences.

Storey J. E., Watt K. A., & Hart S. D. (2015). **An examination of violence risk communication in practice using a structured professional judgment framework.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 33(1), 39–55. doi:10.1002/bsl.2156

The study utilized 166 pre-sentence reports from clinicians and probation officers to explore whether best-practice guidelines for violence risk were followed. Results suggested that reports frequently addressed risk factors and recommendations for management. However, risk topics were not addressed consistently, concisely, or completely in reports, particularly when written by probation officers. Recommendations for better implementation of guidelines for communicating risk were made.

Tully, R. J., Browne, K. D., & Craig, L. A. (2015). **An examination of the predictive validity of the Structured Assessment of Risk and Need–Treatment Needs Analysis (SARN-TNA) in England**

**and Wales.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(5), 509-528.

Authors examined the predictive validity of the Structured Assessment of Risk and Need-Treatment Needs Analysis with convicted sex offenders. Despite the measure's common use throughout England and Wales, results of the present study suggest only the sexual interests domain to predict later reconviction. Authors suggest the SARN-TNA should not be relied upon as a predictor of sexual reoffending.

Viglione, J., Rudes, D. S., & Taxman, F. S. (2015). **Misalignment in supervision: Implementing risk/needs assessment instruments in probation.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(3), 263-285. Interview and observational data were used to examine the ways in which probation officers use a validated risk and needs assessment tool in adult probation settings. Results suggest probation officers to use the tool, but to rarely connect assessment scores with case management or supervision decisions. Implications on probation practices are explored.

Wilson C. M., Crocker A. G., Nicholls T. L., Charette Y., & Seto M. C. (2015). **The use of risk and need factors in forensic mental health decision-making and the role of gender and index offense severity.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 33(1), 19-38. doi: 10.1002/bsl.2162

An examination of 6,743 Canadian Review Board hearings for 1,794 defendants found Not Criminally Responsible on account of Mental Disorder to investigate whether the Historical Clinical Risk Management-20 and the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide items were utilized. Less than half of the items were included reports, with the use differing depending on gender and index offense. Authors recommend the use of structured measures to reduce bias.

Wormith, J. S., Hogg, S. M., & Guzzo, L. (2015). **The predictive validity of the IS/CMI with Aboriginal offenders in Canada.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(5), 481-508.

Authors compared the predictive validity of the Leven of Service/Case Management Inventory across Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal offenders in Canada. Results suggest Aboriginal offenders had higher scores and greater recidivism rates than non-Aboriginal offenders. Psychometric properties of the scale were compared across samples and were observed to be largely similar. Implications on policy and practice are discussed.

## SEX OFFENDERS

Chu, C. M., Koh, L. L., Zeng, G., & Teoh, J. (2015). **Youth who sexual offended: Primary human goods and offense pathways.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(2), 151-172.

Using the Good Lives and Self-Regulation Models, authors examined the different primary good associated with Asian youth sexual offending behavior. The relation of age of victim and nature of sexual offense to youth engagement in offense pathways was also examined. Results suggest pleasure, relatedness, and inner peace to be primary human goods sought after in Singaporean youth who had sexually offended. Relation of offender classification to pathways of sexual offending is also discussed.

de Vries Robbé, M., de Vogel, V., Koster, K., & Bogaerts, S. (2015). **Assessing protective factors for sexually violent offending with the SAPROF.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 51-70.

Authors examined the predictive validity of the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for violence risk in a sample of 83 sexual offenders. When comparing the SAPROF to the HCR-20 and SVR-20, good interrater reliability and negative correlations were observed. The SAPROF was also shown to contribute to the prediction of violence and sexual violence, even after controlling

for HCR- and SCR-20. Evidence of predictive validity was observed for both short-term (1-3 years) and long-term (15 years) follow-up.

Gray, S. R., Abel, G. G., Jordan, A., Garby, T., Wiegel, M., & Harlow, N. (2013). **Visual Reaction Time™ as a predictor of sexual offense recidivism.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(2), 173-188.

The relation of Visual Reaction Time™ for sexual interest in children to sexual recidivism was examined in 621 men on parole or probation for sexually deviant behavior. Results suggest a significant association between VRT™ and sexual recidivism, and predictive validity was observed over a 15-year follow-up period.

Helmus, L., Ó Ciardha, C., & Seto, M. C. (2015). **The Screening Scale for Pedophilic Interests (SSPI): Construct, predictive, and incremental validity.** *Law and Human Behavior*, 39(1), 35-43. doi:10.1037/lhb0000099

The construct, predictive, and incremental validity for the Screening Scale for Pedophilic Interests (SSPI) was explored using a sample of 410 males who committed sexual crimes against children. The SSPI was related to Deviant Sexual Interest items on the STABLE-2007 and STABLE-2000 and was predictive of sexual recidivism. The SSPI did not add predictive validity to the Static-99R or Static-200R, though it did for the STABLE-2007.

Kingston, D. A., Olver, M. E., Harris, M., Wong, S. C. P., & Bradford, J. M. (2015). **The relationship between mental disorder and recidivism in sexual offenders.** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 14(1), 10-22. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2014.974088

The study used a prospective design to explore the impact of mental health diagnoses on recidivism for sexual offenders by following up with participants 27 years after release. The findings suggest that mental health diagnoses for sexual offenders was not predictive of recidivism, though there was some evidence for the influence of comorbid substance use and certain personality disorder diagnoses.

Klein, V., Rettenberger, M., Yoon, D., Köhler, N., & Briken, P. (2015). **Protective factors and recidivism in accused juveniles who sexually offended.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 71-90.

The influence of protective factors on non-recidivism was examined in a sample of 71 juvenile sexual offenders. Protective factors were assessed using the Protective Factor Scale of the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY), and the Structured Assessment of PROtective Factors for violence risk (SAPROF). Results suggest the internal scale of the SAPROF, but not the SAVRY, to moderately predict the absence of violent and general recidivism. Neither scale predicted absence of sexual recidivism.

Lasher, M. P., McGrath, R. J., Wilson, D., & Cumming, G. F. (2015). **Collaborative treatment planning using the Sex Offender Treatment Intervention and Progress Scale (SOTIPS): Concordance of therapist evaluation and client self-evaluation.** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 14(1), 1-9. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2014.974087

Therapist and client assessments from the Sex Offender Treatment Intervention and Progress Scale (SOTIPS) were compared mid-way through a prison program for adult male sex offenders. The results provided support for the use of the SOTIPS as a useful framework for therapists to encourage a collaborative process with clients, by emphasizing their strengths, treatment needs, and progress.

