

Department of Psychology
Fall 2018
Sixth Annual
Psychology & Gender
Research Symposium

Co-sponsors
Office of Undergraduate
Research and Scholarship



The Center for
Gender Studies



College of
Humanities &
Behavioral
Sciences

December 4th

Heth C22 & 014

4:00 - 7:00 pm

Psychology & Gender Research Symposium Fall 2018 Program

Center for Gender Studies presentations

Session 1

Oral Presentations

4:00-6:00 – Heth 022

-Flora E. Papadimitriou, Hanna R. Hatfield, Kelsey M.

Frank, Ashley M. Sprinkle, & Tori J. Sheets

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-Catherine Hotchkiss

The effects of readiness tests and classroom management on retention rates of kindergarten students.

Faculty Mentor: Jayne Bucy

-Callie Jongbloedt

The relationship between political affiliation, importance of religion in raising children, and parental warmth.

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jayne Bucy

-Lesli Taylor

Learning from tests: Using tests as a study tool.

Faculty Mentor: Kathleen Arnold

-Jordan Campbell

A multimedia reminiscence activity for the older adult.

Faculty Mentor: Thomas Pierce

- Blake Flinchum, Taylor Jenkins, Ashley Williams, Julia Robertson, & Shannon Nichols

Stress and working memory performance.

Faculty Mentor: Jeff Willner

Session 2

Poster Presentations

5:00-6:30 – Heth 014

-Gabrielle Amie, Jennifer Cole, & Emily Schneeberg

An investigation of self-esteem as a moderator of pluralistic ignorance for attitudes toward hookups.

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

-Shelby Barr

Does social media use buffer against the negative consequences of ostracism?

Faculty Mentor: Nicole Iannone

-Jamie Becker, Kyla Luna & Shanil Salazar

Is age but a number? Prejudice towards age-gap relationships.

Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

-Kaitlin Brady, Lauren Wright, & Hannah Stewart

Investigation of mental health knowledge as a moderator of pluralistic ignorance for mental health stigmas.

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

-Deanna L. Cashel & Phoebe R. Jarmon

Attitudes towards “Outsiders”: Pluralistic ignorance and ethnocentrism.

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

-Tazhane Clarke, Haley Shafer, Jennifer Cole, & Dymon Williams


The detrimental effects of opioid use in the Appalachians.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

-Teddie Cregger, Katty Mancina, Dominic Sierra, Iris Traylor, & Takoria White.

Linking coaching encouragement and outcomes among college athletes Literature review.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

-Teddie Cregger & Natalie Keith 

Aging stereotypes on the recall of words related to Disney films.

Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

-Salena Diaz

Using parasocial relationships to connect: How need to belong is related to parasocial relationships.

Faculty Mentor: Nicole Iannone

-Gabriele Druckenmiller, Sayrel Garcia, Sophia Gonzalez

Linking Crime, Poverty and Race.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

-Allana Dye, Amanda Moriarty, & Takoria White

Video interventions among college students: The process of reducing fallacious attitudes against older adults.

Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

-Nicole Ray, Katelynn LaCombe, Kelsey Frank, & Lauren Buynack 

Continuous Recording of EEG.
Faculty Mentor: Thomas Pierce

-Crishauna Rolack, Lauren Wright, & Lesli Taylor
Can making students more curious enhance learning?
Faculty Mentor: Kathleen Arnold

-Heather Sayers, Crishauna Rolack, & Alexa Sanford
Does Greek membership moderate pluralistic ignorance in attitudes toward college drinking?
Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

-Skylar Sojka, Kara Kincaid, & Jordan Campbell
Neuroticism's impact on ageism.
Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

-Jane Spencer, Geremias Bencomo, & John Saad
Is Pluralistic ignorance in attitudes of academic adjustment moderated by locus of control?
Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

-Ivonee Thompson, Lacey Day, & Meghan Ramsey
Ageism in healthcare.
Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

-Lauren Wright & Celie McKinley
Connecting cognitive processes to closed-book essays
Faculty Mentor: Kathleen Arnold

Abstracts

Gabrielle Amie, Jennifer Cole, & Emily Schneeberg

An investigation of self-esteem as a Moderator of Pluralistic Ignorance for Attitudes Toward Hookups.

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

Poster Presentation – Session 2

This study investigates potential pluralistic ignorance within college students' comfort with hookups. This study also tested whether self-esteem moderates pluralistic ignorance for attitudes about hookups. Pluralistic ignorance occurs when the majority of individuals privately reject a perceived norm that they incorrectly assume is accepted by that majority. In the present study, 100 participants (18% male and 81% female) ranged in ages from 18 to 24 and reported a variety of ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds. The study utilized a mixed, within-subjects experimental, and between-subjects correlational design. The results of the study demonstrated that there was significant pluralistic ignorance. Reports of one's own comfort with hookups were significantly lower than estimates of others' comfort with hookups. There was no main effect for self-esteem, nor did self-esteem moderate pluralistic ignorance for hookups.

Shelby Barr

Does social media use buffer against the negative consequences of ostracism?

Faculty Mentor: Nicole Iannone

Poster Presentation – Session 2

Previous research has shown that comparing oneself to others on Facebook is associated with negative outcomes (Feinstein, Hershenberg, Bhatia, Latack, Meuwly, & Davila, 2013; this comparison process occurs via people's social media feeds). However, other research has shown that viewing one's own Facebook profile improves self-esteem (Gonzales & Hancock, 2011) and makes people feel better following an ego threat (Toma & Hancock, 2013). The purpose of this research was to examine whether social media sites, more specifically Facebook and Instagram, can be used to buffer against the negative consequences of an ego threat, specifically ostracism (Williams, 2009). We specifically predicted that viewing one's own profile on Facebook or Instagram before ostracism would be associated with more positive outcomes (in the form of higher need satisfaction and more positive mood) than viewing their social media feed.

Participants ($n=82$) completed an in-lab study where they were randomly assigned to one of four conditions: Facebook newsfeed, Facebook profile, Instagram newsfeed, or Instagram profile.

Participants were told to go on Facebook or Instagram and view either their newsfeed or profile for five minutes. Following this they played a virtual ball-tossing game that was programmed to

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were marginally significant results for type of social media, as participants who were on Instagram reported higher need satisfaction than those on Facebook. There weren't any main effects for profile versus feed, nor any interactions.

Jamie Becker, Kyliya Luna, & Shanil Salazar

Is age but a number? Prejudice towards age-gap relationships.

Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

Poster Presentation – Session 2

The topic of the current study is the investigation of prejudice towards age-gap relationships with a 20-year age difference. The study consisted of 127 participants who were recruited using SONA from Radford University, a small campus located in southwest Virginia of approximately 9,400 students. This was an experimental study using random assignment to age-gap relationships to determine participants' perceived prejudice of acceptability, commonality, and how long the relationship will last. A one-way ANOVA was utilized in this study to evaluate the perceived prejudice amongst these age-gap relationships. We found a significant difference between age-gap groups for acceptability, commonality, and how long the relationship would last. Specifically, we found study participants rated the age-gap of 20-yr old/40-yr old relationships to be significantly less acceptable, less common, and less lasting compared to the other two age-gap relationships (40/60-yr old and 60/80-yr old). These findings conclude that there is significant prejudice towards age-gap relationships. There is a lack of previous research before this current study, therefore future research is necessary. This research on age-gap relationships is also beneficial for research on ageism and how ageism effects our society. This study can be replicated to analyze significance amongst gender.

Kaitlin Brady, Lauren Wright, & Hannah Stewart

Investigation of mental health knowledge as a moderator of pluralistic ignorance for mental health stigmas.

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

Poster presentation – Session 2

The present study investigates pluralistic ignorance within attitudes about seeking mental health services and whether this effect is moderated by mental health knowledge. Pluralistic ignorance would be reflected in a pattern of results where participants report higher comfort levels contacting counseling service than they think that other people (friends or the average student at Radford) would report. A total of 132 participants, recruited from the Psychology Department participant pool, completed self-report measures of their own attitudes about comfort with contacting counseling services, their beliefs about their friends' comfort with contacting

results show that students had significantly higher comfort levels than they perceived their friends would have and that the average student would have, which reflects a pattern of pluralistic ignorance. Perception of their friend's comfort levels did not significantly differ from the perception of the average Radford student. Those with high MHK had higher comfort levels seeking counseling services than those with low MHK. However, the interaction between targets of comfort ratings and MHK was not significant.

Jordan Campbell

A multimedia reminiscence activity for the older adult.

Faculty Mentor: Thomas Pierce

Oral Presentation – Session 1

This project was completed to learn all about one's lifetime through the act of reminiscing. Multimedia such as photographs, voice recording software, and PowerPoint were used. This particular project was special because it was done with the authors' grandmother. Hundreds of photographs that were taken over the last 70 years were sorted through and then uploaded onto a PowerPoint presentation. Photographs were categorized by childhood, marriages, children, grandchildren, etc. Each slide contains one picture or a group of pictures that she talked about in a recording. The recording software used was called Audacity. An audio file of the recording was inserted into the PowerPoint slide containing the picture that went with it. The PowerPoint presentation was then copied to CDs, so that other family members and friends could enjoy the presentation. When going through the slideshow, a viewer can choose to listen to the recording of their choice. Each picture brought back a memory to my grandmother, sometimes even several memories and memories that she forgot she had. Overall, this project was intended to look at my grandmother's lifetime through the use of pictures, but it turned out to be a gift that family members and friends can have to look back on her life for years to come.