Leclerc, B., Smallbone, S., & Wortley, R. (2015). **Prevention nearby: The influence of the**



**presence of a potential guardian on the severity of child sexual abuse.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(2), 189-204.

Authors aimed to explore the influence of a potential guardian on the severity of child sexual abuse. Results suggest that after controlling for victim and situational characteristics, the presence of a potential guardian decreased duration of sexual contact and occurrence of penetration. Presence of a potential guardian was shown to decrease risk of sexual penetration by 86%. Implications for sexually offending protective factors are discussed.

Martinez, R., Rosenfeld, B., Cruise, K., & Martin, J. (2015). **Predictive validity of the J-SOAP-II: Does accuracy differ across settings?** *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*, 14(1), 56-65. doi: 10.1080/14999013.2015.1019683

An examination of the predictive accuracy of the Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol-II (J-SOAP-II) was investigated using a sample of juvenile sex offenders from two settings (i.e., a medium-security correctional facility and a residential treatment program). Overall, there was modest predictive validity for sexual recidivism and this was not significant, though there were differences that emerged for the accuracy of certain individual scales and subscales. There were no differences in predictive validity when comparing the sites.

Miller, H. A. (2015). **Protective strengths, risk, and recidivism in a sample of known sexual offenders.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 34-50.

The Inventory of Offender Risk, Needs, and Strengths was used to examine the relationship between protective strengths and risk in incarcerated men. Approximately 40% of the sample recidivated (including 6% who recidivated sexually) within the 6-year follow-up period. Self-perceived strengths significantly predicted sexual, violent, and general recidivism.

Olver M. E., Beggs Christofferson S. M., & Wong S. C. P. (2015). **Evaluation and applications of the clinically significant change method with the Violence Risk Scale-Sexual Offender Version: Implications for risk-change communication.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 33(1), 92-110. doi: 10.1002/bsl.2159

The clinically significant change (CSC) method used with the Violence Risk Scale-Sexual Offender version (VRS-SO) was examined in a sample of 945 treated sexual offenders. Following a minimum 5 year post-release follow-up, results suggested group differences in sexual and violent recidivism for four CSC categories (already okay, recovered, improved, unchanged). Further analyses indicated the variation in recidivism could partially be explained by already existing group differences in risk level.

Rettenberger, M., Briken, P., Turner, D., & Eher, R. (2015). **Sexual offender recidivism among a population-based prison sample.** *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 59(4), 424-444. Doi: 10.1177/0306624X13516732

Researchers examine recidivism rates in sexual offenders using officially registered reconvictions in a representative data set of N = 1,115 male sexual offenders. Results indicate that most sexual offenders do not reoffend sexually after release from prison. Within the first 5 years after release, the sexual recidivism rate was 6% for the total sample, 4% for the rapist subgroup, and 8% for the child molester subgroup.

Socia, K. M. (2013). **State residence restrictions and forcible rape rates: A multistate quasi-experimental analysis of UCR data.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(2), 205-227.

Uniform Crime Report data across 19 years for 49 states and the District of Columbia were examined to compare the presence of state residence restrictions to statewide changes in rates

of forcible rape. Results suggest that the presence of state residential restrictions was associated with higher rates of UCR forcible rape than the absence of such a policy. Implications on overall crime prevention research and policy are discussed.

Stevenson, M. C., Najdowski, C. J., Salerno, J. M., Wiley, T. A., Bottoms, B. L., & Farnum, K. S. (2015). **The influence of a juvenile's abuse history on support for sex offender registration.** *Psychology, Public Policy, And Law*, 21(1), 35-49.

Authors examined the influence of a history of sexual abuse on public perceptions of juvenile sexual offenders through a series of five studies. Participants' general belief that childhood sexual abuse increases risk for later sexually abusive behavior tended to be associated with lower support for sex offender registration for juveniles. However, when specific sexual offenses were considered, a history of sexual abuse was not shown to mitigate support for registration.

Turner D. B., Boccaccini M. T., Murrie D. C., & Harris P. B. (2015). **Jurors report that risk measure scores matter in sexually violent predator trials, but that other factors matter more.** *Behavioral Sciences & The Law*, 33(1), 56–73. doi: 10.1002/bsl.2154

A sample of 462 jurors from sexually violent predator trials completed a questionnaire following verdict deliberation. Participants reported the most influential factors were offender's sexual offense history, failure to change, and lack of remorse. Testimony on risk assessment tools and psychopathy were less influential, but those who did strongly consider this information were likely to view the offender as high risk.

van der Put, C. E., & Asscher, J. J. (2015). **Protective factors in male adolescents with a history of sexual and/or violent offending: A comparison between three subgroups.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 109-126.

Dynamic protective factors for delinquency were examined in three samples of male adolescents with a history of violent and/or sexual offending – (1) history of sexual offenses against younger children; (2) history of sexual offenses against peers and/or adults; (3) history of nonsexual violent crimes. Results suggest that for adolescents in the first and second samples, the number of protective factors was greater than the number of risk factors; in the third sample, risk factors outnumbered protective factors.

Walters, G. D., Deming, A., & Casbon, T. (2015). **Predicting recidivism in sex offenders with the Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles (PICTS).** *Assessment*, 22(2), 167-177. doi:10.1177/1073191114539384

The researchers explored the predictive validity of the Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles (PICTS) on recidivism for a sample of 322 convicted male sex offenders once released from prison. The STATIC-99 and various indices of the PICTS were correlated with general and violent recidivism and failing to register as a sex offender. The PICTS, especially the Entitlement Scale, may have utility in management and treatment of sex offenders.

Whittle, H. C., Hamilton-Giachritsis, C. E., & Beech, A. R. (2015). **A comparison of victim and offender perspectives of grooming and sexual abuse.** *Deviant Behavior*, 36(7), 539-564. Doi: 10.1080/01639625.2014.944074

This study involved interviews with three female victims of on-line grooming and contact sexual abuse and the three adult males who groomed and abused them. Results indicate that victim and offender dyads most commonly disagreed in their accounts of the sexual elements of the relationship, including initiation; stage when sexualization took place; production of photos and videos; and initiation of contact sexual abuse. The study found that the dynamic between offenders and victims of on-line grooming and child sexual abuse can be varied and complex.

Worling, J. R., & Langton, C. M. (2015). **A prospective investigation of factors that predict desistance from recidivism for adolescents who have sexually offended.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 127-142.

Authors examined the relation between personal strengths and sexual recidivism in a sample of adolescent, male sexual offenders. The Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (ERASOR) and the Behavioral and Emotional Rating Scale (BERS-2) were administered and compared to 3.5 year sexual recidivism. Results suggest the Affective Strength and School Functioning scales of the BERS-2 scale to be negatively correlated with sexual recidivism and nonsexual recidivism, respectively. However, the Affective Strength scale did not significantly contribute to the prediction of recidivism beyond that predicted by the ERASOR.