Deanna L. Cashel & Phoebe R. Jarmon

Attitudes toward "Outsiders": Pluralistic ignorance and ethnocentrism

Faculty Mentor: Thomas Pierce

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vs. other) was observed. Participants reported significantly lower ethnocentrism than they expected their peers to have, which is consistent with a pattern of pluralistic ignorance. Although not significant (due to small sample size), a small interaction was observed between self-esteem and target for ethnocentrism ratings. The discrepancy between self and other ratings appears to be stronger among participants with low self-esteem than the discrepancy observed among participants with high self-esteem. However, this pattern is not consistent with hypotheses.

Tazhane Clarke, Haley Shafer, Jenifer Cole, & Dymon Williams

The detrimental effects of opioid use in the Appalachians.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

Poster Presentation – Session 2

The Opioid Epidemic affects thousands of people across the nation daily due to its appeal as a pain reliever and highly addictive chemical makeup. This study focuses on its detrimental effects on the West Virginia and Virginia areas compared to the rest of the nation by viewing the death toll in a variety of ways. This research will look at race and geography (by state and region) to determine if there are any significant differences amongst how opioids are used to target people. Additionally, creating our own study, two academic articles will be compared from a previous date and from the present to view the rate of change of the death toll amongst the various states and variables which we have selected.

Teddie Cregger & Natalie Keith

Aging stereotypes on the recall of words related to Disney films

Faculty Mentor: Jenessa Steele

Poster Presentation – Session 2

The specific topic of this study is aging stereotypes on the recall of words related to children's films. The study will be conducted in an anonymously distributed questionnaire from about 105 participants. When the participant views a small clip of a Disney film this questionnaire is testing to see whether or not the participant unconsciously recalls ageist stereotypes of older adults whether it is negative, positive or neutral. A one-way ANOVA will be run for the results to determine where the significance lies between the three different Disney clips. It is hypothesized that undergraduates are going to recall more negative words after viewing one short clip from children's Disney movies than positive words. It is also hypothesized that more neutral words will be recalled than positive words.

core values of Adlerian scholars. However, to further clarify the ambiguity of conceptual boundaries, Wong (2015) in his article defined encouragement as “the expression of affirmation through language or other symbolic representations to instill courage, perseverance, confidence, inspiration, or hope in a person(s) within the context of addressing a challenging situation or realizing a potential (p. 182).” Applying the concept to athlete coaching context, this literature review aims to explore the underlying mechanism of coaching encouragement and its associated outcomes. Research has shown that encouragement from coaching has provided many positive outcomes for athletes at different settings and contexts. Specifically, coaches’ encouragement not only facilitates athletes’ identity development and performance on the field (Jones, Woods, & Guillaume, 2015; Masten, Stazar, Zilavec, Tusak, & Kandare, 2014), but also helps increase their performance academically (Subijana, Barriopedro, & Sanz, 2015). As a result of using encouragement as feedback while coaching, athletes are more likely to feel confident and

Gabriele Druckenmiller, Sayrel Garcia, & Sophia Gonzalez

Linking crime, poverty and race.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

Poster Presentation – Session 2

Minorities have been the target subject for many years and more minorities are incarcerated than whites. Do police tend to target African Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanics more than whites? We conducted research and read several published journal articles to prove our theory correct. In all studies, Black men concluded feeling nervous or worried when thinking about police encounters and specifically in fear for their lives when having a direct police encounter (Najdowski, Bottoms, Goff, 2015, para 1). The last several years there has been a high increase in the rate of police officers shooting minorities studies have shown.

Allana Dye, Amanda Moriarty, & Takoria WhecedTf 0 -1.34 TD [(n)-4 (e)4 -2 (a WhTJ 17.68 0Fe)-9.9

list of 12 words (2-3 sec/word or 10 sec/word). The students then did a distractor task consisting of three simple math problems. Afterwards, the students were presented with another list of words containing the 12 original words as well as six distractor words, and asked to identify which words that had been previously presented. We are currently collecting data on the task, and will analyze differences in performance as a function of rate of presentation and the students' overall levels of perceived stress. We anticipate that students in the faster presentation condition will perform more poorly than those in the longer presentation condition, and that overall levels of performance will vary with students' perceived stress levels.

Brittany Hale

Parental warmth and its effect on adolescent Body Mass Index.

Faculty Mentor: Jayne Bucy

Oral Presentation – Session 1

This study was conducted in order to better understand the effects of parental warmth and adolescent gender on an adolescent's Body Mass Index (BMI). It was hypothesized that there would be a significant interaction between parental warmth and adolescent gender. A sample of 8,703 eight grade students and their parents were drawn in the spring of 2007 to complete the study. Parents were asked to complete a survey that included questions regarding parental warmth and students were measured and weighed in order to calculate a BMI. A two-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to analyze the data collected. The results showed that there was not a significant interaction between parental warmth and gender on adolescence BMI. Furthermore, there was no main effect of parental warmth with regards to BMI. Therefore, it can be concluded that neither parental warmth nor adolescent gender has a marked effect on adolescent BMI.

Catherine Hotchkiss

The effects of readiness tests and classroom management on retention rates of kindergarten students.

Faculty Mentor: Jayne Bucy

Oral Presentation – Session 1

The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of kindergarten readiness tests in combination with incentives for teachers to improve classroom management techniques on retention rates of kindergarten students. Data was taken from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study from the school administrator survey in which administrators answered questions regarding their school and policies. The sample consisted of eight hundred sixty-six principals with an average of ten years in the position. The study found that schools that implemented kindergarten readiness tests and incentives for teachers did not have statistically significantly lower retention rates. In addition, there was no statistical significance of the main effects in

Callie Jongbloedt

The relationship between political affiliation, importance of religion in raising children, and parental warmth.

Faculty Mentor: Jayne Bucy

Oral Presentation – Session 1

Research suggests that parental warmth is an important factor that could potentially lead to more positive outcomes in children. The purpose of the current study is to examine any relationships that may exist between political affiliation, importance of religion in raising children, and parental warmth. Based on a brief literature review, the hypotheses of the current study are that 1) parents who identify as Liberal will also report higher levels of warmth towards their child than Conservatives, 2) parents who report that religion is “very important” or “important” in raising their children will report higher levels of warmth than those who said religion was “somewhat important,” “not at all important” or reported having no religion or religious beliefs, and 3) there will be an interaction effect between p

importance of having a campus enriched in diversity and the plethora of benefits that come to both the students and the university as a whole. We observed the demographics among various universities and compared the collected data to each other. We also looked at the changes that have been occurring over time and concluded that there has been an enormous increase in different ethnic and cultural backgrounds on college campuses as well as an exponential growth of minorities entering higher education institutions.

Flora Papadimitriou, Brandi Edwards, & Callie King

Does the way couples cheat moderate pluralistic ignorance for attitudes about infidelity?

Faculty Mentor: Jeffery Aspelmeier

Poster Presentation – Session 2

The present study investigates pluralistic ignorance within attitudes about cheating in romantic relationships and whether type of infidelity (e.g., texting, social media, physical) moderates pluralistic ignorance. A total of 105 participants, recruited from the Psychology Department participant pool, completed self-report measures of their own attitudes about infidelity, the average student's attitudes about infidelity, and a measure of self-esteem. It was expected that the type of infidelity would affect pluralistic ignorance where pluralistic ignorance would be greatest for physical infidelity and smallest for infidelity committed through social media. Students reported being less comfortable with infidelity than they expected their peers to be, which is consistent with a pattern of pluralistic ignorance. Additionally, overall ratings of comfort with being unfaithful in a physical way were significantly lower than the ratings of infidelity carried out through texting or social media. The interaction between target ratings and type of infidelity was not significant.

Flora E. Papadimitriou, Hanna R. Hatfield, Kelsey M. Frank, Ashley M. Sprinkle, & Tori J. Sheets

Measuring the potential for resilience among college women.

Faculty Mentor: Jeff Aspelmeier & Ann Elliott

Oral Presentation – Session 1

components of the RSCA. The AGRS accounted for a larger portion of the variability in symptomatology than did the RSCA. The shorter length and superior predictive utility make an effective, free alternative to the commercially available RSCA for assessing factors that are predictive of resilient responding to adversity or trauma among college age women.

Rebecca Radinsky, Ana Portillo, Eudoxia Strother, & Ross Washington

Cultural competence in social work.

Faculty Mentor: Pei-Chun Tsai

Poster Presentation – Session 2

This project will be discussing cultural competence in social work and the effects that it can have within the workplace. Social workers inherently hold several biases about groups that they do not belong to. To be an effective social worker, one needs to bring these biases to light. It's

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