Yoder, J. R., Hansen, J., Lobanov-Rostovsky, C., & Ruch, D. (2015). **The impact of family service involvement on treatment completion and general recidivism among male youthful sexual offenders.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 54(4), 256-277. Doi: 10.1080/10509674.2015.1025177

Data were collected from probation files of male youth adjudicated of a sexual crime (N = 81) and logistical regression models were used to analyze the effectiveness of family service involvement on recidivism. Results suggest that youth with greater family service involvement were more likely to successfully complete treatment (almost three times) and youth living in an in-home placement were 73% less likely to reactivate.

Yung, C. R. (2015). **Concealing campus sexual assault: An empirical examination.** *Psychology, Public Policy, and Law*, 21(1), 1-9.

The tendency for universities to undercount instances of sexual assault was examined by comparing reported sexual assault data from years in which the university was being audited for Clery Act violations to data from years before and after such audits. Results suggest that reported rate of sexual assault are approximately 44% higher on audit years in comparison to non-audit years. Results also suggest that audits have no long-term influence on reported levels of sexual assault, as reported rates drop to pre-audit levels after the audit is complete. Implications for policy are discussed.

Zeng, G., Chu, C. M., & Lee, Y. (2015). **Assessing protective factors of youth who sexually offended in Singapore: Preliminary evidence on the utility of the DASH-13 and the SAPROF.** *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 27(1), 91-108.

Protective factors were compared to recidivism in 97 Singaporean juvenile sexual offenders using the Desistance for Adolescents Who Sexually Harm (DASH-13), Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for Violence Risk (SAPROF), and Estimate of Risk of Adolescent Sexual Offense Recidivism (ERASOR). Results suggest neither the DASH-13 nor the SAPROF to have adequate predictive validity. Further, neither contributed to the prediction of sexual or nonsexual recidivism beyond that of the ERASOR.

## VICTIMIZATION

Tillyer, M. S. (2015). **Victimization, offending, and perceived risk for early violent death.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42(5), 529-545.

Authors examine the influence of victimization and offending on perceived risk for early violent death in American adolescents. Results from logistic regression analysis suggest that violent offending and gang membership, but not violent victimization, increase chances of anticipating an early death. Implications for theory, practice, and future research are discussed.

Fitzgerald, R. J., Oriet, C., & Price, H. L. (2015). **Suspect filler similarity in eyewitness lineups: A literature review and a novel methodology.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*, 62–74. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000095

Researchers used morphing software to create different levels of suspect filler similarity. Participants ( $n = 137$ ) had a higher correct identification rate in moderately high similarity lineups compared to very high similarity lineups when the culprit was in the lineup. When the culprit was absent, similarity showed no significant effect on innocent suspect misidentification rates. However, the correct rejection rate in the moderately high similarity lineup was 20% higher than in the very high similarity lineup.

Kabzińska, J. (2015). **Evaluating the probative value of facial composites by laypeople and prosecutor apprentices.** *Psychology, Crime & Law.* Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2015.1029479

Laypeople ( $N=74$ ) and prosecutor apprentices ( $N=72$ ) received case materials of a robbery committed by a young male, including other evidence. Both samples viewed either a good or bad composite image of the defendant. The good match composite influenced apprentices' assessment of the eyewitness' credibility. Laypeople ignored the facial composite entirely. Both samples evaluated eyewitness' credibility, the strength of the defense's case, the credibility of the defendant's alibi, and his culpability significantly differently.

Kaempf, A. C., Baxter, P., Packer, I. K., & Pinals, D. A. (2015). **Gender and the experience of mental health expert witness testimony.** *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Online, 43*(1), 52-59.

Researchers conducted a pilot study to examine whether the testimony experiences of psychiatry and psychology experts vary by gender. Differences across certain domains, such as the sense of never experiencing anxiety and the sense of one's impact on case outcome were seen across genders. Few other gender-based differences in the experience of providing expert witness testimony were seen. Although the findings of this study were inconsistent and raise further questions, important subtleties were noted for forensic practice and the work of the expert witness.

McDonnell, G.P., Bornstein, B.H., Laub, C.E., Mills, M., & Dodd, M.D. (2014). **Perceptual processes in the cross-race effect: Evidence from eyetracking.** *Basic and Applied Social Psychology, 36* (4), 478-493. Doi: 10.1080/01973533.2014.958227

The cross-race effect (CRE) is the tendency to have better recognition accuracy for same-race than for other-race faces. We explored CRE using an eyetracker during a recognition task involving White participants viewing White and African-American faces. Participants fixated faster and longer on upper features of White faces and lower features of African-American faces. Instructing participants to attend to certain features in African-American faces exaggerated this pattern. Gaze patterns correlated with improved recognition accuracy.

Parrott, C. T., Neal, T. M., Wilson, J. K., & Brodsky, S. L. (2015). **Differences in expert witness knowledge: do mock jurors notice and does it matter?.** *Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law Online, 43*(1), 69-81.

Researchers tested the influence of low versus high expert knowledge on mock juror perceptions of expert credibility, on agreement with the expert, and on sentencing and expert gender was evaluated as a potential moderator. Knowledge effects were statistically significant and knowledge manipulations influenced only perceived expert likeability. Additionally, the low-knowledge expert was perceived as more likeable than the high-knowledge counterpart. No

significant differences across expert gender were found.

Wells, G. L., Steblay, N. K., & Dysart, J. E. (2015). **Double-blind photo lineups using actual eyewitnesses: An experimental test of a sequential versus simultaneous lineup procedure.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(1), 1–14. Doi: 10.1037/lhb0000096

Eyewitnesses to actual crimes ( $N = 494$ ) were randomly assigned to view simultaneous or sequential photo lineups using double-blind administration. No significant differences emerged in rates of identifying lineup suspects. The sequential procedure produced a significantly lower rate of identifying known-innocent lineup fillers. Nonidentifiers from the sequential procedure were more likely to use the “not sure” response option than those from the simultaneous procedure. Among witnesses who made an identification, 36% identified a known-innocent filler rather than a suspect.

#### OTHER

Burrell, A., Bull, R., Bond, J., & Herrington, G. (2015). **Testing the impact of group offending on behavioural similarity in serial robbery.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21* (6), Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.999063

The authors compared the behavioral similarity of 160 offences committed by 80 offenders in pairs of lone offences (LL), pairs of group offences (GG) and pairs of one group and one lone offense (GL). GG and LL pairs were not significantly different. GL offences were different from the other offenses. The authors distinguished between linked and unlinked pairs based on behaviors using ROC analysis.

Clow, K.A., & Leach, A.-M. (2015). **After innocence: Perceptions of individuals who have been wrongfully convicted.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology, 20*(1), 147-164. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12018

Examining the stigmatization of exonerees, participants ( $N = 86$ ) were randomly assigned to complete surveys including measures of attitudes, stereotypes, and discrimination tendencies toward people in general, offenders, or wrongfully convicted individuals. Overall, perceptions of wrongly convicted persons appeared similar to the negative, stigmatized view of offenders. Though participants reported greater pity for those wrongfully convicted, wrongfully convicted individuals elicited more negative emotion, were stereotyped more negatively, and held at a greater social distance.

Corner, E., & Gill, P. (2015). **A false dichotomy? Mental illness and lone-actor terrorism.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(1), 23-34. doi:10.1037/lhb0000102

A comparison of mental illness in lone- versus group-based terrorists was conducted. Results indicated lone-actor terrorists were 13.49 times more likely to have a mental illness. Individuals with mental illness were more likely to be a recent victim of prejudice, have an upcoming life change, and to be undergoing chronic stress. The authors suggested the information can be used to monitor and prevent lone-actor terrorists.

Eichelsheim, V.I., Nieuwbeerta, P., Dirkzwager, A.J.E., Reef, J., & De Cuyper, R. (2015). **Predicting individual differences in criminal attitudes from offender characteristics: a study among Dutch prisoners.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21* (6), 531-550. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.999062

This study explored the contribution of (1) individual, (2) criminal career, and (3) social characteristics to individual differences in criminal attitudes. Data was collected from Dutch prisoners ( $N=1612$ ). Agreeable personality traits, having a criminogenic social network, and having experienced more prior incarcerations were related to criminal attitudes. Criminal history and social characteristics had the most salient links with criminal attitudes. This suggests that



criminal behavior is learned in interactions with other criminals.

Genschow, O., Noll, T., Wänke, M., & Gersbach, R. (2014). **Does Baker-Miller pink reduce aggression in prison detention cells? A critical empirical examination.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21* (5), 482-489. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.989172

Some prisons paint detention cells in Baker-Miller pink to calm down aggressive inmates because findings of more than 30 years ago suggested that Baker-Miller pink reduces physical strength and aggressive behavior. The authors questioned the applied methods of the original studies and ran a highly standardized and controlled experiment to test the influence of Baker-Miller pink on aggressive behavior. The results do not replicate the original findings and thus challenge the recent adoption of this practice in many prisons.

Niebieszczanski, R., Harkins, L., Judson, S., Smith, K., & Dixon, L. (2015). **The role of moral disengagement in street gang offending.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21*(6), 489-605. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2015.1008476

This study investigated moral disengagement in a prison sample of 269 offenders. Street gang offenders used moral disengagement strategies more often to deactivate their moral standards. Street gang offenders morally disengage more than individual offenders or those who have affiliated, but not offended with, street gangs. There was no difference in moral disengagement between street gang and group offenders.

Prins, S. J., Skeem, J. L., Mauro, C., & Link, B. G. (2015). **Criminogenic factors, psychotic symptoms, and incident arrests among people with serious mental illnesses under intensive outpatient treatment.** *Law and Human Behavior, 39*(2), 177-188. doi:10.1037/lhb0000104

Using a sample of 183 adults in intensive outpatient treatment, the researchers explored whether criminogenic factors and symptoms of psychosis had independent associations to arrest. The authors concluded that criminogenic factors, specifically arrest history, and psychotic symptoms were related to arrests. Both variables were useful in predicting risk for arrest with individuals not under any correctional supervision.

Roos af Hjelmsäter, E., Landström, S., Larsson, M., & Granhag, P.A. (2014). **The effect of odour reinstatement on children's episodic memory.** *Psychology, Crime & Law, 21*(5), 471-481. Doi: 10.1080/1068316X.2014.989171

The present study investigated odor reinstatement and children's memory for an experienced event. Children (N=106) experienced a magic show where a vanilla odor was present and were interviewed about it either one week or six months afterward. During the interview, half of the children re-experienced the vanilla odor. No odor-reinstatement effect was found. Odor reinstatement reduced the children's ratings of emotion strength during the event. Odor reinstatement may affect different forensically relevant factors.

Salyers, M. P., Hood, B. J., Schwartz, K., Alexanderand, A. O., & Aalsma, M. C. (2015). **The experience, impact, and management of professional burnout among probation officers in juvenile justice settings.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation, 54*(3), 175-193.

Following a statewide survey, 26 officers were randomly selected for qualitative interviews. Using emergent, consensus-based methods, we identified key aspects of the burnout experience. Officers described burnout in ways consistent with research definitions. Most probation officers identified negative effects of burnout, including spending less time getting to know the clients and becoming more directive. Probation officers tended to have limited strategies for managing burnout.

Tarescavage, A. M., Alosco, M. L., Ben-Porath, Y. S., Wood, A., & Luna-Jones, L. (2015). **Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) scores generated from the MMPI-2 and MMPI-2-RF test booklets: Internal structure comparability in a sample of criminal defendants.** *Assessment*, 22(2), 188-197. doi:10.1177/1073191114537347

The study examined the internal structure comparability of the Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) scores generated from the MMPI-2 and MMPI-2-RF booklets. The MMPI-2-RF booklet was administered to a sample of 96 criminal defendants and 83 completed the MMPI-2. The authors concluded the results did reflect the internal structure comparability.

Tarescavage, A. M., Corey, D. M., & Ben-Porath, Y. S. (2015). **Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) predictors of police officer problem behavior.** *Assessment*, 22(1), 116-132. doi:10.1177/1073191114534885

The predictive validity of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) was explored in a sample of police officers. Participant's supervisor performance and problem behavior reports were gathered. The results supported the predictive validity of the MMPI-2-RF in the law enforcement setting.

Tarescavage, A. M., Fischler, G. L., Cappel, B. M., Hill, D. O., Corey, D. M., & Ben-Porath, Y. S. (2015). **Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) predictors of police officer problem behavior and collateral self-report test scores.** *Psychological Assessment*, 27(1), 125-137. doi:10.1037/pas0000041

Scores on the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2-Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF) from police officer screenings were investigated. Risk ratio analyses showed that police officers who had elevations at cutoffs lower than 65 T-score were nearly 10 times more likely to exhibit problematic behavior. It was concluded there is support for the validity of the MMPI-2-RF in law enforcement.

Tartaro, C. (2015). **Anevaluationoftheeffectsofjaildiversionandreentryformentallyilloffenders.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 54(2), 85-102. Doi: 10.1080/10509674.2015.1009966

Jewish Family Services (JFS) is a nonprofit agency that assists mentally ill offenders in southern New Jersey and participates in reentry planning services for incarcerated mentally ill offenders who are serving county jail sentences. Data were collected for cases involving clients who were diverted or participated in reentry and people who were referred to JFS and either were ineligible for reasons other than criminal offense type or drug and alcohol addiction or were eligible but unable to be contacted by JFS. Treatment participants remained in the community before being incarcerated for an average of 218 days longer than the members of the comparison group, and this difference remained statistically significant when controlling for other relevant variables.

Valera, P., Chang, Y., Hernandez, D., & Cooper, J. (2015). **Exploring kinship and social support in women with criminal justice backgrounds.** *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 54(4), 278-295. Doi: 10.1080/10509674.2015.1025178

Researchers used qualitative interviews to examine kinship and social support among 30 women who had been recently released from incarceration in either a New York State prison or Rikers Island, New York City's main jail complex. Qualitative findings suggest that women relied heavily on biological and extended family members for support. Kin relationships described were with other women (i.e., mothers, grandmothers, and female friends/peers), older female relatives were commonly described as caregivers, and caregiving was a key aspect of social support (both provided by and given to participants) and relationships with God were also important.

Walters, G.D. (2015). **Short-term goals and physically hedonistic values as mediators of the past-crime—future-crime relationship.** *Legal and Criminological Psychology, 20*(1), 81-95. Doi: 10.1111/lcrp.12014

Self-report data from 395 members of the National Survey of Youth-Child Data (NLSY-C, a subset of the NLSY-79 sample) were used to model the mediational influence of short-term goals and physically hedonistic values between past crime and future crime. When both mediators were included, only physically hedonistic values significantly mediated the effect of past-crime—future-crime relation. However, when included separately, both physically hedonistic values and short-term goals partially mediated the past-crime—future-crime relation.

Wolff, N., Mchugo, G., Shi, J., Huening, J., & Frueh, B. C. (2014). **Screening for PTSD among incarcerated men: A comparative analysis of computer-administered and orally administered modalities.** *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 42*(2), 219-236.

Authors compared the psychometric properties of computer-administered interviewing versus orally administered interviewing screen for PTSD in 592 incarcerated men. Results suggest comparable reliability estimates and correlations with clinician-administered scales across administration modalities, suggesting computer-administered interviewing may be feasible for this screening measure. Authors suggest computer administration may increase efficiency of screening, allowing for better detection of risk and need for treatment.



# AP-LS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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# AP-LS Committee on Early Career Professionals

The AP-LS Committee for Early Career Professionals (ECPs) is pleased to provide an update on our recent activities and ongoing work related to the Grant-in-Aid program.

The Committee for ECPs administers a Grant-in-Aid program annually. In the most recent competition, we awarded four grants of \$5,000 to ECPs to assist with costs of conducting their research. The recipients for the 2014 Grant-in-Aid cycle are:

**Arielle Baskin-Sommers, Ph.D.**

Yale University

Matching Treatments to Cognitive Deficits in Substance Abusing Offenders: A Community Follow-up

**Eric Jones, Ph.D.**

Calvin College

After the Exoneration: Effects of Wrongful Convictions on Career Prospects

**J. Zoe Klemfuss, Ph.D.**

Florida International University

Facilitating Children's Event Reports and Emotion Regulation after Stress Exposure

**Rebecca Weiss, Ph.D.**

John Jay College

Language and Culture in Forensic Assessment: Appropriate Normative Data in a Hispanic Sample

Congratulations to this year's awardees! We look forward to hearing about their results at a future AP-LS or APA conference. A critical component to the success of the Grant-in-Aid program is the numerous reviewers who volunteer their time to provide valuable feedback to applicants. We sincerely thank the following individuals who served as reviewers during the 2014 Grant-in-Aid cycle:

Elizabeth Ahern  
Ray Bull  
Lorinda Camparo  
Michael Costelloe  
John Dovidio  
Joel Dvoskin  
Caitlin M. Fausey  
Paul Frick  
Scott Gronlund  
Max Guyll  
Michelle Guyton

Kirk Heilbrun  
Luke Hyde  
Patricia Kerig  
Amy-May Leach  
Stephen Lindsay  
Kamala London  
Stephanie Madon  
Kate McLean  
Daniel C. Murrie  
Jeffrey J. Rachlinski  
Jennifer Richeson  
Kim Roberts

Melissa Russano  
Naomi Sadeh  
Robert Schehr  
Kyle Scherr  
Nicholas Scurich  
Siegfried Sporer  
Nancy Steblay  
Tim Valentine  
Jorge Varela  
Gina Vincent  
Gary Wells

Upcoming ECP Grant-in-Aid Deadline: The next deadline is October 15, 2015. Details about the grant-in-aid program and application instructions are online at <http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/awards/early-career.aspx>

**Please Contact Us.** If you have input for the ECP Committee on how best to support ECPs or if you would like to make a suggestion for a newsletter column or workshop topic, please contact the committee chair, Kathleen Kemp ([kkemp@lifespan.org](mailto:kkemp@lifespan.org)), or any other member of the committee: Troy Ertelt ([troy@grandforkstherapy.com](mailto:troy@grandforkstherapy.com)), Lauren Reba-Harrelson ([lauren.reba.harrelson@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.reba.harrelson@gmail.com)), Sarah L. Desmarais ([sdesmarais@ncsu.edu](mailto:sdesmarais@ncsu.edu)), Chriscelyn Tussey ([chriscelynt@gmail.com](mailto:chriscelynt@gmail.com)), Erik Girvan ([girvan@uoregon.edu](mailto:girvan@uoregon.edu)), and Kathy Pezdek ([kathy.pezdek@cgu.edu](mailto:kathy.pezdek@cgu.edu)).



# Law Scholars Committee

The Law Scholars Committee is open to suggestions on how better to attract and integrate law professors and legal practitioners into the annual conference program. Both general suggestions and specific recommendations for speakers are welcome.

Contact Chris Slobogin at [c.slobogin@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:c.slobogin@vanderbilt.edu).



# Corrections Committee Update

## AP-LS 2015 Conference Recap

Attendees to the Corrections Committee invited address, “The Past, Present, and Future of Rehabilitation in Corrections” were treated to the unique opportunity to hear from someone who was pivotal in advancing the correctional rehabilitation movement. Dr. Gendreau offered helpful insights, advice, and entertaining anecdotes during this valuable chronology of the field’s history. Additionally, for the first time, the Corrections Committee hosted a “Careers in Corrections” meet-and-greet in the hospitality suite. Several students had the opportunity to network with correctional practitioners, who, in turn, shared their advice and strategies for success in obtaining employment in correctional settings. The committee hopes to make this a recurring event, so we encourage students and early career professionals to stay tuned for details on this event at the 2016 conference.

## APA 2015 Conference

The Corrections Committee will be sponsoring a panel at the upcoming APA conference in August on “Gender Issues in Corrections”. Panelists will discuss the issues concerning the management and treatment of female offenders and transgender offenders, and the experience of women working as practitioners in correctional settings.

## Position Openings

Beginning in fall 2015, the Corrections Committee will begin accepting nominations for three positions, each with a 3-year appointment. Those selected from the applicant pool will shadow current committee members at the 2016 AP-LS conference and transition into a committee member role in August 2016 at the APA conference. One of these positions is a student position. As such, current first and second year students are especially encouraged to apply.



American Psychology-Law Society

APA DIVISION 41

# 2014 Dissertation Award Winners (Awarded in 2015)

Dr. Anthony Perillo is our 1st place dissertation award winner. His dissertation, entitled “Risk assessment of sexually abusive clergy: Utility of sex offender risk instruments with a unique offender subgroup,” was a series of three studies designed to incrementally identify differences between sexually abusive clergy and general sex offenders, evaluate the validity of current risk instruments with clergy, and explore modifications to improve risk assessment with clergy. The committee reviewers described the contribution of his dissertation as “significant” and further noted, “This thesis represents a meaningful sequence of studies that build from a strong foundation (understanding variation in profiles of sex offenders within the clergy) up to an important real-world application (modifying risk assessment measures to better capture likelihood of recidivism within this population).” Anthony completed his dissertation at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY) under the supervision of Dr. Cynthia Calkins.

This year, there was a tie for 2nd place. That is, blind reviewers provided identical scores for the 2nd place winners’ dissertations.

Dr. Miko M. Wilford is one of our 2nd place dissertation award winners. Her dissertation, entitled “Bluffed by the dealer: Distinguishing false pleas from false confessions,” investigated potential differences between guilty pleas and confessions (e.g., whether plea acceptances and confessions involve the same psychological processes) by creating an intense laboratory analog to the plea bargaining situation. A key purpose of the study was to determine whether new experimental research on plea-bargaining is warranted, or whether the research on false confessions can be extended to pleas as well. The committee reviewers described Miko’s dissertation as “very thorough and well thought out” and noted its significant contribution to the field “because it focuses on the important work of deciding whether an emerging area of study is actually different enough from existing areas to be its own field of study.” Miko completed her dissertation at Iowa State University under the supervision of Dr. Gary Wells and Dr. Jason C. K. Chan.

Dr. Misun Yi is one of our 2nd place dissertation award winners. Her dissertation, entitled “Investigative interviewing of alleged child victims in South Korea,” examined the investigative interviewing of child victims in South Korea by conducting three related studies focused on Korean police officers’ perceptions of how well they used recommend interviewing techniques, whether children who practice responding to questions about episodic memory during the pre-substantive phase of an interview provide more accurate and detailed accounts than those questioned about general topics, and the effectiveness of two-day training programs concerning the use of the NICHD Protocol. The committee reviewers described the studies as “elegant, well-designed, and carefully conducted” noting that the methodology “allowed for a wide range of relevant questions to be addressed” and “required an impressive amount of work.” Misun completed her dissertation at the University of Cambridge under the supervision of Dr. Michael Lamb.

Dr. Jeff Kukucka is our 3rd place dissertation award winner. His dissertation, entitled “An investigation of factors that create and mitigate confirmation bias in judgments of handwriting evidence,” was a three-part study that examined the effects of exposure to case information and evidence lineup use on judgments of handwriting evidence in a mock investigation. A key goal was to determine whether it was possible to minimize error and bias in forensic judgments by importing recent research on eyewitness lineups. The committee reviewers indicated that the set of three studies was “well crafted and executed” and described the dissertation as, “original and creative as a way to study confirmatory biases in the highly challenging arena of handwriting analysis.” Jeff completed his dissertation at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY) under the supervision of Dr. Saul Kassin.

# AAFP Dissertation Grant Awards

**Brittany Bate**

**Sam Houston State University**

Juror perceptions of currently incarcerated offenders as witnesses.

**Melodie Foellmi**

**Fordham University**

Predictive validity of the Fordham Risk Screening Tool (FRST) in a sample of adult psychiatric inpatients.

**Megan Murphy**

**Drexel University**

Memory accuracy and the ability to recall psychological distress and behavior over time.

**Jessica Turrall**

**Loyola University Maryland**

Correctional experiences of African-American youth convicted as adults.

**Joanna Weill**

**University of California - Santa Cruz**

Situational factors that lead individuals to commit or desist from crime.



# AP-LS at APA 2015 Toronto, Canada

Please join us in Toronto for a great convention packed with lots of psychology and law-related programming!

-Amanda Zelechowski & Nick Druhn  
2015 APA Co-Chairs

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## Program Highlights

### AP-LS Division Events

- **Business Meeting:** All are welcome and encouraged to attend the business meeting on Thursday 8/6 from 5pm-6pm.
- **Social Hour:** All are welcome and encouraged to attend the social hour on Thursday 8/6 from 6pm-8pm.
- **Poster Sessions:**
  - Poster Session I: Thursday, August 6; 4:00pm-5:00pm
  - Poster Session II: Saturday, August 8; 12:00pm-1:00pm

### AP-LS Division Programming Highlights

- American Academy of Forensic Psychology (AAFP) Symposium:
  - *Juvenile Disposition and Transfer Evaluations*; Sunday 8/9; 10:00-10:50am
  - Presenter: Julie Gallagher
- AP-LS Practice Committee Symposium
  - *Research-Informed Practice, Practice-Informed Research – Using Court Clinics to Highlight this Nexus*; Sunday 8/9: 9:00am-9:50am.
  - Presenters: Rachel Tait, Danielle Rynczak, Dana Gautschi
- AP-LS Corrections Committee Symposium
  - *Gender Issues in Corrections - Perspectives From Practitioners*; Friday 8/7: 9:00-9:50am
  - Presenters: Sarah Manchak, Dianna Kucera, Sarah Miller, Lauren Brown, Robyn Hodges
- AP-LS Scientific Paper Review Committee
  - *The Next AP-LS Scientific Review Paper---Interviewing Child Witnesses and Victims*; Thursday 8/6; 8-8:50pm
  - Presenters: Stacia Stolzenburg, Jodi Quas

### Division 41 Co-Sponsored Division Collaborative Programs

- *What is Psychology's Role in Firearm Research and Violence*
  - Friday 8/7, 8:00am-8:50am
  - Presenters: Clinton Anderson, Joel Dvoskin, Robert Kinscherff, and Amalia Corby-Edwards
- *Who's Minding the Store? Timely Processing of Rape Kits*
  - Friday 8/7, 11:00am-11:50am
  - Presenters: Courtney Ahrens, Rebecca Campbell, Noël Busch-Armendariz, Bethany Backes



- *The Fifth Generation of Violent Risk Assessment---Behavioral Neuroscience and Aggression Theory*
  - Friday 8/7, 8:00-9:50am
  - Presenters: David Nussbaum, Khadija Ibrahim, Melanie MacEacheron
- *Over the Ethical Line---The Ethics Committee and COLI Debate Treating Psychologist Testimony in Court*
  - Saturday 8/8, 8:00-9:50am
  - Presenters: Andrea Barnes, Michele Galietta, Jason Cantone, Mary Connell, Lindsay Childress-Beatty, A. Steven Frankel

#### Student Section Programming

- AP-LS Student Section Committee Social
- AP-LS Student Section-Sponsored Conversation Hour: Opportunities in Forensic Psychology and Neuropsychology: A Discussion with Field Experts (Thursday 8/6, 10:00am-10:50am)
  - Featuring: Douglas Johnson-Greene, Bruno Losier, Beth Caillouet Arredondo
- AP-LS Student Section-Sponsored Panel Presentation: The Current State of Graduate Training in Law and Psychology (Saturday, 8/8; 11:00am-11:50am)
  - Featuring: Eve Brank, Jennifer Groscup, Kirk Heilbrun, Jennifer Woolard

#### Continuing Education Workshops (that may be of interest to AP-LS members)

- 002: Ethics and Law for the Practicing Psychologist (Wednesday, August 5)
- 103: Psychological Injuries, Law, Malingering, and Disability (Thursday, August 6)
- 104: The Duty to Protect: Ethical, Legal, and Professional Considerations (Thursday, August 6)
- 106: Critical Issues in Child Custody Work (Thursday, August 6)
- 113: What Every Psychologist Needs to Know About Effects of Media on Children and Adolescents (Thursday, August 6)
- 116: Ethics and the New Social Media: Tweeting, Blogging, Podcasting, and Branding for Psychologists (Thursday, August 6)
- 120: Involving Minors in Decisions about Medical and Mental Health Care (Friday, August 7)
- 122: The Assessment of Impairment in the DSM-5 Era (Friday, August 7)
- 123: A Scientific Approach to Homicide Profiling and Consultation (Friday, August 7)
- 126: How to Use Social Media to Enhance your Career and Research (Friday, August 7)
- 138: Expert Assessment of Childhood Sexualized Assault: Legal and Lifespan Developmental Perspectives (Saturday, August 8)
- 152: Legally Defensible Methods of Personnel Selection for High Risk Occupations (Saturday, August 8)



American Psychology-Law Society

APA DIVISION 41

# Call for 2016 AP-LS Pre-Conference Workshop Proposals

The AP-LS Continuing Education (CE) Committee is accepting proposals for pre-conference workshops at the AP-LS Annual Conference, which will be held on **March 9, 2016** at the Westin Peachtree Plaza, Atlanta, GA. Proposals may be for half day (3.5 hour) and full day (7 hour) workshops. The CE Committee is particularly interested in interactive workshops that engage participants in translating forensic psychology research into practice. Proposals must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Program content has obtained credibility, as demonstrated by the involvement of the broader psychological practice, education, and science communities in studying or applying the findings, procedures, practices, or theoretical concepts;
- Program content has been supported using established research procedures and scientific scrutiny;
- Program content has peer-reviewed, published support beyond those publications and other types of communications devoted primarily to the promotion of the approach;
- Program content is related to ethical, legal, statutory or regulatory policies, guidelines, and standards that impact psychology.

Workshop presenters receive a modest honorarium and reimbursement of travel expenses (i.e., flight and one night hotel reimbursement).

**Submission Deadline: August 1, 2015**

Instructions: Proposals should be emailed to Amanda Zelechowski at [amanda.zelechowski@valpo.edu](mailto:amanda.zelechowski@valpo.edu) and should include:

1. Title of workshop
2. Preference for half-day (3.5 hours) or full-day (7 hours) workshop
3. Presenter(s) name(s), highest educational degree (s), affiliation(s), AP-LS membership status, and contact information
4. Learning objectives for the workshop
5. Summary of the workshop's content in 250 words or less
6. Explanation of how the workshop meets the criteria listed above
7. Presenter(s) CV

Contact Amanda Zelechowski at (219) 464-6122 or [amanda.zelechowski@valpo.edu](mailto:amanda.zelechowski@valpo.edu) with any questions.

We look forward to receiving your pre-conference workshop proposals!

*-The AP-LS Continuing Education Committee*

# Psychology Crime & Law – Call for an American Editor

Applications are invited for the post of American Editor for Psychology, Crime & Law. The role is for a four year term. The new editor will take on the role towards the end of 2015 for a handover period with the outgoing Editor, and assume the role fully from January 2016. Please submit applications by **May 31st 2015**.

*Psychology, Crime & Law* is edited by three co-editors who each take responsibility for processing submissions from different geographical locations. However, the journal's management base is located in the UK where the UK Editor and ScholarOne Managing Editor are based. The American Editor is responsible for processing submissions from North and South America. The American Editor currently handles approximately 60 new submissions every year and the Editors reject around 69% of submissions. PC&L currently publishes 10 issues a year and has an Impact Factor of 1.398. This Impact Factor has risen substantially over the past three years indicating the upward trajectory of the journal's quality and reputation.

For more information about the journal, please visit our [website](#).

The new American Editor will:

- Solicit, receive and process new contributions to the journal from North and South America through the peer review process via the online submission system ScholarOne Manuscripts™.
- Maintain and further enhance the journal's quality and reputation.
- Work with the publisher and the other Editors to develop the editorial strategy and direction of the journal and to serve as ambassador for the journal.
- In consultation with the UK editor, commission special review articles and suggest topics for special issues.

The American Editor will be supported by an annual stipend as well as the online manuscript and peer review management system ScholarOne Manuscripts. Training will be provided on the system.

Desirable traits in a candidate for American Editor include: breadth of knowledge in the various topics, research methods, and professional issues encompassed by PC&L; experience with the peer review process associated with scholarly work on psychological approaches to crime, criminal and civil law, and the influence of law on behavior; enthusiasm for continuing to build the publication's content and reputation; and maintenance of high standards in research. Candidates should have a demonstrated ability to exercise timely, clear, and fair judgements in difficult decision-making circumstances, as well as excellent organizational skills and a high degree of commitment.

Application instructions

**To submit your application, or for further details, please contact: Sarah Scoffield, Publishing Editor, Routledge Journals at [sarah.scoffield@tandf.co.uk](mailto:sarah.scoffield@tandf.co.uk), and also the current UK Editor Professor Theresa Gannon at [T.A.Gannon@kent.ac.uk](mailto:T.A.Gannon@kent.ac.uk).**

Applications must include a letter of interest, specifically referring to why you believe you are particularly qualified for the role of Editor for PC&L and how you see your role in the future development and direction of the journal. A CV should also be submitted.

#### **Editorial information:**

Publishing Editor: Sarah Scoffield ([sarah.scoffield@tandf.co.uk](mailto:sarah.scoffield@tandf.co.uk))

UK Editor: Theresa Gannon ([T.A.Gannon@kent.ac.uk](mailto:T.A.Gannon@kent.ac.uk))

# Call for Nominations: Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award

The application for the 2015 Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award is now on line at:  
<https://www.wellsfargo.com/privatefoundationgrants/beckman>.

The Beckman Award was created to benefit teachers who have inspired their former students to make a significant contribution to society. The award is given to current or former academic faculty members who have inspired their former students to “create an organization which has demonstrably conferred a benefit on the community at large.” Alternatively, the academic faculty member must have inspired their former students to “establish on a lasting basis a concept, procedure, or movement of comparable benefit to the community at large.”

The award is given for individuals in the disciplines/professions of psychology, law, and medicine. The list of past recipients includes a number of psychologists, which is not surprising given that Dr. Beckman herself was a pioneer in psychology, as well as an educator and renowned author. For the list of past recipients, see the Foundation Information tab on the website.

Nomination applications packages must be submitted via email by June 30, 2015 at 5pm eastern standard time. For more details about the Nomination Application Package, please see the Grant Guidelines tab on the website.

It is strongly encouraged that members nominate their mentors for this tremendous honor. In addition, please share this message with your colleagues.

It is so important to acknowledge psychologists who have not only engaged in activities that directly benefit society, but those who have also inspired their students and mentees to do the same.



American Psychology-Law Society

APA DIVISION 41

# Call for Proposals: AP-LS Book Series

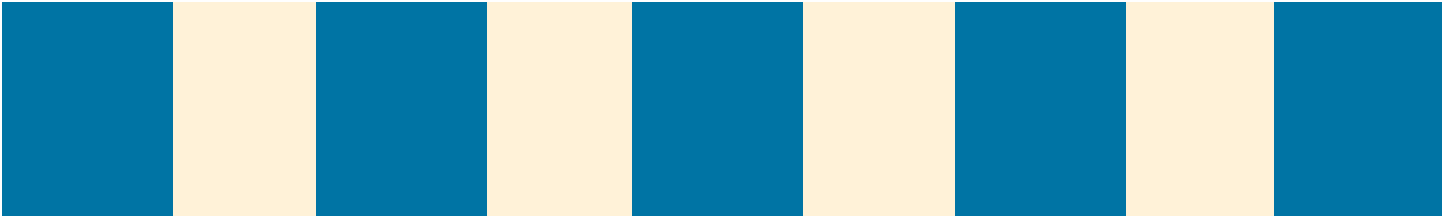
The APLS book series is published by Oxford University Press. The series publishes scholarly work that advances the field of psychology and law by contributing to its theoretical and empirical knowledge base.

The editor is interested in proposals for new books. Inquiries and proposals from potential authors should be sent to Dr. Patricia Zapf, Series Editor (E-mail: [pzapf@jjay.cuny.edu](mailto:pzapf@jjay.cuny.edu) or phone: 212-866-0608).

AP-LS members receive a 25% discount on any book in the series. The series books are available for purchase online from Oxford University Press online at: <https://global.oup.com/academic/content/series/a/american-psychology-law-society-series-plp/?cc=ca&lang=en&>







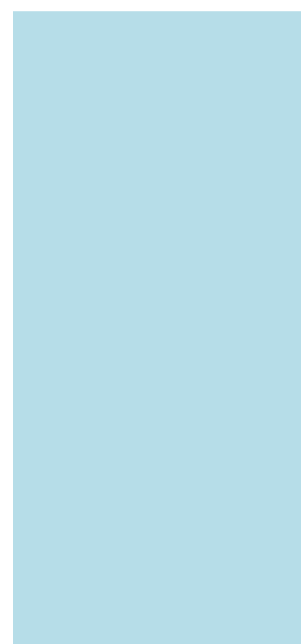
# Call for Psychology and Law Syllabi

The AP-LS Teaching, Training, and Careers Committee (TTC) is continuing its efforts to collect syllabi for courses in Psychology and Law or closely related topics. There are already a number of syllabi that have been collected over the years on the AP-LS website (<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/education/teaching/index.aspx>). However, we would like to routinely post new syllabi. We would appreciate your assistance in providing us with a copy of your syllabi. If you have not already provided one, please do so in the following way: Send a copy of your syllabi to Matthew Huss ([mhuss@creighton.edu](mailto:mhuss@creighton.edu)). Soft copies may be submitted as e-mail attachments (Word Perfect, Word, or ASCII files are preferred)



**AP-LS is now on Facebook!**  
**Follow us at**

**[www.facebook.com/APLS41](http://www.facebook.com/APLS41)**



## **Submit your photos!**

Help us make the newsletter more exciting by submitting your pictures. Pictures taken at research presentations, conferences, and other gatherings would be a great addition to future newsletters!

Submit pictures by emailing them to [mhuss@creighton.edu](mailto:mhuss@creighton.edu)

# Grant Planner

## American Psychological Association

Various awards compiled by the APA are available for psychologists

Submission deadlines:  
Various

For further information see [www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx)



## American Psychology-Law Society Grants-in-Aid

Maximum award: \$750

Submission deadlines:  
January 31st and  
September 30th, yearly

For further information see <http://www.apadivisions.org/division-41/education/students/early-career.aspx>

## National Institute of Mental Health

Various

Submission deadline:  
Various

For information on NIMH funding for research on mental health see [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)

## National Science Foundation Law and Social Sciences Division

Dissertation Improvement Grants

Submission deadlines:  
January 15th and  
August 15th, yearly

For further information see [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)

## American Psychological Association

Early Career Awards 2013

Various awards compiled by the APA are available for ECPs

Submission deadline:  
Various

For further information see [www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx)

## American Psychological Association

Student Awards

Various awards compiled by the APAGS are available for students

For further information see [www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx)

